

AVTEC Distance Training Videoconferencing Project**FY2007 Request:****\$423,000****Reference No:****41463****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Information Systems**Category:** Education**Location:** Seward**Contact:** Fred Esposito**House District:** Homer/Seward (HD 35)**Contact Phone:** (907)224-4159**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2006 - 06/30/2010**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

Workforce development and job training, accessible to all Alaskans, is key to achieving Alaska Hire goals. Distance training at AVTEC has proven to be an effective means of providing some types of job training to rural Alaskans. This project will result in many rural Alaskan's getting, or keeping, a good job. The \$623,000 match needed will come from a combination of in-kind contributions and these requested state funds.

Funding:	<u>FY2007</u>	<u>FY2008</u>	<u>FY2009</u>	<u>FY2010</u>	<u>FY2011</u>	<u>FY2012</u>	<u>Total</u>
G/F Match	\$423,000						\$423,000
Total:	\$423,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$423,000

<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	
Totals:	0	0

Additional Information / Prior Funding History:**Project Description/Justification:**

Distance training must be accessible to as many Alaskans as possible. Multiple technologies must be integrated in order to accommodate varying qualities of internet connectivity across Alaska.

The system must provide for sending and receiving video-teleconference (VTC), creating and distributing web based instruction, streaming audio and video, capturing and storing VTC and web meetings.

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AVTEC distance training capabilities and capacity has developed greatly over the last five years. These technologies and instructional strategies have been selected, endorsed, and developed in coordination with the Alaska Distance Education Consortium.

AVTEC has received a \$2 million grant from the Economic Development Administration (EDA) to construct a state-of-the-art Distance Training Center. The contract for design/build of the facility will be awarded sometime this winter with construction to occur summer 2006. AVTEC will begin using the facility and delivering distance training in fall 2006.

All Alaskans are potential customers. Anyone in need of training whether it be for an entry level position in a high paying industry or upgrade training to keep or advance in a current job. Job placement or retainment is used to measure

performance of all training offered at AVTEC. Distance training students will be surveyed on satisfaction with the training and job placement services.

This project will result in a minimum of 100 Alaskan's completing distance job training annually. The high unemployment rate in rural Alaska is many times due to lack of training for available jobs. AVTEC anticipates that 96% of training completers will be placed in a training related job and that completers will realize a 35% increase in post- training wages verses their pre-training wages.

Many State Departments provide training to staff and others. AVTEC will work with all Departments to make available the distance training capabilities for other state uses. The EDA investment at AVTEC will not be utilized as intended. The facility to be constructed with EDA funds will be designed specifically for distance training. This project is being coordinated through the EDA and the Alaska Distance Education Consortium which has over 50 members and affiliates from State, Federal, and educational agencies.

Project costs have been identified as:

- System Design-In House \$80,000
- Software Acquisition \$25,000
- Hardware / Infrastructure Acquisition \$393,000
- Hardware / Infrastructure Installation \$50,000
- Installation and Deployment \$25,000
- System Operation and Maintenance \$25,000
- Training \$25,000
- Total \$623,000

Duration of the project is anticipated to take up to 12 months. Once up and running this project should be self supporting through student tuition and fees.

Video conferencing equipment will comply with the current State standard: Polycom equipment that supports H.323 & H.264 protocol, all other state standards will be followed. Video-teleconferencing equipment including monitors, ELMO, cameras, laptops, network and video servers and local network including servers, switches, routers, antennas; desktop and laptop computer stations. Fiber optic line will be run to new facility.