



Division

To: Members of the State Board of Education & Early Development
From: Kerry Thomas, Executive Director, Alaska Commission on Post Secondary Education
Date: June 4, 2026
Item: 13G

Standing General Report

Introduction

The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) provides sustainable solutions for college, career, and technical training. Through administration of the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS), Alaska Education Grant (AEG), and a suite of education loan programs, ACPE delivers meaningful financial aid opportunities for Alaskans to pursue and attain postsecondary education. To enhance awareness and access to the variety of postsecondary education and funding opportunities available, ACPE also offers resources to Alaskans of all ages, including the Alaska Career Information System (AKCIS), Alaska FAFSA Completion Initiative, Alaska College & Career Advising Consortium, Success Center, and Institutional Authorization.

Updates

- ACPE lowered interest rates for three primary education loan programs: Alaska Supplemental Education Loan, Family Education Loan, and Refinance Education Loan. As the State's non-profit education lender, it is critical for ACPE to offer Alaskans affordable funding solutions to pursue postsecondary education. Offering rates lower than federal PLUS and for-profit lenders, students can save from \$12,700 - \$55,000+ in interest over the life of their ACPE education loan.
- Work continues to develop and build processes for implementation of the federal Workforce Pell program in coordination with Alaska's state agencies, postsecondary institutions, and federal counterparts.
- Coordination efforts between ACPE and Alaska's postsecondary education institutions moved forward related to APS and AEG spring awarding and disbursement processes. The ultimate goal of this coordination is to ensure smooth and accurate processes are in place for student awarding to maximize APS and AEG funding allocation.
- ACPE continued its work to reduce regulatory requirements by 15 percent by December 31, 2026 as the first of two benchmarks from Administrative Order 360. Revisions were successfully submitted to the Department of Law for preliminary review.