

A large bronze sculpture of a humpback whale leaping from a circular fountain. The whale is captured mid-jump, with its head and tail flukes visible above the water, creating a massive splash. The background features a coastal town, dense evergreen forests, and snow-capped mountains under a clear blue sky.

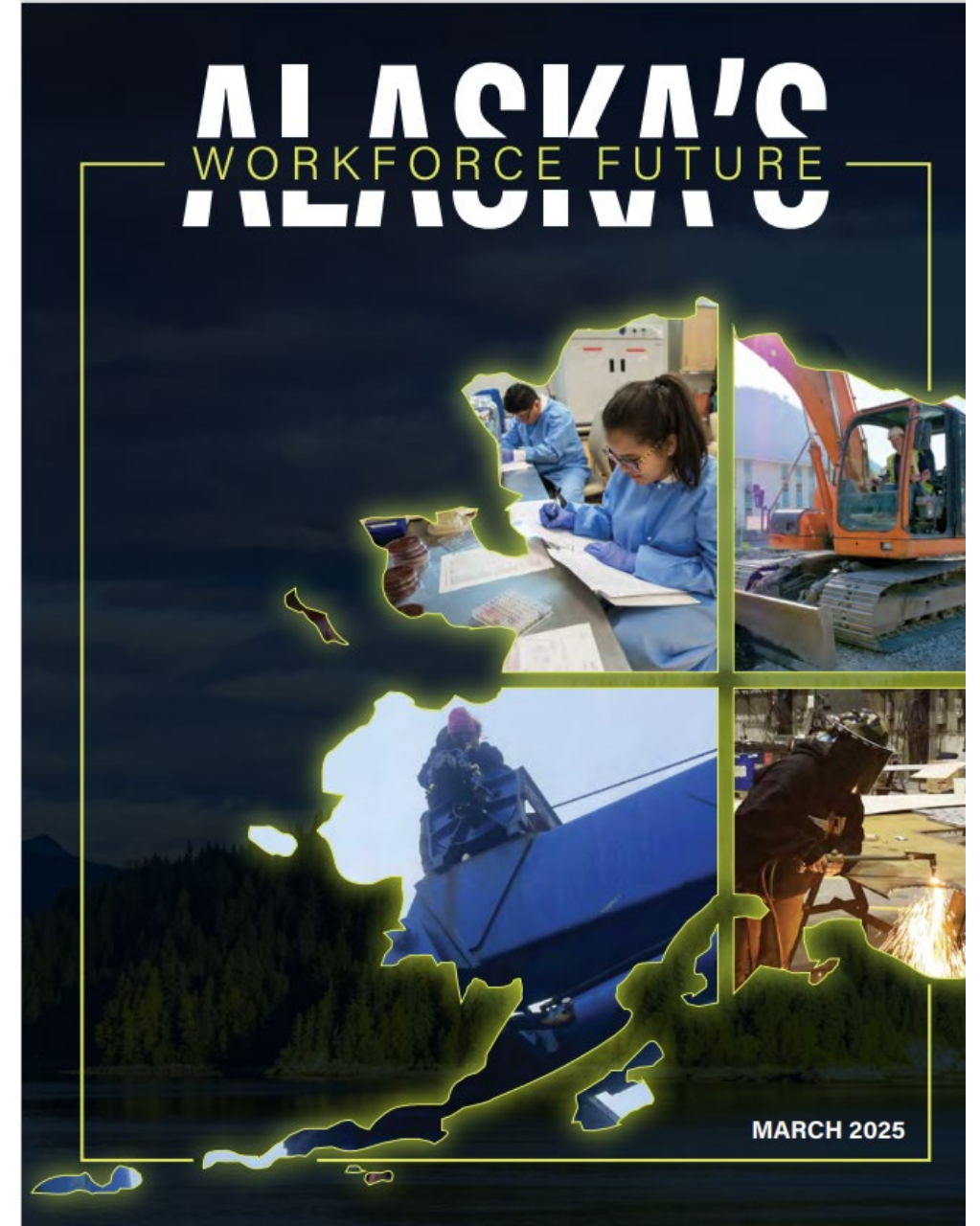
Alaska's Workforce Future

Southeast Conference 2026

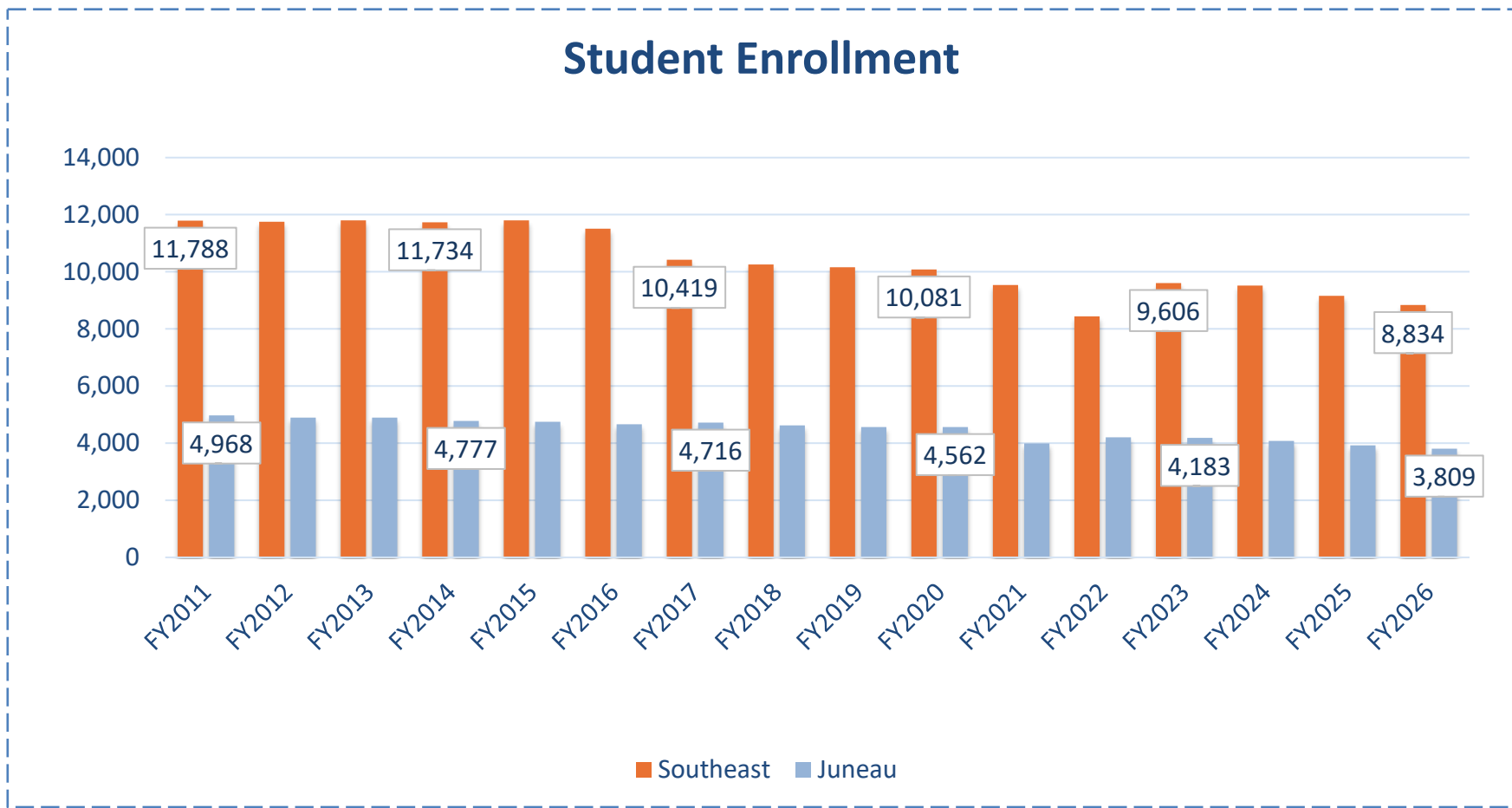
Commissioner Cathy Muñoz

Workforce Goals:

- Enhance career awareness and pathways
- Develop a skilled and qualified workforce
- Retain Alaskans and attract new Alaskans
- Foster regional workforce development
- Improve infrastructure and access to support services
- Ensure sustainability and continuity of workforce-development efforts



K-12: Southeast & Juneau



Strengthening the Bridge to Alaska's Workforce

DEED and DOLWD are partnering to connect K–12 learning with Alaska's workforce opportunities.



K–12 EDUCATION

**ALASKA'S WORKFORCE
OPPORTUNITIES**

CAREER GUIDES: THE STUDENT-LEVEL BRIDGE
Connecting each student's strengths and interests to education, training, and Alaska's workforce opportunities

Our Overarching Goal

“Our goal is for **every Alaska student to graduate with a clear path for what comes next.** A diploma is an important milestone, but our responsibility does not end at graduation. Students should leave school knowing how their strengths and interests connect to meaningful employment, an apprenticeship, military service, workforce training, and/or college.”

Commissioner Deena Bishop

Alaska Department of Education and Early Development

The Alaska Career Guide Model

The model is a structured advising framework designed to ensure every senior transitions from high school into a defined postsecondary pathway.



WORKFORCE



MILITARY



**CAREER TRAINING &
APPRENTICESHIPS**



TWO-YEAR COLLEGE



FOUR-YEAR COLLEGE

Core Components of the RootEd Model

Structured Senior Advising Cycle

Minimum of two one-on-one meetings throughout the senior year.



Postsecondary Application Support

Hands on support for college, training, apprenticeship, military, and job applications.



Dedicated Career Guides

Each senior is supported by a trained guide and team working together to track progress and ensure a clear plan.



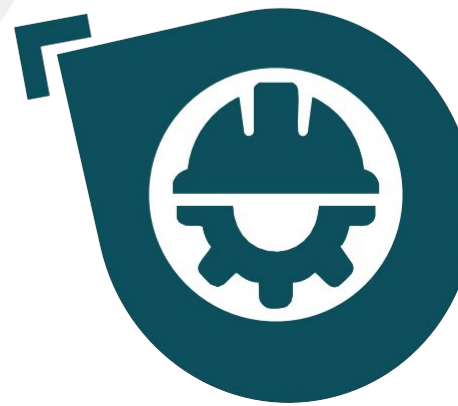
Financial Aid Navigation

FAFSA* completion, Alaska Performance Scholarship, and scholarship guidance.



Career Exposure

Connections to employers, training providers, and regional opportunities.



*Free Application for Federal Student Aid - FAFSA

Pilot Expansion | *FY26 Participants & FY27 Potential Participants*

FY2026 Participants

- Annette Island City
- Bristol Bay
- Dillingham City
- Galena City
- Hydaburg City
- Lake and Peninsula
- Nenana City
- Southwest Region

FY2027 Potential Participants

- Alaska Gateway
- Chatham
- Copper River
- Delta/Greely
- Haines Borough
- Hoonah City
- Juneau
- Kake City Ketchikan
- Gateway Klawock
- City
- Mt. Edgecumbe High School
- Pelican City
- Petersburg
- Sitka
- Skagway
- Southeast Island** – Starting Spring 2026
- Wrangell
- Yakutat

The model is designed for scalability.

Alaska Vocational Technical Center

FY26

85,492 Training Clock Hours

419 Maritime Students Trained

86 Industry-recognized Certifications

**WELLS
FARGO**



Since FY20

93% Average Course Completion Rate

90% Average Placement Rate

**USA
TODAY**

Alaska Maritime Education Consortium

AVTEC

Seward

UAS Ketchikan

Ketchikan

UAF Bristol Bay Campus

Dillingham

UAA Kodiak College

Kodiak

UAA Kenai Peninsula College

Homer

UAA Prince William Sound College

Valdez

AFFILIATE NETWORK

19 additional affiliate partners statewide — 5 postsecondary campuses, 3 nonprofit/tribal organizations, and 11 school districts, from Ketchikan to the North Slope.

23 Partners

6 consortium campuses plus 17 affiliate partners — school districts, tribal organizations, and postsecondary campuses statewide

2024

Redesignated a U.S. DOT MARAD Center of Excellence for Domestic Maritime Workforce Training — 1 of 27 nationwide

300+

Maritime credentials and certificates issued in 2025 through AMEC training sites, led by UAS Ketchikan



AVTEC's Alaska Maritime Training Center, Seward — one of three full-mission ship simulators



AVTEC X TRIDENT Seafoods

Skilled Trades Training Partnership — Since 2022

FROM TARGETED CONTRACT TRAINING TO A MULTI-YEAR CAREER PATHWAY

1

YEAR 1 — Rotational Exposure

Seven weeks at AVTEC in Seward, rotating through electrical, construction, welding, refrigeration, and safety before choosing a trade.

2

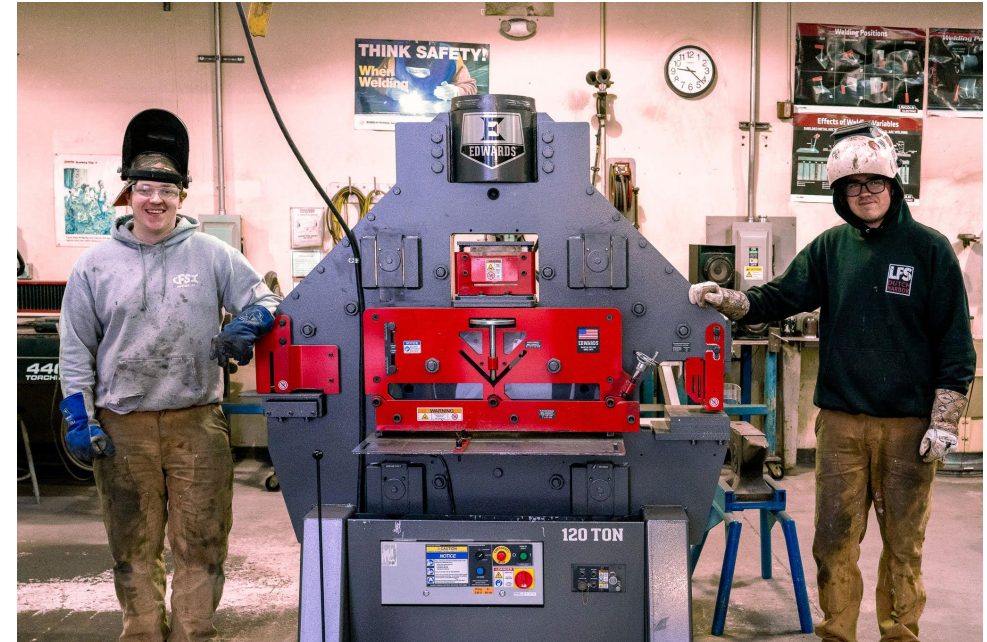
YEAR 2 — Trade Specialization

Enrolled in one of AVTEC's long-term training programs — reinforced by OJT and mentorship at Trident shoreplants.

3

YEARS 3-4 — Workforce Integration

Graduates return full-time to Trident facilities statewide, continuing training and mentorship on the job.



Daryn Pettingill (Cordova) & Brock Skidmore (Kodiak) — Fall 2025 cohort, AVTEC Industrial Welding

27 Trainees

Completed the program to date since 2022 — 8 more starting this fall

4 Years

AVTEC training (Years 1-2) plus Trident workforce integration (Years 3-4)

100% Cost-Covered

Tuition, wages, room & board, and transportation covered by Trident

A public-private model strengthening Alaska's seafood-industry workforce and building long-term career pathways.

High, Low 25 Jobs for Growth Through 2032

Highest-growth occupations		Growth, 2019-32	Growth, 2022-32	Change, 2019-22
1	Helpers: Extraction Workers	18%	25%	-5%
2	Hazardous Materials Removal Workers	26%	18%	6%
3	Welders, Cutters, Solderers, and Brazers	12%	17%	-4%
4	Geological Technicians, Exc Hydrologic Techs	11%	17%	-5%
5	Underground Mining Machine Operators, Other	33%	16%	15%
6	Home Health and Personal Care Aides	10%	16%	-4%
7	Helpers: Production Workers	13%	15%	-2%
8	Environmental Engineering Techs	13%	15%	-2%
9	Architects, Except Landscape and Naval	15%	13%	2%
10	Excavating, Loading Machine/Dragline Operators, Surface Mining	18%	13%	5%
11	Psychiatric Technicians	12%	13%	-1%
12	Commercial Pilots	22%	13%	8%
13	Electricians	7%	13%	-5%
14	Occupational Health and Safety Specialists	7%	12%	-5%
15	Surgical Technologists	13%	12%	1%
16	Cost Estimators	9%	12%	-3%
17	Healthcare Social Workers	10%	12%	-2%
18	Radiologic Technologists and Technicians	13%	12%	1%
19	Nursing Assistants	12%	12%	0%
20	Geoscientists, Exc Hydrologists/Geographers	8%	12%	-3%
21	Millwrights	20%	12%	8%
22	Heavy and Tractor-Trailer Truck Drivers	6%	11%	-5%
22	Clinical Lab Technologists and Technicians	12%	11%	1%
24	Veterinary Assts and Lab Animal Caretakers	19%	11%	7%
25	Phlebotomists	12%	11%	1%

Occupations in decline		Loss, 2019-32	Loss, 2022-32	Change, 2019-22
1	Broadcast Announcers and Radio Disc Jockeys	-37%	-21%	-19%
2	News Analysts, Reporters, and Journalists	-35%	-19%	-19%
3	Logging Equipment Operators	-32%	-9%	-25%
4	Advertising Sales Agents	-27%	-14%	-15%
5	Producers and Directors	-25%	-10%	-17%
6	Printing Press Operators	-25%	-3%	-22%
7	Editors	-21%	-12%	-10%
8	Order Clerks	-11%	-3%	-7%
9	Tellers	-11%	-3%	-8%
10	Loan Interviewers and Clerks	-10%	-3%	-8%
11	Loan Officers	-10%	-2%	-8%
12	Ushers, Lobby Attendants, and Ticket Takers	-10%	-2%	-8%
13	Telecommunications Equip Installers and Repairers, Except Line Installers	-9%	-4%	-5%
14	New Accounts Clerks	-9%	-2%	-7%
15	Insurance Sales Agents	-8%	-5%	-3%
16	Claims Adjusters, Examiners, Investigators	-7%	-6%	-1%
17	Bill and Account Collectors	-7%	-4%	-3%
18	Telecommunications Line Installers/Repairers	-7%	-3%	-4%
19	Computer, Automated Teller, Office Mach Repair	-6%	-1%	-5%
20	Advertising and Promotions Managers	-5%	-2%	-4%
21	Carpet Installers	-5%	-2%	-3%
22	Paralegals and Legal Assistants	-4%	-4%	-1%
23	Coin, Vending, Amusement Mach Svc/Repair	-4%	-2%	-2%
24	Insurance Claims and Policy Processing Clerks	-3%	-3%	-1%
25	Legal Secretaries and Administrative Assistants	-3%	-2%	-1%

Average Annual Openings 2022-32			Employment			13 DOLWD – Southeast Conference
Job	Structural Growth	Total Openings	2022 Total	2032 (Proj.)	% Change 2022-32	
Registered Nurses	67	415	6,125	6,799	11%	
General & Operations Managers	17	360	4,425	4,725	6.8%	
Airline Pilots, Copilots, & Flight Engineers	13	265	2,182	2,310	5.9%	
Medical & Health Services Managers	12	102	1,244	1,365	9.7%	
Accountants & Auditors	9	187	2,277	2,403	5.5%	
Aircraft Mechanics & Service Tech.	16	127	1,466	1,625	10.9%	
Commercial Pilots	7	75	574	347	12.7%	
Carpenters	15	198	2,164	2,315	7%	
Electricians	12	164	1,638	1,845	12.6%	
Supervisors: Office and Admin Support	10	195	1,883	2,010	6.7%	
Welders, Cutters, Solderers, & Brazers	9	85	722	846	17.2%	

Bachelor’s

Postsecondary
nondegree

GED / High
School
Diploma

Contacts – DOLWD Commissioner's Office

Cathy Muñoz, Commissioner

Email: Commissioner.Labor@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 465-2702

Adam Weinert, Deputy Commissioner

Email: adam.weinert@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 334-5952

Becky Weimer, Acting Special Assistant & Legislative Liaison

Email: becky.weimer@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 465-5870

Jack Southard, Acting Special Assistant 2

Email: jack.southard@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 465-4501

Ginger Howard-Powelson, Executive Secretary

Email: ginger.howard-powelson@alaska.gov

Phone: (907) 269-7485

