



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

## Department of Health

FINANCE AND MANAGEMENT SERVICES  
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February 4, 2025

The Honorable Andy Josephson  
House HSS Finance Subcommittee Chair  
Alaska State Legislature  
State Capitol, Room 505  
Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Josephson:

The Department of Health received the following questions during the January 30, 2025, Health and Social Services Finance Subcommittee meeting:

### **What do we know about this reduction in MET funds and the cause of it?**

The Divisions of Behavioral Health and Public Health each received reductions in the FY2026 Governor Budget for certain restricted funds, such as marijuana education and treatment funds, recidivism reduction funds, alcohol and other drug treatment and prevention funds, and tobacco use education and cessation funds. These funds are obtained from excise tax revenues from the sale of marijuana, alcohol, and tobacco, as well as from fines and forfeitures from the Tobacco Master Settlement Agreement.

Details about the taxes and deposits to funds are available in the Annual Report from the Department of Revenue.

<https://tax.alaska.gov/programs/documentviewer/viewer.aspx?1876r>

- Pages 23-26 – Alcohol Tax – Alcohol and other drug treatment and prevention fund
- Pages 32-34 – Marijuana Tax – Recidivism reduction fund and marijuana education and treatment fund
- Pages 47-51 – Tobacco Tax – Tobacco use education and cessation fund

According to the Annual Report, tax collections for alcohol, marijuana, and tobacco products were lower in FY2024 than in each of FY2021, FY2022, and FY2023.

The Department of Revenue also published the Fall 2024 Revenue Sources Book in December 2024, which shows projected revenues and deposits to these restricted funds will not be adequate to support the amount appropriated in the FY2025 budget. The FY2026 Governor Budget was adjusted accordingly.

<https://tax.alaska.gov/programs/documentviewer/viewer.aspx?1906r>

Details about the projected fund deposits are on pages 59 and 63.

**What range are Eligibility Technician 1 positions?**

Eligibility Technician 1 positions are range 13 with a minimum salary in Anchorage of \$47,307 per year. The wage for a particular individual varies by location and the longevity of the individual filling the position.

Eligibility Technician 2 positions are range 14 with a minimum salary in Anchorage of \$50,466 per year.

Eligibility Technician 3 positions are range 16 with a minimum salary in Anchorage of \$57,973.50 per year.

Eligibility Technician 4 positions are range 17 with a minimum salary of \$67,995.20 per year. These positions are typically supervisors.

Salary schedules are available on the Department of Administration website.

[https://doa.alaska.gov/dof/payroll/sal\\_sched.html](https://doa.alaska.gov/dof/payroll/sal_sched.html)

If you have additional questions, please contact me at 907-465-1630.

Sincerely,



Pam Halloran  
Assistant Commissioner

- cc: Valerie Rose, Fiscal Analyst, Legislative Finance
- Jordan Shilling, Legislative Director, Office of the Governor
- Tim Hess, Office of Management and Budget
- Heidi Hedberg, Commissioner
- Robert Lawrence, Chief Medical Officer
- Emily Ricci, Deputy Commissioner
- Tracy Dompeling, Director of Division of Behavioral Health
- Deb Etheridge, Director of Division of Public Assistance
- Lindsey Kato, Director of Division of Public Health
- Dustin Scown, Budget Manager
- Courtney Enright, Legislative Liaison

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