



Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

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Kids2College Connects Students with College & Career Exploration Creativity & Virtual Tools Provide Expanded Reach Statewide

ANCHORAGE – This spring, 5th-8th grade students from diverse communities across the state will participate in the first ever Kids2College Virtual Campus Events.

Throughout a year full of unknowns, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) in partnership with AK 529, have found creative ways to meet the needs of students and educators for those learning at home, at school, or participating in a hybrid setting. As part of the *Kids2College* program, University of Alaska Anchorage, Kodiak College, and University of Alaska Fairbanks are offering virtual campus events. *Kids2College* students participating in the virtual campus events will experience two morning sessions complete with fun, hands-on and age-appropriate mini-college classes. Without these *Kids2College* Virtual Campus Events, many students otherwise might not have the opportunity to explore Alaska's college campuses, due to transportation challenges and distance, particularly for those living in rural Alaska

For many participating students, *Kids2College* provides first steps toward exploring college and career interests, and helps solidify the important connection between academics and future success. *Kids2College* engages and stimulates career exploration and college preparation concepts by teaching students about a variety of postsecondary options and the steps they can take today to prepare for college & career training. Students learn about high school graduation requirements/recommendations, the importance of extracurricular activities, college admissions, and how to qualify for financial aid opportunities like the Alaska Performance Scholarship.

Kids2College encourages students to aspire to education and training beyond high school – whether it's an apprenticeship, a certificate, a one-year technical program, a four-year degree, or a seven-year professional degree sequence, through its message that postsecondary training is important *and* attainable.

Kids2College alumni are more likely to discuss college & career preparation with parents and teachers, and to understand college and career training is possible for them. For those children whose families may not have a college-going history, it's an opportunity to learn first-hand about the career avenues and life experiences college offers.

For more information on [ACPE's early college & career exploration resources](#), please contact Shelly Morgan, K-12 Specialist with the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education at 907-269-7972 or shelly.morgan@alaska.gov.

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