

**State of Alaska
FY2004 Governor's Operating Budget**

**Department of Education and Early Development
Teacher Certification
Component Budget Summary**

Component: Teacher Certification

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Component Mission

1. To ensure that only qualified applicants are awarded credentials to teach in Alaska.
2. To ensure that teacher education programs in Alaska conform to nationally recognized standards.

Component Services Provided

Receive, review, analyze, and evaluate all applications for initial, renewal, addition and removal of credentials and endorsements for the teaching profession as required by regulation and AS.14.20.370. Issue, deny, and/or notify applicant of the determination regarding their credentials. Submit fingerprint cards to the Department of Public Safety and FBI for background checks on all initial and renewal applicants. Notify applicants and monitor any resubmitted fingerprint cards. Deny credentials for applicants that have a criminal disclosure. Exchange revocation information with the National Clearinghouse for teacher licensure records. Issue Alaska credentials to all eligible applicants for teacher, administrator, special service, and limited license specialty areas. Review and approve all Alaska teacher education training programs in institutions of higher education. Register K-12 private & religious schools that operate in Alaska. Monitor the status of obligors to Child Support Enforcement and Postsecondary Education. Collect and analyze data from every school district to determine the number of teachers and paraprofessionals that meet the No Child Left Behind (NCLB) "highly qualified" definitions. Collaborate with (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) and with colleges and universities in the accreditation process that has been approved by the State Board of Education & Early Development.

Component Goals and Strategies

1. Teacher Certification
 - a) Issue regular, provisional or temporary credentials or letters of academic eligibility within 90 days of receipt of application to all eligible applicants for teacher, administrator, special services and the limited certificates.
 - b) Administer the background check as set forth in AS 12.62.035(e) and identify applicants with criminal convictions which make applicants ineligible for Alaska licensure; deny or revoke licenses accordingly.
 - c) Identify and evaluate applicants that apply for but do not meet requirements for licensure; deny licenses accordingly.
 - d) Maintain records received from the national clearinghouse on revocations. Notify the clearinghouse of all revocations in Alaska.
 - e) Review and approve/disapprove non-academic credit for renewal of teacher licenses.
 - f) Syllabus reviews for multicultural and cross-cultural communication courses.
2. Teacher Education
 - a) Review and recommend to the State Board of Education & Early Development approval of teacher and administrator education programs at institutions of higher education in Alaska.
 - b) Issue student teacher authorizations.
 - c) Coordinate with Institutions of Higher Education to ensure that (National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education) NCATE standards are met.
 - d) Develop, administer and implement a system of educator licensure and teacher preparation programs that results in an adequate supply of "highly qualified" educators for Alaska's schools.
 - e) Provide oversight and direction in developing strategies to recruit and retain Alaska Native educators in Alaska.
 - f) Collaborate with the Alaska's colleges and universities to become NCATE accredited.

Key Component Issues for FY2003 – 2004

Teacher Recruitment and Retention

There continues to be a nationwide shortage of education professionals that is making it increasingly difficult for Alaska school districts to attract and retain highly qualified teachers. Even with the most optimistic projections, Alaska's university system will only be able to supply a quarter of our teachers over the next five to ten years. Given that three-quarters of our teaching work force will need to come from outside of Alaska, we must be able to compete with other states who are offering a number of incentives to new teachers including signing bonuses and housing allowances. The State is working to ensure that these professionals who choose to work in Alaska are trained in Alaska's standards and educational policy issues.

Self Sufficiency of the Teacher Certification and Education Unit

The Teacher Certification Component receives no state general funds and is expected to operate from the revenues generated by fees. In FY2001, fees related to certification and renewal were reduced from \$165 to \$90 as part of a teacher incentive package.

This unit is exploring ways to provide better customer service for applicants and school district staff such as a new phone answering system, ongoing customer service training; and an on-line application system. The department is analyzing the current and projected revenues for teacher certification and will make recommendations to the State Board for the appropriate level of fees.

National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE)

All Alaska colleges and universities do not support the NCATE standards and the costs related to NCATE accreditation. Costs related for department staff to work with NCATE and to have proper staffing and resources available for colleges and universities throughout the accreditation process are lacking.

Major Component Accomplishments in 2002

- Accepted passing Praxis II for endorsements in French and German.
- Amended regulations to clarify criteria and requirements for special education endorsement waivers.
- Amended and realigned fingerprint regulations to comply with requirements from the Department of Public Safety.
- Issued a total of 4,476 credentials.

Statutory and Regulatory Authority

AS 12.62.160
4 AAC 12.010 - .900
AS 14.20.010 - .040

Teacher Certification
Component Financial Summary

All dollars in thousands

	FY2002 Actuals	FY2003 Authorized	FY2004 Governor
Non-Formula Program:			
Component Expenditures:			
71000 Personal Services	253.9	281.5	286.5
72000 Travel	10.5	19.0	19.0
73000 Contractual	190.9	369.6	369.6
74000 Supplies	4.4	10.0	10.0
75000 Equipment	0.0	15.1	15.1
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
Expenditure Totals	459.7	695.2	700.2
Funding Sources:			
1004 General Fund Receipts	2.6	0.0	0.0
1007 Inter-Agency Receipts	16.4	16.4	16.4
1156 Receipt Supported Services	440.7	678.8	683.8
Funding Totals	459.7	695.2	700.2

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Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2004

Annualize FY2003 COLA increase for General Government and Supervisory Bargaining Units (\$1.7)

In FY2003 COLA increases were not in effect for the entire year for the General Government, Confidential and Supervisory bargaining units. This request adds funding to pay the COLA for these bargaining units for the full year in FY2004.

\$75 per Month Health Insurance for Non-covered Staff (\$3.3)

The employer contribution to health insurance for non-covered staff will increase by \$75.00 from \$630.00 per month to \$705.00 per month.

Summary of Component Budget Changes

From FY2003 Authorized to FY2004 Governor

All dollars in thousands

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2003 Authorized	0.0	0.0	695.2	695.2
Adjustments which will continue current level of service:				
-Annualize FY2003 COLA Increase for General Government and Supervisory Bargaining Units	0.0	0.0	1.7	1.7
-\$75 per Month Health Insurance for Non-covered Staff	0.0	0.0	3.3	3.3
FY2004 Governor	0.0	0.0	700.2	700.2

Teacher Certification

Personal Services Information

	Authorized Positions		Personal Services Costs	
	<u>FY2003</u> <u>Authorized</u>	<u>FY2004</u> <u>Governor</u>		
Full-time	5	5	Annual Salaries	215,423
Part-time	0	0	Premium Pay	0
Nonpermanent	0	0	Annual Benefits	76,558
			<i>Less 1.88% Vacancy Factor</i>	(5,481)
			Lump Sum Premium Pay	0
Totals	5	5	Total Personal Services	286,500

Position Classification Summary

Job Class Title	Anchorage	Fairbanks	Juneau	Others	Total
Education Admin II	0	0	1	0	1
Education Assoc III	0	0	1	0	1
Education Prog Assistant	0	0	3	0	3
Totals	0	0	5	0	5