



July 29, 2025

To Whom It May Concern,

As leaders in Alaska's workforce and economic development efforts, we are united in our strong support for the goals and implementation of Alaska's Workforce Future, a collaborative, data-driven plan released in March 2025. This bold strategy outlines a shared path forward to strengthen Alaska's economy by preparing a skilled, resilient, and resident workforce equipped to meet the demands of a changing landscape.

Our organizations—the Alaska Workforce Alliance, the State of Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED), the State of Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD), and the University of Alaska (UA)—have a history of working to align education, training, and employment with the needs of Alaska's industries. Alaska's Workforce Future builds on this foundation of collaboration and charts a course for even stronger statewide coordination, emphasizing innovation, adaptability, and cross-sector leadership. This includes building on the established foundation of the Alaska Career and Technical Education Plan, jointly supported by these and other partners, which is an important historical reference for statewide career readiness efforts.

Together, we have already seen meaningful results through innovative partnerships. Graduation rates have increased among students participating in career-focused education. Regional training centers have aligned programs to meet regional needs, more high school students are earning postsecondary credit, and registered apprenticeship has reemerged as a proven pathway into skilled careers. Local school districts are working together to provide rural students with increased access to hands-on training, and UA has strengthened both career and technical education offerings and online workforce development opportunities. DEED, DOLWD, school districts, and tribal organizations have partnered to pilot a collaborative career guidance project aimed at helping students explore and access meaningful postsecondary opportunities aligned with Alaska's workforce needs. These collaborative advances are creating more pathways for Alaskans to pursue meaningful careers and contribute to their communities and Alaska's economy.

The plan presents actionable strategies to expand career awareness, enhance training opportunities, develop regional workforce initiatives, and foster a culture of lifelong learning and advancement that builds transferable skills and supports career mobility across industry sectors. These strategies are designed to ensure that Alaskans have access to rewarding careers and that employers have access to a strong and qualified workforce.

Alaska's economic future depends on the strength of its people. With ongoing collaboration and investment from both the public and private sectors, we have an opportunity to ensure that workforce development remains a driver of long-term growth and prosperity.

We are proud to endorse Alaska's Workforce Future and reaffirm our commitment to working together to bring its vision to life.

Sincerely,

Cari-Ann Carty, President/CEO  
Alaska Safety Alliance  
Alaska Workforce Alliance

Cathy Munoz, Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Labor & Workforce  
Development

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Julie Sande, Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Commerce,  
Community & Economic Development

signed by: Pat Pitney

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Pat Pitney, President  
University of Alaska

Deena Bishop, Commissioner  
Alaska Department of Education  
& Early Development