



Alaska Regional Training Centers Special Action

Summary

Alaska's Regional Training Centers (RTCs) are public or non-profit centers created through partnerships and recognized by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD). Their joint mission is development and educational activities linked to employment opportunities in Alaska. Through collaboration they leverage partnerships and resources to provide coordinated workforce development, education, and training in conjunction with local, statewide and federal partners to prepare citizens to enter into the Alaskan Workforce.

DOLWD currently recognizes the following as Alaska Regional Training Centers:

- ❖ Alaska Technical Center
- ❖ AVTEC Alaska's Institute of Technology
- ❖ Delta Career Advancement Center
- ❖ Fairbanks Pipeline Training Center
- ❖ Galena Interior Learning Academy
- ❖ NACTEC – Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center
- ❖ North Slope Training and Education Consortium
- ❖ SAVEC – Southwest Alaska Vocational Education Center
- ❖ SE Alaska Career Consortium
- ❖ UA Workforce Programs
- ❖ Yuut Elitnaurviat – Peoples Learning Center

Common Characteristics of these recognized RTCs include:

- Regional and state partnerships which include the following organizations:
 - Industry
 - Alaska Native, regional and community organizations
 - Economic development entities
 - Local boroughs, city, state, federal and tribal governments
 - Registered apprenticeships (union and non-union)
 - K-12 schools districts
 - Accredited college and university educational institutions
 - DOLWD One-Stop Career Centers
 - AWIB Regional Advisory Councils (RCAs)

- Career pathway articulation from K-12 to postsecondary education, training, including tech prep and registered apprenticeships
- Assist participants' transition from K-12 to careers and use a variety of tools such as Career Plans, Career Pathways, WorkKeys, etc.
- Assist participants with recertification courses
- Incorporate career and technical education standard-based curriculum, certification and credentials
- Use industry-based standard to prepare youth and adults for the Alaskan Workforce
- Governed by a regional or state board

Through their specific RTC status, these institutions are subject to oversight by DOLWD that substantially duplicates the kinds of protections provided by institutional authorization, making exemption from authorization an appropriate status for these institutions. However, due to organization and operational differences of Alaska's RTCs, there is not a single exemption regulation under which they all qualify. Thus, staff is asking the Commission to approve the entire class of DOLWD-recognized Regional Training Centers in an exempt status, pursuant to the Commission's authority set out in AS 14.48.030(b)(1-8). Should an RTC lose its recognized status with DOLWD or begin enrolling students in ways that require authorization, exemption would no longer apply to that particular institution.

Recommendation

Recommend approval of the entire class of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development-recognized Regional Training Centers in an exempt status.