

State of Alaska FY2026 Governor's Operating Budget

University of Alaska University of Alaska Fairbanks Results Delivery Unit Budget Summary

University of Alaska Fairbanks Results Delivery Unit

Contribution to Department's Mission

The University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) is a Land, Sea, and Space Grant university and an international center for research, education, and the arts, emphasizing the circumpolar North and its diverse peoples. UAF integrates teaching, research, and public service as it educates students for active citizenship and prepares them for lifelong learning and careers.

University of Alaska Fairbanks Mission Statement
 Board of Regents' Policy P01.01.030
 Adopted 06-08-12

Results

(Additional performance information is available on the web at <https://omb.alaska.gov/results>.)

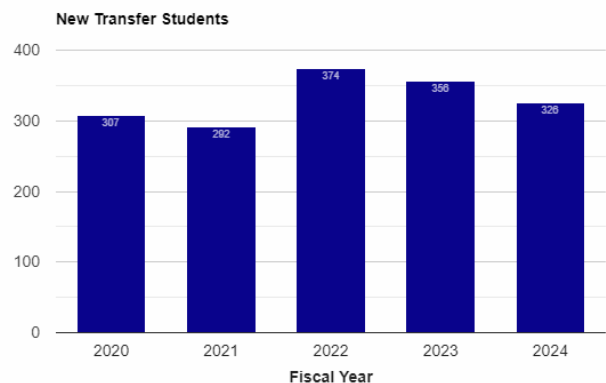
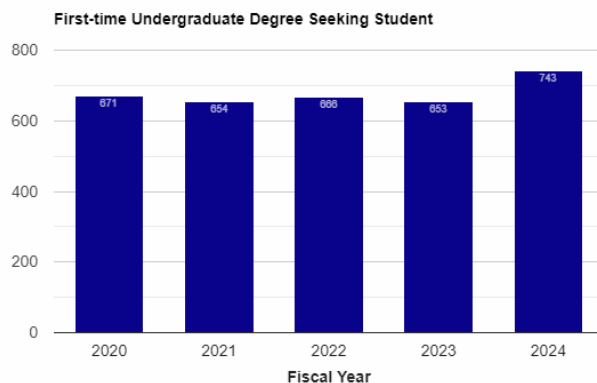
Core Services

- ENROLLMENT: Increase new student enrollment of first-time degree-seeking and transfer students.
- ENROLLMENT: Increase student credit hour production.
- STUDENT SUCCESS: Increase the retention rate of first-time, full-time baccalaureate students.
- STUDENT SUCCESS: Increase the graduation rate of first-time, full-time baccalaureate students.
- RESEARCH: Increase externally funded research.
- RESEARCH: Increase doctoral enrollment and degree awards.
- RESEARCH: Disseminate research focused on Alaska and the circumpolar Arctic and publish research and scholarship, making the results widely available nationally and internationally.
- EFFICIENCY: Generate significant revenue from sources other than the State of Alaska.
- EFFICIENCY: Generate tuition and fee revenue consistent with maintaining access for all students.
- EFFICIENCY: Increase revenue generation from philanthropy.

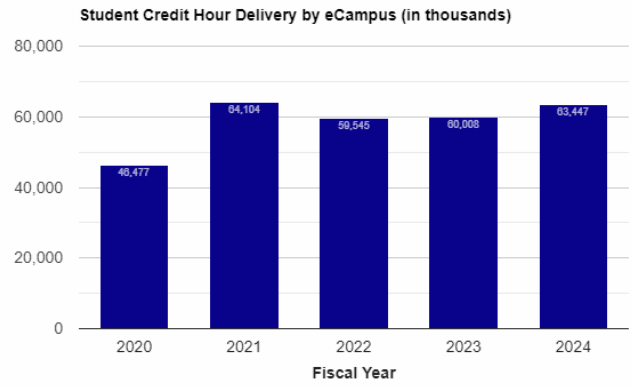
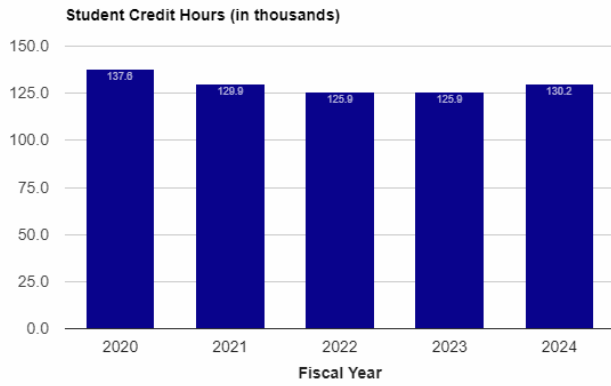
Measures by Core Service

(Additional performance information is available on the web at <https://omb.alaska.gov/results>.)

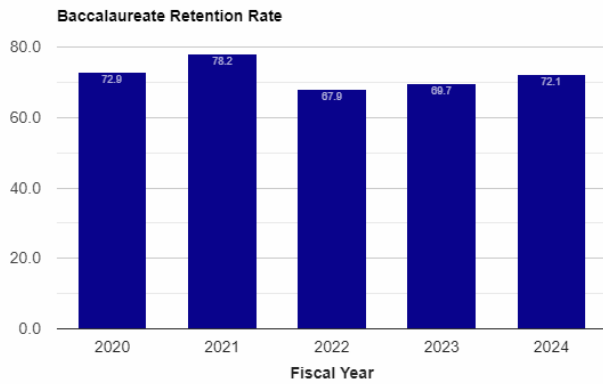
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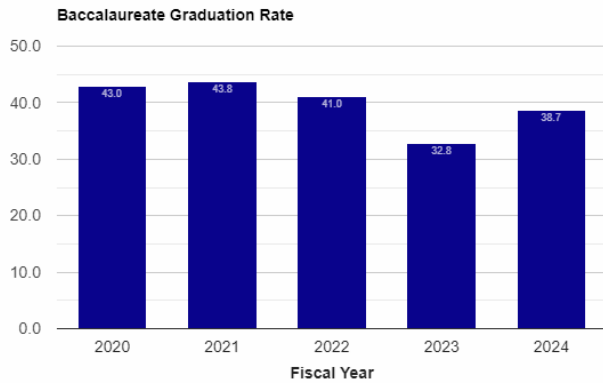
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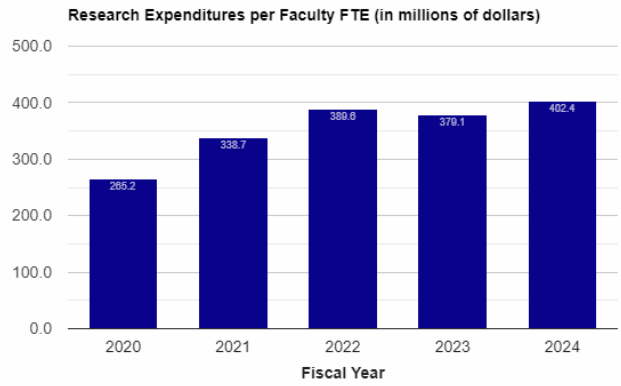
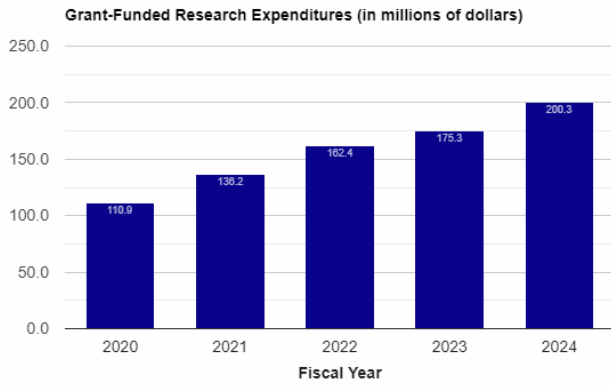
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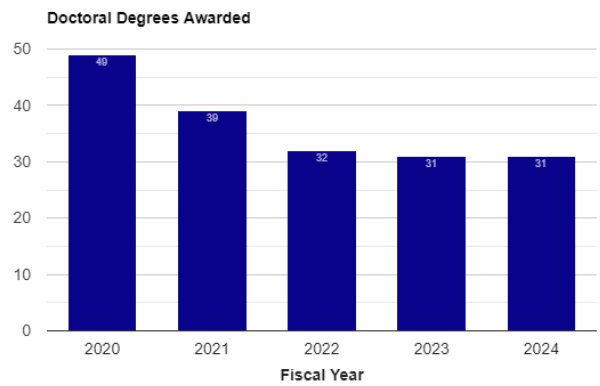
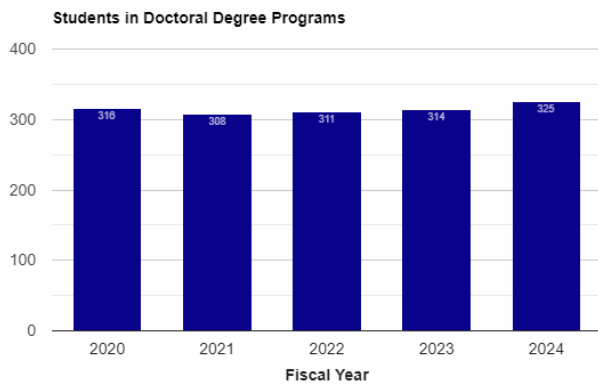
4. STUDENT SUCCESS: Increase the graduation rate of first-time, full-time baccalaureate students.



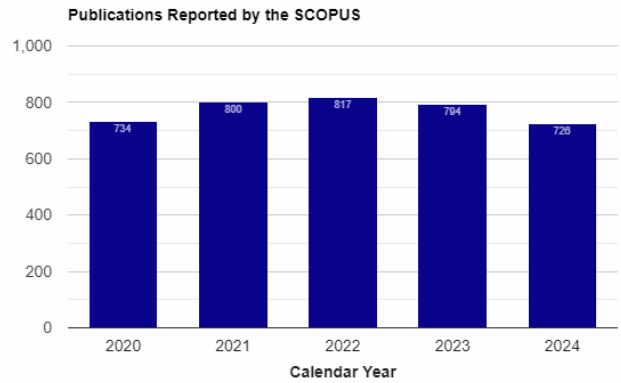
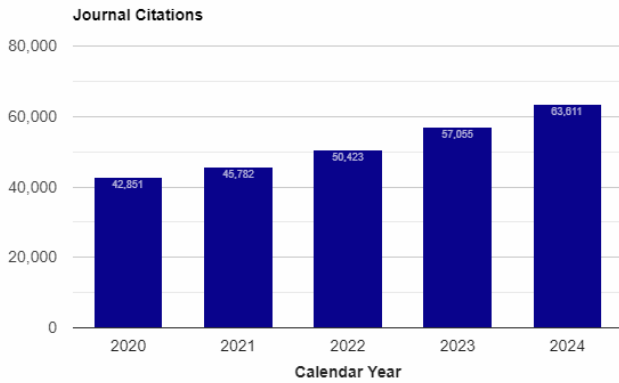
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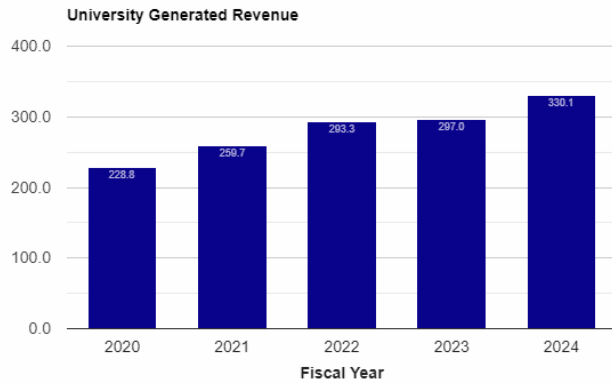
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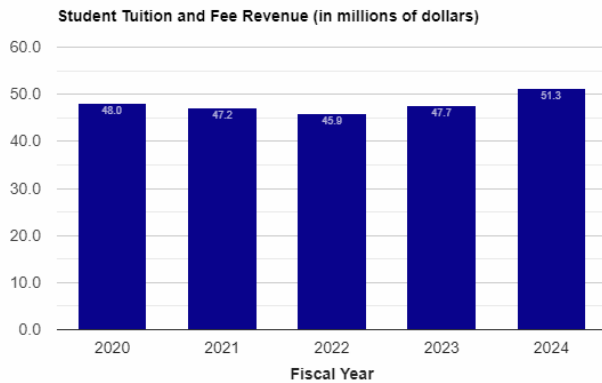
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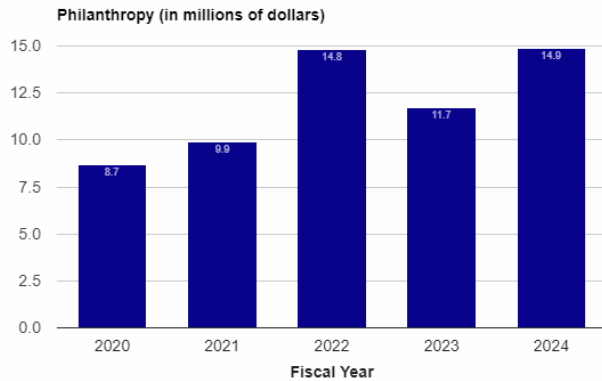
8. EFFICIENCY: Generate significant revenue from sources other than the State of Alaska.



9. EFFICIENCY: Generate tuition and fee revenue consistent with maintaining access for all students.



10. EFFICIENCY: Increase revenue generation from philanthropy.



Major RDU Accomplishments in 2024

The UAF continues to follow a strategic plan that includes six goals: To (i) modernize the student experience; (ii) solidify the UAF global leadership in Alaska Native and Indigenous programs; (iii) achieve Tier 1 research status; (iv) transform the UAF’s intellectual property development and commercialization enterprise; (v) embrace and grow a culture of respect, diversity, inclusion and caring; and (vi) revitalize key academic programs.

Accreditation is a voluntary process of self-regulation and peer review adopted by the higher education community. It is an affirmation that a college provides a quality of education that the public has the right to expect and that the UAF

has been accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) since 1934 and continues to remain accredited. The UAF's accreditation was reaffirmed by the NWCCU in February 2021 based on a fall 2020 evaluation. This is a seven-year cycle and the UAF is now in year four of that sequence. The site visit for the mid-cycle evaluation occurred in October 2023. The UAF is drafting its sixth-year Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review report and preparing for the year seven Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness which will take place in fall 2027.

Awards, Recognition, and Achievements

The UAF Director of the Institute of Arctic Biology, and professor of biology and wildlife, Dr. Diane O'Brien, has been elected to the National Academy of Sciences. This recognition acknowledges distinguished and continuing achievements in original research. Dr. O'Brien is the first woman researcher from Alaska to be elected to the organization. Among other projects, she and her team have collaborated with Alaska Native communities to use stable isotopes to measure the critical importance of traditional foods to the health of Alaska Native people.

UAF faculty members Brandon Boylan, Katie Spellman, and William Simpson were the recipients of the 2024 Emil Usibelli Distinguished Awards in teaching, service, and research, respectively. Each was recognized for their exemplary contributions to the discovery, communication, and use of knowledge.

In February 2024, UAF faculty, Bill Connor, was inducted into the Alaska Innovators Hall of Fame for his work in transportation infrastructure. The State Committee for Research (SCoR) created the Alaska Innovators Hall of Fame in 2014 to celebrate and honor outstanding individuals who are leaders in innovation and contribute to growing Alaska's culture of innovation.

Dr. Jaunelle Celaire, UAF professor of voice, is the recipient of the 2024 Bullock Prize in recognition of her work as a professional musician, seeking to creatively bring the knowledge and joy of music to her students and many others. Dr. Celaire has fostered a culture of musical collaboration across the university system and statewide.

Five faculty and staff were awarded the Dennis Demmert Award in May 2024. The recipients were Jennifer Adams, assistant professor of Alaska Native studies and Rural Development; Jim Brashear, professor of ceramics; David Fonder, assistant professor and program advisor for the Process Technology Program; Katilin Tom, resident director and student conduct administrator; and Arleigh Reynolds, Emeritus professor of veterinary medicine. The Dennis Demmert Appreciation and Recognition Award honors Demmert's many years of service and dedication to the betterment of the Alaska Native community.

Twenty-nine faculty members received tenure, promotion, or both in academic year 2023-24.

UAF academic rankings:

The UAF's Special Education and Teaching program is one of only four programs to be rated as Exemplary by Quality Matters, certified in all four sub-categories: Program Design, Teaching Support, Learner Support, and Learner Success.

The UAF's online programs also earned Quality Matters' certification for Online Learner Support. In addition, the UAF's Master of Education in Online Innovation and Design was recognized for Teaching Support. All UAF Quality Matters certifications have been earned since 2019 and are valid for five years.

The UAF's online bachelor's degree programs were again ranked among the best by United States News and World Report in 2023 (197th of 653 rated programs). Additionally, the online Master of Arts in Justice Administration was ranked 67th of 98 in the country and the online Master of Business Administration ranked 183rd of 355.

The Bachelor of Business Administration programs earned a top-half spot (59th out of 184) in the United States News and World Report ranking for undergraduate business programs.

28th out of 88: World's Best Small Universities, Times Higher Education Survey. The UAF remains well above average here, as it has for the past four years. This bodes well for the UAF's goal of achieving R1 research university status.

Viqtory.com designated the UAF as a Silver level Military Friendly School in the Tier 2 Research Institution category, thereby demonstrating military persons' confidence in the UAF's academic offerings. For academic year 2023-2024, Militaryfriendly.com gave the UAF a Gold level ranking.

UAF research rankings:

4th: Worldwide Rank in Number of Publications/Citations of Peer-reviewed Arctic Research

2nd: Geological and Earth Sciences, National Science Foundation (NSF) Higher Education Research and Development Survey

Examples of ranked schools that the UAF outranks: Johns Hopkins University, Stanford University, Arizona State University, California Institute of Technology, Harvard, Princeton, Yale

7th: Ocean Sciences and Marine Sciences, NSF Higher Education Research and Development Survey

Examples of ranked schools that the UAF outranks: William and Mary, University of Maryland Center for Environmental Studies, Columbia University, John's Hopkins University, Rutgers State University, University of Rhode Island, University of California, Santa Barbara

15th: Astronomy and Astrophysics, NSF Higher Education Research and Development Survey

Examples of ranked schools that the UAF outranks: University of Washington, Seattle, Harvard University, Cornell University, Northwestern University, Brandeis, Boston University, Rutgers State University

15th: Atmospheric Science and Meteorology, the NSF Higher Education Research and Development Survey

Examples of ranked schools that UAF outranks: Columbia University, Purdue University, Boston College, Perdue, University of Hawaii, Texas A&M University, George Mason University, Baylor University

Academic Programs, Enrollment and Graduation

During FY2024, the UAF conferred 1,136 degrees, including 255 certificates or licensures, 191 associate degrees, 461 baccalaureate degrees, 198 master's degrees, and 31 doctorates.

As of September 2024, fall enrollment at the UAF was up 14.4 percent for incoming first-time first-year students. Student headcount was up 4.1 percent and student credit hours were up 5.2 percent. Enrollment growth was experienced in all UAF academic units except for the School of Education, which experienced a 2.5 percent decline. The UAF has invested in several enrollment and retention initiatives, including an extensive strategic enrollment planning process, and the UAF is seeing gains in enrollment in fall 2024 as a result, bucking the national trends.

The UAF's eCampus now supports the delivery of seven graduate degrees, seven graduate certificates, two post-baccalaureate certificates, one accelerated bachelor's/master's, eighteen bachelor's degrees, eight associate's degrees, six undergraduate certificates, and eleven occupational endorsements; for 60 fully online programs.

The UAF's six-year baccalaureate student graduation rate was 38.7 percent, representing a 5.9 percentage point increase over 2023. The UAF's graduation rate for first-time, full-time students seeking occupational endorsements, certificates, and associate degrees was 19.0 percent.

The UAF has continued to prioritize retention and student success initiatives to increase the graduation rate of first-time, full-time freshmen. Fall 2023 to fall 2024 retention for first-time, full-time baccalaureate students was 74.1 percent. The retention rate for associate degree students was 60.2 percent.

As part of the priority on retention, the UAF has implemented several initiatives, including beginning a five-year partnership with the Gardner Institute; a non-profit organization that guides institutions in improving outcomes associated with student success with respect to retention, course completion, and curricular complexity. Additionally, the Student Success Center opened in August 2024, offering a range of services in one location, including first year advising, tutoring, academic coaching, and career counseling.

The UAF continues to expand its dual enrollment opportunities, offering high school students both online and in-person learning experiences. In collaboration with the Fairbanks North Star Borough School District, North Star College was launched in Fall 2020 with an initial cohort of 40 high school seniors earning between seven and 15 college credits on the UAF's Troth Yedda' campus. Following this success, the UAF welcomed additional cohorts of 40 students in both Fall 2021 and Fall 2022. By Fall 2023, the program expanded significantly, enrolling 180 students,

and graduating 74 students in its first cohort as an officially recognized high school. The program continues to grow, with enrollments reaching 200 students.

The UAF's online Alaska Advantage program, in partnership with the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS), provides dual enrollment opportunities to high school students across the State. Through this initiative, high-achieving students earn both high school and college credits simultaneously. For the 2023-2024 academic year, the program served 1,000 students from traditional schools and homeschool programs alike. In fall 2024, over 600 students from various school districts across Alaska participated in the program.

These initiatives highlight the UAF's ongoing commitment to providing accessible, high-quality education to Alaskan students, fostering pathways for academic success and college readiness across the State.

Community Campuses

Bristol Bay

The Sustainable Energy Program, with support from Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP) funds, held three train-the-trainer solar installation classes which 12 students successfully completed. Two students then co-taught an introductory solar power class for the Chukchi Campus in Kotzebue. Recent graduates of the train-the-trainer program also co-taught the Off-Grid Solar class in Dillingham, where students learned what it takes to set up their remote fishing camps to utilize solar power.

Tribal Governance faculty partnered with the Bristol Bay Campus (BBC) to offer two place-based Indigenous Culture and Science Camp classes for youth and adults, as well as classes for their Training Without Walls leadership program were taught. Collaborative efforts continue to flourish and include Alaska Native corporations, school districts, tribal entities, nonprofits such as the Teaching Through Technology program, and even the Smithsonian Arctic Research Center.

Chukchi Campus

The Chukchi Campus is getting exposure to numerous organizations within the region. The campus is working with the Northwest Arctic Borough School District and the Alaska Technical Center to help students get dual credit within the university. Additionally, the school district has bilingual teachers interested in learning Inupiaq, Eskimo. The campus is working with Aqqaluk Trust to create more opportunities for people to learn the language. The campus conducted a small cohort for the Dental Assistant program and worked with the Maniilaq Association. Staff traveled to the Northwest Alaska Native Association (NANA) Regional villages and met with their schools, tribes, and city to discuss opportunities within the UAF and participated in career fairs, youth and elders workshops, and met with the Maniilaq Association to discuss workforce development ideas. The campus celebrated two students who obtained their master's graduate certificates and awarded three students for the Student of the Year.

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Drumbeats program involved community members with gardens and how to grow your veggies. Students made four additional cold frame boxes and learned how to start later in the summer and still produce food in Kotzebue. A USDA Drumbeats goal is to do outreach in the villages. The Chukchi Consortium Library has double the number of patrons that utilize the library.

Interior Alaska Campus

The Interior Alaska Campus worked on concluding its final year of the Department of State Arctic Education Alliance grant. Partners of the University of Southern Maine and the Greenland Institute of Natural Resources finished projects in land management, fisheries, hospitality, and sustainable tourism. The Alaska Sea Grant Center and College of Fisheries and Ocean Science again hosted a knowledge exchange with Greenland delegates to convey information on Alaska hatcheries, policy, and curriculum.

The Interior Alaska Campus successfully established the Content Creation program through a United States Department of Education Title III grant. This is a new area of study for the university in the emerging field of social media. The Content Creation program provides courses that aid students in producing quality social media content, managing that content, and developing the skills and knowledge to monetize social media as entrepreneurs or to gain employment in this field. All courses are available statewide through distance delivery. In academic year 2024, this program had 30 students enrolled in the Occupational Endorsement.

The Interior Alaska Campus also provided enhanced student services, though another Title III grant project, which improved outcomes for struggling students. Struggling students are those who are severely behind in their work or failing as identified by their instructor or Nanook Navigator. In academic year 2024 struggling students who worked with the Student Success Coordinator were able to pass 80 percent of their classes (33 of 41 classes). Students must complete the class and receive a grade of C- or better to be considered successful.

Kuskokwim Campus

The Kuskokwim Campus hired a Native Arts Coordinator under the Institutionalizing Indigenous Pedagogy grant. From January through June 2024, 14 workshops were held for over 80 participants.

The Kuskokwim Campus and Interior Alaska Campus partnered with the National Science Foundation, the Geophysical Institute, the University of Alaska Anchorage, and the Alaska Fire Science Consortium, and were awarded a grant to explore Indigenous knowledge regarding wildland fire management and to facilitate the inclusion of Alaska Native methods of fire control in rural areas.

A Kuskokwim Campus faculty member, along with other colleagues, was granted an Intervention Research to Improve Native American Health (IRINAH) grant for \$3.5 million with a focus on the Rural Human Services (RHS) cohort practicum course. All RHS students will be trained to provide 'mini' workshops on community-based suicide prevention. Their study will look at the impact on community workshop participants, impact on community, actions taken stemming from the workshops to make things safer for youth, and experiences of RHS students who facilitate.

A United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) National Institute of Food and Agriculture (NIFA) grant was awarded to the Kuskokwim Campus to provide work-study opportunities in the business and information technology departments. Students earn pay while learning hands-on job skills and completing courses towards an associate's degree in their respective fields.

Northwest Campus

The Northwest Campus was awarded two United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) awards that will focus on building up the High Latitude Range Management program and support a summer science camp starting in 2025. The campus continues to support dual enrollment in the region by partnering with the local rural training facility Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC).

College of Indigenous Studies (CIS)

The UAF has continued to make strides towards the strategic goal of “strengthening its position as a global leader in Alaska Native and Indigenous Studies”. In May 2024, the UAF became the first public university in the nation to house a College of Indigenous Studies. Students are excited to be a part of such an inaugural college and what it means for the future of Indigenous education more broadly.

The future Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Studies Center on the UAF's campus remains the number one capital priority. As the building design nears completion and advances to construction, this facility will serve as a flagship for integrating education, learning, and research, which engages Indigenous knowledge in solving global issues across the Arctic. To date, \$5.5 million has been raised, with construction ideally beginning in 2025. The center will serve as a home away from home for Indigenous students. A place where they feel connected, inspired, and supported as they pursue their educational goals. With a student body that is 24 percent Alaska Native/American Indian, Troth Yeddha' represents the UAF's vision and deep commitment to leading the pathway forward in preparing the next generation of Indigenous scholars, researchers, and thought leaders. Troth Yeddha' offers an opportunity to address systemic equity gaps that have historically disadvantaged Indigenous students.

Tamamta, a graduate program focused on elevating and integrating Indigenous knowledge with western science, is now in its fifth year with 19 fellows. These fellows are changing the landscape of their classes and the entities they work with. In August 2024, the first Tamamta fellow defended their dissertation titled Salmon Stewardship and Indigenous Livelihoods: Bridging Knowledge Stems and Reshaping Research Relationality in the Kuskokwim region of Southwestern Alaska.

The Center for OneHealth Research (COHR) within the College of Indigenous Studies seeks to engage participants from the UAF, Alaska, and the circumpolar North to collaborate on building multidisciplinary research programs that integrate person, environment, and animal health. In particular, the COHR seeks to partner with tribes and tribal

organizations on health-related research. This year, the COHR came under new leadership who has extensive experience in tribal health and cultivating community and tribal partnerships. Their research spans the intersections of public, environmental, and animal health, emphasizing food security and sovereignty, climate change, human health, and collaborations with Indigenous communities. Also, the COHR brought on a trained cross-cultural psychologist and gerontologist who brings vast experience and funding to the UAF in gerontology and community-based research. Their research looks at what it means to age in a healthy way, especially as it relates to Alaska Native peoples.

The UAF was awarded a grant from the Margaret A. Cargill Foundation to expand culturally based wellness programming tailored to the needs of Indigenous students. With nearly a quarter of the UAF's student body being Alaska Native/American Indian, there is a commitment to both existing and new investments that bridge equity gaps and help foster a place of belonging for all students.

The UAF's Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI) celebrated its 42nd year this past summer, with all 52 students completing the six-week program. This year's cohort, which came from 39 communities across the State, earned 485 credits (9.33 average) with an average grade-point-average (GPA) of 3.59. Thirty-eight students (73 percent) earned academic honors (3.5 GPA or higher). Since the program started in 1983, 1,948 students have graduated from the RAHI and earned over 1,450 credentials ranging from certificates to PhDs.

Community and Technical College (CTC)

Strategies and Initiatives

- Launched Guided Pathways initiative as a defined student success model.
- Submitted a United States Department of Labor (DOL) proposal to launch a new apprenticeship program for the CTC Computer and Information Technology Services program.
- Developed a new 'Associates in a Year' (AAY) program, offering flexible and accelerated instruction.
- Development of an Alaska Study AAY program to draw students to Alaska and its workforce.
- CTC celebrates its 50th anniversary in 2024, which was highlighted as the theme for the UAF presence in the annual Golden Days parade.
- Held the first all-program CTC summer graduation ceremony at the Davis Concert Hall on August 16, 2024.
- Hosted a New Student Orientation for CTC students at 604 Barnette Street on August 24, 2024.

Programmatic

- Proposed an American Sign Language interpreter program.
- Formed a new partnership with Alaska Airlines through the CTC Aviation program.
- Culinary Arts and Hospitality program launched a new food truck.
- New Licensed Practical Nurse program had its initial accreditation site visit.
- The Mining and Petroleum Training Service (MAPTS) moved from the UAF's Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Extension (IANRE) to CTC.
- The Emergency Medical Services (EMS) program received new SimMan and SimBaby mannequins.
- The Culinary Arts and Hospitality program reopened the Borealis Bistro during the spring semester, a student-run lunch service for the public.
- The Diesel/Heavy Equipment program purchased a cutaway engine for enhanced training.
- The Paralegal program hosted a free legal clinic in partnership with local law firms on Martin Luther King Junior Day.
- The Associates of Applied Science degree was transferred to the CTC from the Interior Alaska Campus.
- College Utilities donated two Caterpillar generators to the Diesel/Heavy Equipment program.
- A 2010 Chevy Silverado was donated by an individual to the Diesel/Heavy Equipment program.
- Seekins Ford Lincoln, Inc. donated a 2012 Ford Fiesta to the Automotive program.

Public Engagement

Cooperative Extension Service (CES) is the outreach arm of the Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources, and Extension (IANRE), providing research-based practical information to Alaskans addressing the State's issues and challenges using the resources of the university and the national extension system. CES is committed to promoting the sustainability and economic security of individuals, families, and communities by providing practical, non-formal education, including conferences, workshops and cooperative work with community, regional, and tribal partners. Outreach is also provided through publications, faculty consultations, newsletters, blogs, and social media platforms like Facebook and YouTube. CES is part of a national system of land-grant university outreach that addresses the

needs of communities by helping families, youth and individuals be physically, mentally, and emotionally healthy; enhancing workforce preparation and life skills; strengthening food safety and security; and fostering greater energy independence.

The UAF extension agents bridge people and communities with localized and relevant research by combining stakeholder and community input with results from collaborations with the UA and other universities, federal and State agencies, nongovernmental organizations, and private industry. CES programming and information resources are relevant, responsive, research-based, and community-driven. Each year, hundreds of Alaskans benefit from the Master Gardener Program, administered by CES, through online and in-person platforms, as well as health programming that includes nutrition information, food preservation and safety training, and disease and wellness workshops, along with the StrongPeople curriculum that teaches strength-based practices for wellness. The Alaska Tribes Extension Program works to promote food sovereignty and security alongside Alaska's 229 tribes. Together with traditional knowledge holders, the program offers hands-on programming, by request, in 21 remote villages.

Research shows that youth need sustained, healthy relationships with adults to thrive. CES continues to promote positive youth development through education with a focus on leadership skills, using the 4-H mission mandates of science, citizenship, and healthy living. Organized 4-H clubs, school enrichment programs, after-school activities, and summer camps show growth and learning in the majority of participating youth while providing professional development skills to emphasize the application of community cultural values and norms. CES/4-H obtained funding to develop junior gardening education programs in rural Alaska, while statewide, 4-H youth raised more than \$500,000 at local auctions from livestock they raised. The food produced from these auctions was sold in grocery stores across Alaska, raising awareness of 4-H programs and highlighting the importance of local food production to the communities.

The Mining and Petroleum Training Service (MAPTS) continues to be the single provider of online Mine Safety and Health Administration (MSHA) compliance training in the State. The high-quality training reaches all Alaskan miners and many from out-of-state and is continually noted by federal MSHA Educational Field Officers. MAPTS Oil and Gas-Gas Division is certified by the International Association of Drilling Contractors (IADC) and continues to provide the State's only regular offerings of well control training, serving Alaska's major oil companies and their contractors. This year, the MAPTS Mine Training Camp Program continued to produce ready-to-work new miners for the State's underground mines. Coeur's Kensington Mine, Hecla Greens Creek Mine, and Northern Star Resources' Pogo Mine hired directly from the MAPTS training program.

The MAPTS was instrumental in training a ready workforce for the new Manh Choh Project located on Tetlin Tribal lands. The program's quality instructional staff trained over 20 residents from Tok, Mentasta, Tetlin, and Tanacross to immediately go to work on the project. The residents were hired by various Kinross contractors, including Kiewit Mining and Black Gold Transport. The MAPTS Underground Mine Training Camp hosted its grant partners under the United States Department of State program "Leveraging Decades of Arctic and Mine Training Experience to Assist Greenland". Four Greenlanders from that project traveled to the MAPTS camp and underwent the full underground mine training experience. They will use that experience to build a facility and develop curriculum for their own mine training facility in Sisimiut, Greenland.

The Alaska Sea Grant tackles some of Alaska's toughest coastal issues through workforce development programs, interdisciplinary research, and marine advisory services. In the last year, the Alaska Sea Grant workforce training programs ranged from marine safety, policy, business skills, permit assistance, food safety, and seafood processing techniques. A total of 246 fishermen, seafood processing or aquaculture industry personnel engaged in Alaska Sea Grant activities. The program supported 47 undergraduate, graduate, and postgraduate students, provided educational programs that reached 44 K-12 educators and involved 520 K-12 students. The Alaska Sea Grant is a statewide leader in supporting the development of the mariculture industry (seaweed and shellfish farming) through research and workforce training and co-hosted the 3rd annual Mariculture Conference of Alaska. The Alaska Sea Grant is one of 34 National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration (NOAA) university partnerships across the country, and leverages State and federal investment for a 15-fold return on investment through additional leveraged funding, economic benefits, and volunteer engagement.

Summer Sessions and Lifelong Learning (SSLL)

SSLL created nine free Summer Fairbanks Tall Timbers Lectures, that honored nine community members who have given so much to the Fairbanks community. The series was delivered in person, via webcast, and recorded. The recordings were turned into YouTube videos and posted online.

SSLL hosted 10 free Summer Healthy Living Public Lectures that covered a wide variety of healthcare topics. The series was delivered in person, via webcast, and recorded. The recordings were turned into YouTube videos and posted online.

SSLL hosted 10 free Summer Discover Alaska Public Lectures with professionals from the Institute of Arctic Biology sharing their areas of expertise. The series was delivered in person, via webcast, and recorded. The recordings were turned into YouTube videos and posted online.

SSLL hosted 12 Music in the Garden Concerts in the UAF Georgeson Botanical Gardens every Thursday evening beginning in May. Each evening, two bands played, and hundreds of Fairbanks families came out to enjoy this weekly event.

SSLL offered 93 children's summer day camps with a final enrollment of 1,689. Scholarships were awarded to 55 children who qualified for the public school free and reduced lunch program.

SSLL's Science, Math, Art, Recreation, and Technology (SMART) Academy worked with the 16 home schools throughout the State and offered virtual enrichment classes both in the fall and spring. In addition to virtual classes, SSLL created in-person enrichment classes.

SSLL hosted the 2023 Legacy Lecture that honored a UAF alumni.

SSLL created three international travel programs, one to Norway and two to Portugal, where the participants learned about their natural, cultural, and political histories.

SSLL created two travel programs within Alaska, a birding trip to Nome and a painting trip to Toolik.

SSLL hosted the annual two-week intensive English as a Second Language program from Fukuyama City University.

SSLL created adult camps providing 11 non-credit learning experiences.

SSLL hosted two free family-friendly concerts for the Fairbanks community: Let Us Be Thankful in November and Here Comes the Sun in January.

SSLL provided numerous noncredit courses to children and adults throughout the academic year.

SSLL created Project Hope North to help address the scourge of opioid overdoses by engaging with students on campus and encouraging them to carry Narcan kits. Over 1,000 kits were distributed.

SSLL continues to provide the structure for the Really Free Market. This marked the 15th year of this very popular community event.

Athletics and Student Affairs

Athletics

The Alaska Nanooks Athletics serves as the first major contact that some stakeholders and constituents have with the UAF and serves as a community engagement opportunity for many members of Fairbanks and its surrounding communities. The Alaska Nanooks Athletics program generates brand identity, awareness, and marketing for the UAF. These highly visible programs increase the number of prospective student applications, bolsters alumni participation, and both encourages and facilitates giving to the UAF through various sponsor/donor events and philanthropic initiatives.

The Nanooks Athletics department, competing within the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA), puts primary focus on the following three themes:

1. Fundraising and Scholarships
2. Compliance
3. Support Systems

UAF Athletics is continuing to develop and achieve these themes by creating a highly functioning athletics fundraising program. The Associate Athletic Director for External Relations, in collaboration with the Assistant Athletic Director for Marketing, Sponsorships, and Promotions, has created and enhanced the fundraising team to further develop and sustain sponsorships and add inspiring events. The program is excited to continue the Seekins Ford Lincoln Raffle this year, with a 2024 Ford Bronco Sport, along with the third annual Usibelli Coal Mine Gold Rush Event (Reverse Raffle) to book-end the athletics seasons in March. With this, the event has become a cornerstone for Nanooks Athletics and future partnership with the Usibelli Coal Mine. The program is also continuing to advise and work with the community-driven Nanook Athletics Alliance, which is making waves into the feasibility of an on-campus hockey facility. Further steps have been assessed this year, which creates a pathway for this possibility for student-athletes, campus, and the Fairbanks community. Additionally, increasing ticketing opportunities and sales under the Assistant Athletic Director for Facilities, Ticketing, and Operations, is a top priority for bringing fans back to their seats. The Etix and UA system partnership has provided a seamless paperless and cashless option for fans. Partnering this with the ongoing work from the Senior Associate Athletic Director, and the Assistant Director of Athletics and Senior Woman Administrator, student-athlete academic-standing and overall grade-point-average (GPA) has sustained at the highest it has ever been. The Alaska Nanooks Athletics aims to take the current framework and further develop it within the next three years, allowing athletics to achieve major compliance, operational, and fundraising goals.

Accomplishments from 2023-2024:

This year provided more new opportunities for the Alaska Nanooks Athletics after another year of growth within all sport programs. Additional thanks to UAF's Chancellor, the UAF Administration, and the coaches and staff for their leadership and vision. Their ability to innovate, adapt, recruit, and develop student-athletes has been inspiring and continues to serve as a great example across multi-conference programs. An extended thank you to donors who continue their unwavering support of Nanooks Athletics and have helped achieve another successful year of growth. Without them none of this is possible. A special highlight to Bill and Helga Watterson, who through their inspirational UAF story and recent financial contributions, helped to compete on the newly renovated Alaska Airlines Gymnasium hardwood floor. For the first time in 40 years, the Nanooks teams trained and competed on a newly designed floor with accompanying items that undoubtedly enhanced the student-athlete and fan experience (e.g., new sound system, sport banners, media tables, ceiling renovations, LED lights, and more). The gymnasium is now considered one of the nicest and most modern venues in the Great Northeast Athletic Conference (GNAC) and West Region.

Furthermore, the Alaska Nanooks Athletics sees the Director of Athletics (AD) now taking on his fourth year overseeing these strategic initiatives to ensure they are appropriately developed. This year has also seen some enhancements to coaching and staff: including a new Head Men's Basketball Coach; an Assistant Men's Basketball Coach; two Strength and Conditioning Coaches; and an Assistant Women's Swimming Coach. The start of year three with a Team Physician from McKinley Orthopedics and Sports Medicine has continued to provide added benefits and enhancements to coaches and student-athletes. This partnership continues to add student-athlete resources, along with providing a physical location nearby. The program has also continued its partnership with a Sports Psychologist for added resources for coaching student-athletes to ensure the best mental health tools possible. With all of this, the Alaska Nanooks Athletics achieved a cornerstone to continuing their department build-out process. To date, the program is continuing to integrate a dynamic and fully National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) compliant process for all stakeholders who operate within it.

Under this continued leadership, the Athletics Department will continue to implement the three to five-year athletics strategic plan. The plan includes increased community outreach and engagement, expanded efforts in fundraising practices, student-athletic development, academic achievement, wellness, and post-graduation success. This transformation aspires to find efficiencies and create a highly functioning athletic department by developing coordinated, collaborative, cooperative ventures, and partnerships with other parts of the university. In addition, the Athletics Department is implementing a community and support system strategic plan with the greater Fairbanks Community (i.e., Youth Sport Board, school systems, and more) to foster and enhance the opportunities for Nanook student-athletes now and post-graduation.

Alaska Nanooks Highlights:

This year focused on determination, building on last year's national championships, and sustaining programs as premier teams in the region and the NCAA. Notable events included the continued partnership with Lat 65 Brewing for the Lat 65 Golden Ale and the new Lil' Nook Blueberry Lemonade to support student-athlete scholarships; incredible Seekins Raffle numbers; and the Second Annual Alaska Nanooks Athletics Gold Rush Event sponsored by Usibelli Coal Mine. A special thanks to all who contributed to another successful year in Alaska Nanooks Athletics history.

Women's Swimming

- Charlotte Fletcher-Stables qualifying for NAAs.
- Pacific Collegiate Swim and Dive Conference (PCSC) Champion, Tori Shoemaker.

Hockey

- Biggest attendance jumps in over a decade.
- Won Alaska Airlines Governor's Cup vs the University of Alaska Anchorage (UAA) for 13th straight year.
- Finished 25th in NCAA Pairwise ranking along with USCHO.com and USA Today/USA Hockey.

Rifle

- 2024 NCAA Third Place Aggregate, Smallbore, Air Rifle.
- Multiple All-Americans - Rachael Charles, Sara Karasova, and Elijah Spencer.
- Second-ever 600 (Elijah Spencer) during the NCAA Championships Match.

Women's Volleyball

- Great Northwest Athletic Conference (GNAC) Newcomer of the Year (Lily Stewart).
- Reilly White and Karli Neilsen named First Team All-GNAC and Honorable Mention.

Men's Basketball

- Win over UAA in Anchorage for first time since 2003.
- Abdullahi Mohamed named Second Team All-GNAC.
- Jaycson Bereal Jr. named Honorable Mention All-GNAC.

Women's Basketball

- Mt McKinley Bank Invitational Tournament (tied for first place).
- Kayla Johnson named Honorable Mention All-GNAC.

Women's Cross Country

- Three individual qualifiers for NAAs (Kendall Kramer, Rosie Fordham, and Naomi Bailey).
- Best aggregate finishes at NAAs and All-Americans (Kendall Kramer and Rosie Fordham).
- GNAC Woman of the Year Kendall Kramer winning GNAC Championship.
- West Region Champion - Kendall Kramer.

Men's Skiing

- 9th Place Team Finish at NAAs (another banner year).

Women's Skiing

- 9th Place Team Finish at NAAs (another banner year).
- Three All-American honors between Mariel Pulles, Kendall Kramer, and Rosie Fordham

All Sports GPA – An amazing, 3.45 Cumulative GPA.

Student Affairs

The Center for Student Engagement (CSE) is the home of many programs and services that align with the UAF's institutional goals of "modernizing the student experience" and "growing a culture of respect, diversity, inclusion and caring." The CSE contributes to these institutional goals by: 1) providing innovative and collaborative space for college students to connect over similar interests while presented with opportunities for self-discovery; 2) cultivating leaders through a rich variety of student leadership experiences, including student employment, governance, student

organizations, and other high-impact co-curricular programs; and 3) exposing students to programs with a diverse community, new ideas, and environments that affirm identities.

Nanook Recreation (NR) is seeing strong participation on all fronts; students and community. NR facilities are operating at full capacity for most of the school year. With local indoor recreation facilities offering less access, community user groups are looking at the university more. Groups such as youth soccer, city leagues, and others are regularly turned away due to capacity constraints. Increasing demand from the community is good for business but requires NR to protect student access. Outdoor Adventures is expanding the offerings by partnering with Residence Life to offer a successful Living Learning Community. NR have added a staff member to help grow the Summer paddle sports program in 2025. Including teaching more classes in-house that were outsourced in the past (firearms safety and swiftwater rescue for example). NR is also developing courses for AlaskaEdX to help serve visiting researchers who need additional training prior to heading to the field camps.

The UAF's Center for Student Rights and Responsibility (CSRR) and the Department of Equity and Compliance (DE&C) were recently combined to form the new Office of Rights, Compliance, and Accountability (ORCA). This office will focus on preserving individual rights, ensuring compliance with policy and law, and fostering accountability. The overall goal is to provide a respectful, diverse, and inclusive university environment. The ORCA will serve as a single point of contact for matters involving Title IX, discrimination, student behavioral intervention, crisis management, and the Student CARE Team. This department is an integral part of the campus' holistic development and the UAF's commitment to safety and individual rights. Focusing on accountability, safety, and resilience, the ORCA seeks to help create a thriving campus environment. The ORCA is responsible for the student conduct model at the UAF. The ORCA prioritizes restorative practices that seek to repair harm and help individuals understand and value the role they play in their community. The goal is to help individuals understand how decisions impact not only themselves but everyone around them. The ORCA personnel are part of crisis response and support for all students - regardless of location (i.e. supports the CTC and rural campus students, distance students, and students on university sponsored travel). The ORCA is also responsible for assembling a threat assessment team when services are needed.

The Student CARE team is also housed in the ORCA. This is a multi-disciplinary team made up of staff and faculty committed to helping students when they need it most. This team seeks to understand the challenges of the modern student and works as a partner to help eliminate barriers and support students in reaching their academic and career goals.

Campus safety and community development are top priorities in the ORCA. This office is also responsible for federal compliance with the Clery Act and Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act for the UAF. These compliance standards are connected to the institution's ability to issue students federal IV funding. Compliance with these acts requires coordination from multiple departments such as the university police, department of residence life, rural campuses, and human resources. It also requires initiating and responding to threats to campus safety and response. Compliance with these acts is a 24/7 operation.

In addition, the ORCA is also a faculty advocate and mediator to balance student rights and institutional responsibility. Routinely, the ORCA provides guidance for faculty to navigate classroom disruptions and balancing employee rights with student rights, an important risk mitigation effort for the university. The ORCA works closely with the graduate school, disability services, human resources, and faculty to address issues early and in a timely manner.

Equally important as the services listed above, the ORCA also ensures university efforts are in line with the Board of Regents' policy, State law, and federal law. Areas of compliance efforts will include Title IX, Title VII, the Clery Act, the Americans with Disabilities Act, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act, and the Drug-Free Schools and Communities Act. This team will provide regular training for students, staff, and faculty so they feel adequately prepared to respond to compliance challenges.

The ORCA prioritizes wrap around service by forming critical university and community partnerships, effective and timely response to complaints (Title IX, discrimination, behavioral concerns, or general requests for assistance), and building sustainable practices that ensure campus continues to meet community needs.

The Student Health and Counseling Center (SHCC) provides an array of primary care, urgent care, episodic care, and mental health care services to students on campus. Services include immunizations, tuberculosis screening, physicals, sexually transmitted infection screenings and treatment, medication management, treatment for various

illnesses and disorders, health education, lab services, individual psychotherapy/counseling, couples therapy/counseling, group psychotherapy/counseling, crisis counseling, resource and referral services, and outreach programming.

Some current initiatives include:

- Comprehensive immunization program for UAF students
- Counselor imbedded in residence life, Student Support Services, and Student Success Center
- Counselor available onsite for office hours in athletics
- Interactive screening program from the American Foundation for Suicide Prevention
- Daily consultation hour with a counselor for students, faculty, and staff
- Crisis and stabilization services for students with immediate needs
- Statewide delivery of tele-behavioral health services to UAF students
- Mental Health First Aid training for campus partners (students, faculty, and staff)
- Integration of TimelyCare, a SHCC services extender, offering on-demand (24/7) and on-going mental health counseling services, health coaching, psychiatric services (referral necessary), and a self-care resource library for UAF students within the United States.

Disability Services (DS) supports a diverse campus community by advocating for accessibility and providing academic, housing, dining, and programmatic accommodations to students with disabilities. DS also provides training and informational opportunities to the campus to educate community members about accessibility and inclusion.

Major Department Accomplishments in FY2024

- Expansion of students served, including increased retention and graduation rates.
 - Services were provided for 675 students during FY2024, an increase of 36 percent from FY2023 and 125.8 percent from FY2018 when current department leadership was hired.
 - For fall 2024, there is a 30 percent increase in students served compared to fall 2023.
 - Retention of students registered with the DS office from one semester to the next in FY2024 was 82 percent, compared to 46 percent in FY2018.
 - Graduation rates - 75 of the 1,031 UAF graduates during FY2024 had been registered with DS. This is a 62 percent increase from FY2023 (47 graduates), and a 1,775 percent increase from FY2018 (3 graduates).
- Training Provided
 - UA Disability Services Virtual Conference - hosted six webinars throughout the year with over 700 staff and faculty in attendance.
 - Provided training directly to several UAF offices and outside agencies at their request to provide better understanding of the services provided and how to connect students to the office. This included staff from admissions and advising, academic departments, graduate school, Center for Teaching and Learning, Teaching Assistants, local high school counselors, and counselors associated with the Pacific Northwest Association for College Admission Counseling.
 - Faculty consultations and guidance provided one on one as requested.
- Outreach provided with several local and State partner organizations to expand the resources and information available to students about the services available to them.
- Hired a third full-time staff member in the office. The position is focused on working directly with students to determine and implement accommodations.

Current Initiatives

- Co-hosting the 4th Annual Disability Services Virtual Conference for all UA employees with monthly sessions for the 2024-2025 academic year. Hosted 147 people for the first session in September, with over 100 already registered for each of the next two sessions in October and November.
- Expanding Student Accommodations Manager position to include coordination of deaf services for the UAF campuses.
- Increasing staff levels to continue providing quality and personalized services for students registered with DS.
 - The current DS annual caseload per staff member is more than double the recommended number of cases for staff working in this field. National data indicates that approximately 20 percent of the UAF student population have a disability and would qualify for services, although currently only four percent of the student population is being served. Using the growth in number of students served by the DS office in the past six years, projections show that the number of students registered with DS

will double from current levels within the next two years; requiring an additional two staff members for case management to maintain current service levels.

- All DS staff members are receiving formal training for coaching in higher education. This will include coaching neurodiverse students and will expand capabilities to serve all students registered with DS.
- Expanding the number of seats available in the DS Testing Center. There are currently only eight stations with camera monitoring in the testing space. With the rapid growth of students served over the past two years since implementing the Testing Center, DS is looking to at least double the number of testing stations and install cameras to ensure proctoring of exams is secure.

Residence Life has continued to provide communities that are inclusive, diverse, caring, and respectful.

Some current initiatives include:

- Renovation of Moore and Bartlett halls was completed. Plumbing, flooring, and furniture were updated. ADA bathrooms are on every floor and increased privacy in bathrooms.
- Replacing housing management software with a better product.
- Adding new living learning community options and expanding current offerings.
- Trained all hall staff on QPR (Suicide Prevention) and Green Dot (Bystander Intervention).

Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL)

The UAF eCampus offers 60 fully online programs, including 25 entry-level options designed to support Alaskan workforce development. With over 630 unique courses, it serves students from 172 Alaskan communities, 49 states, and 15 countries. Last year, more than 6,300 students enrolled in eCampus courses, with 84 percent living in Alaska and over 50 percent from the Fairbanks area. The Center for Teaching and Learning (CTL) awarded 660 microcredentials this year in subjects like public speaking, ethics, and chemistry. AlaskaX, the UAF's partnership with edX, reached over 118,000 learners from 210 countries, with 149 applying to the UAF after completing AlaskaX courses.

The CTL supports the UAF's R1 status goals by providing custom graduate student support, including training for teaching assistants and dissertation writing support to accelerate PhD completion. It also fosters a strong teaching culture at the UAF through faculty development programs and direct faculty support.

The UAF's experienced media team helps faculty create professional videos for courses and programs, with four media studios available across campus. These include "one-button" studios on the Troth Yedha' campus and at CTC's downtown location, allowing faculty to produce high-quality instructional videos at scale. For instance, Professor of Developmental Math, Sandra Wildfeuer, recorded over 350 short videos in just a few weeks.

As part of the UAF's commitment to improving the student experience, eCampus leads efforts to reduce textbook and material costs, saving students approximately \$1.2 million. Scholarships are offered, and dedicated support is provided through enrollment counselors, who handled 4,000 interactions, resulting in 650 new online degree students. The Testing Center serves both students and the Fairbanks community, offering thousands of hours of proctoring services for academic and professional credentials.

Research

Part of the UAF's strategic plan is to achieve R1 status. This accomplishment would elevate the UAF to the more prestigious class of doctoral-granting United States universities with very high research activity as defined by the Carnegie Classification of Institutions of Higher Education. Attaining R1 status can provide global recognition for the UAF's high research productivity, enhance competitiveness for funding resources, attract globally competitive faculty, staff, and students to improve the quality and caliber of the UAF research and education, increase student enrollment, and provide local economic benefits to the broader Fairbanks community. However, the UAF's research vision extends beyond the metrics highlighted by the Carnegie Classification system. Specifically, research is critical for advancing the UAF's mission and core themes, including educating students, preparing a skilled Alaska workforce, connecting with Alaska Native peoples, and engaging with fellow Alaskans.

In FY2025, the UAF received a \$12.5 million allocation in one-time funding from the Higher Education Investment Fund (HEIF) and \$2.1 million in receipt authority to help the UAF achieve R1 status. These funds must be spent over a three-year period (FY2025, FY2026 and FY2027).

In FY2023, the UAF received \$25.8 million in one-time research and workforce development funding from the State of Alaska directed at economic development areas that have a connection to Alaska's economy with high potential for growth. These key research programs enhance the UAF's national prominence in areas of specific expertise, maximize innovative opportunities, and create industry partnerships. Work in critical minerals, drones, and mariculture are collaborative projects with the UAF, the UAA, and the UAS, as well as industry. These funds are continuing into FY2026 for ongoing work.

The UAF continues to lead in Arctic research, as well as globally influencing science advancement. In FY2024, direct research expenditures are approximately \$226 million from external restricted and unrestricted fund sources. The UAF receives competitive funding from several State and federal agencies, as well as private foundations that are focused on research.

Selected examples of research efforts funded by grants and contracts in various UAF research institutes and centers are highlighted below.

The National Science Foundation (NSF) awarded a collaborative team of investigators, from multiple colleges across all three campuses, a new \$20 million per five-year award. The UAF will lead this program titled Interface of Change, which will identify the consequences of climate-induced changes on marine resources and model potential community adaptation strategies. Researchers are working in parallel with rural communities, industry farmers, and agency managers in the Gulf of Alaska to identify and link environmental drivers and the consequences of climate-induced changes to marine wild-harvested and farmed resources.

The Alaska Satellite Facility (ASF) continues to work on the large Task Order contracted under the University Affiliated Research Center to manage and operate the GeoData Cooperative, a transformative organization that integrates .gov, .org, .com, .mil, and .edu under one collaborative partnership. The GeoData Cooperative is focused on delivering relevant geospatial data that meets the Department of Defense mission timelines, resulting in significant cost efficiencies for the United States Government. Another Task Order has recently been added that will complement this GeoData Cooperative work with additional funding for development with partners.

The Alaska Center for Unmanned Aircraft Systems Integrations (ACUASI) continues to leverage beyond-visual-line-of-sight flight capability that sets the program apart from its peers. It is one of the first steps towards proving the ability of technology to prevent unmanned aircraft from colliding with traditional aircraft and opening Alaska's airspace to routine drone operations.

The College of Fisheries and Ocean Science (CFOS) continues to safely and successfully operate the NSF-owned research vessel, Sikuliaq, a 261-foot oceanographic research ship, which supports research groups across the nation in understanding the Arctic and North Pacific marine ecosystems, among others.

The CFOS continues to be the lead organization in the second phase of the NSF-funded Northern Gulf of Alaska Long-term Ecological Research (NGA LTER) program, aimed to monitor and understand the productive NGA ecosystem that is of vital importance to Alaska's fisheries industry. Also, the CFOS-based oceanographic glider program is expanding to provide high-resolution oceanography data that are relevant to understanding the functioning of Alaska's marine ecosystems, climate change impacts, and fisheries. The CFOS glider team works with ADF&G, federal agencies, and Tribal organization partners from coastal villages to plan, execute, and collaboratively analyze the collected data.

The Institute of Agriculture, Natural Resources and Extension's (IANRE) Agricultural and Forestry Experiment Station (AFES) conducts research focused on agriculture as well as food security through partnerships with other research units at the UAF. During FY2024, the AFES hired a research livestock nutritionist to revive a research program to find appropriate Alaskan crops and forages to feed livestock and deliver critical nutrition based on the herd lifecycle. This program revival is the UAF's response to the \$500,000 capital investment for food security to the AFES from the State of Alaska. In addition, the AFES researchers are evaluating varieties of winter-planted barley, wheat, canola, and camelina for use as cover crops to improve soil health, and as potential for new crops as growing conditions shift in a

changing climate including kernza, a perennial slender wheat grass, and sunflowers.

FY2024 natural resource efforts at the AFES included investigations into spruce beetle movement and impact, and data to inform optimal wood harvest timing to decrease the time needed to dry harvested wood for safe use in home heating systems. Pesticide persistence studies are working to identify common herbicides and the length of time they are still active in Alaskan cold soils. Geographic Information System applications for monitoring natural resources are being used to produce high-resolution modeling of permafrost distributions in Alaska's seven national parks, mapping Colville River bathymetry to aid safe river travel, and helping Native villages monitor local permafrost. A research effort is underway to develop a comprehensive methodology for estimating aboveground boreal forest biomass to improve understanding of the carbon storage potential of these forests and to support effective forest management and conservation efforts.

Prior to the Arctic Circle Assembly, the Alaska Center for Energy and Power (ACEP) co-hosted the Arctic Energy Forum (AEF) 2024 held in Akureyri, Iceland, October 14-16, 2024. The AEF 2024, featuring keynote speakers, panel discussions, and breakout sessions, will review facts and discuss examples of best practices and solutions in energy and green transitions for sustainable Nordic, Arctic, and global development. Emphasis will be on responsible energy use, especially renewable and green transition opportunities, and solutions for smaller communities. In addition, the ACEP was a co-organizer of the 2024 AK Rural Energy Conference. The conference has not been held since 2018 and the highly successful revival attracted 400+ registrants for the in-person event.

The ACEP published a new report that reveals the energy burden for Fairbanks North Star Borough (FNSB) residents to be drastically higher than the contiguous United States energy burden, as defined in this report, is the percentage of annual income spent on residential energy services such as space heating and electricity. The energy consumption and expenditures in Alaska are the highest in the nation. And the energy cost in the FNSB is the highest in the Railbelt. The study finds that FNSB residents are estimated to spend 10 percent of their income on energy in 2024. This is significantly higher than the national average of three percent that was recently estimated by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy in 2020.

The ACEP created a web-based electricity trends report which summarizes Alaska electricity information gathered from federal, State, and utility sources. The report provides an overview of electricity capacity, generation, consumption, and price trends from 2011 to 2021. Information in the report is useful to making informed policy choices. For example, the report found that overall electricity consumption has fallen, which presents a challenge for reducing the cost of energy for consumers. A similar comprehensive analysis was last published in 2013. During this time period, the State saw large increases in renewable energy capacity, storage, and on-demand peaking units. Net generation has remained relatively stable. Electricity consumption overall has fallen for all customer classes, with residential customers seeing the most reductions. The report is available online: <https://www.uaf.edu/acep/projects/alaska-electricity-trends-report-2024.php>.

The ACEP created a new weekly radio series, Energy in the North, which explores the importance and opportunities that energy and power provide to Alaska and its people.

The ACEP's chief storyteller will continue to talk with a variety of people — those who are working to provide energy to communities, at the front line of research working with innovators to lower the cost of power and in Alaska's remote microgrid communities.

The ACEP hosted a series of virtual two-day workshops leading up to the 2024 Alaska Sustainable Energy Conference. Each workshop took attendees on a deep dive into specific topics that are pending or a priority for Alaska's energy future. The workshops featured were Utility Decision Making: Navigating constraints, innovating for the future, Transmission and Distribution: The clean energy transitions secret weapon and Betting Big: Investing in emerging energy technology — Energy innovation is happening all around us.

The Institute of Arctic Biology (IAB) has continued to support a wide variety of research on the health of Alaska's lands, wildlife, and people. New projects focus on stream and lake restoration, big game movement and health, and wildlife habitat assessment on military and park lands, much of which is done by scientists at the Alaska Cooperative Fish and Wildlife Research Unit. The IAB continues to be at the forefront of research on permafrost thaw and carbon release and capture in arctic and boreal regions, with new projects supported by Toolik Field Station and the Bonanza Creek Long Term Ecological Research site in the Interior. Finally, the Center of Alaska Native Health Research has

several new, culturally grounded projects on healthy aging, food systems and nutrition, and a major Community Engagement Alliance that will evaluate how programs fostering cultural connection influence physical and mental health of youth and elders in rural Alaska.

The International Arctic Research Center (IARC) and its commercial partners have developed a new tool to measure carbon dioxide levels in the ocean. Monitoring the greenhouse gas is a crucial step for climate adaptation that can help mitigate ocean acidification events. Such events pose a potential threat to marine life including economically important species and mariculture operations. IARC research has led to an autonomous underwater glider system that provides data important also in predicting marine extreme events.

The IARC's Alaska Fire Science Consortium and its partners installed a new interpretive trail at the 2021 Yankovich Road Fire site, where three and a half acres burned within 100 yards of a neighborhood. Signs along the Wildfire Walk educate visitors about the relationship between wildfire and the boreal forest, fire science and climate change, and wildfire prevention.

The Geophysical Institute (GI) continues high-end research on earthquakes, volcanoes, glaciers, permafrost, sea-ice, aurora, remote sensing, and much more. It supports the community with timely and relevant research information. Many noteworthy research accomplishments and information for the public are available at <https://www.gi.alaska.edu/news>.

The GI also operates the Poker Flat Research Range, the largest land-based rocket research range in the world and the only high-latitude rocket range in the United States. The GI operates the High-frequency Active Auroral Research Program (HAARP).

The Institute of Northern Engineering (INE) continues to produce world-class research in energy resource engineering (including petroleum and critical minerals), water resources, hydrology, permafrost, marine sciences, ecology, and paleoecology. The INE has leveraged State and federal funding to purchase cutting-edge instrumentation (such as a laser ablation inductively coupled plasma mass spectrometry (LA-ICP-MS) and a radiocarbon instrument), refurbish and update labs for critical minerals, mining and polyfluoroalkyls (PFAS) research, and conduct research in heavy oils and rare earth elements. The INE (through its Water and Environmental Research Center) continues to award upwards of \$100,000 in small grants to graduate students within any Alaskan university/college working on Alaska-related water resource issues. The INE Principal Investigator (PI) Christopher Arp has been nationally recognized for their efforts in working with community partners in Alaska.

The UA Museum of the North (UAMN) is a State and federal repository and houses over 2.5 million objects in public trust. In collaboration with the Geophysical Institute, the UAMN recently began construction of a state-of-the-art planetarium that will serve as a UAF classroom, a destination for thousands of Interior K-12 students, and as a major attraction to its visitors from around the world. In FY2024, the UAMN hosted nearly 4,000 K-12 student visits and over 91,000 visitors.

Facilities

The UAF remains committed to maintaining and upgrading its aging facilities in alignment with its mission and strategic objectives. In FY2025, a continued focus on deferred maintenance, renewal, and repurposing (DMR&R) projects remains crucial as the UAF works to minimize its maintenance backlog and optimize campus infrastructure. Modernization efforts focus on reducing operational and maintenance (O&M) costs through increased efficiencies, improving student appeal for improved enrollment and retention, and providing better access to modern and ADA-compliant spaces.

Key Initiatives:

- **Critical DMR&R Projects:** All proposed projects are evaluated against the UAF's DMR&R needs and are funded through a combination of capital and operational budgets. These projects aim to address not just deferred maintenance but also functional obsolescence to optimize facility performance and reduce ongoing costs. Once complete, projects are removed from the deferred maintenance backlog.
- **Preventative Maintenance Program:** The UAF allocates annual operating funds to repair and renew essential building systems, including roofs, plumbing, lighting, and motors. This proactive approach ensures that aging facilities continue to support the UAF's academic and research missions. This ongoing maintenance reduces the likelihood of major system failures and extends the lifespan of campus facilities.

FY2025 Challenges:

- **Modernization vs. New Construction:** With limited funding for new construction, the UAF will continue to prioritize modernization efforts, reducing O&M costs where possible through efficiency upgrades. The aging facilities will undergo targeted improvements to enhance functionality, ADA accessibility, and alignment with modern student needs.
- **Public-Private Partnerships (P3):** The UAF is actively exploring P3 and other funding opportunities for new or renovated housing, a hotel, and an on-campus ice arena. These projects would meet modern student expectations, help attract and retain students, and generate additional revenue. Shared arrangements and public-private partnerships could play a vital role in bringing these projects to fruition while reducing financial strain on the university.
- **Sustained Funding for Deferred Maintenance:** The UAF continues to work within a UA-wide modernization plan to secure predictable and sustained funding sources to reduce ongoing operating costs and address deferred maintenance. This funding will be key to supporting future programmatic growth and ensure that the UAF remains competitive in providing state-of-the-art facilities for students, faculty, and researchers.

As the UAF moves forward, FY2025 presents both challenges and opportunities in maintaining a sustainable and modern campus infrastructure while adapting to the evolving needs of its academic and student community.

Gifts

The UAF remains on an upward trajectory in seeking and securing private philanthropic gifts that align with the university's mission of teaching, research, and service. While this increase in private gifts is purposeful, it must be stated that donor gifts are most often restricted to a particular program or area. University Advancement is charged with connecting the university's mission to donors through the work of the Development, Alumni Relations, and University Relations teams. Private philanthropy has the potential to transform the university when aligned with strategic priorities and projects. Donors can create opportunities for students by making access and affordability more manageable, supporting research, and expanding the university's mission to better serve the community.

The UAF received \$15 million in private philanthropic donations in FY2024. This success is a result of strategic efforts to invite more people, more often, to support the university, as well as increase the stewardship of the UAF's current supporters. The impact of philanthropy at the UAF in FY2024 is shared on the Gifts at Work webpage:

<https://uaf.edu/giving/impact/gifts-at-work.php>. The total number of donors in FY2024 was 2,154, including alumni, friends, corporations, and foundations. Donations from alumni made up 15.9 percent of the dollars raised in FY2024. Alumni made up 33 percent of the donors to the UAF, providing 42.6 percent of total gifts.

The UAF received transformative philanthropic investments in FY2024, including a \$7.4 million dollar gift from an anonymous donor to construct a planetarium addition at the University of Alaska Museum of the North. When it opens, the 5,700-square-foot addition to the west end of the museum will house a 65-seat planetarium under a 10-meter dome. A planetarium has been part of the vision for the museum since it opened in 1980 and a longtime goal of the UAF Geophysical Institute. Stories celebrating donor generosity may be found in current and archived issues of the Aurora at: <https://www.uaf.edu/aurora/stories-of-impact/index.php>.

The UAF had another record-breaking turnout during the third annual UA Giving Day event March 26-28, 2024. Over the course of 49 hours, just over 1,000 donors contributed, a 26 percent increase from the previous year. Supporters from 42 states and six countries paired their donations with more than 70 large matching gifts from individual and business sponsors, contributing more than \$716,691 to support students and programs at the UAF. Alumni giving increased again this year, representing more than a third of individual donations. Donations supported a wide variety of programs, including scholarships for UAF students, Alaska Nanooks athletics, scientific research, and the planned Troth Yeddha' Indigenous Studies Center.

Key RDU Challenges

- Growing enrollment amidst limited funding to support more expensive student outreach, national challenges of changing student demographics, competition, workforce needs, and discussions about the value proposition of

higher education although data indicates degree completion results in higher economic contributions to the state and beyond.

- Investing in facilities modernization the aging buildings/infrastructure on campuses via a stable mechanism for funding support. Planned and predictable funding will reduce high-cost repairs and maintenance in exchange for greater operational efficiency and cost containment.
- Keeping pace with inflationary cost pressures and compensation market increases as needed is part of being a competitive employer in Alaska.
- Post-COVID employee recruitment and retention challenges in a differently competitive national environment.
- Maintaining or increasing research accomplishments in a climate where faculty are teaching more to meet academic needs.
- Maintaining research journal and database subscriptions, due to cost increases that continue to occur at rates substantially exceeding general inflation.
- Appropriately scaling administrative support, student services, facilities operations and maintenance, and other work to meet projected needs, while containing costs.
- Providing services and support to bolster student success, and mental and emotional well-being.
- Covering increased insurance and other fixed costs in a constrained environment without inflationary operating budget adjustments to ensure stability.
- Striving to automate manual processes for an improved student and employee experience.

Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2026

Access and Enrollment

The UAF is in its sixth year of Strategic Enrollment Planning (SEP). SEP is a data-informed process that aligns an institution's fiscal, academic, co-curricular, and enrollment resources within a changing environment to accomplish its mission and ensure long-term enrollment success and fiscal health. The UAF launched the process in September 2018. To date, over 300 participants have been involved across 62 action planning groups. More than 50 percent of participants are faculty. These groups have created over 150 action plans, more than half of which have been implemented and are being monitored. In 2020, the UAF expanded the process to include college-specific enrollment planning with the College of Engineering and Mines. Starting in fall 2021, the UAF began focused enrollment planning efforts with the College of Liberal Arts, College of Natural Sciences and Mathematics, and the Community and Technical College. Additional academic units are adopting the process in 2022. This iterative process has become part of the strategic fabric of the UAF. The SEP Steering Committee continues to assess the effectiveness of the implemented strategies and expand upon successful initiatives to build enrollment at the UAF.

Examples SEP Action Plans include:

- Honors College and Climate Scholars Program.
- Online Bachelor of Science in Biology.
- Financial Aid Leveraging Scholarships.
- Rural Counselor Fly-In Program.
- Graduate Certificate in Microgrid Power and Renewable Energy Systems.
- Nanook Brotherhood Project.
- Admissions Counselor positions added in key locations in contiguous United States.

The UAF continues to expand its dual enrollment opportunities, offering high school students both online and in-person learning experiences. In collaboration with the Fairbanks North Star School District, North Star College was launched in fall 2020 with an initial cohort of 40 high school seniors earning between seven and 15 college credits on the UAF's campus. Following this success, the UAF welcomed additional cohorts, of 40 students, in both fall 2021 and fall 2022. By fall 2023, the program expanded significantly, enrolling 180 students, and graduating 74 students in its first cohort as an officially recognized high school. The program continues to grow, with enrollments reaching 200 students.

The UAF's online Alaska Advantage program, in partnership with the University of Alaska Southeast (UAS), provides dual enrollment opportunities to high school students across the State. Through this initiative, high-achieving students earn both high school and college credits simultaneously. For the 2023-2024 academic year, the program served 1,000 students from traditional schools and homeschool programs alike. In fall 2024, over 600 students from various school districts across Alaska participated in the program.

These initiatives highlight the UAF’s ongoing commitment to providing accessible, high-quality education to Alaskan students, fostering pathways for academic success and college readiness across the State.

The UAF began offering a new four-year scholarship to eligible students beginning in the fall 2020 semester. Nanook Pledge provides four years of annual assistance to first-year students, transfer students, and readmitted students at the UAF. Awards range from \$1 thousand to \$12 thousand per year and are based on merit. The UAF has provided approximately \$4.3 million in Nanook Pledge awards since its inception.

Beginning fall 2021, the Nanook Commitment scholarship is available for incoming first-year, transfer, and readmitted UAF students to help qualifying students bridge the gap between what they can afford and the cost of attendance. With this renewable award-eligible scholarship students receive four years of predictable financial assistance, in an amount that is calculated based on their financial need, as defined by their Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA), in addition to their grade-point average and tuition rates.

New, Suspended, and Deleted Programs

In 2023-2024, the only program that was suspended was the Occupational Endorsement (OEC) for Financial Services Representative (CTC). The UAF added OECs in Medical Assisting (CTC), Dental Assisting (CTC), Unmanned Aircraft Operations (CTC), and Entrepreneurship and Innovation (CTC) and an accelerated BA/MA in Communication/Professional Communication (CLA). Also added was a Minor in Science and Environmental Communication (CLA).

Contact Information
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**University of Alaska Fairbanks
RDU Financial Summary by Component**

All dollars shown in thousands

	FY2024 Actuals				FY2025 Management Plan				FY2026 Governor			
	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
Formula Expenditures None.												
Non-Formula Expenditures												
Troth Yedha' Campus	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	280,066.9	145,708.7	163,003.1	588,778.7
College of Indigenous Studies	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	8,108.4	593.5	642.3	9,344.2
Fairbanks Campus	310,966.5	88,767.4	145,458.2	545,192.1	286,886.4	37,748.7	142,704.9	467,340.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Bristol Bay Campus	1,467.7	4.4	1,045.5	2,517.6	2,268.9	316.6	1,401.2	3,986.7	2,350.5	316.6	1,416.6	4,083.7
Chukchi Campus	798.8	23.1	210.9	1,032.8	1,271.0	0.0	984.9	2,255.9	1,308.1	0.0	991.1	2,299.2
College of Rural and Comm Dev	11,749.2	193.4	1,654.7	13,597.3	7,763.9	593.5	642.3	8,999.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Interior Alaska Campus	1,978.9	496.4	1,228.6	3,703.9	2,863.5	467.5	1,594.7	4,925.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
Kuskokwim Campus	3,567.9	558.6	355.7	4,482.2	4,814.6	313.5	826.1	5,954.2	4,945.6	313.5	826.1	6,085.2
Northwest Campus	1,348.2	45.4	671.9	2,065.5	1,994.6	116.1	2,720.7	4,831.4	2,032.7	116.1	2,723.8	4,872.6
UAF Community and Tech College	11,101.7	0.0	0.0	11,101.7	13,567.5	294.1	160.1	14,021.7	15,698.9	761.6	1,760.0	18,220.5
Totals	342,978.9	90,088.7	150,625.5	583,693.1	321,430.4	39,850.0	151,034.9	512,315.3	314,511.1	147,810.0	171,363.0	633,684.1

University of Alaska Fairbanks
Summary of RDU Budget Changes by Component
From FY2025 Management Plan to FY2026 Governor

All dollars shown in thousands

	<u>Unrestricted Gen (UGF)</u>	<u>Designated Gen (DGF)</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
FY2025 Management Plan	171,173.5	150,256.9	39,850.0	151,034.9	512,315.3
Base for structure changes:					
-Troth Yeddha' Campus	154,329.1	119,937.1	37,748.7	147,003.1	459,018.0
-College of Indigenous Studies	5,720.7	2,469.6	593.5	642.3	9,426.1
One-time items:					
-Fairbanks Campus	-7,143.0	-14,600.0	0.0	0.0	-21,743.0
Adjustments which continue current level of service:					
-Troth Yeddha' Campus	154,329.1	109,737.1	47,948.7	147,003.1	459,018.0
-College of Indigenous Studies	5,720.7	2,469.6	593.5	642.3	9,426.1
-Fairbanks Campus	-145,206.3	-119,937.1	-37,748.7	-142,704.9	-445,597.0
-Bristol Bay Campus	66.2	15.4	0.0	15.4	97.0
-Chukchi Campus	29.5	7.6	0.0	6.2	43.3
-College of Rural and Comm Dev	-5,330.6	-2,433.3	-593.5	-642.3	-8,999.7
-Interior Alaska Campus	-1,496.3	-1,367.2	-467.5	-1,594.7	-4,925.7
-Kuskokwim Campus	163.6	14.8	0.0	0.0	178.4
-Northwest Campus	75.1	10.3	0.0	3.1	88.5
-UAF Community and Tech College	1,907.9	1,511.4	467.5	1,599.9	5,486.7
Proposed budget increases:					
-Troth Yeddha' Campus	2,391.4	13,985.3	97,760.0	16,000.0	130,136.7
Proposed budget decreases:					
-Troth Yeddha' Campus	0.0	-376.0	0.0	0.0	-376.0
-College of Indigenous Studies	0.0	-81.9	0.0	0.0	-81.9
-Kuskokwim Campus	0.0	-47.4	0.0	0.0	-47.4
-Northwest Campus	0.0	-47.3	0.0	0.0	-47.3
-UAF Community and Tech College	0.0	-1,287.9	0.0	0.0	-1,287.9
FY2026 Governor	176,680.8	137,830.3	147,810.0	171,363.0	633,684.1