

## ***Agriculture, Rural Development, Food and Drug Administration, and Related Agencies***

### **Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions (ANNH)**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$3,194,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$3,194,000*

*Account/Program: NIFA/ Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions (7 U.S.C. 3156)*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$3,194,000 for the Alaska Native and Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions within the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The purpose of ANNH is to promote and strengthen the ability of Alaska Native-Serving Institutions and Native Hawaiian-Serving Institutions to carry out education, applied research, and related community development programs. The National Institutes for Food and Agriculture (NIFA) NIFA intends this program to address educational needs, as determined by each institution, within a broadly defined area of food, agricultural, natural resource and human (FANH) sciences.*

In 2017, The University of Alaska Fairbanks was competitively awarded an ANNH grant entitled “Drumbeats Alaska,” which is a collaborative of seven rural campuses across the state with the primary goal of strengthening the development and sustainability of rural Alaskan villages. The grant award will help address the problem of the viability of rural Alaskan villages by 1) preparing students for place-based employment; 2) help communities to increase food security, including subsistence food gathering; and 3) assist rural residents to reduce the high cost-of-living through energy savings.

### **Hatch Act**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$292,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$292,000,000*

*Account/Program: NIFA/Hatch Act (7 U.S.C. 361 a-i)*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$292,000,000 for the Hatch Act within the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The purpose of Hatch Act funding is to conduct agricultural research programs at State Agricultural Experiment Stations in the 50 states, the District of Columbia, and the U.S. insular areas. Hatch activities are broad and includes research on all aspects of agriculture, including soil and water conservation and use; plant and animal production, protection, and health; processing, distribution, safety, marketing, and utilization of food and agricultural products; forestry, including range management and range products; multiple use of forest rangelands, and urban forestry; aquaculture; home economics and family life; human nutrition; rural and community development; sustainable agriculture; molecular biology; and biotechnology. Research may be conducted on problems of local, state, regional, or national concern.*

The Alaska Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station received \$193,340 from the Hatch Act in 2018. AFES includes the Fairbanks Experiment Farm, the Matanuska Experiment Farm & Extension Center and the Delta Junction field research site. The dean of the UAF School of Natural Resources and Extension is also the director of AFES. Researchers associated with the experiment station focus on creating knowledge and solving problems in agriculture and the forest sciences. State and federal agencies, private industry, and the university sponsor and fund AFES research.

### **Smith-Lever Cooperative Extension Service funding 3(b) & 3(c)**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$359,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$315,000,000*

*Account/Program: NIFA/Smith-Lever 3(b) & 3(c) (7 U.S.C. 343(b) and (c) and 208(c) of Public Law 93–471)*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$359,000,000 for the Smith-Lever Cooperative Extension Service funding 3(b) & 3(c) within the U.S. Department of Agriculture. The purpose of this capacity grants program is to increase the level of agricultural extension activities and reach out to limited resource farm families that are at a disadvantage as far as agricultural development that are too small, have low productivity, or are unable to make adjustments to establish profitable operations or profitable employment. Methods may include, but not limited to, collaboration with other organizations, appraising resources for capability of improvement in agriculture or introduction of industry designed to supplement farm income, other new farming ventures or new technologies.*

The University of Alaska Fairbanks received \$41,081 from FY2018 funding, which was matched with another \$41,081 non-federal resources. As the state's gateway to its university system, Extension serves some 80,000 Alaskans annually, providing a link between Alaska's diverse people and communities by interpreting and extending relevant university, research-based knowledge in an understandable and usable form to the public.

### **Agriculture and Food Research Initiative**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$445,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$425,000,000*

*Account/Program: NIFA/AFRI (7 U.S.C. 450i(b))*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$445,000,000 for the Agriculture and Food Research Initiative within the U.S. Department of Agriculture. AFRI is the nation's leading competitive grants program for agricultural sciences. The National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) awards AFRI research, education, and extension grants to improve rural economies, increase*

food production, stimulate the bio economy, mitigate impacts of climate variability, address water availability issues, ensure food safety and security, enhance human nutrition, and train the next generation of the agricultural workforce.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) won two awards in the most recent AFRI competition. The “Impact of Changing SNAP Benefits on Diet Quality and Lifestyle” was awarded \$148,163 to address the impact of modifying the USDA Thrifty Food Plan (TFP) on diet quality and lifestyle among a Head Start program eligible population. The findings of this study will inform policy makers on meaningful recommendations to federal nutrition policy. UAF was also awarded \$250,000 for the “Alaska Climate Adapters: Developing Community-Based Capacity to Meet Critical Adaptation Needs” proposal. This program will build upon UAF’s ability to develop an integrated training for urban and rural stakeholders.

## **USDA EPSCoR**

*FY2021 UA Request: 15% of AFRI Funding*

*FY2021 President’s Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: 15% of AFRI Funding*

*Account/Program: NIFA/AFRI*

*The University of Alaska recommends 15% of AFRI Funding for the Experimental Program for Stimulating Competitive Research within the U.S. Department of Agriculture.* The United States Department of Agriculture's (USDA) Experimental Program for Stimulating Competitive Research (EPSCoR) program is designed to help institutions develop competitive research, education and extension/outreach programs in high-priority areas of national need in agriculture, food, and environmental sciences.

Every year, the National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) determines the states that are eligible for USDA EPSCoR funding. Qualifying states will have a funding level no higher than the 38th percentile of all states, based on a 3-year rolling average of AFRI funding levels, excluding FASE Strengthening funds granted to EPSCoR states and small-mid-sized and minority-serving degree-granting institutions.

***-End-***

## ***Commerce, Justice, Science, and Related Agencies***

### **NSF EPSCoR**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$190,000,000*  
*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*  
*FY2020 Final: \$190,000,000*  
*Account/Program: RR&A/IA/EPSCoR*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$190,000,000 for the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) at the National Science Foundation.*

For more than 60 years the NSF has provided academic research funding to colleges and universities around the nation. NSF now provides some 24 percent of total federal support for basic research in all science and engineering fields. This investment over the years has brought innumerable benefits to researchers, students and communities around the nation.

Yet, there is still a significant geographical imbalance in NSF research funding. Today, nearly half the states and three jurisdictions account for only about 10 percent of all NSF funding.

These states include: Alabama, Alaska, Arkansas, Delaware, Hawaii, Idaho, Kansas, Kentucky, Louisiana, Maine, Mississippi, Montana, Nebraska, Nevada, New Hampshire, North Dakota, Oklahoma, Rhode Island, South Carolina, South Dakota, Vermont, West Virginia, Wyoming, Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, U.S. Virgin Islands, and Guam. However, these states contain more than 20 percent of the US population and US scientists and engineers.

A strong research base is important to every state in order to provide sound education and research opportunities for its students (most students attend college within 50 miles of home), a trained workforce, and support for both existing and emerging businesses, especially in the high technology area. Studies show that high technology businesses tend to cluster where they have a trained workforce and strong research capability and support. Others have also suggested that areas with a research university are better able to manage economic dislocations and downturns than areas without a research institution. Since the predominant driver of GDP growth over the past half-century has been scientific and technological advancement, it is imperative that we utilize the talent in every state to continue U.S. economic growth and global competitiveness.

### **NASA EPSCoR**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$28,000,000*  
*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*  
*FY2020 Final: \$24,000,000*  
*Account/Program: NASA Education/EPSCoR*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$28,000,000 for the Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) at the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.*

NASA EPSCoR is a joint federal-state program designed to allow more states to participate in space and aeronautics research. Currently, half of the states plus two territories receive less than

10 percent of all federal R&D funding. These states also have a disproportionately low percentage of high tech business growth. EPSCoR is an effort to help these states and territories become more economically competitive, broaden the expertise base for NASA, and develop a skilled workforce capable of generating high-tech jobs in all states of the nation. The program achieves these goals by providing resources to help build research capacity in states and enhance expertise and competitiveness in research areas of interest to the agency. States contribute a match for these programs, thereby stretching federal dollars further and ensuring that research goals are both national and regional.

*Report Language:*

“The recommendation provides \$120 million for NASA’s Office of STEM Engagement, of which no less than \$28 million shall be allocated to the NASA EPSCoR program. The Committee allocates no more than 10% to an administrative fee for each program in the NASA STEM Opportunities account.”

**Space Grant**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$50,000,000*

*FY2021 President’s Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$48,000,000*

*Account/Program: NASA/ National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$50,000,000 for the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program at National Aeronautics and Space Administration.*

Space Grant provides funding to 50 states, the District of Columbia, the Virgin Islands, and the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico to enhance science and engineering education. The program provides hands-on experiences for US graduate and undergraduate students to prepare them for STEM careers. Space Grant is a state-based program that is responsive to state STEM needs as well as national priorities. States contribute a match to leverage federal dollars so that more students are reached.

*Report Language:*

“The recommendation provides \$120 million for NASA’s Office of STEM Engagement, of which no less than \$50 million shall be allocated to the National Space Grant College and Fellowship Program. The Committee allocates no more than 10% to an administrative fee for each program in the NASA STEM Opportunities account. The Space Grant balance of no less than \$45 million shall be allocated annually to jurisdiction consortia as base funding so that they may competitively distribute the funds to meet local, regional, and national needs.”

**Regional Integrated Science and Assessments (RISA) /Regional Climate Data and Information**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$22,260,000*

*FY2021 President’s Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$22,260,000*

*Account/Program: Oceanic and Atmospheric Research/ Regional Integrated Science and Assessments (RISA)*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$22,260,000 for the Regional Integrated Science and Assessments program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

NOAA's Regional Integrated Sciences and Assessments (RISA) program supports research teams that help expand and build the nation's capacity to prepare for and adapt to climate variability and change. Central to the RISA approach are commitments to process, partnership, and trust building. RISA teams work with public and private user communities to:

- Advance understanding of context and risk;
- Support knowledge to action networks;
- Innovate services, products and tools to enhance the use of science in decision making;
- Advance science policy.

### **National Sea Grant College Program (Sea Grant)**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$93,500,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$87,000,000*

*Account/Program: NOAA/National Sea Grant College Program*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$93,500,000 for the National Sea Grant College Program within the National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration.*

The National Sea Grant College Program (Sea Grant) is a nationwide network of 32 university-based programs that is administered through NOAA. The Sea Grant program engages this network of top research universities in conducting research, education, training, and extension projects designed to foster science-based decisions about the use of our aquatic resources. As the primary university-based program within NOAA, Sea Grant provides a vital link between researchers, students, NOAA, and the public on important developments in coastal and marine resources. In 2015-2016, the program helped generate an estimated \$611 million in economic impacts; created or sustained nearly 21,000 jobs; provided 33 state-level programs and 534 communities with technical assistance; worked with around 1300 industry, state, local and regional partners; and supported the education and training of nearly 2000 undergraduate and graduate students.

### **Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership (MEP)**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$140,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$140,000,000*

*Account/Program: NIST/Manufacturing Extension Partnership*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$140,000,000 for the Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership within National Institute of Standards and Technology.*

The Hollings Manufacturing Extension Partnership Program (MEP) is a federal-state-industry partnership that provides U.S. manufacturers with access to technologies, resources, and industry experts. The MEP program consists of Manufacturing Extension Partnership Centers located across the country that work directly with their local manufacturing communities to strengthen the competitiveness of our Nation's domestic manufacturing base.

***-End-***

## *Defense*

### **Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$6,500,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: N/A*

*Account/Program: Defense Security Cooperation Agency*

*The University of Alaska recommends an additional \$6,500,000 for the Department of Defense, Defense Security Cooperation Agency to establish the Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies. The U.S. is an Arctic nation because of Alaska; without it, the U.S. could only self-identify as a “near-Arctic state,” as China boldly does. Global geo-political and economic interests in the Arctic region have increased significantly, due to the rapidly changing environment, technological advances, and an Arctic Ocean that’s shifting, at least seasonally, from white (ice-covered) to blue (open water), enabling greater shipping activity, tourism, fishing, and development of other resources, such as oil and gas and minerals. The University of Alaska (UA) is ideally positioned to serve as a principal partner to help establish, develop, and run the Ted Stevens Center for Arctic Security Studies. The center would become the sixth and newest Regional Center (RC) of the Department of Defense (DoD) initiative implemented through the Defense and Security Cooperation Agency (DSCA). RCs offer executive development, security studies, research, and outreach that advance partnerships in security and defense matters. The DoD’s knowledge and understanding of the unique aspects of the Arctic region would be significantly advanced by a center created through a partnership involving UA, the DoD, Alaska Native entities, such as the Alaska Federation of Natives, the University of the Arctic, and other partners.*

### **DEPSCOR**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$25,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$12,000,000*

*Account: Defense-Wide, RDT7E; Line 3 PE 0601 1 10D8Z*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$25,000,000 for the Department of Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) program. The Department of Defense’s EPSCoR’s objectives are to: (1) enhance the capabilities of institutions of higher education (IHE) in eligible states and territories (states/territories) to develop, plan, and execute science and engineering (S&E) research that is relevant to the mission of the DoD and competitive under the peer-review systems used for awarding Federal research assistance; (2) increase the number of university researchers in eligible states/territories capable of performing S&E research responsive to the needs of the DoD; and (3) increase the probability of long-term growth in the*



competitively awarded financial assistance that IHE in eligible states/territories receive from the Federal Government for S&E research.

***-End-***

***Energy and Water Development, and Related Agencies***

**Department of Energy EPSCoR**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$25,000,000*

*FY2021 President's N/A*

*FY2020 Final: \$25,000,000*

*Account/Program: TBD*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$25,000,000 for the Department of Energy's (DOE) Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (EPSCoR) program. The EPSCoR program at DOE was established by Section 2203 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (P.L. 102-486). Positioned within the Office of Science at DOE, DOE EPSCoR assists the Office as the single largest supporter of basic research in the physical sciences in the United States by supporting basic and applied research and development across a wide range of interdisciplinary program areas.*

***-End-***

## ***Homeland Security***

### **Arctic Domain Awareness Center**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$40,500,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$40,500,000*

*Account/Program: Science and Technology Directorate/University Programs*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$40,500,000 for the Centers of Excellence with the Office of University Programs at the Department of Homeland Security.*

The Centers of Excellence (COE) network is an extended consortium of hundreds of universities conducting groundbreaking research to address homeland security challenges. Sponsored by the Office of University Programs, the COEs work closely with the homeland security community to develop customer-driven, innovative tools and technologies to solve real-world challenges. COE partners include academic institutions; industry; national laboratories; DHS operational components; S&T divisions; other federal agencies; state, local, tribal and territorial homeland security agencies; and first responders. These partners work in concert to develop critical technologies and analyses to secure the nation.

The Arctic Domain Awareness Center of Excellence (ADAC), led by the University of Alaska Anchorage, develops and transitions technology solutions, innovative products, and educational programs to improve situational awareness and crisis response capabilities related to emerging maritime challenges posed by the dynamic Arctic environment.

***-End-***

## ***Interior, Environment and Related Agencies***

### **Cooperative Research Units**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$24,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$24,000,000*

*Account/Program: USGS/ Cooperative Research Units*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$24,000,000 for the Cooperative Research Units at the U.S. Geological Survey.*

The Cooperative Research Unit (CRU) program of the US Geological Survey (USGS) was established in 1935 to enhance graduate education in fisheries and wildlife sciences and to facilitate research between natural resource agencies and universities on topics of mutual concern. Today, there are 40 Cooperative Research Units at land grant colleges and universities in 38 states. Alaska hosts the largest unit with five full-time USGS funded scientist positions allotted. Unit scientists, who are members of UAF's Graduate Faculty, teach, mentor graduate students, conduct research and provide continuing education and service for cooperators.

The Alaska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit (AKCFWRU) is a partnership among the USGS, the Alaska Department of Fish and Game (ADF&G), the Wildlife Management Institute, and University of Alaska Fairbanks' Institute of Arctic Biology (UAF/ IAB). Training of graduate students in wildlife and fisheries by UAF is considered of special value to ADF&G and the USGS, since many of our graduates go on to take state, federal and private sector natural resources jobs in Alaska.

### **Earthquake Hazards Program**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$84,903,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$84,903,000*

*Account/Program: USGS/Earthquake Hazards Program*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$84,903,000 for the Earthquake Hazards Program at the U.S. Geological Survey.*

The USGS Earthquake Hazards Program is part of the National Earthquake Hazards Reduction Program (NEHRP), established by Congress in 1977. The USGS and its partners monitor and report earthquakes, assess earthquake impacts and hazards, and perform research into the causes and effects of earthquakes.

Funded by the Earthquake Hazards Program, the Alaska Earthquake Center is dedicated to reducing the impacts of earthquakes, tsunamis and volcanic eruptions in Alaska. The center provides definitive earthquake information to the public, emergency managers, scientists and engineers. This information is derived from the network of seismic monitoring stations we operate across the state.

## **Climate Adaptation Science Centers**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$38,335,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$38,335,000*

*Account/Program: USGS/ Land Resources/ Climate Adaptation Science Centers*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$38,335,000 for the Climate Adaptation Science Centers at the U.S. Geological Survey.*

The Department of the Interior (DOI), United States Geological Survey (USGS) Climate Adaptation Science Centers (CASCs) collaborate with cultural and natural resource managers and other stakeholders of public lands to develop research, data and scientific resources to respond to the effects of climate variability and change on fish, wildlife, ecosystems and the communities they support. The National CASC manages eight Regional CASCs, which serve every state in the nation. Regional CASCs are hosted at research universities and are cooperative partnerships between the USGS, state and local entities, research universities, tribes or tribal colleges, and federal labs. The CASCs link USGS science to the University enterprise, together engaging in research and education to deliver science to address the priority climate adaptation science needs of DOI stakeholders and their partners. The University of Alaska Fairbanks is home to the Alaska CASC and supports a variety of activities in the state.

## **Volcano Hazards Program**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$30,266,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$30,266,000*

*Account/Program: USGS/ Volcano Hazards Program*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$30,266,000 for the Volcano Hazards Program at the U.S. Geological Survey.*

The mission of the USGS Volcano Hazards Program is to enhance public safety and minimize social and economic disruption from eruptions through delivery of effective forecasts, warnings, and information of volcano hazards based on scientific understanding of volcanic processes.

The USGS Volcano Hazards Program (VHP) monitors and studies active and potentially active volcanoes, assesses their hazards, and conducts research on how volcanoes work in order for the USGS to issue "timely warnings" of potential volcanic hazards to emergency-management professionals and the public. Thus, in addition to collecting and interpreting the best possible scientific information, the program works to effectively communicate its scientific findings and volcanic activity alerts to authorities and the public.

The Alaska Volcano Observatory (AVO) is a joint program of the United States Geological Survey (USGS), the Geophysical Institute of the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAFGI), and the State of Alaska Division of Geological and Geophysical Surveys (ADGGS). AVO was formed in 1988, and uses federal, state, and university resources to monitor and study Alaska's hazardous volcanoes, to predict and record eruptive activity, and to mitigate volcanic hazards to life and property.

## **National Water Resources Research Act Program**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$10,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$10,000,000*

*Account/Program: National Water Resources Research Act Program (42 U.S.C. 10301-10303, P.L. 109-471)*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$10,000,000 for the National Water Resources Research Act Program at the U.S. Geological Survey.*

The Water Resources Research Institute (WRRI) Program is a Federal-State partnership that plans, facilitates, and conducts research that helps resolve State and regional water problems; promotes technology transfer; promotes dissemination and application of research; trains scientists through participation in research; and awards competitive grants under the Water Resources Research Act.

The University of Alaska Fairbanks, College of Engineering and Mines, Institute of Northern Engineering, Water and Environmental Research is a funded institute by the WRRI. The institutes collaborate with over 150 state agencies, 180 federal agencies, and more than 165 local and municipal offices. In a given year, Federal dollars are leveraged to support over 350 students in training, over 200 research projects and more than 550 researchers.

## **Joint Fire Sciences Program**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$16,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$6,000,000*

*Account/Program: USGS/ Joint Fire Sciences Program*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$16,000,000 for the Joint Fire Sciences Program at the U.S. Geological Survey.*

The Joint Fire Science Program provides leadership to the fire science community by identifying high-priority fire science research needs that will enhance the decision-making ability of fire and fuel managers, natural resources managers, and others to meet their management objectives.

The Alaska Fire Science Consortium (AFSC) is one of fifteen regional consortia supported by the Joint Fire Science Program and is part of a national fire science knowledge exchange network. AFSC's primary purpose is to strengthen the link between fire science research and on-the-ground application by promoting communication between managers and scientists, providing an organized fire science delivery platform, and facilitating collaborative scientist-manager research development.

***-End-***

## ***Labor, Health and Human Services, Education, and Related Agencies***

### **NIH/IDeA (INBRE)**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$400,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$386,600,000*

*Account/Program: NIGMS/Extramural Research/Institutional Development Award (IDeA)*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$400,000,000 for the Institutional Development Award at the National Institutes of Health.*

The Institutional Development Award (IDeA) program builds research capacities in states that historically have had low levels of NIH funding by supporting basic, clinical, and translational research; faculty development; and infrastructure improvements. The program also enhances the ability of investigators to compete successfully for additional research funding and serves the research needs of medically underserved communities. IDeA Networks of Biomedical Research Excellence (INBRE) enhance biomedical research capacity, expand, and strengthen the research capabilities of biomedical faculty, and provide access to biomedical resources for promising undergraduate students throughout the eligible states. INBRE puts the IDeA approach into action by enhancing research infrastructure through support of a statewide research development network that links research-intensive institutions with primarily undergraduate institutions. Alaska INBRE has been funded by NIH since 2001, and has successfully competed for, and won nearly \$62 million to address critical areas of interest to Alaska.

### **Strengthening Institutions**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$107,854,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$107,854,000*

*Account/Program: Higher Education/Aid for Institutional Development/Strengthening Institutions (HEA-III-A, Section 311)*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$107,854,000 for the Strengthening Institutions Program at the U.S. Department of Education.*

Institutions of higher education have a responsibility to ensure students gain a high-quality education in their desired course work. Students from low-income, socioeconomically disadvantaged backgrounds persistently graduate at much lower rates than their peers. In order to close this gap, resources are needed at these institutions to develop strengthen programs that will increase retention and completion rates.

Title III, Part A provides Discretionary/ Competitive Grants and Cooperative Agreements which help eligible institutions of higher education to become self-sufficient and expand their capacity to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen the academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability of eligible institutions. Funds may be used

for planning, faculty development, and establishing endowment funds. Administrative management, and the development and improvement of academic programs also are supported. Other projects include joint use of instructional facilities, construction and maintenance, and student service programs designed to improve academic success, including innovative, customized, instruction courses designed to help retain students and move the students rapidly into core courses and through program completion, which may include remedial education and English language instruction.

### **Strengthening Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$18,320,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$18,320,000*

*Account/Program: Higher Education/Aid for Institutional Development/Strengthening Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions (HEA III-A, Section 317)*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$18,320,000 for the Strengthening Alaska Native/Native Hawaiian Serving Institutions at the U.S. Department of Education.*

This program helps eligible institutions of higher education increase their self-sufficiency and expand their capacity to serve low-income students by providing funds to improve and strengthen the academic quality, institutional management, and fiscal stability of eligible institutions.

### **TRIO Programs**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$1,160,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$1,090,000,000*

*Account/Program: Higher Education/Aid for Students/Federal TRIO program (HEA IV-A-2, Chapter 1)*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$1,160 billion for the TRIO programs at the U.S. Department of Education.*

The Federal TRiO Programs (TRiO) are federal outreach and student services programs in the United States designed to identify and provide services for individuals from disadvantaged backgrounds. They are administered, funded, and implemented by the United States Department of Education. TRiO includes eight programs targeted to serve and assist low-income individuals, first-generation college students, and individuals with disabilities to progress through the academic pipeline from middle school to post-baccalaureate programs. TRiO also includes a training program for directors and staff of TRiO projects.

The University of Alaska has received funding from TRiO for Student Support Services (SSS), Upward Bound (Ub), Educational Talent Search (ETS) and the Educational Opportunity Center (EOC) program.



## **Pell Grant**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$6,395 max award*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$6,345*

*Account/Program: Student Aid Administration/Federal Pell Grant Program*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$6,345 max award for the Pell Grant recipients at the U.S. Department of Education.*

The Federal Pell Grant Program provides need-based grants to low-income undergraduate and certain post baccalaureate students to promote access to postsecondary education. Students may use their grants at any one of approximately 5,400 participating postsecondary institutions. Grant amounts are dependent on: the student's expected family contribution (EFC) (see below); the cost of attendance (as determined by the institution); the student's enrollment status (full-time or part-time); and whether the student attends for a full academic year or less.

## **Alaska Native Education Equity**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$35,953,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$35,953,000*

*Account/Program: School Improvement Programs/ Alaska Native Education Equity*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$35,953,000 for the Alaska Native Education Equity program at the U.S. Department of Education.* University of Alaska Southeast, in Juneau, is partnered with The Sealaska Heritage Institute on proposal entitled “the *Preparing Indigenous Teachers and Administrators for Alaska Schools (PITAAS VII)*.” This project provides and supports opportunities for the preparation and advancement of Native Teacher education to improve educational opportunity for Alaska Native K-12 students. Four priorities are targeted: supporting Alaska Native students and educators for certificates and/or degrees in Education or Indigenous Language and Culture; providing professional development activities for educators, including PITAAS scholars, and University faculty on issues affecting Alaska Native students; supporting revitalization of Alaska Native Languages and Culture; and providing career preparation activities, including summer internships, for Alaska Native pre-service teachers in the PITAAS program. Proposed outcomes include at least 20 Alaska Native teachers and 20 Alaska educators with advanced degrees or endorsements; eight Alaska Native administrators; five Alaska Native Ph.D. or Ed.D. Candidates; distinction awards and target recognition; professional development opportunities; engaged University faculty; additional language and culture knowledge for Alaska Native students; and internship opportunities.

**-End-**

***Transportation, House and Urban Development, and Related Agencies***

**Domestic Center of Maritime Excellence**

*FY2021 UA Request: \$30,000,000*

*FY2021 President's Budget Request: TBD*

*FY2020 Final: \$3,000,000*

*Account/Program: DOT/MARAD*

*The University of Alaska recommends \$30,000,000 for the Maritime Administration at the U.S. Department of Transportation to implement the Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence program authorized under the fiscal year 2018 National Defense Authorization Act.*

A shortage of qualified maritime workers has been identified by U.S. industry leaders as the primary challenge to growth in the domestic maritime sector. The maritime industry requires technical skills training and licensing – even for entry-level positions. To earn appropriate credentials for each level of maritime industry employment, workers must complete regular training. Community and technical colleges can provide this training – on affordable basis. A number of community and technical colleges across the country are capable of providing leadership in domestic maritime workforce training. Two-year public colleges with maritime and marine technology workforce technical training programs are capable of working with the Maritime Administration and U.S. industry to secure the domestic maritime workforce talent pipeline. Under the provisions of the Domestic Maritime Centers of Excellence Act, MARAD can support community and technical college centers of excellence by providing support, technical assistance, and donating surplus federal assets for maritime education. The centers of excellence designation will enable colleges to expand their capacity to train domestic maritime workers by admitting more students, training faculty, expanding facilities, creating new maritime career pathways from associate degree to baccalaureate degree programs, and awarding credit for prior learning experience – including military service.

***-End-***