# Technical and Vocational Education Program Report

**State Fiscal Year 2019** 

A report prepared for the Alaska Legislature and the Alaska Workforce Investment Board by the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development

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## Introduction

The Technical Vocational Education Program (TVEP), established by legislation in 2000, distributes training funds to technical and vocational education entities across Alaska's six economic regions. TVEP funds come from a percentage of employee unemployment insurance contributions, allocated to specific institutions in accordance with Alaska Statute 23.15.835.

With the exceptions of University of Alaska, AVTEC, and Galena Interior Learning Academy, institutions must submit a grant application to the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Division of Employment and Training Services to receive TVEP funds each fiscal year. The institutions must use these funds for technical and vocational training programs and services that align with regional workforce demands and the Alaska Workforce Investment Board's (AWIB) priority industries and state capital improvement projects.

The institutions must have a military credit policy in place for the acceptance of credit or hours toward a degree or technical program, and an articulation agreement under which high school students may earn dual credit upon completion of a vocational education course. Subsequently, TVEP grant recipients must provide program and financial reports and requests for reimbursement to the division on a quarterly basis as well as participant data, which the department uses to report performance.

During the reauthorization of the TVEP distribution in the 2017 regular legislative session, the Alaska Legislature requested that AWIB review the program and its current performance measures and reports, then recommend improvements.

The AWIB Executive Committee has been examining TVEP and its performance measures since July 2017. To ensure TVEP funds are used efficiently and effectively, the committee submitted recommended changes to program reporting, which AWIB approved on May 11, 2018 at the board meeting and forwarded to the commissioner. Because this review process is ongoing, no changes have been made to the SFY 2019 reporting processes or to this report.

In SFY 2019, TVEP funding totaled \$10,947,500. That amount was allocated directly in the percentages and to the institutions shown below. The table includes the number of participants the TVEP funds served.

The training institution overviews that begin on page 7 are based on the SFY 2019 program activities recipients reported directly and include training programs, partners, regional economic impacts, yearly accomplishments, and information about new and future endeavors.

SFY 2019 TVEP Allocations	% of TVEP Allocation	Grant Amount	# of Adults Served	# of High School Students Served	Total # of Participants
Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC)	17%	\$1,861,100	1,493	124	1,617
Alaska Technical Center (ATC)	9%	\$985,300	293	100	393
Amundsen Educational Center	2%	\$218,900	10	0	10
Galena Interior Learning Academy	4%	\$437,900	0	260	260
Ilisaġvik College	5%	\$547,400	1,116	23	1,139
Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC)	3%	\$328,400	41	181	222
Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc.	3%	\$328,400	864	491	1,355
Southwest Alaska Vocational and Education Center (SAVEC)	3%	\$328,400	316	4	324
Yuut Elitnaurviat, Inc. (People's Learning Center)	9%	\$985,300	1,002	339	1,341
University of Alaska	45%	\$4,926,400	4,216	276	4,492

## **Overview of Economic Regions**

ach of Alaska's six economic regions (Northern, Interior, Southwest, Anchorage/ Matanuska-Susitna, Gulf Coast, and Southeast) has one or more TVEP recipients and a university campus, postsecondary institution, or regional training center whose role is to help students and adults get the education and training they need to work in the region and the state.

This section of the report provides an overview of Alaska's economy and of each of the regions, plus the outlook for the state's overall employment and industries in both the short and long term.

#### **Structure of Alaska's Economy**

Alaska ranks 48th among states for population but is easily the largest geographically. The state's 570,641 square miles of land make up 16 percent of the U.S. total. For the U.S. as a whole, there are 92 people per square mile; in Alaska there are 1.3.

Alaska's economy is heavily dependent on oil and gas and other resource extraction industries and on the federal government, including a number of military bases and installations. Alaska also has more veterans per capita than any other state.



Source: Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Research and Analysis Section

Two other major basic sector industries — those that inject new money into the state's economy by providing goods or services to outside consumers — are fishing and tourism.

Alaska has especially high concentrations of employment in natural resources and mining, at more than 3.5 times the national average. It has at least slightly higher concentrations in construction, utilities, and transportation and warehousing. The state has lower-than-average employment concentrations in manufacturing, financial activities, and professional and business services compared to the U.S. overall.

The economies and job markets in the Anchorage/Mat-Su, Gulf Coast, and Southeast regions roughly mirror statewide patterns, with declines in any of the state's major industries having either direct or ripple effects.

Fairbanks, the largest part of the Interior Region by population and job counts, also has a mix of current and projected employment that resembles the state as a whole.

#### **Outlook for jobs and industries**

After three years of losses, Alaska began adding jobs to its economy again in October 2018. The losses were especially steep in the state's critical oil and gas industry, where jobs fell from 15,300 in 2014 to 9,300 in 2018. A small fraction of those losses have been recouped — the most current job count for oil and gas is 9,700 — and there is modest optimism that the industry will be a positive contributor to the state's economy in the next few years.

One of the state's key economic drivers is the federal government, and especially the military. Military investment in Alaska has increased substantially in the last few years due most specifically to the preparation for the arrival of two new squadrons of F-35 fighter aircraft and additional spending on missile defense. The main beneficiary of that military spending is Fairbanks and the surrounding area where Eielson Air Force Base and the Army's Fort Greely military base are located.

Other large economic drivers for the state include fishing, tourism, and mining. Fishing and mining are mostly stable, and tourism has grown strongly in recent years and is expected to continue to grow into 2020 and beyond.

The main negative for the state's economy is the state's ongoing struggle to adjust to reduced oil revenue and the need to fundamentally change the way it funds state government, reduce the size of state government, or both. Until those issues are resolved and a new status quo emerges, instability and uncertainty will hinder economic growth.

#### **Gulf Coast and Southeast**

Although parts of the Gulf Coast and Southeast regions are isolated and rural, as a whole they contain a mix of jobs not dramatically different from the statewide pattern.

Coastal areas have more opportunities in fishing and fishing support industries, for example, but strong health care growth is likely wherever there are stable or growing populations. Similarly, the mix of government and private sector support jobs (in stores, restaurants and bars, construction, transportation, etc.) does not differ markedly between areas with population centers of 10,000 or more.

#### **Northern Region**

The Northern Region is home to most of the state's large oil and gas industry and includes the Red Dog Mine, one of the world's largest zinc mines.

Because North Slope workers typically work a schedule close to two weeks on and two weeks off, they stimulate spending and employment wherever those workers live when oil and gas activity picks up and a corresponding reduction in those jobs when it falls.

There are almost no permanent population centers close to oil and gas fields. The Northern Region's largest city is Utqiaġvik, with about 4,500 people, but it is 200 miles away from the center of oil field activity and not connected by road.

#### **Southwest Region**

The Southwest Region depends heavily on fishing. The region supplies a large percentage

of the nation's total commercial fish harvest by both poundage and value. Its Bristol Bay sockeye salmon, Bering Sea crab, and pollock harvests represent some of the largest salmon, crab, and whitefish fisheries in the world.

Fishing is largely missing from wage and hour employment data because permit holders and their crew are considered self-employed. They are not subject to state unemployment insurance coverage and the mandatory reporting from which we collect the most reliable employment data. What the employment data do show, however, is a large number of seafood processing jobs and the roughly typical mix of government, health care, retail, construction, and restaurant/ bar employment that result from economic base industries such as the area's fisheries.

Two census areas in the region — Bethel and Kusilvak — have some of the state's and nation's highest unemployment rates among counties or county equivalents. Jobs in these areas are primarily connected to local government and to the support jobs that exist wherever populations cluster, including health care and retail jobs and a certain number of construction and transportation jobs. Unlike the southern parts of the region, the area does not profit substantially from commercial fish harvests.

#### Interior Region

The Interior Region has a mix of resource industries — large coal and gold mines, for example and is also home to Denali National Park, which generates a large number of seasonal jobs and a handful of year-round jobs.

Fairbanks, with a borough population of nearly 100,000, depends heavily on the military and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. Fort Wainwright, an Army post, and Eielson Air Force Base are home to 8,200 active duty military and an additional 9,500 dependents. As noted above, military investment in the Fairbanks area is one of the bright spots for the state's economy.

Because of announced budget cuts and the strong possibility that more cuts will follow, the University of Alaska Fairbanks will likely be a declining contributor to the Fairbanks economy in the next few years. Student enrollment was 8,336 in the fall of 2018, down several hundred from 2017.

Both the military and the university also create significant demand for goods and services in the community and state. At both the industry and occupational levels, existing demand is similar to the statewide pattern: 1) especially high demand for health care workers, and 2) demand across the rest of the industry and occupational spectrum that's roughly similar to population trends.

## Performance Measures Summary

he Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Research and Analysis Section matched information provided by TVEP recipients about the participants who exited a program during the prior state fiscal year 2018 (July 1, 2017 through June 30, 2018) to unemployment insurance wage records to determine employment outcomes.

The performance outcomes are based on the measures in AS 23.15.835(e). This report includes outcomes for these two measures:

- Percentage of former participants who have a job one year after leaving the training program
- Median wage\* of former participants employed seven to 12 months after leaving the program

For additional context, we have included median wage and the percent employed at any time in the year after exiting training.

	% Employed	% Employed 1-12	Median Wage 7-12	Median Wage 1-12
Institution	1 Yr After Exit	Mths After Exit	Mths After Exit*	Mths After Exit**
Alaska Vocational Technical Center	62.7%	76.2%	\$18,581	\$37,162
Alaska Technical Center, Kotzebue	64.3%	77.8%	\$13,635	\$27,271
Amundsen Educational Center	66.7%	66.7%	\$17,957	\$35,915
Galena Interior Learning Academy	-	-	-	-
Ilisaġvik College	70.6%	81.1%	\$26,277	\$52,554
Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center	37.5%	50.0%	\$3,946	\$7,893
Partners for Progress in Delta	55.9%	64.0%	\$24,908	\$49,815
Southwest Alaska Vocational and Education Center	54.7%	66.9%	\$16,490	\$32,981
Yuut Elitnaurviat	44.6%	64.7%	\$3,456	\$6,911
University of Alaska	65.7%	77.3%	\$13,223	\$26,447

\*This is the median wage earned over the six-month period after exiting training.

\*\*This is the median wage earned at any point in the year after exiting training.

Notes: The methodology for selecting students has changed from those with an exit date during SFY 2018 to those with an enrollment date during SFY 2018. Employment and earnings outcomes are measured using the Alaska wage record information employers provide each quarter for wage and salary workers. Because these records exclude workers who are self-employed, federal, military, or employed out of state, these figures should be viewed as conservative measures of participant outcomes.

## Alaska's Institute of Technology (AVTEC), Seward

The Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) is located in Seward in the Gulf Coast Region. As the largest multidisciplinary postsecondary vocational training center in Alaska, AVTEC's mission is to prepare Alaskans with the occupational, technical, and employability skills needed across Alaska's six economic regions.

AVTEC's program development and student placement are tightly connected to employer partners through advisory committees that place students into jobs and ensure AVTEC curriculum contains the skills and knowledge they expect from new hires.

With more than 11 long-term programs (more than six weeks) and more than 95 short-term programs (less than six weeks) available in SFY 19, AVTEC served more than 1,600 participants who earned 1,619 occupational certifications and industry credentials.

## **Training Programs**

- Business and Office Technology
- Combination Welding
- Construction
- Culinary Arts
- Diesel Heavy Equipment Technology
- Industrial Electricity
- Information Technology
- Maritime Training Courses
- Plumbing and Heating
- Qualified Member of the Engine Department (OMED) Oiler
- Refrigeration
- Related Studies Program

## **Articulation Agreements**

University of Alaska Fairbanks Community and Technical College

## SFY 2019 Partners

• Alaska Department of Education and Early



#### Success Story: Kateri Okitkun, Kotlik

#### Business and Office Technology

"AVTEC gave me the opportunity to quickly gain office skills and apply my training during an internship. I have been offered and accepted a position with the State of Alaska's Department of Transportation and Public Facilities as an accounting technician."

Development

- Alaska Energy Authority
- Alaska Marine Highway System
- Alaska Operators Union Local 302
- Alaska Pacific University
- Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium
- Alaska Sealife Center
- Alaska Travel Industry Association
- Boilermakers Local 502
- Bristol Bay Native Corporation
- Calista Corporation
- Catalyst Marine
- Chenega Corporation
- City of Seward
- Coeur Alaska
- ConocoPhillips/Polar Tankers
- Construction Machinery Industrial, LLC
- Cook Inlet Tribal Council
- Crowley Maritime Corporation
- Edison Chouest Offshore
- EXCEL Alaska
- First National Bank

- Foss Maritime
- GCI Hecla Greens Creek Mining
- Holland America Princess
- IBEW 1547
- JAG Alaska
- Kenai Peninsula Economic Development
   District
- Kinross Gold Corporation
- Marathon Petroleum
- National Center for Construction Education
   and Research
- National Electrical Contractors Association
- Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC)
- Piledrivers and Divers Union Local 2520
- Plumbers and Pipefitters Local 367
- Port of Anchorage/Anchorage Municipality
- Seward Chamber of Commerce
- Southeast Pilots Association
- Southwest Pilots Association
- U.S. Department of Labor, Office of Apprenticeship
- United States Coast Guard
- University of Alaska: UAS Southeast Maritime Training Center, UAF Community and Technical College

#### **Regional Impacts**

- AVTEC impacts not just the region but all economic regions because of our statewide mission. AVTEC served more than 1,200 students in SFY 19, with more than half coming from the Anchorage/Matanuska-Susitna and Gulf Coast regions and the remainder coming from the Southwest, Southeast, Northern, and Interior regions. After completing training, students return to their home regions and boost their local economies by earning more money than they made before their AVTEC training.
- AVTEC is the area provider of Adult Basic Education services, GED preparation and testing services, English as a Second Language, and test proctoring services for all local residents.
- AVTEC offers Universal Enrollment Services and provides public access to Transportation Worker Identification Credential (TWIC) cards and Transportation Security Administration (TSA) pre-check credentials.
- AVTEC leases our sports complex to the City

of Seward to provide parks and recreation opportunities to the community.

 AVTEC's main dormitory and student service center serves as the region's emergency evacuation center.

#### **Capital Improvements**

- Removal and replacement of our underground fuel storage tanks is still under way. It may impact our training if we don't complete it before winter, but viable workarounds are in place.
- Replacement of our direct digital controls has been delayed. This will impact student and staff comfort, because the inability to control temperatures can result in classrooms that are too hot or too cold.
- We recently discovered the main heating line to Dunham Hall is leaking. It is a glycol heating system that is losing approximately 70 gallons per month. If this isn't fixed before winter, students won't have hot water heat for their rooms. Alternatives include continuing to pour water and glycol into the system until it's fixed, or using electric heaters.
- For 2020, we are planning to renovate egress from our First Lake facility and developing plans to consolidate our campus fire alarm system.

#### **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

- We received a grant from the Department of Employment and Training Services to train 30 dislocated workers in the Vessel Maintenance and Repair program.
- AVTEC's greatest accomplishment is our student success, as shown by our high employment rate a year after training. Our strong connections with employers ensure our training meets the needs for these occupations in Alaska.
- Our graduates leave with little or no student debt, and nine months later are typically earning 66 percent more than they made before coming to AVTEC.

 AVTEC employed 74 permanent staff, 47 adjunct instructors, nine-on call subs, and 20 to 30 student workers with total salary and benefits of \$6,985,800. Fourteen percent was funded by TVEP.

## **Looking Ahead**

- We plan to expand customized training by all AVTEC departments to employers who need to train their incumbent workforce.
   Employers specify the type and duration of training they need, and we customize the training plan and travel to the workplace as needed.
- We plan to increase outreach and partnership with the University of Alaska, regional training centers, and secondary Career and Technical Education (CTE) programs to develop career pathways.
- AVTEC and the university are building a consortium to offer maritime training and to seek and secure a designation of a Domestic Maritime Center of Excellence.

## Alaska Technical Center, Kotzebue

The Alaska Technical Center (ATC) is an adult vocational school supported by the Northwest Arctic Borough School District to meet the Northern Region's vocational and technical training needs. Programs are designed to build Alaska's workforce and meet the needs of employers in high demand fields such as natural resources, health care, education, and technology.

ATC celebrated its 38th graduating class in May 2019.

## **Training Programs**

#### **Core Training**

- Construction Trades Technology
- Culinary Arts
- Health Care Occupations
- Process Technology

#### **Condensed/Intensive Courses**

- Certified Nurse's Aide
- Millwright Maintenance

#### Short Term Trainings

- Advanced Core Driller
- Boiler Maintenance and Troubleshooting
- Commercial Driver's License
- Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER)
- Lift Station Operations
- Mining Safety and Health Administration (MSHA)
- New Core Driller
- Northwest Arctic Borough School District counselor's crisis response training
- Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 10
- Qualified Environments Sampler
- Toyostove Maintenance and Troubleshooting
- Water Electrical Controls
- Water Plant/Water Distribution

## **Articulation Agreements**

Maniilaq Association Workforce Development

- NANA Regional Corporation
- University of Alaska Fairbanks Chukchi Campus

#### **SFY 19 Partners**

- Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
- Aqqaluk Trust
- City of Kotzebue
- Drake Construction Inc.
- Environmental Management Incorporated
- Kikiktagruk Inupiat Corporation
- Kotzebue Electric Association
- Maniilaq Association
- NANA Lynden Logistics, LLC
- NANA Management Services
- NANA Regional Corporation
- NANA Shareholder Resource Coordinators
- NANA Tuuq Drilling LLC
- NANA Worley Parsons
- Native Village of Buckland
- Native Village of Kiana, Kiana Traditional Council
- Native Village of Kotzebue
- Native Village of Noatak
- Native Village of Selawik
- Northern Industrial Training, LLC
- Northwest Arctic Borough
- Northwest Inupiat Housing Authority
- Teck Alaska: Red Dog
- Trilogy Metals
- University of Alaska Fairbanks Chukchi Campus
- Wells Fargo Bank, National Association

#### **Regional Impacts**

- ATC conducts our Commercial Driver's License training for the region through our partnership with Northern Industrial Training, LLC. Participants are able to stay in the region for the majority of the training, making it financially feasible.
- Partnering with Tuuq Drilling, LLC allowed more than 84 participants to receive all of the necessary training at the Alaska Technical Center. This is not just a training investment but an increase in quality of life for Northwest Alaska residents. It also brings wages into the area's economy; drillers employed at Red Dog Mine and Bornite Mine brought in more than

\$1.6 million in wages last year.

- We partner with Northwest Inupiat Housing Authority to provide Boiler Maintenance and Troubleshooting, which provides local expertise and availability for many households when communities need boilers repaired and maintained. More than 15 trainees participated in this training, and all 11 communities in the region requested their services. Because our region's winter lasts nine months of the year, this is a much-needed service.
- Partnering with Maniilaq Association's Environmental Health for several trainings throughout the year (for Water Distribution, Water Treatment, Quality Water Sampling, and Lift Station Operations) allows regional residents to train and take exams close to home. In addition to those already employed in water plant operation in northwestern Alaska communities, those enrolled in ATC's core training programs such as Process Technology have been hired by the City of Kotzebue for water plant operation.

The Alaska Technical Center is also used for:

- A regional career fair coordinated by NANA Regional Corporation that includes businesses from across the state and nation
- STAR of the Northwest Magnet School's Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) youth summer camp
- A number of organizations who want to conduct local surveys, such as the Hays Research Group

#### **Capital Improvements**

We had no capital improvements in SFY 19 and have none planned this year.

#### **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

 ATC hosted high school students enrolled in the ReadiSTAR program at Star of the Northwest Magnet School for a two-week program that introduces them to potential careers. During the 2018-2019 school year, 48 high school students participated in a certified training program that led to certifications



Photo by Kevin G. Smith

#### Success Story: Dena Ferguson

Dena Ferguson completed her first semester in the Process Technology program and earned additional certifications in several short courses offered through our partners, including the Boiler Maintenance Program's Boiler Troubleshooting and Burner Repair and Residential Heating Controls, AutoCAD, New Core Driller, Emergency Trauma Technician, and Water Plane Level 1.

The City of Kotzebue hired Dena as a water plant operator. She returned for the 2019-2020 school year to continue her four-semester process technology program.

#### Success Story: Homer "Michael" Russell III

Homer "Michael" Russell III completed the Construction Trades Technology program and earned the NCCER Core Certification in Carpentry Level 1 during the fall 2018 semester. In the spring 2019 semester, he earned certifications in two short courses for the Boiler Maintenance Program: Boiler Troubleshooting and Burner Repair, and Residential Heating Controls and Toyo Maintenance and Repair.

NANA Regional Corporation hired Michael as a maintenance generalist in January 2019 after he completed his construction trades program.

such as First Aid/CPR, Alaska Food Handler Card, Emergency Trauma Technical (ETT), Medical Terminology, ServSafe, Introductions to Health Professions, and Certified Nurse's Aide. ATC also hosted more than 60 ReadiSTAR students who attended core

training programs on rotation during the two-week programs every month.

- More than 35 adult participants attended ATC's core training programs and earned certifications in Culinary Arts, Process Technology, Construction Trades Technology, and for health care occupations such as State of Alaska Certified Nurse's Aide certification. Another 159 participants earned certification in ATC's short-term trainings, where some who were already working upgraded their certifications while others earned certifications and found jobs after completion.
- ATC provided Maniilaq Association employees working to become registered nurses with video teleconferencing in our health care occupations classroom and lab.

#### **Looking Ahead**

ATC will continue to increase training opportunities as industry demands, but we will also continue to emphasize and develop training that benefits communities and students to increase employability and help advance careers based on the needs of rural Alaskans and the workforce demands in rural Alaska.

## Amundsen Educational Center, Soldotna

Amundsen Educational Center (AEC), formerly New Frontier Vocational Technical Center, is a faith-based nonprofit vocational school in Soldotna, in the Gulf Coast Region on the Kenai Peninsula. Amundsen focuses on training rural Alaskans for entry-level business, construction, and medical office occupations.

### **Training Programs**

- Advanced Residential Construction
- QuickBooks
- Residential Construction

## **Articulation Agreements**

Cook Inlet Academy

#### SFY 19 Partners

- Coastal Village Regional Fund
- Covenant Youth of Alaska
- Kenai Peninsula Job Center

### **Regional Impacts**

- All AEC curricula emphasize soft skills such as being on time, well rested, and ready to work. We also help students with their resumes and cover letters, and we practice interviewing. Our students come from rural areas with the highest rates of unemployment in the state, and students who return to these villages are better prepared for successful careers.
- Many of the construction projects in rural Alaska employ workers from outside the region or state, but AEC provides qualified local labor. AEC residential construction graduates possess skills from foundation work to finish carpentry and are ready to join construction teams in positions from laborer to foreman in a field that is growing 12 percent per year in Alaska.
- We help produce better parents, partners, and community members as well as skilled

workers. We spend a significant amount of time teaching students how to make healthy choices in relationships, educating them on the dangers of drug and alcohol abuse and the effects of sexual violence, helping them overcome adverse childhood experiences, and helping them achieve financial literacy.

- Our facilities are also used for Soldotna Lion's Club Meetings, as a gathering place for community members to learn about essential oils and natural remedies each week, for the Covenant Youth of Alaska Staff and Leadership annual retreat.
- This fiscal year, Kenai Classical, a private high school, will use our classrooms during the day.

## Capital Improvements

We had no capital improvements in the last fiscal year. For this fiscal year, we plan to install security systems and landscaping and expand student housing, but these plans are contingent on the success of our current fundraising campaign. While we haven't reallocated TVEP funding for these plans, we would consider reallocating them next fiscal year if we're unable to raise the necessary funds.

## **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

- We hired a new executive director, Mike Swanson. Mike was in charge of Residence Life when AEC opened in 2001, and he has returned after a 14-year career with the University of Alaska.
- We also hired a new construction instructor, Jacob Barkman, to oversee the Building Hope Construction Program. Jacob brings an extensive background in residential construction along with a host of other skills and a heart to teach rural Alaska students.
- We took on our largest home building project to date, building a \$450,000 dream house for a retiring couple. The students and instructor



River shares at graduation

#### Success Story: River Simon, Scammon Bay

River Simon of Scammon Bay graduated in May with his Advanced Residential Construction certificate after completing his Residential Construction certificate the year prior. Since graduating, River has been busy serving as a camp counselor for rural Alaska youth in Unalakleet and working on a major construction project in Dillingham with Samaritan's Purse.

Amundsen Educational Center is excited to announce that River will be returning this year as a construction assistant. We are using TVEP funds to pay River to assist with our home building project, mentor and supervise new students, and continue to add to his construction skills and experience.

We will use this position to launch a pilot program that places recent AEC graduates into paid internships with us and other construction companies to build their careers in the trades. The program will also help develop other employability skills such as on-site leadership and management abilities. were stretched beyond capacity, and as of September 2019, the project was nearly complete. We had to bring in subcontractors to work throughout the summer, and we learned valuable lessons, both as an organization and for our residential construction program.

#### **Looking Ahead**

- We plan to increase the student capacity of the Residential Construction Program.
   In Soldotna, this will require more student housing and more staff in Residence Life.
- We are exploring the possibility of a mobile program, as not all students are able to leave their homes for a year or two to come to school. AEC has a qualified instructor in Nome who can take students and pilot this initiative.
- We are also considering developing new programs, including building maintenance, remodeling, automotive repair, and autobody. Our goal is to share this effective education and personal development model with a larger number of Alaskans, with a continued focus on rural and Alaska Native students.

## Galena Interior Learning Academy, Galena

The Galena Interior Learning Academy (GILA) is an accredited ninth to 12th grade vocational boarding school in the Interior Region that also offers postsecondary adult vocational training.

GILA students come from all regions, and many are from villages with few local education options. Galena's rural setting appeals to rural students' lifestyles and allows those from urban areas to benefit from a focused emphasis on the individual. The campus is located on a former U.S. Air Force base and offers modern residential and educational facilities.

GILA's TVEP program is administered by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development.

## **Training Programs**

GILA, including Sidney Huntington School, offers vocational certification/tech prep in the following programs:

- Aviation: Private Pilot Ground School, Private Pilot Flying
- Applied Mechanics: Small Engines, Intro to Automotive Technology, Automotive I-III
- Construction Trades: Wood Working, Carpentry I and II, Electronics I, Residential Wiring, Welding I and II, Aluminum Welding and Fabrication, Construction Mathematics
- Driver's Education
- Health Science: Anatomy and Physiology, Biology, Chemistry, Health, Human Behavior in Health Care, Introduction to Health Career Professions, Emergency Trauma Training, Math in the Health Care Industry, Medical Terminology, Professionalism in the Health Care Industry
- Media and Information Technology: Journalism, Computer Business Applications, Advanced Computer Business Applications (MOS certification), Digital Photography, Digital Video

## **Articulation Agreements**

University of Alaska Interior Alaska Campus

Tech Prep Articulation		
Agreements With UAF-IAC	Course#	Credits
Emergency Trauma Train <mark>ing</mark>	EMS 152	3
Introduction to Health P <mark>rofessions</mark>	HLTH 105	2
Professional Skills for th <mark>e Workplace</mark>	HLTH 110	2
Medical Terminology	HLTH 100	3
Welding	WMT 103	3

Note: The number of students who registered for tech prep/dual credit during SFY 19 had decreased from the previous year due to a change in the parental approval process accepted by UAF. In prior years, the GILA principal signed the UAF course registration form on behalf of the boarding school student. We addressed that obstacle this year by requesting parental approval for the UAF course registration as part of the GILA boarding school enrollment process.

#### SFY 19 Partners

- Alaska Air Carriers Association
- Alaska HOSA
- AVTEC
- City of Galena
- Fairbanks Memorial Services
- Interior Area Health Education Center (AHEC)
- Louden Tribal Council
- Ravn Air
- SEGA
- SEREMS (for ETT certification)
- Tanana Chiefs Conference
- The Associated General Contractors of Alaska
- University of Alaska Anchorage
- University of Alaska Fairbanks

#### **Regional Impacts**

 Many of the regional impacts of the GILA model are important but difficult to quantify, such as exposure to various career and technical education courses and offerings, opportunity to earn college credit, and support and education in essential life skills.



Students from the Microsoft Office Systems certification class earned their certificates in Word, Excel, and PowerPoint during the 2018-2019 school year. From left, they are Mariah Perez, Liam Thompson, Robert Pilot, and Chris Bigelow.

- A quantifiable impact is the cost of each UAF credit, which students can use as part of their continuing studies or training. For an Alaska resident, each 100-200 level course credit is \$223 (UAF 2019/20 rate). During the 2018-2019 school year, 37 students earned 97 college credits, which equates to \$21,631 in savings they can offset against future university study.
- The costs of the Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) training at a private institution in Anchorage are about \$885 for the Excel course, \$590 for the Word course, and \$590 for the PowerPoint course. The cost of the individual MOS exam is \$120 per course. So one student earning the three MOS certifications online would save \$2,425. Last year, four students obtained the three industryrecognized certifications, at a total savings of \$9,700.
- Obtaining an Emergency Trauma Technician (ETT) certification at a private institution in Alaska costs about \$450 per student and another \$100 for AHA Basic Life Support and AHA First Aid, totaling \$550 per student. Last year, 29 students obtained these certifications, resulting in a combined savings of \$15,950.

- Besides vocational training, GILA's training center provides the community with a venue for dramatic performance, weekly movies, softball games, dances, and athletic competitions.
- When the need arises and school is not in session, the Bureau of Land Management uses the GILA training center facilities to prepare for firefighting. We also provide overflow accommodation for BLM and similar entities during the summer.
- Tanana Chiefs Conference uses our facilities for their training.

#### **Capital Improvements**

- On July 1, 2018, after years of grant applications, we finally received \$7.6 million in state funding to remodel the GILA headquarters building into a state-of-the-art STEM facility. Construction began early 2019, and we are on track for a move-in date at the start of the 2020-21 school year.
- During their August 2019 meeting, the Galena City School District's school board approved the FY 21-26 six-year capital improvement plan. The board's No. 1 proposed project is

an energy efficiency upgrade to the aging GILA composite instructional facility on the former Air Force base. DEED ranked this composite facility project second out of more than 70 applications during the FY 19 grant application cycle. On August 16, DEED granted the school district's request to reuse its FY 19 score for this FY 20 application cycle.

## **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

- Under the dual credit articulation agreements with UAF, 37 students earned 97 university credits.
- The CTE classes offered in Galena served both the boarding school students and the students enrolled in the local Sidney Huntington High School in Galena.
- One student passed the FAA Written Private Pilot License Exam, and two students received FAA Class II Medicals.
- Four students received Microsoft Office Specialist Word certifications, four received Microsoft Office Specialist Excel certifications, and four received Microsoft Office Specialist PowerPoint certifications.
- Twenty-five students obtained their Food Worker Cards: 22 through the student worker program at the GILA dining hall and three through the GILA Student Store program.
- Six students passed the Future Health Professionals knowledge based skills test and attended Alaska's HOSA conference. On the state conference test, one student took first place, one took second place, and two took third place.
- A group of students went to Fairbanks

Memorial Hospital and the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium in Fairbanks for exposure to various options in the health care field.

- Thirteen students obtained their Mental Health First Aid certification through a grant funded by Interior Health Education Center.
- Twenty-nine students obtained Emergency Trauma Technician certificates and AHA Basic Life Support and AHA First Aid.
- Twelve students passed their DMV permit exam. Our challenge has been to obtain all the required paperwork from the parents of the students who aren't near a DMV office.
- Sixteen students obtained their Board of Barbers and Hairdressers student permits and started logging hours toward a professional hairdressing license.

## Looking Ahead

During the 2019-2020 school year, we plan to offer:

- Within our aviation program, three STEMbased elective courses: Principles of Flight, Introduction to Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (which would lead to FAA Part 107 UAV certification), and Drone Applications
- Within our health science program, a tech prep agreement with UAF by aligning our course Human Behavior in the Health Care Industry with the syllabus for the corresponding course HLTH F106 at UAF

We also plan to assess the feasibility of developing a tech prep agreement in our media and information technology program for our Microsoft Office Specialist (MOS) certification course to align with a corresponding course at UAF.

## Ilisaġvik College, Utqiaġvik

Ilisaġvik College, located in the North Slope Borough of the Northern Region, is a two-year tribal college that offers postsecondary academic, vocational, and technical education while promoting Inupiat culture, language, values, and traditions.

Ilisagvik was founded to serve the residents of the North Slope Borough, America's largest and most northern municipality, and achieved accreditation from the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities in 2003. It is the first and only federally recognized tribal college in Alaska.

## **Training Programs**

- Carpentry
- Construction Trades Tech
- Driver's Education
- Electrical
- Heavy Equipment Operations/CDL
- Humanities, Health, and Psychology: Allied Health
- Math for Electricians
- Psychology: Allied Health
- Industrial Safety
- Welding Materials Tech
- Workforce Development (General, Business, Health, Industrial, Maritime, Utilities)

#### **Articulation Agreements**

- Hiland Mountain Correctional Center
- Hydaburg School District
- North Slope Borough School District

### SFY 19 Partners

- Arctic Slope Regional Corporation
- Arctic Slope Native Association
- Arctic Women In Crisis
- ASRC Construction Holding Company
- Association of Village Council Presidents
- Atqasuk Corporation
- Barrow Utilities and Electric Cooperative
  Incorporated
- City of Kaktovik
- ConocoPhillips
- Coordinated Youth Services

- Fairbanks North Star Borough School District
- Hiland Mountain Correctional Center
- ICAS Vocational Rehabilitation
- Inupiat Community of the Arctic Slope
- Iñupiat Heritage Learning Center
- Kuna Engineering
- Kuukpik Corporation
- Metlakatla Indian Corporation
- Napa
- Native Village of Barrow
- Native Village of Nuiqsut
- Nome Utilities
- Northern Lights Restaurant
- North Slope Borough Fire Department
- North Slope Borough Health Department
- North Slope Borough Human Resources
- North Slope Borough Mayor's Office
- North Slope Borough Public Works
- North Slope Borough Planning
- North Slope Borough Risk Management
- North Slope Borough Sanitation
- North Slope Borough School District
- North Slope Borough Search and Rescue
- North Slope Borough Shipping and Receiving
- Northern Lights Restaurant
- Olgoonik Corporation
- PetroStar
- SKW Eskimos
- Tagiugmiullu Nunamiullu Housing Authority
- Tikigak Corporation
- Tikigaq/Conam
- Top of the World Hotel
- Tuzzy Library
- Ukpeaġvik Iñupiat Corporation (UIC)
- UIC Real Estate
- UIC Sand and Gravel
- UIC Science
- UIC Umiaq
- WH Pacific, Inc.
- Yukon Koyukuk School District

#### **Regional Impacts**

 We leverage TVEP funds in almost every course offering. We share costs with partners on travel, lodging, per diem, training space, partner provided resources, training materials, contractor costs, and/or student support. Leveraged funds allow our TVEP money to go further and allow us to offer additional training opportunities.

#### **Success Story:**

#### Josie Mekiana, Anaktuvuk Pass

Josie had been studying for four years at UAF to be a teacher, and says she got tired of failing. Last summer, she took a job with ASRC Energy Services at Kuparuk (AES). She loved it, and

she loved working for the company. When she left her summer job, she told her supervisor she would return with a commercial driver's license so she could be permanent.

When Josie heard Ilisaġvik was coming to Anaktuvuk Pass to teach CDL, she immediately signed up and completed the HEO 105 CDL Permit



Preparation course in her home village. The course concluded with students traveling to Fairbanks to get all of the required credentials.

Josie did not stop there. She learned that Ilisaġvik offered the behind-the-wheel training course the following week, and thanks to TVEP, Ilisaġvik completely supported her. Josie was on campus pursuing a full, unrestricted license through the Utgiaġvik DMV. But then she learned the heavy equip-



ment course would follow the CDL course, so she signed up for that, too. She couldn't believe she was graduating from a college in a single semester, receiving the llisagvik endorsement diploma in Heavy Equipment Operations.

While Josie was still completing her courses, AES hired her

to continue working at Kuparuk. With her employer's support, Josie continued her studies and obtained her full, unrestricted Class A CDL license.

Josie wants to tell her friends, peers, and everyone on the



North Slope: "Don't give up. Education will take you places. Ilisaġvik College is here for you. I'm so excited and proud. My mom had a CDL and now I do too."

- We teach our Industrial Safety Series (HAZWOPER, HAZWOPER Refresher, NSTC, and First Aid/CPR with AED) in every village every year. The direct impact is the increased percentage of village service employees (water treatment, municipal services, and emergency responders) who have the necessary training, which helps us avoid limiting or shutting down village services.
- We offer our classroom training spaces to other agencies to support continuing education.
- Ilisaġvik incorporates our community and culture through Cooperative Extension and community connection workshops such as wilderness first aid classes, making traditional salves with traditional plants, Kids in the Kitchen, and tradition food preparation.

- We have a cafeteria that is open to the public seven days a week.
- We host Qargi, or community gatherings, where elders and community leaders connect and celebrate with students, staff, and faculty.

### Capital Improvements

We had no capital improvement projects this fiscal year and have none planned for SFY 20.

### **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

- More than 400 residents received First Aid/ CPR with AED training this year.
- Ilisaġvik's college degree attainment in the

vocational trades increased. We had two AAS construction technology graduates, four Certificate Level 1 graduates, and 26 endorsement graduates.

- We focused on commercial driver license and driver's education permit courses in our villages. We taught courses in three villages with 42 participants, and 36 attained their off-system CDL or permit. We worked directly with Arctic Slope Regional Corporation and the North Slope Borough Department of Public Works to identify and encourage employees and community members to attend courses in their villages and in Utqiaġvik. We provide everything required for CDL licensing, including DOT physicals, permitting, road exams, and DMV issued Class B CDL licenses. Employers had a sudden influx of qualified employees.
- Paraprofessional employees who were also serving as chaperones for school functions and village transportation did not have a license, so the district had to send a second licensed chaperone on school trips, limiting the employee and costing the district extra. Our programs helped the paraprofessionals get their driver's licenses, which supported student travel and cut costs.
- Participation in driver's education increased 37 percent. We focused on adult participants who needed a driver's license for employment. We also held a series of intensive driver's education camps attended by participants from across the state.
- Ilisaġvik collaborated with the Yukon Koyukuk and Fairbanks North Star school districts to train the districts' career and technical education in the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curriculum. With certified instructors, those districts are

now eligible to provide dual credit for high school students through Ilisaġvik College and the University of Alaska system.

- We offered an intensive welding program that covered NCCER Welding Levels 1 and 2. Students received more than 500 hours of hands-on welding instruction and NCCER certifications. They were also getting job offers before they even completed the courses.
- In partnership with the North Slope Borough Department of Wildlife, our students had the opportunity to work with scientists and learn about our local wildlife such as the bowhead whale, polar bear, and other arctic animals.

#### **Looking Ahead**

- We plan to emphasize unrestricted village driver's licensing in SFY 20, as a license is a common requirement for jobs in the region. We will also strengthen our vocational trades programs, create a building maintenance tech program, increase apprenticeship opportunities, and expand our heavy equipment operations/CDL program, our industrial safety program, and our allied health and emergency responder programs.
- By request from our workforce development roundtable meetings, we will add additional short-term trainings to meet the needs of local industry. We will strengthen our relationships with local industry to provide trainings that meet their workforce needs.
- To further train and certify the workforce at home and avoid shutting down village services, and in response to industry requests, we will offer a hands-on OSHA 10 course in the villages in SFY 20.

## Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center, Nome

The Northwestern Alaska Career and Technical Center (NACTEC) is in the Northern Region and is part of the Nome Census Area. This regional vocational learning center, a joint venture between the Bering Strait School District and Nome Public Schools, helps students prepare for the world beyond high school.

The training center's mission and primary usage is vocational training combined with residential life skills training. The facility is also rented out for related education and training and is a backup emergency shelter.

## **Training Programs**

- Allied Health: Certified Nurse Assistant, Health Aide Pre-Session, Emergency Trauma Technician, Introduction to Health Care Careers, and Introduction to Behavioral Health
- Construction: NCCER Construction, Heavy Equipment, Oxy-fuel, Shielded Metal and Gas Arc Welding
- Transportation: Aviation Airframe and Powerplant Mechanic, Unmanned Aerial Vehicles, Automotive Maintenance, Small Engine Repair, ATV/Snowmachine Repair, and Driver's Education
- Seafood Harvesting and Processing: Arctic Survival, Fisheries and Seafood Industries, and Introduction to Maritime Careers
- Hospitality and Tourism: Business/Marketing/ Entrepreneurship, Culinary Arts, and Food Service
- Education/Other: Transition programs to AVTEC, Ilisagvik College, Alaska Technical Center, and Wildland Firefighter training

## **Articulation Agreements**

University of Alaska Northwest Campus

## SFY 19 Partners

- Alaska Community Foundation
- Alaska Department of Education and Early
   Development
- Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation
- Alaska National Insurance Company
- Alaska Technical Center
- AVTEC
- Bering Straits Native Corporation
- Bering Strait School District
- City of Nome
- ConocoPhillips
- Ilisaģvik College
- Kawerak, Inc.
- Nome Public Schools
- Norton Sound Health Corporation
- Norton Sound Economic Development Corporation
- Nome Chamber of Commerce
- Nome Eskimo Community
- Nome One Stop Job Center
- Nome Youth Facility
- Northwest Area Health Education Center
- Pollock Conservation Cooperative
- Saltchuk Partners
- Sitnasuak Native Corporation
- University of Alaska Anchorage, University of Alaska Fairbanks, UAF Northwest Campus
- Wells Fargo

### **Regional Impacts**

- NACTEC's role as a DMV-approved third party Class D road examiner became even more important with the closure of the Nome DMV office in April 2019. We licensed 57 new drivers in SFY 19.
- In partnership with Norton Sound Health Corporation and Kawerak, Inc., we serve adults in the region who need a driver's license for work.
- All high school students visit the Nome One

Stop Job Center and, with the assistance of an employment security specialist, enroll in the Alaska Labor Exchange System as well as and learn how to search for jobs and better market themselves for employment opportunities.

- NACTEC training courses are sequenced with career exploratory training programs in early high school leading into certified programs such as NCCER. Twelve NCCER students in 2018 and 2019 were graduating seniors who began a four-week training that connected them with UAF Northwest Campus for future facility maintenance training, which leads to employment opportunities across the region.
- The NACTEC House, our student dormitory, is a local emergency planning committee location that will house displaced residents during a natural disaster or other local emergency.
- The NACTEC House hosts counselors, teachers, and administrators for inservice education meetings with an array of Nomebased partner organizations. Kawerak, Inc. and Bering Strait School District have partnered to host annual early childhood education training at NACTEC.

### **Capital Improvements**

We had no capital improvement projects this fiscal year and we have none planned for the next few fiscal years.

### **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

- New in SFY 2019, NACTEC partnered with the University of Alaska Fairbanks Northwest Campus to deliver a Wildland Firefighter training for 15 regional residents: nine NACTEC students during the day and six adults (via UAF) in the evening/on weekends.
- Also new in SFY 2019, NACTEC installed the first virtual reality, motion-based simulator with an advanced construction excavator for our heavy equipment operator program. Advanced dozer installation, which began in August 2019, will provide D8/D11 training capability.
- In partnership with Ilisaġvik College, we

implemented the Ilisaġvik College Transitions program, an immersive secondary-topostsecondary transition program that served 12 students. We based the program on the AVTEC Transitions program, which has guided students to postsecondary training for the past four years.

- NACTEC launched a new Aviation Pathways training to address pilot and mechanic short-ages in the Norton Sound area.
- Certifications attained this year include 190 American Red Cross, 81 Alaska Food Worker Cards, 57 driver's licenses, 51 instructional permits, 17 state IDs, 13 NCCER Core, eight Wildland Firefighter, three U.S. Coast Guard Basic Training, three Emergency Trauma Training, and one Transportation Worker Identification Credential.

#### **Looking Ahead**

- International Association of Plumbing and Mechanical Officials will provide a new backflow prevention training at NACTEC for Norton Sound Health Corporation maintenance staff in SFY 20.
- New high school training programs in SFY 20 will include Scuba and Early Childhood Education training. High school ECE students will begin working toward their Child Development Associate (CDA), completing initial training at NACTEC and then logging required hours in partnership with local Head Start programs in villages while enrolled in high school. The program will expedite the process of attaining CDA, which is necessary for Head Start ECE staff.
- We will develop dual credit aviation maintenance courses that will require FAA approval of NACTEC as a UAF remote delivery site.
- America's highest-grade and largest-known large-flake graphite deposit is located 37 miles north of Nome. A preliminary economic assessment supports a 40-year project life and 60,000 metric tons per year of concentrate at 95 percent Cg (Source: http://www.graphiteoneresources.com/ projects/graphite-one-project-pea/overview/). Graphite One has identified heavy equipment operator and mechanic positions as necessary for its future workforce.

## Partners for Progress in Delta, Delta Junction

Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc. (PPD) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit committed to building Alaska's workforce through career advancement education and training for high school students and adults.

Recognized as a Regional Training Center in Alaska since 2008, PPD operates jointly with the Delta/Greely School District and the Delta Career Advancement Center in Delta Junction. Summer academies, custom and special topic classes, certification opportunities, and degree core requirement classes are offered through the organization's partners.

Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc. works directly with partners who provide training credits or certified training to give military personnel/ veterans the opportunity to get credit for prior service and learning, whenever applicable.

## **Training Programs**

#### **High School**

- AutoCAD I and II
- Construction Trades I, II
- E-learning courses as needed
- Intro to Construction Trades (eighth grade)
- Metals I, II, III, and IV
- Small Engines

#### **Adult Programs**

- American Sign Language
- Basic Hand and Power Tools
- Beginning AutoCAD
- Business Math
- Community Based Phycological First Aid
- CompTIA Security Plus
- Digital Aurora Photography
- Electrical Pre-Apprenticeship
- Filing and Records Management
- First Aid/CPR/AED Certification
- Food Manager Certification
- Fundamentals of Oral Communication
- Hands-On Advanced Fiber Optic Testing and Troubleshooting
- Hands-On Best Practices for Residential WiFi installation and Troubleshooting

- Hands-On Fiber Optic ISP/OSP Combo-Tech Splicing, Termination and Testing
- Hands-On OSP Tester, Fault Locating and Cable Troubleshooting
- Intro to Addictive Processes
- Medical Terminology
- Metal Fabrication
- OSHA/MSHA
- Personal Awareness and Growth
- Pesticide Certification Training
- Phlebotomy
- Principles of Accounting
- Private Pilot Ground School
- Professional Skills for the Job Hunt
- Welding I, II, and III
- Wildlife Photography
- Writing 111 and 213

### **Articulation Agreements**

- Alaska Works
- Delta/Greely School District
- UAA Community and Technical College
- UAF Cooperative Extension Service

### **SFY 19 Training Partners**

- Alaska Operating Engineers and Employees Training Trust
- Alaska Works Partnership
- Delta/Greely School District
- UAF Community and Technical College
- UAF Cooperative Extension

#### **Regional Impacts**

- Partners for Progress in Delta, Inc. depends on TVEP for its operation and works with local businesses and vendors to distribute as much of the funding regionally as possible. PPD spends nearly all our budget in the Interior and approximately 50 percent supports Deltaarea vendors and services.
- PPD uses TVEP to pay 50 percent of the cost of operating the Delta Career Advancement Center.



#### Success Story: Cameron Williams

Cameron Williams completed our construction trades program in high school and then took the Heavy Equipment Academy.

He spent the next year researching his options, then turned his focus to the Laborers Local 341. Cameron went through the two-day intensive training and was at the top of his class, which gained him immediate acceptance into the apprenticeship program.

- Partners support tuition-offset vouchers for residents taking university classes as an incentive to take classes locally. Popular university programs include the certified nurse aide program, applied business, and welding.
- Local FFA and 4-H chapters use the training center for monthly meetings.
- PPD provides classroom space to the local public health nurse to teach community classes on opioid addiction.
- PPD provides space for test proctoring and college placement testing for students and for BLM to use for issuing subsistence permits to the community.

### **Capital Improvements**

We are outgrowing our facility. PPD received capital funds several years ago to plan a new facility, and we have all the necessary drawings and plans in place for a new building on the property adjacent to us. We have surveyed the 28 acres next to us and had them appraised, but have no funding to build the new facility. We may hold classes at other locations in SFY 20 due to the lack of space.

### **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

- Our largest program is the annual Entry Level Heavy Equipment Operator and Mechanic Academy. We held our 14th academy in June 2019 for 14 students from Delta Junction, Northway, Dot Lake, Fairbanks, and the surrounding areas. All students took a one-week required safety training program before breaking off to learn operating or mechanics. This program's success is due in part to the Alaska Operating Engineers and Employees Training Trust recognizing it as pre-apprenticeship training for direct indenture into the Operating Engineers 302. PPD has provided this training to more than 164 people, and many have earned slots in apprenticeships, gone to UAF, or began work for local businesses. IBEW now requires all direct indentured students from the Delta Junction area to take this offering.
- Three high school construction trades students were direct-indentured into IBEW.
- We incorporated the medical terminology class into the high school class schedule as

an online opportunity. Nine students enrolled and completed the course.

- Partner Alaska Works provided a one-week Basic Hand and Power Tools for Women class. Students built two projects to take home, one of which was a step stool.
- We are working with the local military base to provide necessary trainings. In October 2019, we offered a second one-week Security+ class, which 14 students attended and passed the certification test. The class teaches core security functions necessary for pursuing an IT career. Most already had jobs but needed the certification to keep working or get promoted. Four local students got jobs or promotions after taking this class.
- More than 40 community members attended the annual Extension Week offered by partner UAF Cooperative Extension.
- We hosted another fall and spring Career Pathways Q&A event. We invited high school students and the community to learn more about:
  - ♦ Continuing education opportunities
  - ♦ Apprenticeship opportunities
  - ♦ Dual credit/tech prep
  - ♦ Student services
  - ♦ Credit for experiential learning
  - Resumes, dressing for success, interview processes, and much more

### **Looking Ahead**

- We are working to make PPD even more trades-oriented than in the past. We have cultivated relationships with many of the union apprenticeship programs throughout the state and plan to offer more academies for the trades, similar to our Heavy Equipment Academy.
- In partnership with UAF Community and Technical College and the Delta/Greely School District, we will increase the number of E-learning options in high school and use technology such as video conferencing to support our community's training needs. Students now can attend classes CTC already offers via video conference in our facility.

## Southwest Alaska Vocational and Education Center (SAVEC), King Salmon

The Southwest Alaska Vocational and Education Center (SAVEC) is a 501(c)(3) organization located in the Southwest Region on the former Air Force base in King Salmon. The center provides career and workforce development training to Bristol Bay residents and rural residents from around the state.

SAVEC is governed by an eight-member board of directors that provides a thorough knowledge of community, business, and industry workforce needs spanning its 31-village service area.

The center is equipped with distance learning capabilities and considered one of the most advanced classroom technology centers in the state, using Smart Board Technology, audio conferencing, video conferencing, and wireless Internet throughout the facility.

### **Training Programs**

#### Safety in the Workplace:

- Confined Space Entry
- Confined Space Rescue
- CPR, AED, and Medic First Aid
- HAZWOPER 8 Hour Refresher
- HAZWOPER 40 Hour
- NCCER Core Basic Safety OSHA 10 Hour

#### Business Office Technology and Entrepreneurial Training:

- Basic Microsoft Word
- Entrepreneurial Skills: Quilting
- Entrepreneurial Skills: Skin Sewing (UAF Partner)
- Entrepreneurial Skills: Skin Sewing Hats
- Microsoft Office Suite 2016: Word, Excel, Access, and PowerPoint
- QuickBooks

#### Maritime and Industry Support Training:

- NCCER Core Curriculum
- Operator of Uninspected Passenger Vessel (OUPV) Restricted to Western Rivers
- Outboard Motor and Repair
- Refrigerated Sea Water (RSW) Operator

 Refrigerated Sea Water (RSW) Troubleshooting

#### **Standalone Training:**

- BBHA NAHASDA (Bristol Bay Housing Authority Native American Housing Assistance and Self-Determination Act) Training for Tribal Administrators
- Division of Retirement and Benefits Seminar

## **Articulation Agreements**

- Bristol Bay Borough School District
- Bristol Bay Christian Learning Center
- Lake and Pen School District
- Southwest Region School District

#### **SFY 19 Partners**

## SAVEC Member Organizations/Regional Partners:

- Bristol Bay Area Health Corporation: 32 federally recognized tribes
- Bristol Bay Borough: 3 villages
- Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation: 17 villages
- Bristol Bay Housing Authority: 31 villages
- Bristol Bay Native Association: 31 villages
- Bristol Bay Native Corporation: 27.5 million acres with 7,400 residents
- Lake and Peninsula Borough: 17 villages
- UAF/Bristol Bay Campus: Bristol Bay Region and Aleutian Pribilof Islands

#### **Other Employer/Industry Partners:**

- Egli Air Haul
- Katmai National Park and Preserve
- Naknek Electric Association
- Paugvik Ltd.
- Ravn/Pen Air

#### **Regional Impacts**

 SAVEC assists jobseekers with training, such as NCCER Core Curriculum, that allows

#### Success Story: Reanna Washington

Reanna Washington of South Naknek completed HAZWOPER 40 Hour Refresher training, which helps her do her job at the South Naknek Landfill. She was originally hired as a Bristol Bav Economic Development seasonal worker, and her SAVEC training has helped her secure permanent part-time



status. She also completed the NCCER Core Curriculum. Her coworker says, "Reanna is a go-getter; always willing to try new things. You show her once and she's off and running!"

them to pursue entry level jobs. We provide Internet access for students to do AKCIS, work on resumes, search job centers, and fill out applications.

- The region's incumbent workers can further hone their skills and earn job skills/certifications including QuickBooks, Microsoft Office Applications, OSHA HAZWOPER Training and Recertification, and CPR/AED/First Aid.
- Local and regional employers request all of SAVEC's training for new and incumbent employees. For example, Bristol Bay Housing Authority collaborates with SAVEC to host the NAHASDA training for village administrators and sends its employees for OSHA HAZWOPER and Refresher training, and Bristol Bay Borough and Naknek Electric Association collaborate with SAVEC to host safety trainings. We offer HAZWOPER 8 Hour Refresher and 40 Hour trainings for all regional residents while these instructors are here.
- We promote regional entrepreneurship skills by offering classes on sewing fur hats/mittens and making quilts. Students have made and sold their goods for a sizable profit. Entrepre-

neurs can also use all the other SAVEC offerings to increase or learn new skills. Commercial fishing captains, boat owners, and lodges seek out workers who have taken our ROUPV, CPR/AED/First Aid, and RSW Refrigeration trainings.

- We partner with regional entities to minimize training costs. Partner Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation once again set aside \$215,000 in community training grants for calendar year 2019. All costs including instructor fee, lodging, meals, student travel, classroom, and tuition were covered by the grant.
- When space allows, residents from all of SAVEC's 31 village service area have access at great savings. Bristol Bay Economic Development Corporation reaches out to us when communities request trainings.

SAVEC facilities are also used for:

- Housing for RAVN Air Group Job Interns, Bristol Bay Native Corporation employees, and State of Alaska summer employees
- Meetings for Bristol Bay Housing and the Chamber of Commerce
- Office space rental by Bristol Bay Housing Authority, Bristol Bay Borough Chamber of Commerce, Save and Free Environment, and University of Alaska Bristol Bay Campus. We also have classrooms and a 15-passenger van available for rent.
- Proctoring tests and exams for the University of Alaska, National Parks Service, and Bristol Bay Borough School District
- The designated emergency shelter for the Bristol Bay Borough

#### **Capital Improvements**

- We installed 13 desktop computers in our computer lab with new software to teach QuickBooks and the Microsoft Office Suite.
- Our projects this year include roof replacement/repair with interior water damage repair, energy efficiency upgrades (including LED lighting), and boiler installation. This

will replace steam heat in a 25,000 square foot building that sits on the King Salmon Air Force Base with boilers run by diesel.

#### **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

- UAF Bristol Bay Campus offered reduced tuition for SAVEC students working toward UAF occupational endorsement, and approved faculty for QuickBooks, Microsoft Office, NCCER Core Curriculum, Skin Sewing Hats/ Mittens, Quilting, and Outboard Motor and Repair classes.
- Alaska Process Industry Career Consortium credentialed the NCCER Core Curriculum for four high school students and Basic Safety/ OSHA 10 for nine adults.
- SAVEC partner Bristol Bay Native Corporation offered scholarships to their shareholders to train at SAVEC.
- SAVEC instructors traveled at the request of Ekwok Village Council and Ugashik Village Council to teach CPR/AED/First Aid in these villages.

#### **Looking Ahead**

- SAVEC will continue to partner with employers to provide training that fits their workforce needs. For example, area employers such as Bristol Bay Borough and the Bristol Bay Health Corporation request trainings from SAVEC so their employees stay current with their OSHA certifications.
- Construction projects coming to the area include a five-year U.S. Air Force demolition and/or remodel for on the King Salmon Divert Air Field Base, South Naknek Airport runway improvement, Alaska Peninsula Highway Bridge Replacements. In the past, SAVEC has held heavy equipment operators and commercial driver's license trainings for upcoming construction projects; if we could secure funding, these trainings would prepare local residents to work on these upcoming projects. The classes we offer in hazardous material handling are often required for any demolition jobs, and the Air Force will likely require HAZWOPER 40 Hour certification. SAVEC also holds flagger classes for construction projects, such as bridge and runway projects.
- We plan to expand training for the tourism industry this year.

## Yuut Elitnaurviat, Bethel

Yuut Elitnaurviat in Bethel is a 501(c)(3) corporation that provides training and education for the Yukon-Kuskokwim Delta in the Southwest Region. Training programs range from adult basic education and career guidance to construction, driver education (including mining and commercial driving programs), health care, and public safety.

The Yuut Regional Vocational Campus consists of two 22-bed dormitories, a 68-bed dormitory, a construction trades shop, and a 20,000 squarefoot state-of-the-art Technical Education and Support Services Building.

## **Training Programs**

#### Long-Term Programs

- Aircraft Maintenance Technician Program
- Commercial Driver's License Training
- Construction Laborer Certificate Program
- Nurse Aide Training
- Residential Maintenance and Construction
- Rural Facility Maintenance Technician
- Village Police Officer/Tribal Police Officer
   Academy
- Welding Certificate Programs:
  - ♦ Arc Welding and Basic Layout
  - ♦ General Steel Welding and Fabrication Techniques
  - Marine Aluminum Welding and Fabrication Techniques
  - ♦ Pipe Welding
  - Structural Welding and Fabrication Techniques
  - ♦ Welding Safety and Theory

#### **Standalone Short-Term Programs**

- Advanced Excel
- Advanced Village Police Officer/Tribal Police Officer Academy
- Advanced Word
- Boiler Troubleshooting and Burner Repair
- Intermediate Excel
- Intermediate Word
- Intro to Excel
- Intro to Word
- Introduction to Welding and Fabrication
- National Center for Construction Education and Research Instructor Certification Training

Program

- Personal Care Attendant to Nurse Aide Bridge
- Personal Care Attendant Training
- QuickBooks Essentials
- Specialty Equipment Welding and Design
- Toyo Installation, Troubleshooting, and Repair
- Wind Turbine Technician Assistant

#### High School Programs

- Kuskokwim Learning Academy: Dropout recovery program with work-based learning curriculum
- Lower Kuskokwim School District Ready Programs: Modified boarding school for academically advanced village students with college ready and career pathway focus
- Plus Youth Programs
- Summer Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP) Wildlife Biology Camp
- Summer Ready Camps: Art, Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM); Welding, Fabrication and Engineering; or Advanced Math

### **Articulation Agreements**

Lower Kuskokwim School District

#### SFY 19 Partners

- Alaska Department of Public Safety
- Association of Village Council Presidents
- Association of Village Council Presidents, Regional Housing Authority
- Alaska National Guard
- Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium
- Alaska Native Science and Engineering Program (ANSEP)
- Bethel Community Services Foundation
- Calista Corporation
- City of Bethel
- Construction Education Foundation, Inc.
- Donlin Gold
- Lower Kuskokwim School District
- Orutsararmiut Native Council
- University of Alaska Fairbanks Kuskokwim Campus
- Yukon-Kuskokwim Health Corporation

#### **Regional Impacts**

- TVEP allows us to combat the high cost of facility operation in rural communities. Our organization uses TVEP funds to keep our infrastructure operational during the year. This allows us to supplement our overhead costs and gives our partner organizations an affordable and accessible option for training in our region.
- Students in our region face numerous barriers to training success. Having a local option that is aware of the different cultural makeup of Southwestern Alaska and is a short flight from home is a proven model for our people's success.
- We administer an apprenticeship program with one of our partners, giving locals an opportunity to get paid on-the-job training as electricians and plumbers.
- Orusararmiut Native Council hosts a number of Calricaraq trainings and meetings at our facility.
- The University of Alaska Fairbanks Kuskokwim Campus uses the health care classroom for their nursing programs.
- Our facility contains a full commercial kitchen that we rent to organizations for their training or meeting needs.
- We provide Adult Basic Education for individuals who want to earn their GED or improve their math and reading skills in preparation for entry into AVTEC or the University of Alaska.

#### **Capital Improvements**

 While we had capital improvements planned for SFY 19, we were not able to secure the necessary funding. We resolved this issue for the construction trades shop, mentioned in the above section, which we plan to complete in spring 2020. The second shop, which will be 4,800 square feet, will provide space for our adult students to work inside during the winter while opening up the first shop for expansion of KLA construction and welding



#### Success Story: Darren Smith, Scammon Bay

"I'm Darren Smith from Scammon Bay. I flew into Bethel to attend the Aviation Mechanic school with hopes that I would get a higher-paying job. I'm currently in the airframe section of the program and work part-time at Grant Aviation as a mechanic helper. This program here at Yuut has helped me gain an understanding of the trade, which will help me get a full-time airline mechanic job. Yuut has been very helpful; I get to take breaks to see my family, and it's only one flight away. I'd rather come here to Yuut because I'm a lot closer to home. The instructor has a lot of experience, and he is a mechanic himself, so I trust him as a teacher."

classes. The new shop will include a secure tool storage area.

- We are planning a dry goods storage area as a student project. This will allow us to order a year's worth of consumables on the barge at a much-reduced shipping rate.
- The Technical Education Support Services (TESS) building expansion will include classroom/instructional services added to the southwest end of the existing building. The first floor will have eight new classrooms, with an open second floor designated for future instructional space. This project will also include a partial renovation of the second

and third floors for Yuut's use, dedicating the first floor to KLA.

- A new 48-bed residential dormitory for KLA students is in the planning stages. It will be located by the Kuskokwim and Rasmuson dorms on our campus. This two-story building will house girls and boys on separate floors with a dorm parent on each. The space planning includes gender-specific common areas, laundry facilities, and restrooms/ bathing areas. The dorm will be a short walk from the back entrance of the TESS expansion.
- We are considering a standalone Dental Health Aide Therapy Clinic, which would be adjacent to the Health Care Annex. The current clinic needs extensive renovation to meet future standards, and a new modular design might be a more cost-effective option. This clinic would house six operatories, waiting and reception areas, a classroom area, and all other elements required by a professional dental clinic.
- All of these expansion projects will allow us to provide more training each year, which is restricted by the limited classroom and dorm space we currently have.

### **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

- We served more than 1,000 people and provided more than 2,000 services.
- Ninety-five percent of our students were Alaska Native, and nearly half were female.
- Seventeen students received their GED.
- We focus on offering direct-to-work training with our local partner organizations, and in the case of our commercial driving program, our students can go from unemployed to possessing a nationally recognized and desired credential in a matter of weeks.
- Eighteen students received certificates in

construction trades programs.

#### Looking Ahead

- As outlined in the capital improvements section, many of Yuut Elitnaurviat's future plans remain the same as last year, which we will include again here.
- One addition is a major update of the Aviation Maintenance Technician Program. The Federal Aviation Administration has approved our 18-month AMT program, which started with eight students in April 2019.
- We are still working on housing the Kuskokwim Learning Academy on our campus permanently and will build another dorm for KLA students.
- We are building a second construction trades shop to accommodate both our adult and high school programs.
- We will expand our main Technical Education Support Services (TESS) building to accommodate our adult students as well as KLA.
- We recently received board approval and acquired a loan guarantor to build the second construction trades shop. We will begin in late 2019 with assembling the foundation and construction will start in the spring.
- We scheduled more than 200 days of construction trades training for SFY 20 through our partnership with Association of Village Council Presidents' Employment, Eligibility, and Training, Transportation, and Tribal Workforce Development departments. We will offering six-week intensives for Certified Nurse Aide and Commercial Driving during the same period, plus two-week intensives for commercial driving.

## University of Alaska

The University of Alaska (UA) is a comprehensive provider of workforce training in Alaska. TVEP will continue to be an important way for UA to develop the workforce of tomorrow, today, helping the state reach the goal of 65 percent of Alaskans with postsecondary education and training to meet our workforce needs by 2025.

For more on the University of Alaska Vocational Education Programs, visit: http://www.alaska.edu/research/wp/.

#### **Articulation Agreements**

Postsecondary opportunities for secondary students are coordinated by members of the University of Alaska Transition Coalition (UATC), who represent each campus and serve the UATC mission: "To create and foster strategies for all Alaska's secondary students to have local access to and opportunities for career and technical education resulting in an engaged and highly qualified workforce." Articulation agreements: http://www.alaska.edu/research/wp/CTE/uatc/.

#### **Capital Improvements**

 Last fiscal year, UAS Ketchikan campus added a permanent water source via a tank, piping, and a pump to support fire training required



for the U.S. Coast Guard approved fire classes and attended by an average of 60 students annually. This addition replaced the current arrangement with the North Tongass Volunteer

Fire Department, which had been providing their trucks to supply water during training drills. It freed up fire department personnel,



who typically stand by to operate the fire truck, and removed potential class interruption due to fire personnel needing to respond to an emergency.

- For SFY 20, UAA College of Business and Public Policy will use existing space to create an accounting and finance investment lab that will be available to all business degreeseeking students.
- UAF Community and Technical College will create a paramedicine simulation lab (SimLab) at Hutchison Institute of Technology that will provide several simulated learning environments for students, both locally and across Alaska, and serve as a regional simulation training center for Interior Alaska health and public safety organizations.
- UAF Bethel Campus will set up a nursing lab space in Bethel to help meet workforce demand. Providing a lab space that includes the necessary training equipment is crucial to ensuring students receive similar educational experiences as their peers across the state and are properly trained to safely administer the highest level of patient care in preparation for entering the workforce.

## **SFY 19 Accomplishments**

#### **UA Statewide**

- Beginning fall semester 2018, the UA Board of Regents adopted a 25 percent tuition reduction for selected career and technical education programs, applied on a course-by course basis across 50 programs and 305 courses. This included 18 occupational endorsement certificates at UA Anchorage, 18 OEC programs and three two-year certificates at UA Fairbanks, and 11 OEC programs at UA Southeast. Preliminary fall 2018 semester opening enrollment information showed that eligible tuition reduction courses broke from the overall trend of declining enrollment at UA. Enrolledment grew in these reduced tuition courses.
- UA and the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development's Alaska Vocational Technical Center (AVTEC) are jointly pursuing a federal Domestic Maritime Centers of Excel-

lence designation by the U.S. Department of Transportation Marine Administration. UA and AVTEC are formalizing this partnership as the Alaska Maritime Education Consortium (AMEC) in preparation to respond to MARAD's anticipated request for proposal. With more than 34,000 miles of coastline, Alaska's maritime industry is a significant economic force and critical to almost every other industry in the state. AMEC is committed to increasing the number of Alaskans working in high-demand ashore and afloat maritime occupations.

#### UA Anchorage

 UAA College of Health is streamlining nursing education through three shared priorities identified with internal and external stakeholders: Expand nursing education with a focus on specialty areas, expand access to



nursing education in outreach sites and reduce strain on clinical sites, and streamline the educational pathway to decrease time between admission and graduation for

nursing majors. Through these efforts, 126 nursing students graduated in academic year 2018-19 with an Associate of Applied Science and 95 with a Bachelor of Science in Nursing. We had graduates from campuses across the state, including Anchorage, Fairbanks, Homer, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, Kotzebue, Mat-Su, Petersburg, and Valdez.

- The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects a 23.8 percent increase in new physical therapist assistants in Alaska by 2026. UAA College of Health Physical Therapy Program earned accreditation in 2015 and since then has graduated 35 physical therapist assistants. Thirty-four passed the national licensing exam with 100 percent employment, and all but four remain employed in Alaska.
- UAA Community and Technical College revamped the diesel program with extensive feedback from industry to integrate welding



#### UAA Success Story: Tia Thompson

According to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics, welder positions are expected to grow by 6 percent by 2026. Welders are in high demand across several sectors in Alaska, which is good news for recent graduates like Tia Thompson. Just one week after graduating, Tia was hired by Kakivik Asset Management to work on the North Slope.

courses, increasing the employability of students. With the industry's support and involvement, five students were selected in summer 2018 for internships with Fort Knox (Kinross) Gold Mine in Fairbanks and two were hired full time.

- UAA Kenai Peninsula College served 78 students from five school districts during its summer bridging camp. Students could obtain certifications in basic firefighting, emergency trauma technician, certified nursing assistant, and welding. They also had the opportunity to obtain their Alaska driver's license, increasing opportunities for employment.
- Maritime Workforce Development at UAA Kodiak College provides focused and portable workshops on vessel repair and maintenance topics to the community, including any surrounding villages reachable by air. In the last academic year they delivered five public workshops and three private workshops, including two workshops for the Kodiak Island Borough School District. Seventy-three students were trained.
- UAA Community and Technical College Aviation Maintenance Technology, Professional

Piloting, Air Traffic Control, and Aviation Administration programs have been supplying an aviation workforce for almost three decades, with a nearly 100 percent job placement rate for graduates. With a nationwide shortage of pilots, UAA and RAVN Air Group launched a new program in spring 2019 to incentivize students. The UAA Aviation Degree and Airline Pilot Employment program allows students to simultaneously complete their aviation degree and work as regional airline pilots.

#### **UA Fairbanks**

- UAF Bristol Bay Campus offers the only sustainable energy occupational endorsement certificate in the UA system and has been developing and expanding partnerships with regional and statewide organizations since it launched last year. Their partnerships include working with high schools across the state to offer dual enrollment opportunities and to address statewide training needs in energy efficiency, building science, and renewable energy systems. The program can be completed in one year, and with some classes offered online it is more accessible for students in rural and remote areas.
- Educators Rising cultivates highly skilled educators by guiding young people on a path to becoming accomplished teachers, beginning in high school and extending through college and into the profession. The statewide Alaska chapter is located within K-12 Outreach at the University of Alaska Fairbanks School of Education. Secondary students who complete all five of the



program's microcredentials will be prepared to take the Praxis exam that leads to a paraprofessional certification and have the opportunity to earn dual credit for two of the microcredentials that will count toward

a Bachelor of Arts in Education. Last year, Educators Rising Alaska was endorsed by the Alaska Superintendents Association. Working with ASA, Educators Rising Alaska can reach out to more school districts, teachers, and

#### UAF Success Story: Jeremiah Henry

MAPTS and EXCEL Alaska joined forces to offer a two-week surface mine training at the MAPTS Mine Training Center in Delta Junction followed by a two-week paid internship with one of Calista Corporation's subsidiaries. Nine high school graduates were selected to attend, including Jeremiah Henry, who was on the honor roll all four years of high school, earned a National Center for Construction Education and Research certification in construction, and was named a UA Scholar. Following the



MAPTS training camp, he interned with Brice Environmental and plans to continue his construction training through UAF Community and Technical College.

students to foster more interest in education careers: a critical need in Alaska.

- UAF Northwest Campus expanded the ability to meet training priorities that strengthen the local economy. Examples include students becoming proficient in QuickBooks, earning their Alaska driver's permit, and receiving certifications in first aid/CPR, certified nursing assistant, mine safety and health, and facility maintenance. Specifically, six students earned an occupational endorsement certificate in facility maintenance last spring.
- UAF Interior Alaska Campus is one of several UA community campuses that has a robust dual enrollment program. During the last academic year, the program partnered with five school districts to deliver 53 classes to more than 100 secondary students. The courses provided introductory education and training in construction trades, computer science, health care, emergency services, natural resource management, small engine repair, welding, and aviation.

#### **UA Southeast**

 UAS Juneau's Fixed Plant Mechanic Associate of Applied Science degree and occupational endorsement are closely aligned with their power technology degrees and share a number of classes. After completing a full semester of power technology classes, students choose an emphasis in mining, heavy duty diesel, or fixed plant. The degrees

also require one or two welding classes, which greatly enhance employment opportunities. Fall 2018 saw a 100 percent increase in new welding students, from 24 to 48.



 Over the last six years, UAS

Ketchikan has graduated 55 students from the maritime multi-skilled worker program. Several students have chosen to continue their education through UAS Juneau, UAS Ketchikan, or another vocational school. The majority are working in the maritime industry, at sea or ashore. Faculty and staff help students obtain jobs and/or internships through Vigor Alaska shipyard in Ketchikan, Alaska Marine Highway System, Amak Towing,

#### UAS Success Story: Michael Firari

After successfully completing the master 100 ton course, Michael Firari obtained a boat captain license. The training enabled him to start a tourism business using his yacht, the Volare, to provide a high-end cruising experience during the summer in Southeast. Like Michael, many of the program's students find employment based on the credentials earned. Other examples include employment with the Alaska Marine Highway System, Boyer Towing, Amak Towing, Olson Marine, Allen Marine Tours, NOAA, and commercial fishing vessel operators.



or other industry support services.

 UAS Sitka's Medical Assisting Certificate program was approved by the UA Board of Regents and the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities to accept students in fall 2015. Since then, 33 have graduated. Formal accreditation was granted in May 2017 through the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs, which has allowed program graduates to sit for the certified medical assistant national credentialing exam. To date, 24 graduates have taken the exam and 22 have passed.

#### **Looking Ahead**

- UA will expand access for all students to Handshake, a national leading career management platform. This will enhance the career development, internship opportunities, and job search and placement experiences for students while increasing access to Alaska employers.
- To assist the State of Alaska in closing the gap for educated and trained personnel in child protective services and welfare, UAA College of Health aims to strengthen and expand the professional training and education of social workers. This project will also leverage federal and state funding, and includes Native corporations as key partners.
- With the oil and gas industry preparing to



increase exploration and drilling, UAF Mine and Petroleum Training Service is launching an oil and gas hard skills training program that will include compliance, employability skills, and hands-on and hard skills task training. Four previously piloted classes resulted in a 90 percent hire rate for students upon completion.

#### TVEP Supports UA's Campuses Statewide