

## **2024 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL**

**OFFERED IN:** The House Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Education and Early Development

**TO:** HB 268 / HB 270

**OFFERED BY:** Representative Himschoot

**FISCAL YEAR:** FY 2025

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Education and Early Development

**APPROPRIATION:** Education Support and Admin Services

**ALLOCATION:** Early Learning Coordination/Alyeska Reading Academy and Institute

**ADD:** \$5,000,000 (UGF), 1004 (for Head Start, under Early Learning Coordination allocation)

**DELETE:** \$5,000,000 (UGF), 1004 (from Alyeska Reading Academy and Institute allocation)

**POSITIONS:**  
Delete 7 Permanent Full-time Positions  
Delete 2 Permanent Part-time Positions  
Delete 3 Temporary Positions

**EXPLANATION:** This amendment would increase funding to support the Head Start program. Matching funds provided through the State of Alaska are to guarantee that grantees meet federal match requirements of 20% of total Head Start funding. Currently, the non-federal match requirement is partially covered by state funds and supplemented through ACF waivers and in-kind donations. State match for Head Start has been flat since 2010. This fund increment would increase the state's contribution to provide the 20% non-federal match requirement.

This amendment would re-allocate funds from Alyeska Reading Academy and Institute allocation to Early Learning Coordination, within the Education Support and Admin Services appropriation.

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**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Education and Early Development

**APPROPRIATION:** Education Support and Admin Services

**ALLOCATION:** Early Learning Coordination

**ADD:** \$5,000,000 (UGF), 1004

**EXPLANATION:** This amendment would increase funding to support the Head Start program. The program promotes school readiness by serving children ages birth to five from low-income families by supporting the development of the whole child through comprehensive services such as health, nutrition, preschool, and parent involvement. Head Start children transition to kindergarten with increased literacy, math, and social skills. This is assessed three times a year through Teaching Strategies Gold for the Department of Education & Early Development (DEED).

Matching funds provided through the State of Alaska are to guarantee that grantees meet federal match requirements of 20% of total Head Start funding. Currently, the non-federal match requirement is partially covered by state funds and supplemented through ACF waivers and in-kind donations. State match for Head Start has been flat since 2010. This fund increment would increase the state's contribution to provide the 20% non-federal match requirement.

**2024 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL**

**OFFERED IN:** The House Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Education

**TO:** HB 268 / HB 270

**OFFERED BY:** Rep. Allard

**FISCAL YEAR:** FY 2025

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Education and Early Development

**APPROPRIATION:** Education Support and Admin Services

**ALLOCATION:** Executive Administration

**DELETE:** 1004 Gen Fund (UGF) 42.5  
1007 I/A Rcpts (Other) 42.4

**POSITIONS:** Delete 1 Full-time Position

**EXPLANATION:** Removes funding for new Administrative Assistant 2 position within the Commissioner's office. Funding is not fully justified.

## 2024 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL

**OFFERED IN:** The House Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Education and Early Development

**TO:** HB 268 / HB 270

**OFFERED BY:** Representative Andi Story

**FISCAL YEAR:** FY 25

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Education and Early Development

**APPROPRIATION:** Education Support and Admin Services

**ALLOCATION:** Student and School Achievement/Early Learning Coordination

**ADD:** \$320,000 UGF (1004) In grant funding for Best Beginnings' Imagination Library program, under Early Learning Coordination allocation

**DELETE:** \$320,000 UGF (1004) In grant funding for Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP), under Student and School Achievement allocation

**EXPLANATION:** Invest state funding in early reading through the Best Beginnings' Dolly Parton Imagination Library program. In partnership with the Department of Education & Early Development (DEED), the Imagination Library provides early literacy children's books, parent education weekly newsletters, and family engagement activities to educate families about the importance of reading and speaking with your children. This increment for the Imagination Library would increase outreach to double the impact of this program by involving more children and families. It would allow more communities, children, and families to access this highly successful early literacy program.

This amendment would re-direct funds from the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP), under the allocation Student and School Achievement to Early Learning Coordination, within the Education Support and Admin Services appropriation.

**2024 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL**

**OFFERED IN:** The House Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Education & Early Development

**TO:** HB 268 / HB 270

**OFFERED BY:** Representative Andi Story

**FISCAL YEAR:** FY25

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Education & Early Development

**APPROPRIATION:** Education Support and Administrative Services

**ALLOCATION:** Student and School Achievement/Early Learning Coordination

**ADD:** \$500,000 (UGF) 1004, (In grant funding for Parents as Teachers program, under Early Learning Coordination allocation)

**DELETE:** \$500,000 (UGF), 1004, (In grant funding for Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP), under Student and School Achievement allocation)

**EXPLANATION:** Direct state funding for Parents as Teachers (PAT) program from the Department of Education & Early Development (DEED), in cooperation with the Department of Health, to meet waitlist needs and to support this child abuse & neglect prevention program. It was estimated in a 2020 MEICHV Needs Assessment that only 36% of Alaska's at-risk families receive home visiting services. This funding increase to the program would help PAT programs in Alaska increase their capacity for more outreach to rural-remote communities and the addition of families served.

This amendment would re-direct funds from the Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP), under the allocation Student and School Achievement to Early Learning Coordination, within the Education Support and Admin Services appropriation.

**2024 SESSION OPERATING BUDGET AMENDMENT PROPOSAL**

**OFFERED IN:** The House Finance Subcommittee for the Department of Education

**TO:** HB 268 / HB 270

**OFFERED BY:** Rep. Coulombe

**FISCAL YEAR:** FY 2025

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Education and Early Development

**APPROPRIATION:** Education Support and Admin Services

**ALLOCATION:** Career and Technical Education

**ADD:** N/A

**DELETE:** \$1,200,000 UGF

**POSITIONS:** N/A

**EXPLANATION:** Remove funding for Minecraft. The department purchased software for Minecraft using federal grant funding available as a result of the COVID pandemic. Now that these funds are no longer available, the department is requesting ongoing licensing expenditures for the program, despite indicating they would not continue pandemic-era programs with general funds. In addition, there may be opportunities to access the free-of-charge version of this coding program, as at least one other district in the state has done.

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**TO:** HB 268 / HB 270

**OFFERED BY:** Rep. Coulombe

**FISCAL YEAR:** FY 2025

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Education and Early Development

**APPROPRIATION:** Education Support and Admin Services

**ALLOCATION:** Executive Administration

**ADD:** N/A

**DELETE:** \$60,411 UGF (1004)  
\$104,208 I/A (1007)

**POSITIONS:** Delete 1 Full-Time Position

**EXPLANATION:** Delete Deputy Commissioner position.

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**OFFERED BY:** Rep. Coulombe

**FISCAL YEAR:** FY 2025

**DEPARTMENT:** Department of Education and Early Development

**APPROPRIATION:** Education Support and Admin Services

**ALLOCATION:** Alyeska Reading Academy and Institute

**ADD:** N/A

**DELETE:** \$5,000,000 UGF

**POSITIONS:** Delete 7 Permanent Full-time Positions

Delete 2 Permanent Part-time Positions

Delete 3 Temporary Positions

**EXPLANATION:** Remove Alyeska Reading Academy and Institute from the Department's budget.