

# FY27 UA Budget

## UA is fundamental to Alaska's economy, workforce development and population growth

- UA remains a top value for Alaskans, offering world-class programs, strong return on investment, and empowering our state's workforce and economy.
- UA leads the nation in advancing the U.S. role in the changing Arctic and contributes significantly to the lives of people living in the Arctic.
- UA contributes to building Alaska's workforce by retaining students through completing their academic goals.
- UA plays a role in keeping Alaskans in state and attracting new talent to Alaska.

## UA is strong, forward-looking, and delivering on its mission

- Continued, consistent state funding allows UA to continue to support Alaska businesses and industries, local communities, and state and national security.
- The FY27 requests reflect key university needs and priorities while balancing rising fixed expenses with maintaining affordability for students.
- UA is committed to providing a competitive compensation package to attract and retain high-quality employees and researchers who share a passion for higher education.
- The FY27 budget request includes a wage increase for employee groups as required by collective bargaining agreements and 3% wage increase for non-union staff.
- Rising inflation, health care costs and cybersecurity risks are unavoidable expenses that add to UA's fixed operating costs.
- Investments in student mental health and support services through increased staffing and utilizing telehealth technologies will better meet student demand.
- UA is uniquely positioned to help grow Alaska's population by drawing in non-residents to put down roots to help build and empower Alaska.



The University of Alaska is essential to education, research, workforce, and economic development for Alaska

### **UA System Enrollment Highlights (Fall opening)**

- Student Full-Time Equivalents (FTE) grew almost 11% to 12,434 in Fall 2025, a five-year high.
- Alaska Performance Scholarship recipients attending UA grew by 33%, reaching an all-time high with more than 2,830 enrolled.
- One-third of designated UA Scholars from the class of 2025 elected to enroll at UA, the highest proportion since 2019.
- Students attending full-time increased almost 9% in the last year (+725 students).
- A record number of students (15,730) applied for Fall 2025, with almost half choosing to enroll.

### **Investing in Student Recruitment and Retention**

- UAA's requests focus on strategies to increase enrollment, improve student retention from within Alaska, and improving internal support services and communication to keep students enrolled and working toward their degrees.
- UAF's requests focus on enrollment growth, academic program development, digital outreach, targeted marketing, enhancement of student services and expanding high-demand workforce programs.
- UAS's request focuses on strengthening retention efforts by coordinating and aligning academic advising and offering in-state tuition to all undergraduates.



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# FY27 Budget Priorities

### **Overview of FY27 Budget Priorities**

UA Budget (UGF in millions of \$)	Operating	Capital
FY26 Budget	\$351.5	\$10.0
FY27 Additions		
Priority Requests		
<b>Compensation</b> - request includes a wage increase for employee groups as required by collective bargaining agreements and 3% for non-union staff (excludes contracts not yet negotiated). The medical plan is expected to increase by \$6M. Total cost \$20.8M.	\$15.2	
Operating cost increases (cyber security/IT, facilities, utilities, risk management and public safety) - are key to continued stability. Total cost \$11.7M.	\$8.0	
Student Mental Health Services	\$0.9	
<b>Students-First Action Agenda</b> - increasing student recruitment, retention, and graduation. Have reallocated \$2.5M - Expect to leverage \$5.2M in tuition and fee revenue.	\$4.9	
<b>Deferred Maintenance</b> – predictable and sufficient funding for UA's highest priority DM projects allows UA to avoid costly and more disruptive repairs.		\$60.0
Tier 1	\$29.0	\$60.0
Additional Investments for Tangible Impacts		
Research Programs and Other State Priorities  UAF R1 Strategy Continuity – (FY27-FY29)  UAF Agriculture and Food Systems for Alaska's Economic Sustainability (FY27-FY29)  UAF ACUASI Drone Program (Year 5)(FY27-FY29)  UAF Critical Minerals Collaboration	\$7.5 \$3.0 \$12.0 \$3.0	
UAA Alaska Leaders Archives Consortium Library Renovation Complete Phase 1		\$1.25
UAS Sitka campus New Dock and Mariculture Training Facility - Phase II		\$2.0
UAA Targeted Classroom Upgrades - Facilitate Hybrid Delivery at Community Campuses		\$3.5
UAF Facility Footprint Reduction - Program Relocation & Building Demolition		\$4.0
Juneau Joint Use Facility Roof Replacement (joint request with DMVA)		\$1.5
Tier 2	\$25.5	\$12.25
FY27 Increment	\$54.5	\$72.25
FY27 Budget Total	\$406.0	\$72.25





## FY27 Budget Priorities

### Regents' Priority Investment: Meeting Student Demand for Housing

Expanding on-campus housing is essential for meeting the needs of current and future students. It provides more individuals with access to safe, affordable, and community-oriented living options, thereby enhancing the overall student experience. In addition, investing in campus housing is a strategic step toward student recruitment and retention.

In response to the increasing demand for on-campus housing—evidenced by a current waitlist of approximately 400 students—UAA is exploring the construction of one to two new 200-room residence halls.

UAF has developed a comprehensive campus housing revitalization project that leverages a combination of capital appropriations, public and private financing, and innovative development methods to address the dire need for new housing on campus.

The UAS Juneau campus must address critical safety, asset preservation, and modernization of existing housing.

### Leverage AHFC Bonding capacity \$60M - anticipates legislation

UA Student Housing (Phase I) Supports Students-First Action Agenda (\$111.1M w/UA rev)

UAA Residential Campus Expansion (\$50.1M total)

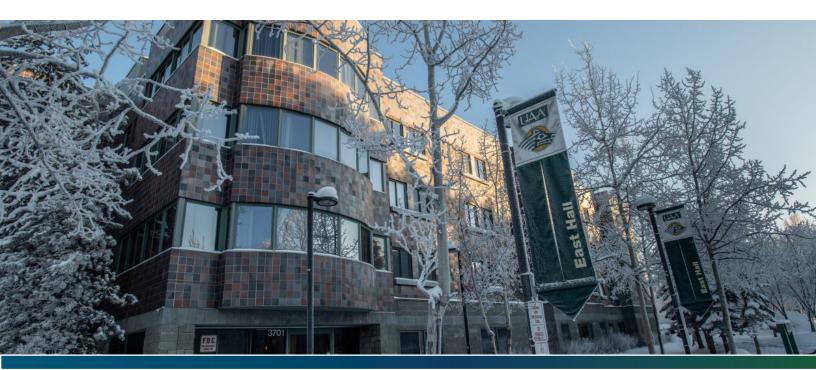
UAF Undergraduate and Graduate Housing Phase I (\$55.0M total)

UAS Support Student Housing DM Phase I (\$6.0M total)

#### Potential in the event of GO Bond

UAA Child Care Facility (\$5.0M total)

UAF Whitaker Fire Station Replacement (\$42.0M total)



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# FY27 Capital Priorities

### **Deferred Maintenance & Modernization**

- UA is responsible for maintaining facilities and infrastructure across the state, with 402 facilities totaling 8.3 million gross square feet, an average age of 37 years, a replacement value of \$7.2 billion, and a deferred maintenance/renewal & repurposing (DM/R&R) backlog of almost \$1.6 billion.
- A \$60 million request for deferred maintenance funding is necessary after years of unfunded deferral of critical capital projects which have increased the risk of building closures.
- There have been numerous unplanned closures causing significant hardship on student learning and research activities, as well as the associated lost productivity of university students, faculty/ researchers, and staff.
- Sustained focus on long-term capital planning allows for better project execution. Predictable funding will also strengthen the construction industry by allowing contractors to scale operations and supporting new job growth across the State.

### **Facilities and Major Renewals**

- UAA Alaska Leaders Archives Consortium Library Renovation - \$1.25M: The Alaska Leaders Archives will preserve and promote the legacy of public service and leadership in Alaska. The archives will hold the public records, papers, and artifacts of Alaska's public leaders. Renovations will create a modern archive, enhanced academic and conference space, and a public-facing museum.
- UAS New Dock and Mariculture Training Facility (Phase II) - \$2.0M:
  - The UAS Applied Fisheries Program has been expanding its mariculture offerings in response to the increasing demand for skilled technicians and farmers within this emerging industry. To facilitate the growth of the program, this project will purchase an existing fully equipped floating mariculture laboratory and then construct a floating strut frame moorage on the Sitka campus waterfront. This

Facility deferred maintenance and renewal has been the UA Board of Regents' top capital priority for more than twenty years.

facility will also support instructional activities such as scuba diving, small skiff operation, and cold water survival training, all of which are instrumental in preparing students for careers in the mariculture industry.

- UAA Targeted Classroom Upgrades to Facilitate Hybrid Delivery of Bachelor's Degrees \$3.5M
   UAA is embracing its role as a dual mission institution as both a traditional university and a community college with locations throughout Southcentral Alaska. UAA intends to leverage faculty talent across all of UAA's campuses to begin delivering bachelor's degrees at four community campuses: Kenai Peninsula College, Mat-Su College, Kodiak College, and Prince William Sound College. UAA requires seed funding to replace and upgrade equipment and other associated costs to actualize this expansion in delivery.
- UAF Facility Footprint Reduction-Program Relocation and Building Demolition - \$4.0M
   Demolishing non-functional and underutilized buildings enables UAF to refocus limited facilities funding on modern, high-use academic, research, and student support spaces. Removing these assets also clears the way for future development aligned with institutional priorities.
- UAS Juneau Joint Use Facility Roof Replacement -\$1.5M

This is a joint venture with the University of Alaska Southeast, the Department of Military and Veterans Affairs, and the Alaska Army National Guard. The current roof has developed substantial leaks and failures in the protective membrane. Replacement is necessary to ensure the longevity of the facility and protect personnel and assets within.

