

Mobile Mine Machine Simulator**FY2014 Request: \$1,800,000****Reference No: 56893****AP/AL:** Appropriation**Project Type:** Workforce Dev**Category:** Education**Location:** Statewide**House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Impact House District:** Statewide (HD 1-40)**Contact:** Commissioner Dianne Blumer**Estimated Project Dates:** 07/01/2013 - 06/30/2018**Contact Phone:** (907)465-2700**Brief Summary and Statement of Need:**

The Department of Labor and Workforce Development will enter into an agreement with the University of Alaska allowing them to purchase a mobile mine machine simulator and appropriate machine inserts. The University's Mining and Petroleum Training Service program will use the simulator to provide mechanized mining job training to prospective Alaskan miners in rural and other regions of the state. It is anticipated the demand for employees will increase significantly in 2014 and 2015, and beyond, due to new mines scheduled to become operational including Bokan Mountain and Niblack in Ketchikan, Tower Hill in the Interior and Donlin Gold in western Alaska among others yet in development.

Funding:	<u>FY2014</u>	<u>FY2015</u>	<u>FY2016</u>	<u>FY2017</u>	<u>FY2018</u>	<u>FY2019</u>	<u>Total</u>
Gen Fund	\$1,800,000						\$1,800,000
Total:	\$1,800,000	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$1,800,000

<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
<u>One-Time Startup:</u>	0	
Totals:	0	0

Prior Funding History / Additional Information:

No prior funding history.

Project Description/Justification:

Mobile mine machine simulators are the most cost effective means of training prospective miners for large scale mechanized mining jobs in both surface and underground areas. Alaska's potential new miners are spread across every region of the state and it has been demonstrated that local training is the most effective delivery mode. Employers currently estimate they need to begin large scale training in 2014 and 2015, which allows enough time to receive funding and have the simulator delivered on site.

The University of Alaska Mining and Petroleum Training Service program will purchase a mine machine simulator, and four machine inserts (cabs), in a mobile unit capable of being transported over the road system or via air to the sites where instruction is needed. A recent agreement with the Yukon Territory and the Yukon College allows sharing of machine inserts (cabs), permitting significant cost savings for all participants.

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The simulator will be used for training as new mines become operational including Bokan Mountain and Niblack in Ketchikan, Tower Hill in the Interior and Donlin Gold in Western Alaska among others yet in development.