

**Memorandum of Understanding
between
University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF)
Kuskokwim Campus (KuC)
and
Kuspuk School District (KSD)**

Tech Prep Program

Policies and Procedures

Definition

The Tech Prep Program is a partnership between UAF and Kuspuk School District, hereinafter referred to as School District Partner. It is a program that recognizes technical and related academic preparation and, where possible, work-based learning in a specific career field. It partners secondary education, post-secondary education, labor and business in a sequential course of study without duplication of coursework that will lead a student to a certificate, credential, apprenticeship, associate degree or baccalaureate degree.

To further the parties' mutual objectives detailed in this MOU, each party shall appoint a person to act as the point of contact for the MOU and keep the other party informed if there are changes.

Point of Contact

Ashley Johnson College Readiness Coordinator University of Alaska Fairbanks – Kuskokwim Campus (907)543-4580 ajohnson34@alaska.edu	Erich Kuball Assistant Superintendent Kuspuk School District (907)675-4250 ekuball@kuspuk.org
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Period of Agreement

The dates of this MOU are:

Start date: January 17, 2018

End date: January 17, 2023

This MOU will be valid for a period of five (5) years from the effective start date. It may be renewed for an additional period of five years if both institutions, acting independently, agree in writing to review it before it expires. The parties also agree that either party for any reason may terminate this MOU at any time by giving the other party at least six (6) months advance written notice of the party's intent to terminate.

Purpose

The purpose of the Tech Prep Program is to offer students in a technical field of study an opportunity to receive lower-division college credit toward a UAF certificate or undergraduate degree. Students may receive UAF credit by successfully completing specific courses that have been approved for articulation by UAF. Tech Prep Program articulation agreements use the university's curriculum standards and measures for articulating course work from secondary school districts and other partnerships into UAF credit. Motivated, able learners will greatly benefit from this outcomes based program. Students who complete coursework through the Tech Prep Program will be better prepared to:

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- go directly to work or into a training program requiring an entry-level technical base,
- continue to work towards a university certificate or degree while using technical skills in the workplace,
- attend UA with a head start toward a certificate or degree, or
- transfer credits from UAF to another university or college.

Opportunities

Tech Prep students will have the opportunity to take advantage of UAF's multiple services for prospective students such as those provided by the Advising and Counseling Center, Career Services Center, Educational Opportunity Center, Learning Resources Center and departmental advising. Advising and correct placement of Tech Prep students will be more appropriate since the University will know what skills the student has already achieved. It also allows the University to plan a pathway of study that helps maximize the student's course work and avoids duplication of work done with the School District Partner.

General Information

Credits

There is no limit on the total number of UAF credits a student may receive through the Tech Prep Program.

- UAF credit received through the Tech Prep Program will be considered resident credit. Credit will not be awarded for a course that duplicates one for which UAF credit was already received.
- Credit through the UAF Tech Prep Program is generally not included in the computation of study load for UAF full-time or part-time status.
- If the Tech Prep Program is delivered collaboratively with UAA and/or UAS, credit from each participating institution will be counted toward fulfillment of residency requirements.
- Students may take advantage of the Tech Prep Program while attending classes with the School District Partner or they may request credit anytime during the academic year the course was taken, providing the course was articulated and approved at the time of completion.

Credit After The Fact

Credit for a course may be given after the fact if these conditions are met:

1. There is a Course Reference Number for the course time and place.
2. The high school transcript must match.
3. The student must pay course fee and complete registration form.
4. The high school course for which credit is sought is an articulated course.

If these conditions are met, the course will be given regular college credit and will be factored into the UAF GPA and appear on the official UAF transcript. Credit will not be awarded for a course that duplicates one for which UAF credit was already received.

Grades

- Recommended GPA's for acceptance in the UAF Tech Prep Program is a 2.00 or higher GPA at School District Partner and a 2.00 or higher cumulative GPA for any courses taken at UAF.
- Some UAF courses are graded pass/no pass (P/NP) rather than academic letter grades (A-F). Grades received in the School District Partner course will be converted to the appropriate grading basis of the UAF course. For performance comparison only, a grade of "P" (Pass) is considered equivalent to a grade of "C" or higher.
- The final grade received in the School District Partner course, taken through the Tech Prep Program, will be posted on the student's UAF transcript as the final grade in the concurrently registered course.
- Academic letter grades (A-F) will be included in the student's UAF grade point average computation (GPA).

Articulation of Courses

Articulation is governed by the following guidelines:

- Tech Prep courses are those specifically identified and approved through the articulation process to be in alignment with UAF courses. However, some School District Partner courses may be articulated to UAF lower division elective credit.
- There must be a clearly defined articulation agreement for each articulated course, based on a set of competencies that will be determined by relevant UAF and School District Partner faculty. Although teaching and testing methods may differ, each course will be subject to the instructional objectives and outcomes of comparable, traditionally taught courses.
- Each articulation agreement is unique and will be subject to reconsideration or change each academic year. A comprehensive review will be conducted each year or at the earlier request of either party, to assure industry and performance standards are being met and that any curriculum changes are incorporated into the articulation agreement.
- Some UAF departments may require students to meet specific standards such as an entrance GPA, course prerequisites, a particular final grade, or completion of a qualification test. Other criteria such as an interview or a letter of recommendation may be required. Specific standards and/or criteria will be reflected in the course articulation agreement.
- Tech Prep is designed to recognize quality technical training. Both UAF and the School District Partner will continuously maintain high course standards.

NOTE: Not all UAF courses are available for articulation through the Tech Prep Program.

UAF Responsibilities

UAF responsibilities include the following:

To UAF community

- To inform UAF/School District partner community of the student application and registration process.
- To inform UAF/School District partner community of the availability and opportunities of the Tech Prep Program.

To School District Partner

- To meet with School District Partner personnel (faculty) to complete the course articulation procedure through the school/college faculty curriculum process.
- To meet with School District Partner personnel to provide an introduction and orientation to UAF's Tech Prep Program.
- To provide UAF application and registration forms and coordinate training of School District Partner personnel for registering interested students.
- To provide School District Partner personnel with a calendar reflecting the Tech Prep registration, and grading processes and deadlines.

To students

- To assist students in developing educational plans consistent with career/life goals, providing them with the information and skills needed to pursue those goals.
- Upon receipt of the Tech Prep Program application and registration forms, to register students concurrently in the articulated UAF course(s).
- Upon receipt of the official School District Partner transcript reflecting course completion and final grade, to record the appropriate final grade on the student's UAF transcript.

School District Responsibilities

The responsibilities of the School District Partner include the following:

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To school community

- To inform students, parents and necessary School District Partner personnel (faculty, counselors, administrative staff) of the UAF Tech Prep Program career pathways and registration opportunities.
- To provide information to students, and other secondary school districts and partnership institutions, about the UAF Tech Prep Program student application and registration process.

To UAF

- To provide current course syllabi and course content guides that clearly identify what objectives the instructor intends to accomplish in the course, what the student should know and/or be able to do as a result of completing the course, and what evaluation methods are appropriate for determining how well the goals and outcomes have been met.
- To provide UAF with an official School District Partner transcript reflecting course completion and final grade received in the articulated course.
- To meet with UAF personnel (faculty) to complete the course evaluation and articulation procedure.
- To coordinate and implement the Tech Prep Program application and registration process with UAF personnel.

To students

- To advise students of their eligibility and responsibility to become familiar with the policies and procedures associated with the Tech Prep Program and subsequent registration at UAF.
- To obtain an Authorization to Discuss/Release Educational Information form for each student officially registered in the Tech Prep Program signed by the student and the student's parent (unless the student is at least 18 years of age) in order to discuss/release information and supply official transcripts reflecting the student's registration and course completion.

Student Responsibilities

The student's responsibilities include the following:

- To inform partnership institution personnel of interest in the UAF Tech Prep Program.
- To complete the required UAF registration form, and pay the non-refundable fee.
- To be aware of and comply with both the School District Partner and UAF academic policies, regulations, procedures and deadlines associated with the Tech Prep Program as well as those reflected in the current UAF catalog, pertaining to open enrollment, formal admission, registration, academic action and certificate or degree completion.
- To demonstrate learning skills and a satisfactory level of performance in the methods and techniques of the subject, commensurate with the appropriate UAF course level (100 or 200 level).
- To provide School District Partner and UAF with a properly signed Authorization to Discuss/Release Educational Information form in order for them to discuss/release information and supply official transcripts reflecting the Tech Prep registration and course completion.

Registration

Registration is governed by the following guidelines:

- Students will not be officially registered in the Tech Prep Program or at UAF until all forms are received and fees paid. Students are held academically and financially responsible for their UAF registration. A non-refundable administrative fee will be charged. The University reserves the right to cancel courses or change its fees at any time.
- If, after registering at UAF, a student changes plans or is unable to complete the School District Partner course, the student must officially withdraw from the concurrent UAF course(s) prior to the end of the course. A student who does not complete the partnership course and does not withdraw from the concurrent UAF course will receive a final grade of "F" or "NP," depending on the grading basis of the UAF course.
- Students registered through the Tech Prep program, in one (1) or more UAF credit may elect to pay the non-refundable

Student Activities Fee for access to available activities and facilities. Students registered in six (6) or more UAF credits may elect to pay the non-refundable Student Health Center Fee for access to campus health services and programs.

NOTE: Registration in the Tech Prep Program does not guarantee subsequent formal admission to a UAF certificate or degree program.

UAF Grades and Transcripts

- Students will not receive a paper copy of their UAF grades in the mail. Grades will be available by internet (<http://uaonline.alaska.edu>) shortly after the end of each semester.
- Requests for official transcripts of all UAF course work, including Tech Prep Program courses, must be written and include the signature of the student whose record is being requested. A transcript fee is charged and must be paid in advance.

Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA)

FERPA was designed to protect the privacy of education records. Personally identifiable information from students' education records shall be disclosed only in accordance with FERPA.

Administration

The University of Alaska Fairbanks is an affirmative action/equal opportunity employer and educational institution. UAF does not discriminate on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, citizenship, age, sex, physical or mental disability, status as a protected veteran, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, childbirth or related medical conditions, parenthood, sexual orientation, gender identity, political affiliation or belief, genetic information, or other legally protected status. The University's commitment to nondiscrimination, including against sex discrimination, applies to students, employees, and applicants for admission and employment. Contact information, applicable laws, and complaint procedures are included on UA's statement of nondiscrimination available at www.alaska.edu/titleIXcompliance/nondiscrimination.

Both institutions, the University of Alaska Fairbanks and (insert counterpart's name), shall abide by these principles in the administration of this MOU and neither institution shall impose criteria which would violate the principles of non-discrimination.

Neither party assumes any financial responsibility through signature on the MOU and any commitment of resources by either university for collaborative activities will require review and approval by both parties.

Both parties agree that this MOU does not create legally enforceable obligations for either party does it establish a standard of care attributable to the activities outlined in this document.

This MOU may be modified at any time upon written approval of the parties. There may be no changes to the scope of this MOU without written consent of both parties.

