

**Alaska Vocational Technical Center Welding Program
Expansion**

**FY2006 Request: \$3,000,000
Reference No: 39934**

AP/AL: Appropriation

Project Type: Construction

Category: Education

Location: Seward

Contact: Fred Esposito

House District: Homer/Seward (HD 35)

Contact Phone: (907)224-4159

Estimated Project Dates: 07/01/2005 - 06/30/2006

Brief Summary and Statement of Need:

Construct a 10,000 sq ft training building to increase capacity of AVTEC welding programs to meet the current and anticipated increase in demand for a trained Alaskan workforce. AVTEC's existing welding shop limits the number of students to 14 per class. The existing space is not adequate to add additional equipment for automatic welding equipment of the type used in high-pressure gas pipeline fabrication. As a result of this project approximately 42 additional Alaskans annually will receive training and employment in welding/pipe welding jobs.

Funding:	<u>FY2006</u>	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>	<u>Total</u>
ASLC Bonds	\$3,000,000						\$3,000,000
Total:	\$3,000,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$3,000,000

<input type="checkbox"/> State Match Required	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> One-Time Project	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - new	<input type="checkbox"/> Phased - underway	<input type="checkbox"/> On-Going
0% = Minimum State Match % Required		<input type="checkbox"/> Amendment	<input type="checkbox"/> Mental Health Bill	

Operating & Maintenance Costs:

	<u>Amount</u>	<u>Staff</u>
Project Development:	0	0
Ongoing Operating:	0	0
One-Time Startup:	0	0
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:

No previous funding has been provided for this project.

Project Description/Justification:

This project seeks to expand AVTEC's capability to train structural and pipe welders by constructing a 10,000 sq. ft. training building to meet the current and anticipated increase in demand for a trained Alaskan workforce to support gas pipeline construction. The requested funding would construct the facility (\$2,600,000) and purchase the necessary welding equipment (\$400,000) to begin operations.

AVTEC's ability to prepare a resident workforce for jobs on the gas pipeline is constrained by space. Demand for training is currently high and it is projected to grow as prospects for the Alaska gas pipeline increase. The increased space will allow AVTEC to double the number of students through the existing programs as well as provide space to develop and deliver a new program to upgrade experienced welders in new processes required by the gas pipeline.

AVTEC estimates that approximately 42 additional Alaskans annually will receive training and employment in welding/pipe welding jobs. The new facility will be fully utilized on the day it opens with anticipated year round double shifting of courses when demand peaks.