



## Invest in Alaska's growth and well-being



**Healthcare workforce development is essential to maintaining the state's overall economic health.**

### Health \$3.5M

UA has identified initiative areas that will strengthen workforce development to meet state needs, especially in the area of nursing. According to the AK Department of Labor and Workforce, 47 of Alaska's 50 fastest-growing occupations are in the healthcare sector. Healthcare workforce development is essential to maintaining the state's overall economic health during this period of low oil prices, COVID-19 mandates and associated impacts. As it stands, the healthcare industry is poised to continue to fuel Alaska's economy, with growth spilling over to related industries, such as construction and real estate.

UAA College of Health programs range from clinical practice to community and population health. The College of Health conducted a demand, supply and gaps analysis for UA health programs to better meet student needs and Alaska's healthcare sector.

### Investment Priorities

- Stabilizing Nursing Faculty and Program Retention will ensure faculty for high-demand healthcare programs within UAA's College of Health (COH).
- Alaska Healthcare Education Center (AHEC) Program Expansion will expand the Center and advance new and existing pathways to grow our state's health workforce. The program brings Alaskans into health professions through youth health careers exposure, pre-employment training, apprenticeships, and community based experiential learning for students.
- Health Simulation Center Digitization Project will upgrade COH's simulation center technology to better serve nursing and health program students statewide. Robust audiovisual technology is essential for students to acquire hands-on learning and clinical knowledge.
- Health Professional Continuing Education Program will provide online self-directed continuing education for Alaska health professionals.
- Investment will allow for expansion of existing health workforce training and preparatory programs for high demand careers in healthcare at UAS. Funding (\$0.2M) will allow for expansion of popular courses including those which enable students to sit for state and/or national certifications such as Certified Nurse Aide (CNA), Medical Assistant and Emergency Medical Technician (EMT) training.