



Modernizing the student experience



Modern systems are more capable of facilitating student recruitment, retention and success.

A legacy student information system

UA's student-facing systems are out of date and compare poorly against peers in terms of delivering a quality student experience. UA's student information system, or SIS, was cutting edge back in the 1990's when it was first implemented, but today it no longer measures up. UA must improve these capabilities to remain competitive in the marketplace and offer a more user-friendly entry point for the student.

Modern systems are more capable of facilitating student recruitment, retention, and success. With our current system, students encounter barriers when applying for admissions, registering for classes, paying their bills, and conducting other essential functions. These barriers add complexity to an already highly challenging registration process and can be a deterrent to increasing enrollment. Also, students must navigate through the entirety of the UA system when seeking to make routine transactions at their home campus.

Student IT Systems Modernization and Security Upgrades \$20M

UA requests \$20.0 million to modernize the UA student's higher education experience. This funding would permit implementing a new SIS to serve the entire university system, while allowing autonomy, when possible, where business practices are differentiated between campuses. Through this solution, UA would retain the benefits of a single SIS system and a common reporting structure, while allowing each university to innovate and adapt the system more quickly to their changing requirements.

As part of this effort, UA will:

1. Identify the best SIS vendor partner
2. Seek opportunities to retire legacy customizations
3. Identify new opportunities for each university to align the system to their needs
4. Fully implement a modern student-facing online user interface
5. Improve the operational model that supports upkeep of the systems

Enrollment is key to serving Alaska and to UA's future budget stability. UA's student information technology system needs to be modernized to compete well in the post-COVID environment. This major system upgrade would facilitate student recruitment, retention, and success for our three universities.

