



What is the Voyage to Excellence Residential School?

The Voyage to Excellence (VTE) Variable-Term Residential School provides high school students from across Alaska with the skills necessary to successfully make the transition into life after high school. We primarily serve Alaska Native students from rural communities in eight different school districts.

Our goals are:

- To excite students about their future, discuss their options, help them refine their career goals, and empower them with the tools they need to get started in their chosen career.
- To teach students the importance of finishing high school and post-secondary education, financial literacy, healthy living habits, and the employability skills necessary to be successful adults who contribute to their communities and the State of Alaska.

Program Offerings and Partners

We determine our program offerings at the start of each school year through discussion with our partner districts and businesses, teachers, students, and our district administration. Our business partners include multiple Alaska Native corporations, and many of the careers we base our sessions around such as health aides, construction, and heavy equipment operation are in demand in rural communities.

School District partners include:

Yupiit School District
Kuspuk School District
Lake and Peninsula School District
Bering Strait School District
Copper River School District
Kenai Peninsula Borough Schools
Yukon Koyukuk School District

Business partners include:

Chugach Alaska Corporation
Chugachmiut
Tatitlek Corporation
Chenega Corporation
Alaska Vocational Technical Center
Girdwood Fire & EMS
Alaska Pacific University

Tuition and Student Totals

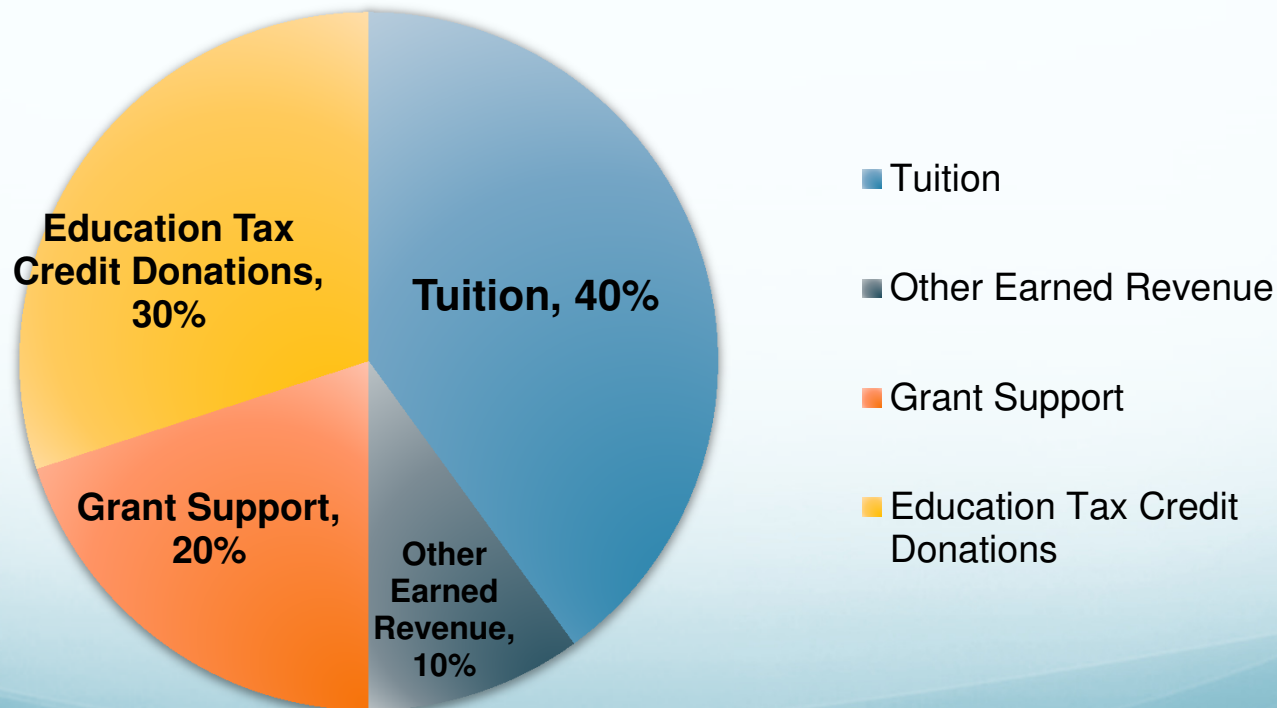
Our tuition forms a significant portion of our budget each year. We use grants and, as of this school year, our Residential School Boarding Stipend to bring down our tuition total, thus allowing more students to attend. For the 2014/2015 School Year our tuition is \$100.00 per day per student.

Our Residential School Boarding Stipend for the current school year, based on 24 total students at the October count period, is \$265,064.

Total Students Served by School Year	
2009/2010	238
2010/2011	232
2011/2012	226
2012/2013	306
2013/2014*	237
2014/2015 To date	137

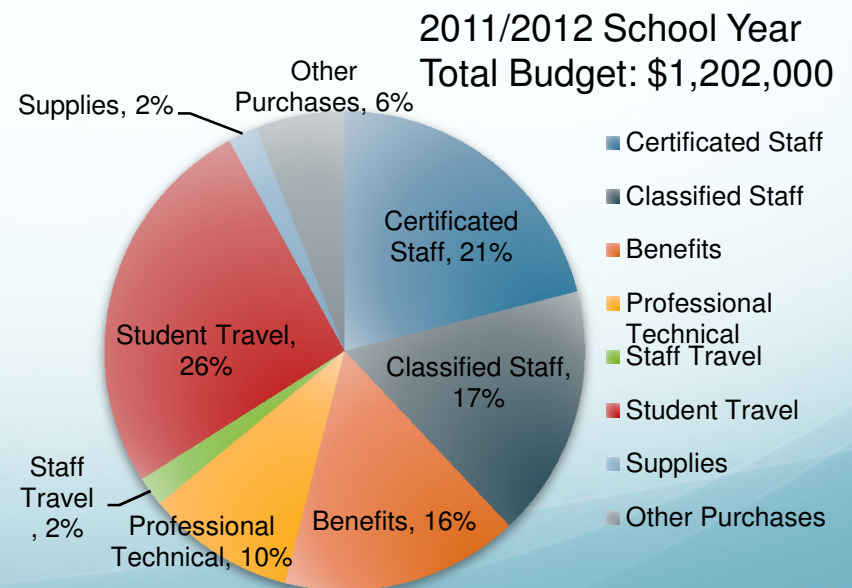
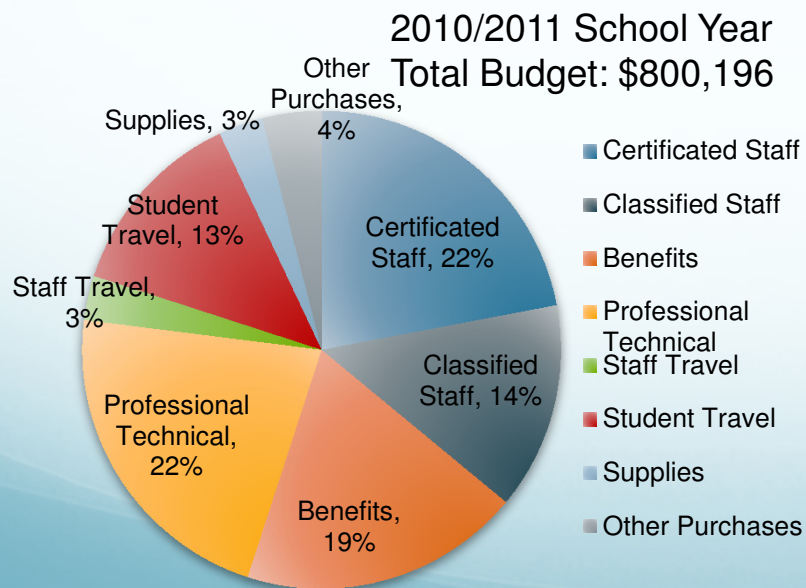
Program Revenue Sources

Our revenue sources include state and federal grants, tax credit donations, tuition, and now the Residential School boarding stipend. Funding source totals vary year to year based on donations and grants received. This chart shows approximate funding source percentages for previous school years.



Budget Expenditures

- VTE Expenditures vary from year to year based on total budget from grants and donations received and the goals of those grants and donations.
- Since the majority of our expenditure goes towards staffing, our recent expansion allows us to serve roughly twice as many students, up to 28 at a time, at nearly the same cost as in previous years.
- Here is an example of how our budget and expenditures vary by year:



VTE Success Stories

Chugach School District recently surveyed VTE students going back to the program's inception in 1996. Of the students surveyed:

- 80% said their VTE experience influenced their career and post-secondary choices.
- 82% said their VTE experience was helpful in their transition to an urban environment.
- 88% said VTE was helpful in their career planning.

One reason VTE is successful is that we don't seek to remove students from their home village. Rather, we teach them the skills and values necessary to be successful whether they choose to stay in their home village or pursue a career elsewhere after high school. This year VTE was nominated for a 2015 Inclusive Practices Award from the Governor's Council on Disabilities and Special Education. Our program has existed for nearly 20 years and continues to improve, adapt, and expand to serve students across the state.