

Pat Pitney
UA President

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Dear UA Community,

Below is a brief update on the recent federal executive actions and the state budget.

First, though, I want to begin by acknowledging the uncertainty and stress many are feeling as a result of recent developments at the federal level. These are challenging times, and I'm grateful for the resilience and care I see across our campuses every day. As we move forward, I encourage everyone to assume positive intent, support one another, and focus on the opportunities still before us.

Federal Actions Impacting International Students and Research

This week, we learned that the federal government has revoked visas for four individuals affiliated with UAA — one current student and three recent graduates in post-graduation training — without prior notice. No students at UAF or UAS have been affected to date. Our staff are monitoring immigration records daily and are working to support impacted individuals.

If you or someone you know is affected, please reach out to your campus' international student services office immediately so they can provide resources and let university leadership know:

- [UAA International Student Services Office](#)
- [UAF International Student and Scholar Services](#)
- [UAS International Student Services Office](#)

These immigration issues do **not** impact a student's academic standing at UA. Our international students and scholars are vital members of our community, and we remain fully committed to supporting their success. We've made additional information on [international students' rights](#) and [visa revocations](#) available on the UA Federal Relations site and to staff at the universities who support our international students.

Separately, federal actions have frozen or canceled a small portion of our \$270 million federal portfolio.

- Roughly \$3.8 million in grants (1.4%) has been cancelled.
- Roughly \$1.6 million in grants (0.5%) has been frozen.

Thanks to the work of our Federal Relations team and Alaska's congressional delegation, several grants (\$6.9 million) that were initially frozen have already been reinstated. We remain confident in the strength of our diverse research programs.

In addition, while we were initially told that UAA's 10-year, \$46 million ADAC-ARCTIC grant had been cancelled, that cancellation is now on hold. I'm hopeful we'll be able to retain that grant, like many others, so the critical work that's been started under it can continue.

Looking Ahead

While federal uncertainty and changes to federal funding may require targeted reductions in staffing, travel, or hiring, these impacts are expected to be far less severe than those we experienced during COVID or the budget compact. Systemwide, most of our people and programs will continue without major disruption, but the uncertainty at the federal level will impact some staff and faculty. We'll be transparent as we learn what those impacts are. Please be patient and understand that we are all a part of the UA mission and will do our best to support those whose jobs are impacted.

On the state side, budget discussions are still underway in Juneau. While funding remains tight, UA's momentum in enrollment and alignment with state priorities positions us well in the legislative process. We're still a ways from getting a final budget, and I'll share specific updates on that front as we get closer to the final outcome.

I know these developments can be unsettling. But your work — whether advising students, conducting research, or supporting operations — continues to make a difference. I'm proud of how this community responds to adversity: with care, creativity, and a shared commitment to Alaska's future.

Thank you for all that you do.

Sincerely,



Pat Pitney
President, University of Alaska