NEW OCCUPATIONAL ENDORSEMENT REQUEST  
(UA Regulation 10.04.02)

Request ID: 9

These programs require students to go through a formal admissions process; the timing and fees for such processes will be under the purview of the MAUs. As such, a high school diploma or its equivalency is required—and the student is eligible for federal financial aid. Students are recognized by Banner to be in a specific program (as opposed to non-degree seeking or undeclared) allowing tracking of enrollment, progress and graduation. Students participate in a unit-level graduation ceremony and receive a MAU standardized “Occupational Endorsement.”

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College/School: UAF Interior-Aleutians Campus|IC Transfer

Department: Interior-Aleutians Campus Employees

Brief statement of the proposed endorsement, industry objectives and abbreviated student learning outcomes assessment and implementation plan:

Explanation of change in OE for resubmission

In the spring 2010 semester the proposed Facility Maintenance Occupation Endorsement was reviewed by the Academic Program Head and other personnel within the Construction Trades Technology (CTT) program. At that time it was recommended that two courses be removed from the required OE list due to lack of relevance to rural Alaska. The two courses in question were CTT 134 – Garbage Disposal Installation and CTT 136 – Landscaping and Horticulture.

After reviewing new construction and existing structures in rural Alaska, it was revealed there is a very low percentage of rural individuals that have garbage disposals or were in need of landscaping for their homes. Due to the lack of demand and practical application for these skills in rural Alaska, the CTT department determined that these courses should not be required to receive a Facility Maintenance Occupational Endorsement.

The Interior-Aleutians Campus and Construction Trades Technology Department felt strongly enough about this change that the originally submitted OE was removed from the approval process at our request. The revised Facility Maintenance OE submitted with this memo reflects the deletion of these two courses and increases the value of the OE to the targeted student population.

We appreciate your willingness to revisit the OE specifications and work with us to maintain relevant courses offerings to rural students.

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A large percentage of our state and federal infrastructure dollars are spent in rural Alaska communities, building and maintaining schools, utilities, and road services.
A facility maintenance program can effectively utilize existing resources to reduce operating costs and save money. The Occupational Endorsement in Facility Maintenance for Construction Trades Technology will train rural residents in the construction trade of facility maintenance to optimize funds, property, and equipment to better service rural communities.

The Occupational Endorsement in Facility Maintenance for Construction Trades Technology will train participants in dealing with challenges unique to rural villages. Training will consist of identifying, troubleshooting, and customizing solutions to a building or home need. They will also learn the importance of working with community advocates; tracking and analyzing past maintenance trends; and developing strategies for future maintenance needs.

Research shows that when general construction projects such as health clinics, new school construction or remodel, water treatment plants, fuel tank farms, power generation plants, and home construction are identified in rural villages, the contractor is likely to bring in an "outside" workforce to complete the projects. Lacking basic construction skills, the village residents often watch the "outside" workforce earn wages that are not spent in the village, thus depriving the local economy of those wages.

Many students, mostly rural males, who express an interest in the CTT program are older, non-traditional students who have had limited high school experience and may not have taken previous college courses; typically they are under-prepared for the academic rigor of the Certificate and Associates of Applied Science Degrees. These students have a strong desire to improve their occupational/constructional skills for potential new employment opportunities in and around their villages.

Participants enrolled acquire a clear understanding of construction and facility maintenance techniques through written tests while demonstrating their proficiency in a hands-on practicum. Some skills students will obtain in this endorsement are: hand and power tool usage; construction techniques for interior and exterior repairs; moisture and finishing protection; safety concepts; drywall repair; installing floor covering; cabinets; maintaining boilers and burners; HVAC applications; and basic plumbing.

The mission of the Occupational Endorsement in Facility Maintenance for Construction Trades Technology program is to provide accessible vocational, skill-based education through a flexible delivery method to meet the needs of rural Alaskan students.

Detailed Explanation (Format 3A): OEForm.doc

Statement of Endorsement from Industry or Advisory Council Representative:

Student Learning Outcomes Assessment Plan:
Regents Program Approval Summary Form: