

Alaska Bible College Annual DEED Update

Dr. Matthew Lindquist
Dean of Academics





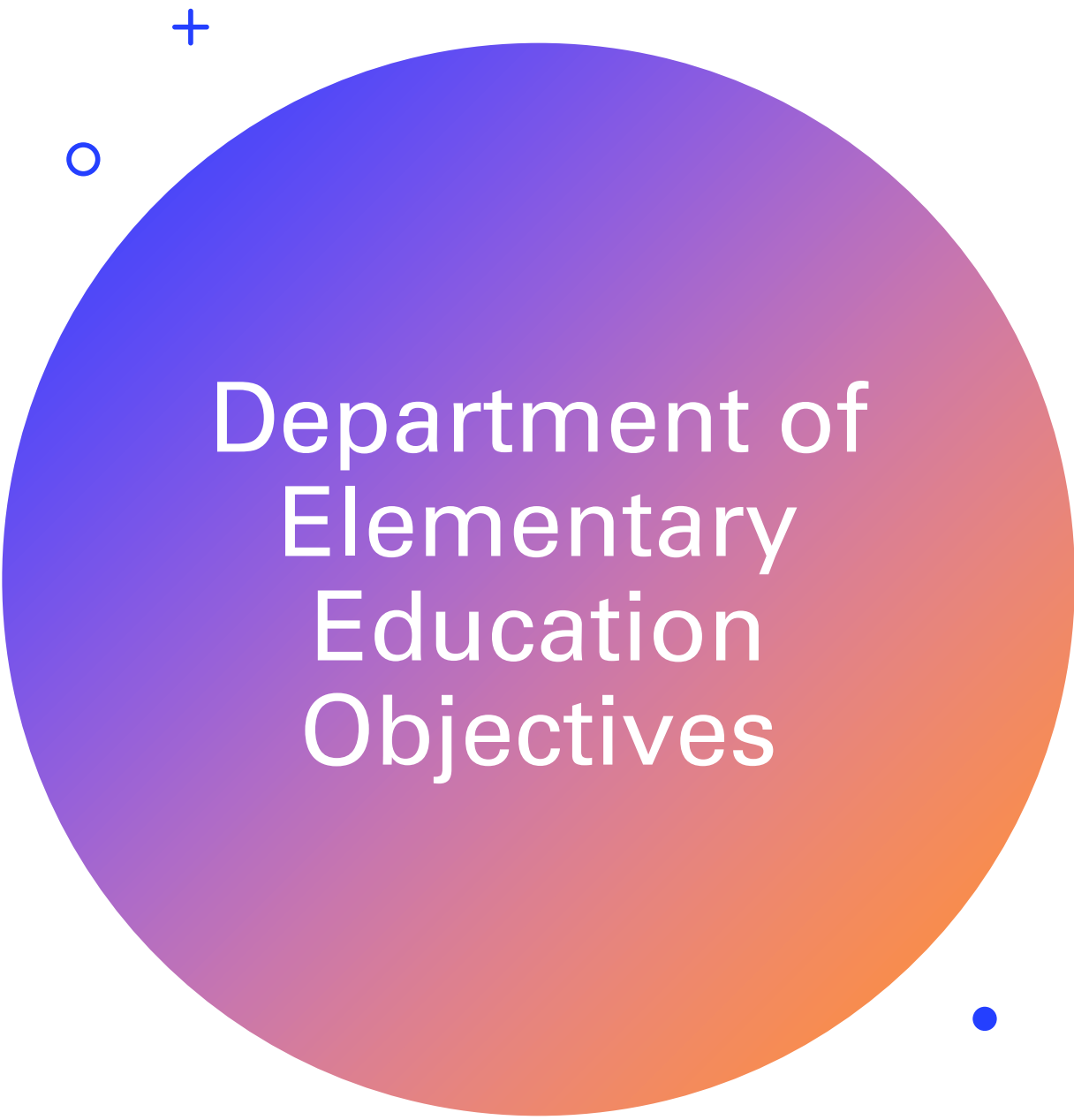
Mission Statement:

Alaska Bible College exists to exalt the Lord Jesus Christ and extend His Church by biblically training believers to be servant leaders with Christlike character.

EST. 1966

Educator Preparation:

Equipping servant leaders who embody Christlike character and are prepared to meet Alaska's diverse education needs across a variety of learning settings.



Department of Elementary Education Objectives

Develop a foundation in educational best practices and effective pedagogy grounded in a Christian worldview.

Train candidates to meet students at their point of need to scaffold learning for all.

Equip future educators with skills in evidence-based instructional strategies, assessment, and classroom management.

Foster a commitment to continuous professional growth, focusing on both spiritual and professional development.



Future Educators of Alaska Scholarship

The Future Educators of Alaska Scholarship invests in students who feel called to teach and serve within Alaska's schools.

This award provides **full tuition for 48 credits** in the **Elementary Education program** at Alaska Bible College, removing financial barriers so candidates can focus on developing strong instructional skills and leadership grounded in service.

Recipients demonstrate academic promise, perseverance, and a heart for Alaska's communities.

Through this scholarship, ABC equips future teachers to inspire excellence, meet high standards, and make a lasting impact in classrooms across the state.

Educator Preparation Advisory Council (EPAC)

Mission

The Educator Preparation Advisory Council (EPAC) provides essential guidance to Alaska Bible College's Elementary Education program. Composed of representatives from the **Matanuska-Susitna Borough School District, Hoonah City School District**, and a **student advisor**, the council ensures the program remains responsive to Alaska's educational needs. EPAC helps align curriculum and field experiences with **state standards and professional expectations**, offering insight from active practitioners in public and private education. Through this partnership, ABC's educator preparation program continues to uphold high academic and ethical standards while equipping teachers to serve Alaska's diverse communities with excellence and Christ-like leadership

Members

- Jill Horseman – Chair
- Jana Depriest – MSBSD
- Dr. Rod Everding – MSBSD
- Dr. Matthew Lindquist – ABC
- Julian Schultz – MSBSD
- Laurie Nielson – MSBSD
- Dwight Homstad – HCSD
- Jessica Harris – Student Advisor

Alaska Bible College — Literacy Pathway

ED-ST4101 – Student Teaching Practicum

Provides guided classroom experience where candidates begin applying literacy instruction and scaffolding strategies under supervision, linking coursework to real-world teaching practice.

ED-ST4201 – Student Teaching

Culminates the literacy pathway as candidates independently plan and deliver reading and language instruction, demonstrating mastery of effective teaching and student-centered literacy practice in an Alaskan classroom setting.

Professional Practice

ED-IM3101 – Science of Reading

Builds a research-based understanding of how students learn to read, using current models such as the Reading Rope to connect phonemic awareness, phonics, fluency, vocabulary, and comprehension.

ED-IM3201 – Language Arts

Applies the principles learned in the Science of Reading to daily classroom instruction. Candidates design and deliver lessons that integrate reading, writing, speaking, and listening, learning how to build literacy fluency and comprehension across all subject areas.

ED-IM3103 – Instructional Scaffolding in Literacy

Focuses on supporting students who struggle to reach reading proficiency. Candidates learn to apply structured, evidence-based scaffolding strategies that maintain high expectations while providing targeted support to help all learners succeed in literacy.

Core Literacy Instruction

GE-1101 – Intro to Teacher Ed

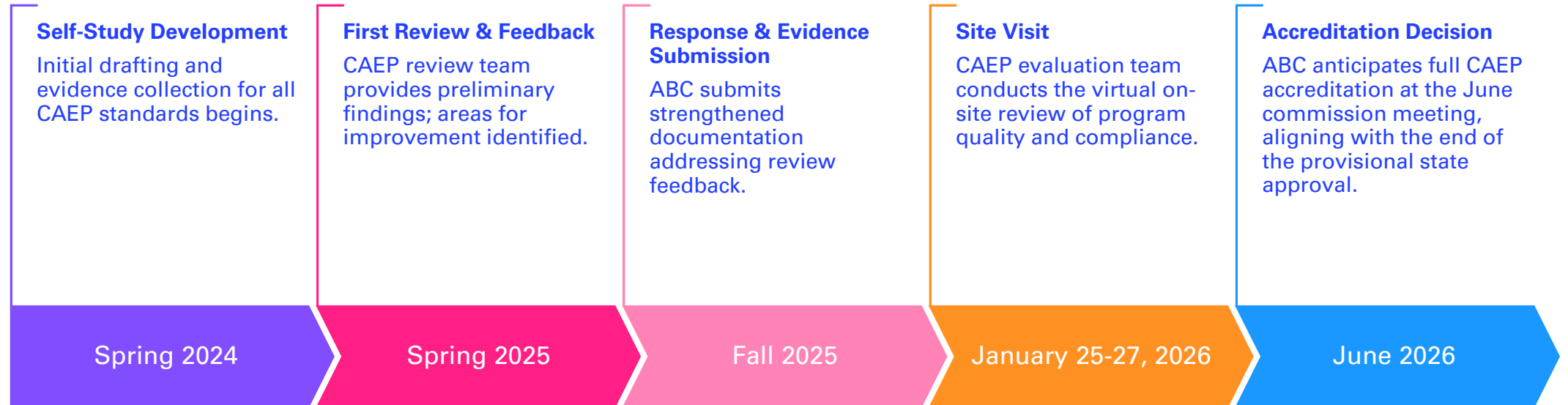
Students complete initial classroom observations, gaining early exposure to reading instruction and literacy practices in local Alaska classrooms.

GE-1201 – Child Development

Examines how children develop language and literacy skills, helping future teachers connect reading growth to stages of cognitive and emotional development.

Foundations

CAEP Accreditation



Student Outcomes & Assessments

Praxis Data

- Freshman pass rate for Praxis I is 50% for first attempt.
- Senior pass rate for Praxis II is 100% for first attempt.
- New personalized Praxis I Math and English tutoring program is in development to strengthen early success.

Graduate Success

- Both program completers are currently teaching in Alaska Classrooms.
- Employers report high classroom readiness and strong instructional practice.
- Requests received from partner schools to host future student teachers.

Continuous Improvement

- Department uses multiple data points: course evaluations, grades, and Praxis results.
- Assessment discussions inform targeted refinements and maintain alignment with CAEP standards.

Program Strengths & Highlights

Community Partnerships

- Collaboration with MSBSD and Birchwood Christian School provides practicum placements and real-world classroom experience.
- Partnerships ensure course content reflects current instructional practices and Alaska's Educational priorities.

Curriculum Alignment

- Courses align with the Alaska Reads Act and CAEP expectations for evidence-based instruction.
- The new Instructional Scaffolding in Literacy course equips candidates to meet student learning needs without lowering expectations.

Faculty & Program Development

- Faculty bring experience from both K-12 and higher education, strengthening practical instruction.
- Department reviews each semester promote reflection, collaboration, and steady improvement in program quality.



Next Steps & Goals

- CAEP Accreditation
 - Finalize documentation and evidence ahead of the January 2026 site visit.
 - Prepare stakeholders and host training interview readiness and site-visit logistics.
- Program Refinement
 - Expand on graduate-level opportunities to expand ABC's impact in Alaska Education.
 - Continue refining course sequencing and assessment alignment to strengthen literacy outcomes.
- Candidate Support
 - Implement the personalized Praxis I tutoring program to raise early pass rates.
 - Provide continued mentorship and professional guidance for graduates at no cost, supporting their success beyond graduation and into their early teaching careers.
- Partnership & Outreach
 - Maintain strong collaboration with MSBSD and Birchwood Christian School for field experiences.
 - Expand field opportunities to rural Alaska.

Summary

Alaska Bible College's Educator Preparation Program continues to demonstrate steady growth and excellence in preparing future teachers for Alaska's classrooms. Our graduates are entering the profession with strong instructional skills, professional integrity, and a heart for service. The program emphasizes both the art and science of teaching—integrating literacy, content knowledge, and classroom practice into a unified framework that equips candidates to meet the diverse learning needs of their students.

As we move toward the **CAEP site visit in January 2026** and the anticipated accreditation decision in **June 2026**, the department remains committed to reflection, continual improvement, and Christ-centered servant leadership. Through rigorous preparation and ongoing mentorship that extends beyond graduation, Alaska Bible College continues to equip teachers who educate with excellence and lead with character.





THANK YOU

Dr. Matthew Lindquist
mlindquist@akbible.edu
Akbible.edu