

TVC will coordinate programs that allow students to start their technical training in high school and in one or two years finish with a certificate or associates degree. Convenient student housing at UAF will allow adults from rural areas to take advantage of TVC classes year round, and provide rural high school students access to training during the summer months.

The vocational technical programs that are to be offered at HCC are those that industry and businesses currently need, or are anticipated to need in the future. The classes are designed based on industry standards and, in some cases, are taught by industry representatives. Programs use the same equipment, technology and methods found in local businesses.

It takes strong academic skills to work in this era of technology. To this end, the Center will offer academic courses in math, science and English. These courses will use an applied approach where the academics taught are directly related to situations students will encounter in the workplace.

The Center will also serve the very real needs of people involved in the Welfare to Work programs. Short term, compressed training to obtain and perform a job will be available for people who need work and need it now.

An appropriation of capital funds will be used for structural, mechanical, and electrical upgrades (including ADA requirements) to bring the facility to a level necessary for modern technical and advanced vocational programs. Additional space will be constructed as needed for the auto shop, multiple-use shops, culinary arts classes, and one additional classroom. These funds will also be used to purchase and install badly needed technology equipment.

The University of Alaska Board of Regents granted approval for this project in August 1998 after the initial receipt of \$1.6 million. In FY00 UAF received an additional appropriation of \$3.0 million. The FY01 capital request of \$5.0 million represents the remaining portion of UA's contribution to this project. A bond issue is planned for the FNSBSD portion.

It is anticipated that the planning and design phase of this project will be completed by February 2000, with construction documents completed by late 2000. Contingent upon funding, construction could be completed as early as fall of 2002. The final schedule will also depend upon educational specification approval from the State Department of Education.