

# **State of Alaska FY2013 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Administration Public Communications Services Results Delivery Unit Budget Summary**

**Public Communications Services Results Delivery Unit**

**Contribution to Department's Mission**

To provide critical programs, local information, public telecommunication and new media services that inform and educate radio listeners throughout bush, rural and urban Alaska; to ensure the infrastructure for the dissemination of non-commercial public radio and related services to un-served and underserved audiences.

**Core Services**

- See Components.

**Key RDU Challenges**

**Federal Funding**

Federal funding accounts for approximately 30% of total system revenue in Alaska and federal funding for public broadcasting is at risk unlike any other time in history. Growth of non-state operating revenue remains the top priority.

**Engineering support**

The system has a chronic need for qualified engineering support. System engineering capacity is at an all-time low and some stations have experienced catastrophic failures in core equipment and service resulting in being off the air for extended periods of time.

**News and information**

Public broadcasting is a key component of Alaska's communications infrastructure with year round dissemination of news and community information including emergency services, health and safety education, weather and marine conditions.

**Services for all Alaskans**

Through its 30 grantees - 26 public radio licensees and 4 public television licensees - the APBC seeks to sustain high quality, locally relevant public broadcasting services for all Alaskans.

**Alternatives and Efficiencies**

APBI will continue to help the State identify alternatives and or gain cost efficiencies for this component.

**Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2013**

**Funding –**

In FY12 an increment of \$200k was allocated to public radio in order to address a chronic lack of engineering services at the majority of the stations.

**Partnerships –**

Public television stations will continue to collaborate with each other and forge new partnerships with other Alaska institutions as a means to sustain and improve local service while gaining cost savings and operational efficiencies.

**Digital conversion –**

As required by federal law, public television provides digital television broadcast services in Anchorage, Fairbanks, and Juneau, and the Bethel station plans to convert in the next 24 months.

**Funding for maintenance –**

With no State funding planned for ongoing maintenance of the ARCS/Satellite Infrastructure, the burden of paying for repair, refurbishment and replacement of failed equipment is being borne by individual communities as they become affected by service outages.

## Major RDU Accomplishments in 2011

- Stations provided another year of service to un-served and underserved audiences with free over the air programming available to all Alaskans regardless of their ability to pay.
- New funding was secured to address the chronic lack of engineering services at the majority of the bush and rural radio stations.
- Alaska public radio continued to control costs while striving to improve service.
- Seven bush and rural stations are participating in a cutting edge technology project that is significantly reducing transmitter electrical consumption and corresponding utility costs.
- All stations are participating in a group project to meet new FCC requirements for upgrading Emergency Alert System (EAS) technology.
- Negotiating with national network program providers for deeply discounted annual rates for all stations
- Producing affordable in state training and professional development opportunities for station personnel
- participating in a group health plan for those stations that can afford to offer coverage to employees
- Continuation of the daily statewide news service, Alaska Public Radio Network (APRN).
- Native stations in Alaska participated in advancing a national dialogue and strategy on how to improve public broadcasting services for natives in Alaska and the lower 48.
- News personnel and station managers participated in training sessions held in Anchorage and lead by industry leaders.
- The State owned satellite infrastructure continued to deliver non-commercial public radio, public television, UATV (UA distance delivery) and the ARCS television service throughout Alaska.
- New funding was secured to improve broadband capacity between the four hub stations.
- Via the state's satellite infrastructure, public television provided non-commercial programs to viewers statewide.
- APBI successfully managed and coordinated the statewide ARCS television program service, as well as the satellite infrastructure that delivers that service, throughout FY 2011 without any major system-wide shutdowns, failures or outages.
- APBI successfully managed the satellite infrastructure responsible for delivering the ARCS service, the Alaska One statewide PBS service and the University of Alaska's educational channel, UATV, along with several public radio channels including the Alaska Public Radio Network.
- APBI successfully participated in all of the State of Alaska Emergency Alert System (EAS) monthly exercises as well as all actual emergency alerts. The APBC allocated radio station operating grants using a methodology that was implemented in FY10. FY12 is the final year of a three year transition into using the methodology. The Commission saw this challenging project through to completion.
- The APBC supported system training and professional development initiatives at the Alaska Broadcasters Association (ABA) conference in Anchorage. The Commission encouraged partnerships and collaborations between licensees as a means to further consolidate common services and functions in order to maintain program delivery while reducing administrative expenses.

Contact Information
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**Public Communications Services  
RDU Financial Summary by Component**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	FY2011 Actuals				FY2012 Management Plan				FY2013 Governor			
	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
<b>Formula Expenditures</b> None.												
<b>Non-Formula Expenditures</b>												
Public Broadcasting Commission	53.3	0.0	0.0	53.3	54.2	0.0	0.0	54.2	54.2	0.0	0.0	54.2
Public Broadcasting - Radio	3,119.9	0.0	0.0	3,119.9	3,319.9	0.0	0.0	3,319.9	3,319.9	0.0	0.0	3,319.9
Public Broadcasting - T.V.	527.1	0.0	0.0	527.1	727.1	0.0	0.0	727.1	727.1	0.0	0.0	727.1
Satellite Infrastructure	847.3	200.0	0.0	1,047.3	847.3	323.7	0.0	1,171.0	847.3	323.7	0.0	1,171.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>4,547.6</b>	<b>200.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>4,747.6</b>	<b>4,948.5</b>	<b>323.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5,272.2</b>	<b>4,948.5</b>	<b>323.7</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>5,272.2</b>

**Public Communications Services**  
**Summary of RDU Budget Changes by Component**  
**From FY2012 Management Plan to FY2013 Governor**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>Unrestricted</u> <u>Gen (UGF)</u>	<u>Designated</u> <u>Gen (DGF)</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Federal</u> <u>Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2012 Management Plan</b>	4,948.5	0.0	323.7	0.0	5,272.2
<b>FY2013 Governor</b>	4,948.5	0.0	323.7	0.0	5,272.2