

NOTICE OF PROPOSED CHANGES TO
SCHOOL ACCREDITATION STANDARDS IN THE REGULATIONS OF
THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION AND EARLY DEVELOPMENT

BRIEF DESCRIPTION: The proposed amendments would adopt updated standards for school accreditation.

The Department of Education and Early Development proposes to adopt regulation changes in Title 4 of the Alaska Administrative Code dealing with the standards for state accreditation of schools. Under the proposed changes in 4 AAC 04.300, the department would adopt by reference two new AdvancED published documents, *AdvancED Performance Standards for Schools* and *AdvancED Performance Standards for School Systems* in place of the outdated *Standards for Quality Schools* currently adopted by reference. The regulation changes would also update the name of the accrediting entity.

The Department of Education and Early Development invites the public to submit written comments during the written comment period, which begins with the date of this notice and ends on May 14, 2019, at 4:30 p.m. The written comment period closes in advance of the meeting of the State Board of Education and Early Development at which the board will consider the adoption of the proposed regulations. This allows the Department of Education and Early Development an opportunity to prepare changes based on written comment and to distribute any proposed changes to the board for its consideration prior to the meeting.

You may comment in writing on the proposed regulation changes, including the potential costs to private persons of complying with the proposed changes, by submitting written comments to the Commissioner's Office, Department of Education and Early Development, Attn: Regulations Review, 801 West Tenth Street, Suite 200, PO Box 110500, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500.

You also may submit written comments by facsimile at (907) 465-4156; by electronic mail to [Linda Mattson](mailto:Linda.Mattson@ed.k12.ak.us); and online at the website of the Department of Education and Early Development at <https://education.alaska.gov/regs/comment.cfm>. Written comments also may be submitted through the Alaska Online Public Notice System by accessing this notice on the system and using the comment link.

All written comments must be received not later than 4:30 p.m. on May 14, 2019.

After the written comment period has ended, you may submit oral comments to the State Board of Education and Early Development at a hearing to be held by the board on June 7, 2019, by audio-conference or in person at the Anchorage School District Board Room, 5530 East Northern Lights Boulevard, Anchorage, Alaska 99504. The hearing will be held from 9:10 a.m. to 11:10 a.m. but may be extended to accommodate those present before 9:00 a.m. who have not had an opportunity to comment before 11:10 a.m.

You may submit oral comments at this hearing, during this time only, via the Legislative Information Office streaming by calling 1-844-586-9085 if you are outside of Juneau or

Anchorage. For participation from Juneau, call 586-9085. For participation from Anchorage, call 563-9085.

You also may submit oral comment by visiting your local Legislative Information Office (LIO). The following LIO's will participate: Anchorage, 716 W 4th Ave., Suite 100; Bethel, 301 Willow St.; Fairbanks, 1292 Sadler Way, Suite 308; Juneau, Room 111 Terry Miller Bldg.; Kenai, 145 Main St. Loop, Suite 217; Ketchikan, 1900 First Ave., Suite 310; Kodiak, 305 center Ave., Suite 1; Mat-Su, 600 E Railroad Ave.; Nome 103 Front St.; Seward, 302 Railway Suite 107; and Sitka, 201 Katlian St., Suite 103.

This meeting will be streamed through the Legislative Information Office over <http://www.akl.tv/> beginning at 9:00 a.m. June 7, 2019 (audio only). You may submit written questions relevant to the proposed action to Linda Mattson at linda.mattson@alaska.gov or the Department of Education and Early Development, Attn: Linda Mattson, 801 West 10th Street, Suite 200, PO Box 110500, Juneau, Alaska 99811-0500. If a question is relevant to the proposed change in the regulations and the question is received by May 4, which is ten days before the end of the public comment period, the department will make a good-faith effort to answer the question before the end of the public comment period. The Department of Education and Early Development will aggregate its response to substantially similar questions and make the questions and responses available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System and on the website of the Department of Education and Early Development at <https://education.alaska.gov/regs/comment.cfm>.

If you are a person with a disability who needs a special accommodation in order to participate in this process, please contact Linda Mattson at 907-465-2802 or linda.mattson@alaska.gov not later than May 27, 2019 to ensure that any necessary accommodation can be provided.

A copy of the proposed regulation changes and the material proposed for adoption by reference is available on the Alaska Online Public Notice System, on the website of the Department of Education and Early Development at <https://education.alaska.gov/regs/comment.cfm>, and by contacting Linda Mattson at linda.mattson@alaska.gov or 907-465-2802. A copy of the material proposed for adoption by reference may also be viewed at the offices of the Department of Education and Early Development, 801 West 10th Street, Juneau, Alaska 99801.

After the public comment period ends, the Department of Education and Early Development will either adopt the proposed regulation changes or other provisions dealing with the same subject, without further notice, or decide to take no action. The language of the final regulation may be different from that of the proposed regulation. You should comment during the time allowed if your interests could be affected. Written comments received are public records and are subject to public inspection.

Statutory authority AS 14.07.020, AS 14.07.060

Statutes being implemented, interpreted, or made specific: AS 14.07.020

Fiscal information: The proposed regulation changes are not expected to require an increased appropriation.

Date: 4/11/19

Karen Melin
Karen Melin, Deputy Commissioner