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**OFFICE OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR  
ALASKA**

**MEMORANDUM**

**TO:** Jackie Hall, Program Manager  
Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

**FROM:** April Simpson, Alaska Administrative Code Coordinator *(Signature)*  
Office of the Lieutenant Governor

**DATE:** January 14, 2026

**RE:** Filed Permanent Regulations: Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education  
Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education regulations re: Loans, Grants, Scholarships, Reporting (20 AAC 15.935 - 17.062)

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Attorney General File: 2025200015  
Regulation Filed: 1/14/2026  
Effective Date: 2/13/2026  
Print: 257, April 2026

cc with enclosures: ToniMarie Gonzales, Paralegal  
Department of Law

Lisa Gorman, Alaska Legal Analyst  
LexisNexis



THE STATE  
of **ALASKA**  
GOVERNOR MIKE DUNLEAVY

**Department of Law**

CIVIL DIVISION

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January 9, 2026

The Honorable Nancy Dahlstrom  
Lieutenant Governor  
State of Alaska  
P.O. Box 110015  
Juneau, AK 99811-0015

Re: *20 AAC 15.935 - 17.062: ACPE - Loans, Grants, Scholarships, Reporting*  
Our file: 2025200015

Dear Lieutenant Governor Dahlstrom:

The Department of Law has reviewed the attached regulations of the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education against the statutory standards of the Administrative Procedure Act. This letter constitutes the written statement of approval under AS 44.62.060(b) and (c) that authorizes your office to file the attached regulations. The regulations were adopted by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education after the close of the public comment period.

The regulations update provisions regarding loans, grants, Alaska Performance Scholarships, and reporting.

The August 3, 2025 public notice and the October 14, 2025 certification of adoption order both state that this action is not expected to require an increased appropriation. Therefore, a fiscal note under AS 44.62.060 is not required.

To: Hon. Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor  
Our file: 2025200015; 20 AAC 15.935 - 17.062

January 9, 2026  
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We have made technical corrections and conforming amendments necessary to conform the regulations in accordance with AS 44.62.060. The corrections are incorporated into the attached copy of the regulations. Additionally, proposed changes to 20 AAC 16.210(a)(4) (now 20 AAC 16.210(b)) were disapproved due to lack of statutory authority. The disapproved changes are omitted from the attached copy of the regulations. Because of the omission of this text, the regulations are now eight pages rather than nine pages long.

Sincerely,

STEPHEN J. COX  
ATTORNEY GENERAL

Rebecca C. Polizzotto  
By: \_\_\_\_\_

Rebecca C. Polizzotto  
Chief Assistant Attorney General  
Legislation, Regulations, and  
Legislative Research Section

SCW/scw

CC w/enclosure: Danielle Henricksen, Human Resource Manager  
Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education

Steven C. Weaver, Assistant Attorney General  
Department of Law

ORDER CERTIFYING THE CHANGES TO  
REGULATIONS OF THE ALASKA COMMISSION ON POSTSECONDARY EDUCATION

The attached regulations, dealing with the terms and conditions of the Alaska Supplemental Education Loan Program, the Alaska Family Education Loan Program, the Alaska Education Grant Program, the Alaska Performance Scholarship Program, and dealing with postsecondary educational institutions, are certified to be a correct copy of the regulation changes that the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education adopted at its October 9, 2025 meeting, under the authority of AS 14.42.030, AS 14.43.105, AS 14.43.110, AS 14.43.120, AS 14.43.125, AS 14.43.173, AS 14.43.405, AS 14.43.406, AS 14.43.415, AS 14.43.420, AS 14.43.630, AS 14.43.740, AS 14.43.810, AS 14.43.820, AS 14.43.825, AS 14.48.050, and AS 14.48.090 and after compliance with the Administrative Procedure Act (AS 44.62), specifically including notice under AS 44.62.190 and 44.62.200 and opportunity for public comment under AS 44.62.210.

This action is not expected to require an increased appropriation.

Although no public comments were received, the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education paid special attention to the cost to private persons of the regulatory action being taken.

The regulation changes described in this order take effect on the 30th day after they have been filed by the lieutenant governor, as provided in AS 44.62.180.

Date: October 14, 2025

  
Kerry Thomas, Executive Director

*April Simpson for*  
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FILING CERTIFICATION

I, Nancy Dahlstrom, Lieutenant Governor for the State of Alaska, certify that on

*January 14, 2026* at *10:05 a.m.*, I filed the attached regulations according to  
the provisions of AS 44.62.040 - 44.62.120.

*for*   
Lieutenant Governor Nancy Dahlstrom

Effective: *February 13, 2026.*

Register: *257, April 2026.*

**FOR DELEGATION OF THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S AUTHORITY**

**I, NANCY DAHLSTROM, LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR OF THE STATE OF ALASKA,  
designate the following state employees to perform the Administrative Procedures Act  
filing functions of the Office of the Lieutenant Governor:**

**April Simpson, Regulations and Initiatives Specialist**

**IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have  
signed and affixed the Seal of the State of  
Alaska, in Juneau, on May 15th, 2023.**



**NANCY DAHLSTROM  
LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR**

20 AAC 15.935(e) is repealed:

(e) Repealed 2 / 13 / 2026. (Eff. 3/22/97, Register 141; am 4/20/2000, Register 154; am 2/22/2015, Register 213; am 2 / 13 / 2026, Register 257)

**Authority:** AS 14.43.105 AS 14.43.173 AS 14.43.640  
AS 14.43.110 AS 14.43.320 AS 14.43.740  
AS 14.43.120 AS 14.43.630

20 AAC 15.970 is amended by adding a new subsection to read:

(l) In (k) of this section, "default forbearance agreement" means a short-term default recovery agreement in which

(1) a borrower agrees to make a specific number of monthly payments as determined by the commission to demonstrate the borrower's renewed ability and willingness to repay the loan; and

(2) upon the borrower's successful completion of the agreement, the commission discontinues debt collection activity and removes a report of default from the borrower's loan record and consumer credit report. (Eff. 12/4/96, Register 140; am 3/22/97, Register 141; am 3/15/98, Register 145; am 9/23/99, Register 151; am 4/20/2000, Register 154; am 3/1/2002, Register 161; am 7/1/2002, Register 162; am 5/26/2011, Register 198; am 2/22/2015, Register 213; am 8/16/2024, Register 251; am 2 / 13 / 2026, Register 257)

**Authority:** AS 14.42.030 AS 14.43.145 AS 14.43.320  
AS 14.43.105 AS 14.43.168 AS 14.43.630  
AS 14.43.120 AS 14.43.171 AS 14.43.640  
AS 14.43.125 AS 14.43.175 AS 14.43.740

20 AAC 15.990(a) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(28) "alternative repayment schedule" means a revision to a borrower's existing loan repayment term to provide short-term or long-term repayment relief; an alternative repayment schedule adjusts

(A) the amount of time the borrower will make payments; and

(B) the monthly installment amount over the life of the loan.

(Eff. 6/23/95, Register 134; am 3/22/97, Register 141; am 3/15/98, Register 145; am 4/20/2000, Register 154; am 11/5/2000, Register 156; am 4/27/2001, Register 158; am 3/1/2002, Register 161; am 7/1/2002, Register 162; am 4/2/2004, Register 169; 2/27/2010, Register 193; am 11/16/2012, Register 204; am 4/6/2018, Register 226; am 2 / 13 / 2020, Register 257)

**Authority:** AS 14.42.030 AS 14.43.125 AS 14.43.630  
AS 14.43.105 AS 14.43.160 AS 14.43.740  
AS 14.43.120 AS 14.43.320

20 AAC 16.015(a)(1) is amended to read:

(1) lowest Student Aid Index [EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION] as reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) [FAFSA];

**Authority:** AS 14.42.030 AS 14.43.406 AS 14.43.415  
AS 14.43.405

**Editor's note: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available at**

<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> .

20 AAC 16.037(a) is amended to read:

(a) Grant award amounts are based on financial need, determined in part by the student's Student Aid Index [EXPECTED FAMILY CONTRIBUTION] as reported on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) [FAFSA] and by the student's enrollment status.

(Eff. 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/28/2008, Register 188; am 10/3/2011, Register 200; am 4/4/2013, Register 206; am 2/22/2015, Register 213; am 2 / 13 / 2020, Register 257)

**Authority:** AS 14.42.030 AS 14.43.406 AS 14.43.420  
AS 14.43.405 AS 14.43.415

**Editor's note: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available at <https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa> .**

20 AAC 16.210 is repealed and readopted to read:

(a) An applicant for an Alaska performance scholarship must

- (1) meet the requirements of AS 14.43.820(a) and (m);
- (2) meet the academic eligibility requirements of 4 AAC 43.020 and
  - (A) if a first-year scholarship recipient enrolled in an undergraduate academic program of study on a
    - (i) full-time basis, successfully complete a minimum of 24 semester credits or the equivalent; or

(ii) half-time basis, successfully complete a minimum of 12 semester credits or the equivalent;

(B) if a first-year scholarship recipient enrolled in a graduate or credit-based certificate program of study on a

- (i) full-time basis, successfully complete a minimum of 18 semester credits or the equivalent; or
- (ii) half-time basis, successfully complete a minimum of 10 semester credits or the equivalent;

(C) if a second- or subsequent-year scholarship recipient enrolled in an undergraduate program of study on a

- (i) full-time basis, have successfully completed a minimum of 24 semester credits or the equivalent in the first year and an additional 30 semester credits or the equivalent for each subsequent year that scholarship money was received; or
- (ii) half-time basis, have successfully completed a minimum of 12 semester credits or the equivalent in the first year and 15 semester credits or the equivalent for each subsequent year that scholarship money was received;

(D) if a second- or subsequent-year scholarship recipient enrolled in a graduate or credit-based certificate program of study on a

- (i) full-time basis, have successfully completed a minimum of 18 semester credits or the equivalent in the first year and 22 semester credits or the equivalent in the subsequent year that scholarship money was received; or
- (ii) half-time basis, have successfully completed a minimum of 10

semester credits or the equivalent in the first year and 12 semester credits or the equivalent in the subsequent year that scholarship money was received; or

(E) if a career and technical school program scholarship recipient enrolled in a non-credit hour program of study on a

(i) full-time basis, have successfully completed the program with attendance of at least 30 clock hours per week for not less than 12 weeks; or

(ii) half-time basis, have successfully completed the program with attendance of at least 15 clock hours per week for no less than six weeks; and

(3) meet continuing eligibility requirements, including

(A) if a student other than a career and technical school program student, maintaining a cumulative grade point average of at least 2.5 on a 4.0 scale to receive a second or subsequent disbursement of a scholarship award; or

(B) if a career and technical school program student, meeting the satisfactory progress requirements of the career and technical school program before receiving a second or subsequent disbursement of a scholarship award.

(b) If an award recipient completes two consecutive semesters or three consecutive quarters of full-time enrollment and has a qualifying cumulative grade-point average or equivalent, as certified by the postsecondary institution, the recipient is eligible for an increased award under AS 14.43.825(h). In this subsection, "full-time enrollment" means enrollment in a course of study that is not less than 15 credits per semester or the equivalent per quarter.

(c) Notwithstanding the minimum enrollment requirements of (b) of this section, for purposes of receiving an increased award under AS 14.43.825(j), a career and technical school program student must complete two technical school programs and have earned a degree or

certificate to be considered for a scholarship award level increase.

(d) Notwithstanding an applicant's eligibility, scholarship money will not be awarded to an applicant for a program

(1) designed to terminate in a private pilot license; or

(2) of study conducted outside the state, unless the program is a formal exchange program available as part of a degree program at an eligible institution in this state.

(e) A student who receives an extension under AS 14.43.825(c) for part-time enrollment may not exceed the equivalent of eight full-time semesters.

(f) The commission will not authorize an award until receipt of certification under

20 AAC 16.235(g)(1) of an applicant's eligibility for an award. (Eff. 1/1/2011, Register 196; am 11/16/2012, Register 204; am 8/16/2024, Register 251; am 2 / 13 / 2026, Register 257)

**Authority:** AS 14.42.030 AS 14.43.820 AS 14.43.825

AS 14.43.810

20 AAC 16.220(c)(2) is amended to read:

(2) in a graduate **degree or certificate program** [STUDENT], must be enrolled each term in at least five but not more than eight semester credit hours, or the equivalent, applicable to the student's graduate degree or certificate program; or

(Eff. 1/1/2011, Register 196, am 4/6/2018, Register 226; am 8/16/2024, Register 251; am

2 / 13 / 2020, Register 257)

20 AAC 16.900(b)(3) is repealed;

(3) repealed 2 / 13 / 2026;

20 AAC 16.900(b) is amended by adding a new paragraph to read:

(12) "Student Aid Index (SAI)" means the eligibility index number provided by the United States Department of Education as calculated from information provided on the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) that represents a student's financial need; a negative SAI indicates the student has a higher financial need. (Eff. 6/13/80, Register 74; am 11/27/86, Register 100; am 2/20/2005, Register 173; am 12/28/2008, Register 188; am 1/1/2011, Register 196; am 11/16/2012, Register 204; am 4/4/2013, Register 206; am 2/22/2015, Register 213; am 2 / 13 / 2026, Register 257)

**Authority:** AS 14.42.030 AS 14.43.405 AS 14.43.810

**Editor's note: The Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is available at**  
**<https://studentaid.gov/h/apply-for-aid/fafsa>**

20 AAC 17.062(a) is amended to read:

(a) An authorized institution shall annually submit, with the fee described in 20 AAC 17.055(a), in a format provided by the commission, a report for each education program offered. The report must include annual performance indicators in accordance with this section, documentation of financial soundness in accordance with 20 AAC 17.102, surety in compliance with 20 AAC 17.045, and documentation of life safety requirements in conformance with 20 AAC 17.060. Institutions that report to the United States Department of Education, National Center for Education Statistics' Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) are

not required to provide annual performance reports unless there has been a change from what was reported to IPEDS. Annual reporting is due on or before **January 31** [DECEMBER 1]. The commission staff may assess a late fee, in accordance with **20 AAC 17.055(a)** [20 AAC I 7.055(a)], if an institution fails to provide the information on or before the required date.

20 AAC 17.062(f) is amended to read:

(f) An institution shall request graduates to complete a commission-approved exit survey, developed by the institution, to assess satisfaction with the program and the institution. The institution shall maintain the completed exit [EXIST] surveys for review by the commission upon request.

(Eff. 6/13/97, Register 142; am 4/24/98, Register 146; am 4/20/2000, Register 154; am 4/27/2001, Register 158; am 11/24/2007, Register 184; am 12/29/2010, Register 196; am 9/18/2022, Register 243; am 2 / 13 / 2020, Register 257 )

**Authority:** AS 14.42.030 AS 14.48.060 AS 14.48.090  
AS 14.48.050 AS 14.48.070