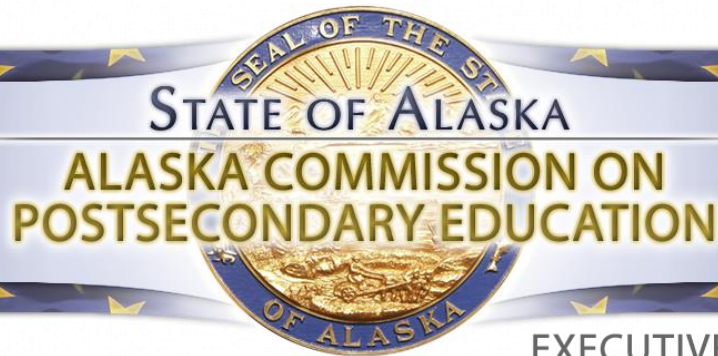


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Press Release

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

July 24, 2019

Commission Adopts Resolution to Support Alaskans' Educational Success and Contribution to a Healthy Alaska Economy

Juneau - At its July 23, 2019 quarterly meeting, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education voted to approve a resolution to support Alaskans' educational success and contribution to a healthy Alaska economy.

In reaffirming its commitment to support Alaska's college and career training students and institutions, the Commission urges the legislature to reinstate WWAMI funding, and scholarship and grant funds for FY20, and to reinstate the Alaska Higher Education Investment Fund to ensure ongoing access to essential state aid for students.

The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimates that roughly 65% of Alaska's fastest-growing, high-wage jobs will require some form of postsecondary credential by 2025. Current data reflect a shortfall of over 20,000 workers with the training and education needed to fill top Alaska jobs

The Commission recognizes the increasing importance of efficiently and effectively leveraging college and career training, as Alaska pursues economic growth, while facing significant budget constraints. Therefore, the Commission invites and encourages policy-makers, business leadership and stakeholders in the Alaska education system and larger State economy to join with them in developing strategic plans and communication campaigns to ensure that quality higher education is supported and remains accessible to Alaska's students.

About the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education: The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education is a 14-member body, established in law by the Alaska Legislature to promote, support, and provide access to and success in postsecondary education for Alaskans and in Alaska, through outreach and early awareness, student financial aid, program integrity, and consumer protection programs and services.

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