

K-12 Support, Boarding Home Grants - \$398.0 unrestricted general fund increase

Statutory Authority for program: AS 14.16.200 – State funding for districts operating statewide residential educational programs.

Statutory List of stipends authorized under the program: AS 14.16.200(b)(1-2)

- 1) One round trip on the least expensive means of transportation between the student's community of residence and the school during the school year
- 2) A per pupil monthly stipend to cover room and board expenses

The stipends were doubled for each region under SB84 for two years and FY13 is the second and final year.

The current distribution is as follows:

Galena – \$1,974.8

Bethel - \$325.4

Nenana - \$844.7

State Board of Education & Early Development Authority to approve program: AS 14.16.200(A)

Regulatory Authority – 4 AAC 09.050 Secondary boarding programs

The Galena City School District requested to expand the number of student residential spaces eligible for monthly stipend reimbursement in the residential program offered under the Galena Interior Learning Academy (GILA) from 175 to 210 students, beginning in FY2013. Their request was approved by the State Board of Education, pending an increased appropriation. This expansion is requested due to continued growth of the program and the currently available dorm capacity. The GILA's current residential capacity is for over 300 students. The districts application was previously approved for the monthly stipend reimbursement for 175 students. This \$398.0 will allow the program to receive monthly stipend reimbursement for up to 210 students per year.

Galena boarding school is a statewide boarding school for grades 9 - 12 and is accredited by the Northwest Association of Accredited Schools. Galena also offers post-secondary vocational programs authorized by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education.

Student & School Achievement, Alaska Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP) – \$32.5 TVEP fund source

Statutory Authority for Program: AS 23.15.835

This request is for an increase in authorization for the Alaska Technical and Vocational Education Program (TVEP) funding to match revenue projections from the Department of Labor and Workforce Development for FY2013.

The FY2013 TVEP Distribution calculations prepared by the Department of Labor and Workforce Development on September 6, 2011, estimates that there will be \$10,898.0 available to distribute, which is an increase over FY2012 of \$812.7. In the formula, Galena receives 4% of the available distribution.

These funds support a grant to the Galena School District estimated at \$435.9 for FY2013.

Student & School Achievement, Teacher Certification - \$150.0 designated general fund

Statutory Authority for Program: AS 14.20.010-.040 Teacher Certification, AS 12.62.160 Release and use of criminal justice information; fees

Regulatory Authority – 4 AAC 12.010-.900 Certification of Professional Teachers

This request will increase the Teacher Certification authorization to receive fees from districts to support an alternate route to teacher certification (AKT2).

The Alaska Transition to Teaching (AKT2) program offers an alternative route to secondary teacher certification in Alaska. AKT2 recruits individuals who hold a bachelor's degree such as recent college graduates, highly qualified mid-career professionals, education paraprofessionals, and former military personnel. This teacher certification program prepares candidates accepted into the program to become teachers in rural high-needs schools in AKT2's 15 partner districts. All teachers in the AKT2 program receive mentoring from the Alaska Statewide Mentor Program.

All AKT2 candidates must hold at least a bachelor's degree from a regionally accredited institution in an endorsable area. In past years there has been a lower need for teachers outside the core content areas of English, mathematics, and science. In order to make themselves more marketable to AKT2's partner districts, individuals wishing to teach in areas like social studies, history, business, art, and music are encouraged to pass Praxis II assessments in areas of higher need before the March hiring season begins.

AKT2 is an alternate route to certification that allows candidates to transition into teaching without the typical hardship and expense of leaving the paid workforce. Unlike many traditional certification pathways that involve heavy tuition fees, take up to a year or more of pre-service coursework, and are designed so that the student is unable to work during their teacher preparation, AKT2 is an intensive five month program that allows candidates the opportunity to complete coursework online, while working full-time. Working with Alaskan teachers AKT2 candidates complete a six-week internship in Alaska during the summer. Those that have obtained teaching positions in a partner district become initially certified, and are teachers of record during the fall following their internship and coursework.

After successfully completing two years of teaching in a partner district and all requirements of the AKT2 program, candidates receive a state recommendation for professional teacher certification.

Student & School Achievement

These increments are based on the recommendations of the Mental Health Trust Board as authorized under statutory authority provided in **AS 47.30.661** and **AS 47.30.046** to ensure an integrated, comprehensive mental health program for the State of Alaska

Autism Resource Center - \$100.0 Mental Health Trust Authority Authorized Receipts (MHTAAR) funding

The AARC is a project that shares information and resources about autism to individuals across the state of Alaska in rural, remote and urban areas. SESA provides direct (office visitations in Anchorage & Fairbanks) and indirect services to individuals with autism spectrum disorders (ASD), community members, families, caregivers, professionals, students and service providers throughout the state of Alaska. This project provides services to all Alaskans, birth through life, whether directly affected by autism, living with someone with autism, first responders, service providers, caregivers, medical providers, and others wanting to learn more. SESA provides information about services available, referral information, newly diagnosed support, training, and consultation via on-site and distance delivery. The Special Education Service Agency (SESA) currently has the contract to operate the AARC.

Although incremental changes have occurred on behalf of children and adults with Autism Spectrum Disorders in Alaska, the pace and amount of change has been inadequate to meet the needs. Alaska does not have a system to capture the prevalence of ASD, but as in other states, the educational and service delivery systems have experienced an increased demand of ASD-specific intervention. Further, families with children who experience ASD are often not aware of the existing resources available in Alaska and struggle to obtain effective intervention strategies. The AARC is a resource that families desperately need to support them in their resource navigation efforts.

With this funding AARC will do the following:

- Work toward building a relationship with the Alaska Native Medical Center, and more rural community health clinics
- Develop new trainings and coursework based on evidence-based practices in autism and expand delivery methods to include distance delivery credit courses, videoconferences, teleconferences, and DVD.
- Assist community members in conducting support groups, in person and distance, for individuals with autism and their families.
- Work toward building relationships with more tribal entities.

- Research agencies in Alaska that could benefit from SESA services that have not utilized them in the past and distribute information and resources.
- Work with the State Autism Team Training Subcommittee to analyze the past and present training opportunities and topics that are offered in the state by all agencies. Then utilize that data to determine the areas of the state, topics, and best practices that SESA is not reaching along with which trainings are being duplicated by agencies.
- Develop a client survey to determine the effectiveness and convenience of AARC services.
- Expand Autism Awareness Month events into rural and remote areas of the state.
- Reconfigure data collection systems to include quality of services data in addition to quantity of services by collecting a variety of types of data including client satisfaction, client opinion on services, and measure of actual knowledge obtained from services.
- Accommodate the growth of the AARC, develop and maintain a system for distance support, communication, and collaboration between the Anchorage and Fairbanks offices and staff.

Rural Secondary Transition - \$100.0 general fund/mental health fund source

Administered by the Division of Teaching and Learning Support, these funds will be used to assist youth with disabilities residing in rural and remote areas of the state to transition to adult life, including employment, independent living, participation in postsecondary education and participation in community life. Hands-on training, technical assistance and ongoing consultation will be provided to assist rural school districts to develop sustainable rural transition services that result in improved outcomes for youth with disabilities.

Other Remaining Increments –

Alaska State Council on the Arts - \$7.0 Interagency Receipts for Governor's Awards currently unbudgeted

Statutory Authority for Program: AS 44.27.040-.060, AS 35.27.010-.030, AS 45.65.010-.070

Regulatory Authority: 3 AAC 58.020-.040, 20 AAC 30.010-.985

This increase in Interagency Receipt authority is a technical fix and will mitigate the need for an unbudgeted Reimbursable Service Agreement (RSA) with the Office of the Governor. This RSA supports the annual Governor's Awards event sponsored by the Alaska State Council on the Arts.

The annual Governor's Awards for the Arts and Humanities is the opportunity for Alaskans to recognize those individuals and organizations that contribute in a major way to the arts, history, native languages, and overall quality of life in Alaska.

The Governor's Awards for the Arts & Humanities is a partnership event of the Alaska State Council on the Arts, the Alaska Humanities Forum and the Alaska Arts & Culture Foundation. Each year, awards are presented in the following categories: Arts Advocacy, Business Leadership in the Arts, Alaska Native Arts & Languages, Alaska History and Culture Teacher of the Year, Individual Artist, Lifetime Achievement in the Arts, Alaska Native Artist, Distinguished Service to the Humanities, Arts Organization, Arts Education, and Distinguished Leadership in the Arts & Humanities.

Library Operations - \$154.5 Federal Receipts for federal grant programs

Statutory Authority for Program: AS 14.56, AS 24.05.135, AS 40.25.115(e), AS 40.21, AS 44.27.020

Regulatory Authority for Program: 4 AAC 59, 2 AAC 96.200(c)

Federal Authority: PL 84-597

Increasing the Library Operations Federal Receipts authorization will allow for the continuation of the annual receipt of federal grant funding through the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) issued from the Institute of Museum and Library Services. The Library Operations division will also be encouraged to apply for grant opportunities that relate to their mission, given the flexibility inherent in having sufficient existing authorization to respond quickly to such opportunities.

Archives - \$30.0 Federal Receipts

Statutory Authority for Program: AS 40.21

Regulatory Authority for Program: 4 AAC 49.005 – 4 AAC 49.070

This request for an increase in Federal Receipt authorization will allow for the continuation of the Exxon Valdez Oil Spill archiving project approved in RPL 05-2-0028 through the Legislative Budget and Audit Committee process. The Archives division will also be encouraged to apply for grant opportunities that relate to their mission, given the flexibility inherent in having sufficient existing authorization to respond quickly to such opportunities.

Archives - \$46.3 Interagency Receipts for micrographic services

This increase request for additional Interagency Receipt authority is a technical fix and will mitigate the need for unbudgeted Reimbursable Services Agreements with other departments for micrographic services and supplies provided by the Archives division.

In addition to the increasing overall need for micrographic services, in FY2012 the division has an agreement with University of Alaska Fairbanks, in FY2012, to microfilm all of the state's newspapers, including the ones that used to be microfiched. The division anticipates more requests for micrographic services for projects of this nature in FY2013 and beyond.