



UNIVERSITY
of **ALASKA**
Many Traditions One Alaska

This document provides a summary of fall 2018 opening enrollment as of September 18, 2018. Information presented here does not reflect total fall enrollment and merely serves as an indicator of where student enrollment will land by the end of the semester. Historically, an additional 3,500 students typically enroll between the semester opening and the end of the term, the vast majority of whom are non-degree seeking students taking short courses. Final fall 2018 semester closing data will be available in late January 2019. Figures presented here are for-credit courses only and do not consider non-credit activity.

Enrollment

While there is some natural year-to-year variation in fall semester opening activity levels across the University of Alaska, headcount and student credit hours attempted have effectively declined at each university every year since fall 2014. In total, the system serves 16 percent (5,000) fewer individual students in fall 2018 than in fall 2014, and 6 percent (1,400) fewer than in fall 2017; the same proportional decreases were observed for the number of student credit hours delivered over these periods, with a drop of 41,000 SCH over the last five years and 14,400 SCH in the last year, respectively. By comparison, the number of course sections delivered as of the fall opening dropped 15 percent (900) over the last five years, and 2 percent (80) from fall 2017; some reduction in the number of course sections being delivered is expected as universities strategically reduce instructional delivery cost per completer over time.

UA Headcount, Fall Opening

	Discounted CTE	Total
Fall 2014	1,428	28,388
Fall 2015	1,502	27,726
Fall 2016	1,491	26,479
Fall 2017	1,636	25,181
Fall 2018	1,832	23,792

UA - Anchorage Headcount, Fall Opening

	Discounted CTE	Total
Fall 2014	521	17,321
Fall 2015	541	16,933
Fall 2016	580	16,428
Fall 2017	580	15,819
Fall 2018	615	14,731

UA-Anchorage observed a 7 percent decline (1,100) in the number of unique students enrolled compared to this time last year, at the fall 2017 opening, and a 15 percent drop (2,600) over the last five years. Similar changes occurred in the number of student credit hours attempted, with decreases of 7 percent (9,800) and 14 percent (23,300) over the last year and five years, respectively. The number of course sections delivered across UAA's five campuses was the same in fall 2018 as in fall 2017, and about 13 percent (470) less than in fall 2014.

UA - Fairbanks Headcount, Fall Opening

	Discounted CTE	Total
Fall 2014	673	8,700
Fall 2015	669	8,719
Fall 2016	624	8,360
Fall 2017	731	7,744
Fall 2018	839	7,479

UA-Fairbanks observed a 3 percent decline (270) in the number of unique students enrolled compared to this time last year, at the fall 2017 opening, and a 14 percent drop (1,200) over the last five years. Likewise, a similar trend occurred in the number of student credit hours attempted, with decreases of 6 percent (4,200) and 18 percent (13,800) over the last year and five years, respectively. The number of course sections delivered across UAF's 8 campuses was 5 percent (90) fewer in fall 2018 than in fall 2017, and about 15 percent (335) less than in fall 2014.

UA - Southeast Headcount, Fall Opening

	Discounted CTE	Total
Fall 2014	237	3,053
Fall 2015	295	2,841
Fall 2016	292	2,596
Fall 2017	327	2,379
Fall 2018	380	2,297

UA-Southeast observed a 3 percent decline (80) in the number of unique students enrolled compared to this time last year, at the fall 2017 opening, and a 25 percent drop (750) over the last five years. A similar trend occurred in the number of student credit hours attempted, with decreases of 2 percent (400) and 19 percent (4,000) over the last year and five years, respectively. The number of course sections delivered across UAS's 3 campuses grew 2 percent (12 sections) over the last year, while decreasing 18 percent (110) from fall 2014.

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Tuition Discount Program

The UA Board of Regents adopted a 25 percent discount for CTE programs through the FY19 operating budget, accompanied by approximately \$1.5M of FY19 funding support to universities for revenue loss backfill. In the long term, the CTE tuition discount program is expected to increase student enrollment, thus increasing each university’s net tuition revenue.

Fifty programs and 305 eligible courses were identified for the discount: 18 occupational endorsement certificate (OEC) programs at UA-Anchorage; 18 OEC programs and 3 two-year certificates at UA Fairbanks; and 11 OEC programs at UA-Southeast. Courses identified for discount are offered in summer, fall or spring semesters, or in alternating years, per each university’s course catalog. As of fall semester 2018 open, a total of 246 discounted course sections were being offered: 81 at UA-Anchorage; 101 at UA-Fairbanks; and 64 at UA-Southeast.

A complete, accurate assessment of the full impact of the CTE tuition discount program will be available in late summer 2019, after a full year of FY19 enrollment activity with the discount in place has occurred. However, preliminary fall 2018 semester opening enrollment information shows that courses with an associated CTE discount break from the overall trend of enrollment declines observed at each of UA’s universities, indicating student enrollment in tuition discount program courses is increasing.

