



University of Alaska

Empower Alaska

Senate Education Committee

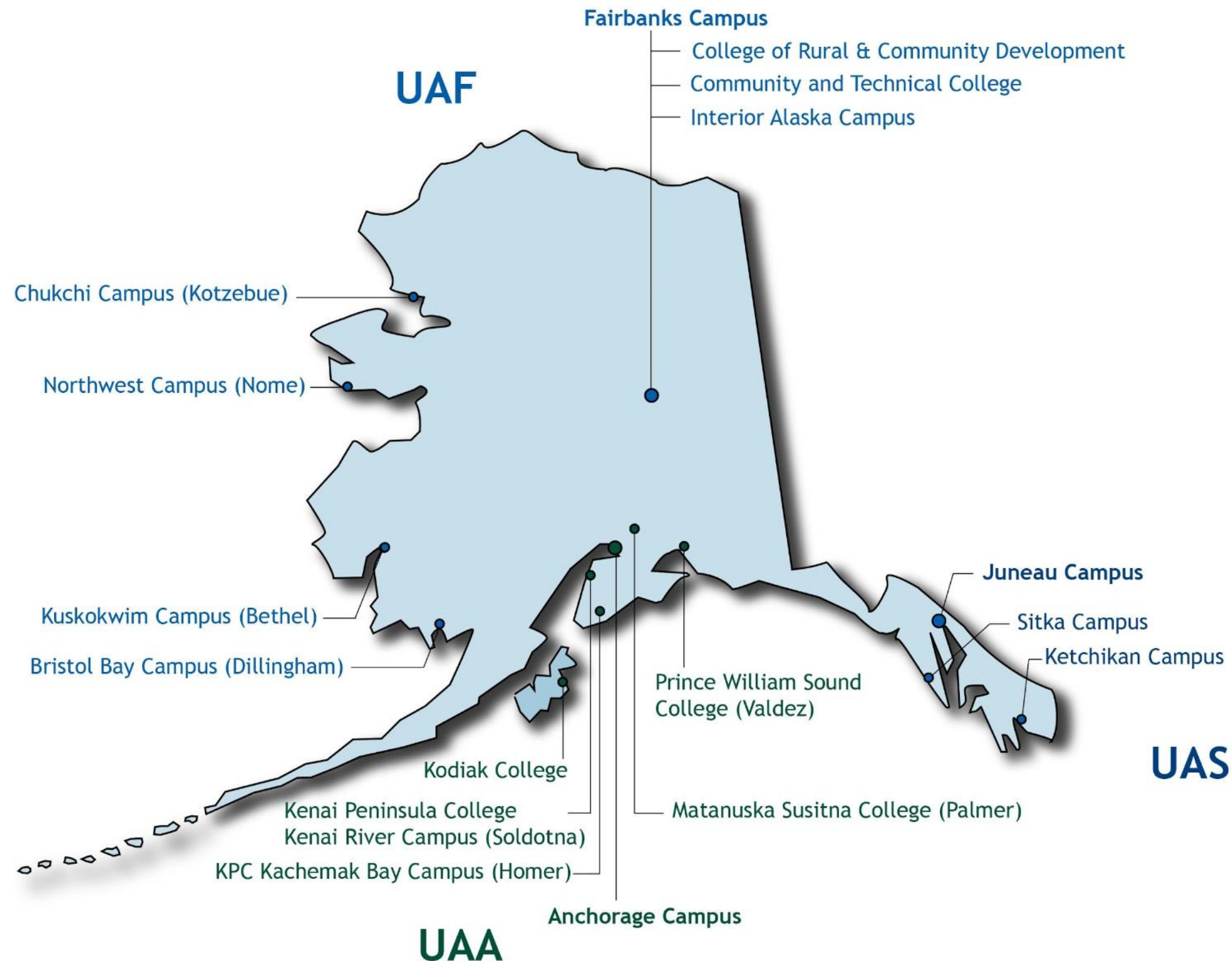
February 20, 2023

President Pat Pitney



UNIVERSITY
of ALASKA
Many Traditions One Alaska

University of Alaska Alaska's System of Higher Education



Three universities:

- Diverse missions
 - UAF - Research University
 - UAA - Open access, Comprehensive
 - UAS - Regional University
- Unique experiences
- Shared value
 - Serving their communities through community campuses
 - Offering a breadth of programs from workforce credentialing to doctoral degrees

UA Priority Focus Areas



Increase Student Enrollment through retention in degree programs for Alaska's workforce



Develop Workforce and Focused Economic Development Initiatives



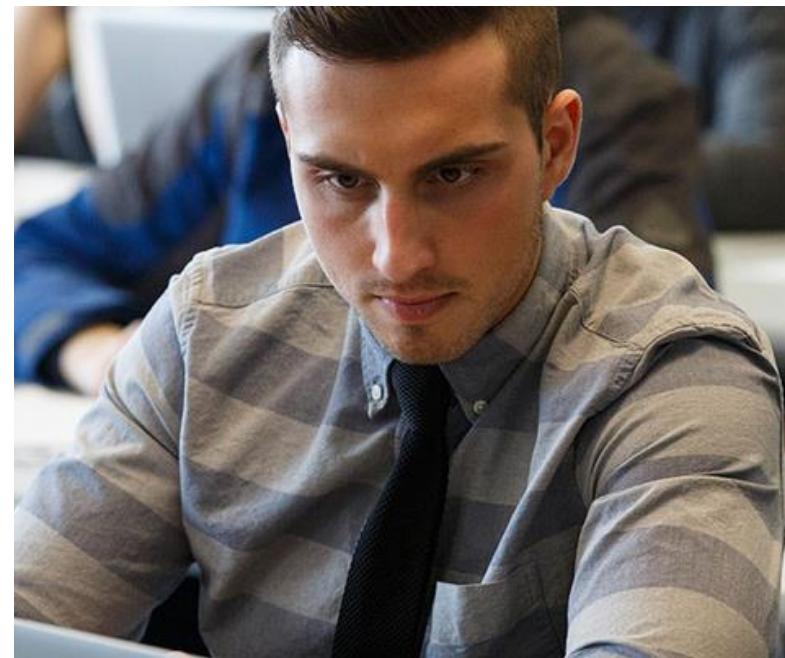
Promote Arctic Policy, Research and Leadership



Strengthen Teacher Education through the Alaska College of Education Consortium



Advance the Alaska Native Success Initiative



Build Finance Industry Partnerships to Expand Business Workforce



Increase Fisheries and Ocean Sciences Presence in Southeast Alaska



Revise Business Models for Efficiency and Modernization

Enrollment Highlights

Spring 2023 Enrollment:

- Headcount up 1 percent over Spring 2022. First year-to-year increase in 10 years.
- Significant enrollment increases at most Community Campuses, the UAA and UAF Community and Technical Colleges and the UAS School of Career Education
- More students in classes and return to face-to-face instruction, but there are more online options for students across the UA system than pre-COVID

Dual enrollment:

- In FY22, more than 2,300 high school students were enrolled in a University course an increase of 10% over FY21.

UA Scholars:

- As of February 1, 48 percent of eligible UA Scholars secured their award by applying to UAA, UAF or UAS an increase of 11% percent over 2022.

Teacher Preparation

- Re-established BA in Early Childhood Education at UAA
- Pilot program to provide financial support for students in teaching internships

Healthcare

- Expansion of the Nursing program
- Pilot program to provide financial support for students in clinical programs

Alaska in the national context

- Fall 2022 enrollments were down 1.9 percent nationwide, and Fall enrollment across UA was similar
- The average debt of University of Alaska graduates and the percentage of graduates with debt is below the national average.

Enrollment/Academic Profile – Current as of December 2022

Enrollment is a top priority of the University. Providing value and showing what we can do to help Alaska.

Enrollment*

- Total Student Headcount - 20,190
- University of Alaska Anchorage - 11,360
- University of Alaska Fairbanks - 7,400
- University of Alaska Southeast - 2,130
- Total Full Time Equivalency - 11,720

Academic Profile

- Faculty - 1,875
- Staff - 3,271
- UA Scholars* - 1,276
- AK Performance Scholars* - 1,866
- Dual-Enrollment Students** - 2,324
- UA Alumni - 120,000+

*Data estimates from Fall 2022 as of December 19 2022

**Data for FY22



Importance of Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) and Higher Education Investment Fund (HEIF)

- Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) recipients provide a return of investment for Alaska.
- An important piece for boosting enrollment.
- Notice for receiving the scholarship should be in fall semester of senior year. The current award notification process informs students of their award eligibility after many have already committed to universities outside Alaska.
- Higher Education Investment Fund (HEIF), both in “policy” and “funding,” was protected by the legislature in 2022. Good for necessary stability going forward.



Teacher Education

- The University of Alaska College of Education Consortium (ACEC) ensures consistency and communication across the UA education entities, and between UA and Alaska's P12 stakeholders and develops strategies to meet the needs of Alaska's P12 school system. The Consortium has been successful in strengthening the entire UA education program ecosystem and includes:
 - UAA School of Education, UAF School of Education and UAS School of Education: offering a full array of accredited academic programs at both the undergraduate and graduate level, leading to education licenses, endorsements, certificates, and degrees at the associate, bachelors and master's level.
 - Professional and Continuing Education (PACE) unit at UAA collaborates with partner organizations to provide support for 500-level (professional development) courses, workshops, conferences, institutes, and academies;
 - K12 Outreach office that administers the Alaska Statewide Mentoring Program (ASMP) to assist new teachers in Alaska's schools, the Alaska Teacher Placement (ATP) office, a statewide education job clearinghouse, and the Educators Rising program, encouraging Alaska's junior and senior high school students to become Alaska's next generation of teachers;
 - Center for Alaskan Education Policy Research (CAEPR) at UAA's Institute for Social and Economic Research conducts and disseminates education research, emphasizing topics relevant to Alaskans.
 - An ACEC Liaison to work at the system level facilitating internal and external collaboration and communication related to Alaska's P12 education system.

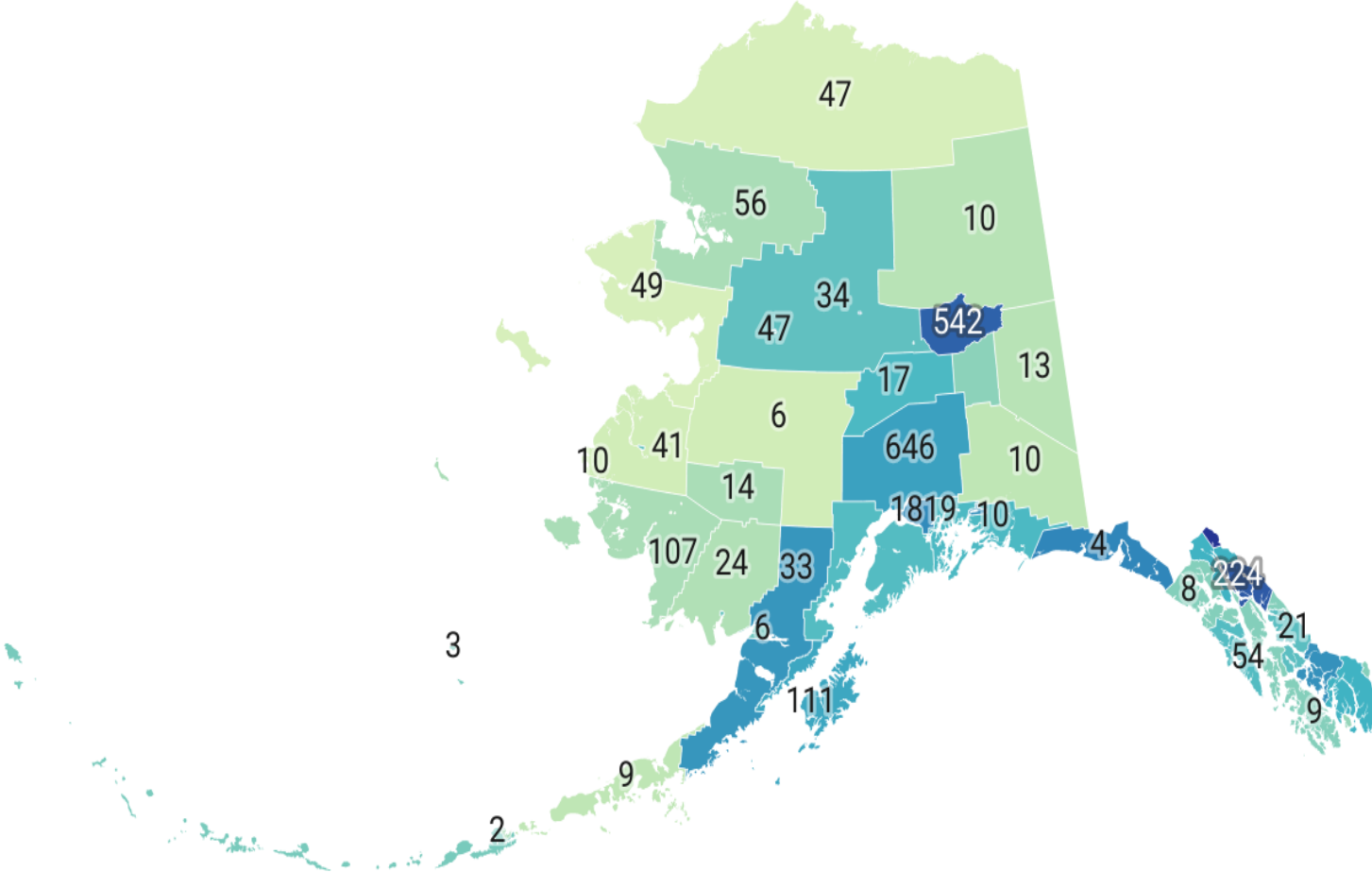


Alaska's University for Alaska's Schools

Biennial report for the legislature in accordance with AS 14.40.190(b)

Percent and number of UA alumni teaching in Alaska's school districts in 2021

Numbers on map indicate total # of UA alumni teaching in that district. Shades reflect UA alumni as the % of the district teaching population.



Created with Datawrapper

Initial Licensure Programs at UAA, UAF and UAS	AY19-20	AY20-21	AY21-22
Enrollment	1303	1256	1310
Graduates	173	138	153

Enrollment of students in UA education programs culminating in an initial teaching license has held steady for the last three years.



UAA School of Nursing Program Expansion

Implementation: \$3.5M State investment in FY23

- Growth - RN programs: currently admit 204 students/yr; plan to admit 258 students/yr by 2025
- Growth – MS/DNP programs: currently admit 28 students/yr; plan to admit 36 students/yr by 2025
- Net increase of 8 nursing faculty to support program growth with 5 more searches underway
- Expansion of the RRANN (Recruitment and Retention of Alaska Natives into Nursing) program to recruit more Alaska Native and rural nursing students is in place and recruiting is happening with support from the Premera Foundation
- Sally Monserud Hall facility expansion in underway to create SIM space specialized lab spaces for WWAMI, nursing and allied health programs, which will assist with student enrollment capacity – up to 20% greater capacity.

Challenges

- Sufficient clinical placement sites for students across Alaska
- We are working diligently to hire more nursing faculty
- Finding nurse educators for our statewide sites is especially challenging



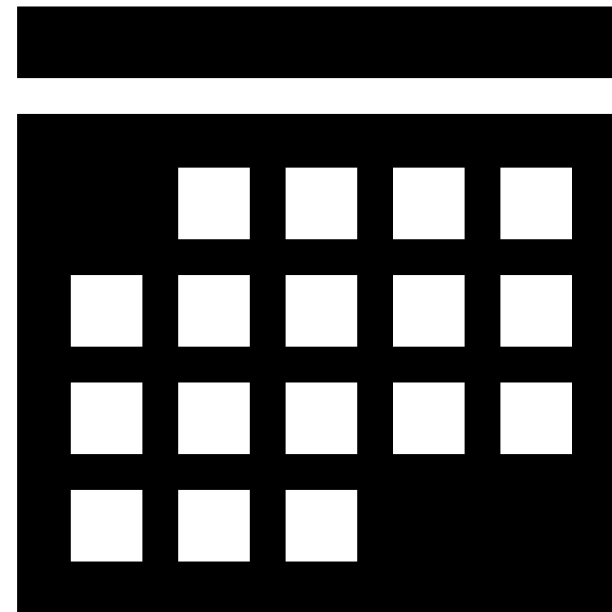
Education Tax Credits (ETC) - What are they?

- Alaska's Education Tax Credit program allows for taxpaying entities to make charitable contributions to support education in Alaska.
- “Think of the big checks.”



What are Education Tax Credits (ETC)? (Continued)

- Credit amounts have evolved over the years as the Alaska Legislature balances the credit received and the state treasury.
- The credits have a sunset date: **Currently Jan. 1, 2025**. The credits must be continued by the Alaska Legislature, via statute.
- Meet direct workforce demands.



ETC - A taxpayer is allowed credit for contributions of cash or equipment for...

- (1) [...] direct instruction, research, and educational support purposes, including library and museum acquisitions, and contributions to endowment, by an Alaska university foundation or by a nonprofit, public or private, Alaska two-year or four-year college accredited by a national or regional accreditation association;
- (2) for secondary school level vocational education courses, programs, and facilities by a school district in the state;
- (3) for vocational education courses, programs, and facilities by a state-operated vocational technical education and training school;
- (4) for a facility by a nonprofit, public or private, Alaska two-year or four-year college accredited by a national or regional accreditation association;
- (5) for Alaska Native cultural or heritage programs and educational support, including mentoring and tutoring, provided by a nonprofit agency for public school staff and for students who are in grades kindergarten through 12 in the state; and
- (6) for education, research, rehabilitation, and facilities by an institution that is located in the state and that qualifies as a coastal ecosystem learning center under the Coastal America Partnership established by the federal government.



ETC - How much credit?

- The amount of the credit is 50 percent of contributions.
- **Combined credit amount** may not exceed \$1,000,000.
- Cannot reduce a contributor's tax liability to below zero for any tax year.
- "Credit amount" has been subject to much debate. The amounts were reduced when the state treasury was stressed in 2018.
- How long will sunset be?
 - Does the Legislature want to return to phased credits (For example: 50% of contributions of not more than \$100,000, 100% of next \$200,000, and 50% of amounts that exceed \$300,000) instead of the flat credit of 50% for contributions?
 - Return to the "combined credit cap amount" of \$5,000,000 instead of \$1,000,000?



FY24 Budget Summary Status Quo (maintain stability)

- FY24 Status Quo Operating Budget
 - Maintain Stability - \$24 million (8.3% increase)
 - \$6.5 million - FY23 supplemental compensation (also need in the FY24 base budget)
 - \$12.7 million (\$15.2 million total) FY24 compensation increase
 - \$4.8 million unavoidable fixed cost increases
 - Cyber Security
 - Insurance Premiums
 - Emergency Response & Disability/Health Services
 - Student library digital access
 - Shared Services – HR & Procurement
- FY24 Capital Budget
 - #1 Facilities Modernization - \$2 million space renovation for WWAMI expansion
 - #1 Deferred Maintenance/Renewal & Repurposing - \$17.5 million UAA facility systems



FY24 Budget Summary Moving Forward (advance key priorities)

- FY24 Operating Budget - \$7.2 million
 - \$2.0 million unavoidable fixed costs (facilities maintenance, commodities and contractual services)
 - \$5.2 million programs to build capacity for Alaska's workforce
- FY24 Capital Budget
 - \$54.8 million DM/R&R
 - \$19.2 million Facility Modernization
 - UAA College of Health and Library Learning Commons
 - UAF Student Engagement Center
 - UAS Lab Consolidation
- Economic Development: Research/Workforce Training Programs (continuation)
 - UA Drone Program Year 2 - \$20 million (\$10 million in Governor's Proposed Budget)
- Revenue Assumptions
 - \$899 million total budget authority, \$523 million (58%) is from unrestricted sources
 - \$320 million in state general funds and \$203 million unrestricted earned revenue
 - FY24 UA expects a net \$3 million increase in unrestricted earned revenue
 - Assumes state support for programs
 - \$1 million in tuition and fee revenue as enrollment stabilizes
 - \$2 million in other unrestricted earned revenue, such as interest income, university receipts, and indirect cost recovery (from competitive externally funded research projects)



Focus on Student Success



FY23 Student Success Initiatives

Health Care Clinicals \$1 million base operating

The healthcare field is facing significant expansion. A competent skilled workforce is indispensable to support the health of residents across the state, especially in rural Alaska. Unfortunately, living while learning to become a health professional has been a significant challenge.

An unrestricted general fund investment of \$1 million in FY23 is for paid healthcare clinicals, to provide support to the next generation of health professionals as they further help the state. The clinical support will help balance payments for necessary expenses. This funding will aid in the further growth of UA-trained healthcare professionals helping to meet health workforce needs. As of February 2, 2023 the \$1M allocated has been allocated to approximately 281 students conducting placements across the state.

Teacher Practicum/Student Teaching \$1 million base operating

Alaska faces a critical shortage of qualified teachers, especially in rural Alaska. The practicum/student teaching portion of the licensure process was identified as a barrier to entry into the profession, due to the significant time involved in this critical training element with no compensation available for the time in the classroom. Living wages have been difficult for many, and this may have a significant impact on Alaska's future education workforce.

The Teacher Preparation Pilot program utilizes state funding to encourage students to complete initial licensure and incentivize participation in the UA teacher preparation program that includes a year-long internship under a qualified mentor. The program off-sets program tuition costs during the final two years of degree completion, and off-sets students' living costs during the year-long internship of the initial licensure program.

Current and prospective students in the final years of UA's teacher licensure programs who meet eligibility requirements can now apply for the UA Teacher Internship Scholarship, with recipients receiving tuition, fees and a \$10,000 stipend to offset living expenses. The university expects to award up to 30 student teachers in the next year.



UA Land Grant – Important Progress

- Senator Murkowski added the University of Alaska Fiscal Foundation Act (S. 1128), to the [Consolidated Appropriations Act for Fiscal Year 2023](#), on behalf of the University.
- Despite being located in the largest state in the union, UA has one of the smallest land endowments—just 110,000 acres—of any applicable institution anywhere in the country. To help remedy this, S. 1128 allows the UA and the State to jointly identify up to 500,000 acres in Alaska for potential conveyance. The Department of the Interior (DOI) will then survey those selections and work with UA and the State to transfer up to 360,000 acres to UA. Any transfers will be deducted from Alaska’s outstanding statehood lands entitlement, which still totals millions of acres.
- This is the first step.
- Coordinating with the Alaska Department of Natural Resources and communicating on land batches.
- May take years for land selections, potential litigation, etc.



Major Initiatives

- Drones
- Health
- Mariculture
- Critical Minerals
- Alternate Energy
- Heavy Oil Recovery



Questions?

