September 1, 2010

To Whom it May Concern:

Attached please find the Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI) 2011 application. We have combined the application so that students need to apply only once to the RAHI program. Students should check which program they wish to apply to. The programs have the same dates of operation, the same deadline, and the same rules.

A. I want to apply to RAHI: Generous funding from the New York Life Foundation, Alyeska Pipeline Service Company, Wells Fargo, and Future Educators of Alaska supports the original RAHI program which has operated from 1983 to present. Students accepted into this program choose from the following classes which are designed to give students a head start in college:

• English 111 or University Communications (3 credits)
• Study Skills (1 credit)
• Swimming or Alaska Native Dance (1 credit)
• Web Design, optional (1 credit)
• Reading, if needed (1 credit)

Choice of:
• Alyeska - Petroleum Engineering (3 credits)
• Wells Fargo - Business Management (3 credits)
• National Institutes of Health (INBRE) - Chemistry (4 credits)
• Intensive Intermediate Algebra/Pre-Calculus (4 credits)
• Future Educators of Alaska - Education class (3 credits)
• New York Life - Film Studies (3 credits)

B. I want to apply to RAHI II: RAHI II, Next Step is funded by the National Institutes of Health INBRE (IDeA Network for Biomedical Research Excellence) and BioPREP (Biomedical Partnership for a Research & Education Pipeline) Program. RAHI II is designed to give high school students in-depth knowledge of molecular biology and experience working in research labs to understand research and modern biology and to encourage students to major and graduate in the sciences. In addition to the regular RAHI requirements, this program requires that students applying have taken a previous RAHI chemistry class, high school biology, chemistry, or a genetics class. In its third summer of operation, students accepted into this program will take the following class:
• Introduction to Research and Molecular Biology, 3 credits in the morning and 4 credits in the afternoon.

C. I want to apply to both RAHI and RAHI II, if you meet the requirements and are interested in attending either program.

Students may choose to apply to the: (A) traditional RAHI program, (B) RAHI II, Next Step, or (C) both of the programs, but they will be able to attend only one program.

All complete 2011 RAHI applications will be distributed to the statewide RAHI Selection Committee, with the final decision made by mid-April. The deadline for application to both RAHI programs is March 28, 2011. Program dates are: May 31 – July 14, 2011. Don’t wait until the last minute; early applications are appreciated and demonstrate good time management.

Applications may be downloaded from the RAHI website at www.uaf.edu/rahi/.

Thank you for your interest in RAHI.

Sincerely,

Denise Wartes
RAHI Program Manager
RAHI 2011 Student Information
May 31 - July 14, 2011
Application Deadline: Received in RAHI office no later than March 28, 2011

MISSION STATEMENT
The UAF Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI), founded at the request of the Alaska Federation of Natives in 1983, was established to prepare rural and Alaska Native high school students for academic excellence and college success.

OVERVIEW
RAHI is generously funded by New York Life, Alyeska, Wells Fargo, Future Education of Alaska, and the University of Alaska Fairbanks. The traditional RAHI program was organized by the University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) to serve rural and Alaska Native high school honors students. Those who apply should have at least a 3.0 cumulative GPA and plan to have finished their junior or senior year in 2011. Students should read at or above grade level and be committed to earning a college degree.

RAHI II: Next Step is funded by the National Institutes of Health and Alaska: INBRE (IDeA Network of Biomedical Research Excellence) and BioPREP (Biomedical Partnership for a Research & Education Pipeline). This program gives high school students in-depth knowledge of molecular biology and experience working in research labs to understand research and modern biology and to encourage students to major and graduate in the sciences.

CURRICULUM
UAF courses are offered for full university credit (7 to 10 credits). Completion of all RAHI courses (whether developmental or regular courses) help move the student closer to an academic degree. Required courses are writing (the student is placed in one of two offered) and study skills. Students then choose either Alaska Native dance or swimming. In addition, desktop publishing is offered as an optional class. Students then choose one of several specialty classes, such as math, biochemistry, business, engineering, education, or film studies.

The RAHI II: Next Step course is Introduction to Research and Molecular Methods (7 credits). The morning consists of classroom lectures and the afternoon is laboratory research.

Credits earned may also help satisfy some requirements for high school graduation, depending upon your school district policy. Course workloads are substantial. RAHI has a safety net to give individual help and encouragement to those who may struggle from time to time.
CAMPUS LIFE

Housing - Students live in a UAF residence hall with a RAHI roommate and full-time residence hall staff who supervise, tutor, and give support to students to live comfortably and to work efficiently. Students are divided into family groups of roughly eight each. Weeknight study hours are required and tutors are on hand to help with all courses.

Recreation - Recreational offerings on weekends are available. A fun, stress relieving mid-term break weekend outing occurs June 24-26. Student Recreation Center, Wood Student Center, and Patty Pool are among campus recreational facilities available for use.

Meals - Students eat at the campus dining facility.

Permission to Leave Campus - Students may be checked out to leave the campus only with adults, approved in writing in advance by parents or guardians, and only at times that do not conflict with academic schedules. Students may NOT be checked out overnight or weekends.

Costs of Attending RAHI - Selected students are sponsored into the program by a $6,500+ scholarship. This covers costs for the program, including travel, textbooks, room, board, tuition, supplies, and a weekly stipend.

Graduation - A cap-and-gown graduation ceremony ends the program on July 13 followed by an evening banquet. UAF tuition waivers are awarded to the top two academic students. Additional scholarships may be awarded to top students.

Cell Phones - The use of personal cell phones is only allowed on weekends unless extenuating circumstances exist.

SELECTION OF STUDENTS

If you are committed to earning a college degree, you should apply. The RAHI selection committee reads each application and ranks it, then makes their recommendation to the RAHI office. RAHI will notify all applicants mid-April. Not everyone is accepted.

START-UP

Travel to Fairbanks is May 31st, orientation and course registration is June 1st. Full credit, fast-paced university courses start June 2nd. Students may not start RAHI late or leave early. No late starts! No early departures! If you quit and leave before completion you will not graduate or earn college credits.

RULES

Responsibility to self and to each other, plus university rules and state law all combine to shape RAHI rules of conduct outlined in a student contract. Safety, comfort, and the need to ensure an atmosphere that supports learning are all objectives of this policy. Students are expected to attend classes, be prepared and on time, and participate in program social events. Students respect each other, instructors, and residence staff, as well as property.

STAFF

RAHI courses are typically taught by UAF professors. RAHI residence staff is made up of adults, including some upper class college students, who live with students during RAHI. A program manager, academic coordinator, residence hall director, and program assistants provide overall program supervision and support. All staff are available to help the students be successful at RAHI.

DEADLINE

Give parts “B”, “C”, “D”, and “E” of this application to the appropriate persons to complete their parts. Complete and fax or mail this application so it is received in the RAHI office no later than March 28, 2011. It is your responsibility to have all parts of the application received by RAHI by that deadline. FAXing before the deadline is preferred and more reliable. You must check back with those persons making recommendations - your teacher, counselor and community person, to ask if they have sent their parts to us on time. Make certain your school sends us your transcript and test scores. Applications are kept confidential and are only seen by the readers on the committee and by RAHI 2011 staff. Call us 1-800-478-6886 or email <fyr@uaf.edu> if you need help or have any questions.