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Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
April 26, 2011

State Board of Education Approves Scholarship Regulation

JUNEAU-- The State Board of Education & Early Development, meeting by teleconference on April 25, adopted a regulation that allows eligible high school graduates in the classes of 2011 and 2012 to use their Alaska Performance Scholarship in postsecondary institutions while finishing up the scholarship's required high school curriculum during a one-year grace period.

Additionally, the regulation allows school districts to receive state funding for the high school courses taken by such students during their grace period.

Under a previously approved regulation, students are eligible to apply to the Commissioner of Education for a grace period if they have met the grade-point and assessment requirements of the Alaska Performance Scholarship but, through no fault of their own, have not completed the curriculum requirements. Students granted a grace period have one year to complete the curriculum.

The new regulation, adopted April 25, allows students to use their Alaska Performance Scholarship in a postsecondary institution during their grace period, and then retroactively apply college courses to the high school curriculum requirement.

Alternatively, with the permission of an Alaska school district, students may take high school courses during their grace period to complete the scholarship curriculum. Under the new regulation, the state will fund the students as part-time students for the purposes of completing the Alaska Performance Scholarship curriculum.

The Alaska Performance Scholarship gives recipients six years after high school graduation to use the scholarship during eight semesters of postsecondary studies. The scholarships must be used at Alaska universities, colleges, and career and technical education programs. For more information on the scholarship, see www.aps.alaska.gov.

The board meeting packet, with the regulation, is at http://www.eed.state.ak.us/State_Board/pdf/11April_Packet.pdf.

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