

**COMMITTEE RECOMMENDATION FOR
College of Rural & Community Development
Rural Human Services Certificate**

STRENGTHS:

- In 2019, the RHS program was recognized by the Alaska Federation of Natives (AFN) for its excellence in providing education to a primarily rural and Alaska Native workforce.
- The RHS program maintains strong partnerships with Alaska Native Health Corporations, local tribal organizations, social service and education programs.
- RHS provides academic/vocational education and outreach that promotes workforce preparation, life-long learning and community development with an emphasis on Alaska Natives, and underserved communities.
- Embedded in the RHS program curriculum are certifications for suicide prevention, state credentialing for Chemical Dependency Counselor I (CDC), and most of the training requirements as a Behavioral Health Aide (BHA), and training on the National Indian Welfare Act (NICWA) Positive Indian Parenting (PIP) group facilitator training.

WEAKNESSES:

- The program is in need of more faculty for teaching the broad array of classes and subject matters within the program curriculum.

OPPORTUNITIES:

- The behavioral health field is one with chronic shortages and holds a priority for workforce development throughout the state. The RHS program is part of filling critical behavioral workforce gaps especially in terms of Alaskans and Alaska Natives.
- There is already a pathway to a Bachelor's in Social Work and faculty are in discussions on adding a master of social work (MSW) cohort to this pathway.

THREATS:

- RHS has the ongoing threat of budget cuts at both the University and the state budget level. The RHS program is currently primarily supported by a prevention grant from the State of Alaska but has had increasing support from the core budget of the University.

CENTRALITY TO MISSION:

The program is well connected to UAF's overall mission and each of the core themes.

INDICATORS OF QUALITY:

The program operates on a cohort model out of both the Kuskokwim Campus (KuC) in Bethel and the Interior Alaska Campus (IAC), holding courses in Fairbanks and Anchorage. The State of Alaska supports the program through grants directly to the KuC campus to support operations, an RSA to support staffing, and grants directly to tribes to be spent on sending local Behavioral Health employees to the training.

COST-EFFECTIVENESS:

Program is grant funded; there is limited cost to UAF.

SCH

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
SCH	RHS - Lower	489	498	538	478	424

Majors

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Majors	CT2 Rural Human Services	48	32	45	42	36

Degrees

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
Degrees	CT2 Rural Human Services	18	12	16	15	2

FTEs

Metric	Detail	FY16	FY17	FY18	FY19	FY20
FTEs	Adjunct FTEs	0	0.1	0.1	0.2	0.2
FTEs	Faculty FTEs	1.5	1.5	1.5	1.6	0.8
FTEs	Staff FTEs	1.9	1.9	1.9	1.6	1.7

Expenditures

Metric	Program	Detail	FY20
Instructional Expenditures	Rural Human Services	Restricted	157680.3
Instructional Expenditures	Rural Human Services	Unrestricted	372927
Salaries and Benefits	Rural Human Services	Restricted	88562.1
Salaries and Benefits	Rural Human Services	Unrestricted	186763.9

Rural Human Services Certificate

RECOMMENDATION:	ADDITIONAL COMMENTS:	DATE FOR FOLLOW-UP:
Continuation: 7 votes		
Abstain: 1 vote		