



UA Scholars Program Overview

The University of Alaska designed the Scholars Program to provide an incentive for Alaska's middle and high school students to achieve academic excellence, to nourish efforts of schools to provide high quality education, and to encourage high school graduates from every community in Alaska to attend the University of Alaska.

Award amount, distribution and deadline for use

- **Current award amount:** \$11,000 (will increase to \$12,000 beginning fall 2015).
- **How it is paid:** The university provides eligible Scholars \$1,375 per semester for eight semesters. (The cost of tuition for 12 credits in FY15 is \$2,088 at the 100-200 level and \$2,520 at the 300-400 level.)
- Since the UA Scholar Program began in fall 1999, a cumulative total of 6,713 students have enrolled and received a UA Scholar distribution from the University of Alaska.
- **Deadline for use:** Expires after a total of eight semesters or within five years of the Scholar's class graduation from high school.

Eligible expenses

The Award is applied as a payment on the Scholar's student account and may be used for expenses such as undergraduate tuition, fees, room, board, books, supplies and other education costs incurred for attendance at the University of Alaska.

Eligibility

- Top 10 percent in the high school junior class at the end of the spring term (May or June) in every qualified Alaska high school.
- To remain eligible as a university student for the Scholars award:
 - Maintain satisfactory academic progress;
 - Enroll in at least 12 credits, each fall and spring semester (will increase to 30 credits per academic year in year two of the award beginning fall 2015);
 - Be in good standing in accordance with the UA Student Code of Conduct (Board of Regents policy 09.02.02 and University Regulation 09.02.020);
 - Maintain a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5.

Eligible UA Scholars, enrollment and degrees at the University of Alaska by fall terms 2004-2013

UA Scholars are tracked by their enter terms as a cohorts (see table below).

- During its inaugural semester in fall 1999, the UA Scholars program attracted 271 top Alaskan students to the University of Alaska. By fall 2013, the number of newly paid UA Scholars grew to 456, an increase of 68 percent from the inaugural semester.
- In fall 2013, 456 out of 1,967 (23 percent) UA Scholars received a UA Scholar distribution for the first time.



UA Scholars Overview

As of Fall 2013										Graduation Rate
Fall Term	% Eligible AK High School Graduates		Received One or More Undergrad. Degree		Still Enrolled, Received One or More Undergrad. Degrees		Received Baccalaureate Degree	Received Associate Degree	Received Certificate	First-Time, Full-Time Received Any Undergrad. Degree Within 6 Years or Less
	Attending	New Paid	(Unduplicated Headcount)	Still Enrolled, No Degree						
2004	44.5	431	247	9	40	203	56	7	48.3	
2005	44.4	421	238	13	56	195	57	13	50.7	
2006	40.9	411	222	21	65	192	49	13	49.3	
2007	40.0	416	245	23	88	207	50	8	54.0	
2008	42.3	434	231	54	117	186	56	11		
2009	43.2	463	199	90	202	154	53	7		
2010	43.9	473	117	182	277	81	36	5		
2011	43.1	443	44	267	305	9	29	8		
2012	40.6	434	11	333	344		10	1		
2013	44.1	456	2	454	456			2		

Note: 'New Paid' includes any UA Scholar who received a UA Scholar distribution for the first time in the reported term.

Note: Reported numbers for 'New Paid' UA Scholars do not include spring and summer terms. Cumulative headcount since fall 2004 is 4,681 including fall, spring and summer terms.

Note: Graduation rates are calculated at the UA System level and represent whether or not a student graduated from any university in the UA System. Students who received at least one undergraduate degree are counted as of fall 2013, i.e. a student is counted the first time if he/she received a degree since the entering term, and if multiple degrees were earned by fall 2013, the highest undergraduate degree is selected.

Individual numbers for baccalaureate, associate or certificate degrees may be duplicated for those students who received multiple degrees.

"Still enrolled, no degree" UA Scholars are students who were still enrolled at the university and/or continued to pursue any undergraduate degree since the entering term, and as of fall 2013 had not earned a degree. "Still enrolled, received one or more degree" UA Scholars are students who received at least one undergraduate degree or certificate as of fall 2013, and were currently enrolled or pursuing another degree.

Source: Data Supplied by MAUs via UA Information Systems: UA Decision Support Database (RPTP.DSDMGR), FY05-FY14.

Compiled by UA Institutional Research and Analysis.

- Over the last ten years, the number of UA Scholars entering the program in the fall term grew from 431 students in fall 2004, to 456 students in fall 2013, an increase of 6 percent.
- Each fall term over the last ten years, more than 40 percent of eligible Alaska high school graduates benefited from the UA Scholars program. The fall 2013 percentage (44.1 percent) was the highest since fall 2006.
- The six-year graduation rate for first-time full-time UA Scholars who entered the program and were seeking any undergraduate degree in fall 2007 was 54 percent; this rate is 1.7 times higher than the first-time full-time freshman graduation rate of 31.7 percent for the UA System.
- As of fall 2013, 11 percent (49 students) of UA Scholars who entered the program in 2004, were still enrolled at the University of Alaska. Out of those 49, 40 students already received at least one undergraduate degree and were currently enrolled or pursuing another degree at the university.

