

Department of Labor and Workforce Development

ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES
Management Services

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March 8, 2021

The Honorable Adam Wool Chair, House Labor & Workforce Development Finance Sub-Committee State Capitol Room 501 Juneau, AK 99801

Dear Representative Wool:

Thank you for the opportunity to provide a departmental overview to the committee. This letter is in response to several questions raised by the committee during our hearing on Wednesday, March 3, 2021.

<u>Please provide the enrollment numbers for AVTEC pre-COVID as well as during the pandemic</u> while mitigation strategies are in use (Representative McCarty).

The enrollment numbers for AVTEC are as follows:

- Pre-pandemic (FY2019) AVTEC served a total of 1,624 Alaskans in training programs with varying durations of 1 week to 9 months.
- Mid-pandemic (FY2020) AVTEC served 1,251 students. The drop in enrollment was a result of the closure on March 18, 2020 the reduced ability to conduct short term training for the remainder of the school year.
- Pandemic mitigation strategies (FY2021) have enabled AVTEC to serve 464 Alaskans to date safely; short term training is scheduled for the remainder of the school year so this number will increase to a projected total of 794 students served.

<u>Please provide a comprehensive list of all entities in Alaska that provide technical training as</u>
<u>well as what the department may be doing to ensure the quality of the training or any</u>
coordination of efforts (Representative Kaufman).

The department does not keep a list of all of the entities within Alaska that provide technical training. It does, however, have a list known as the Eligible Training Providers List (ETPL). In order for vocational providers to be eligible for funding from federal grants they must meet the requirements to be included on the ETLP.

There are currently 82 providers that offer 687 technical or vocational opportunities on the ETPL. More information about the ETPL and the requirements can be found on our website at https://labor.alaska.gov/dets/etpl.htm. A provider does not need to be on the ETPL in order to qualify for TVEP or STEP funds. STEP funds are awarded by a competitive grant process and TVEP funds are awarded only to named recipients through statute.

In terms of what is being done to coordinate training opportunities between TVEP grantees, the AWIB has held numerous meetings over the years with the Regional Training Centers (RTCs) which include all the TVEP grantees. These meetings include all the TVEP grantees with grants administered through the AWIB and department, as well as the University of Alaska, Galena and AVTEC. Meetings with the RTCs have not occurred in the last few years due to operational budget cuts and the pandemic. The AWIB is hopeful that if additional federal funds are received from the USDOL, in conjunction with TVEP funds for administration, that meetings with RTCs can resume in FY22 and beyond.

Sincerely,

Dan DeBartolo

Dan Dellottal

Administrative Services Director