

Mike Hanley
Commissioner

P.O. Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811-0500
www.eed.state.ak.us

SEAL OF THE STATE
STATE OF ALASKA

**DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION
AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT**

Eric Fry
Information Officer

907.465.2851
cell: 907.321.5564
eric.fry@alaska.gov

Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
Jan. 30, 2013

Alaska Performance Scholarships Total \$8.67 Million So Far

JUNEAU – In its first two years, the Alaska Performance Scholarship has awarded \$8.67 million to nearly 1,900 students to pursue postsecondary studies in Alaska, state education-related agencies reported this week.

The Alaska Performance Scholarship rewards students who complete a rigorous curriculum in public or private high school or home school and who meet thresholds for grade-point average and scores on college-admission or career-ready assessments.

“This scholarship not only has rewarded and incentivized students who have challenged themselves in high school, it has set a target that has proven to better prepare students for success in college or career training,” said Alaska Education Commissioner Mike Hanley.

The 2013 Alaska Performance Scholarship Outcomes Report was presented to Governor Parnell and the Legislature on Jan. 28 by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, which compiled the data and produced report, and the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and the University of Alaska.

Among the highlights:

- In the public high school Class of 2012, 2,175 out of 7,985 graduates (27.2%) were eligible for the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS). Of the eligible students, 812 (37.3%) began using their scholarship in fall 2012. Fifty-six private school or home-school students were eligible, and 44 have begun using their scholarship.
- More than 2,600 other graduates from the Classes of 2011 and 2012 remain eligible for the APS; they can use their scholarship in participating Alaska postsecondary institutions in the six academic years following high school graduation.



- The vast majority of recipients are using the APS to pursue bachelor's degrees full time at the University of Alaska, with only a few recipients attending other schools, pursuing certificates, or attending school part time.
- Students with an APS are much more likely to attend college and to pursue their studies in Alaska than their non-APS peers.
- University of Alaska students with an APS took far fewer remedial classes and enrolled in more total credit hours on average than their non-APS peers.

The outcomes report is at:

<http://acpe.alaska.gov/Portals/0/APS/Pubs/APSOutcomesReport2013.pdf>

Complete information about the APS is at: www.aps.alaska.gov

###

