

# **State of Alaska FY2002 Governor's Operating Budget**

Department of Education and Early Development  
WWAMI Medical Education  
Component

## **Component: WWAMI Medical Education**

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### **Component Mission**

To improve the general health of state residents.

### **Component Services Provided**

This component contains funding for the second, third and fourth year participants who attend and pay resident tuition and fees at the University of Washington's School of Medicine. Additionally, a portion of these funds is used to pay costs of program administration at the University of Washington School of Medicine, and for community clinical sites in Alaska. Students attend the first year of training at the University of Alaska, Anchorage campus, before transferring to the University of Washington, Seattle campus.

### **Component Goals and Strategies**

The Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho (WWAMI) regional medical school program provides guaranteed access to a medical school for residents of Alaska participating in the program. The University of Washington, School of Medicine, is the regional medical school for Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, and Idaho. Participation in the WWAMI program allows the State to reserve a predetermined number of class places each year at the University of Washington for medical students who have successfully completed their first year of medical school at the University of Alaska.

Alaska currently contracts and pays for thirty places (30), ten in each of the 2nd, 3rd, and 4th years of study. This is the primary vehicle through which Alaska residents gain access to a medical education program.

### **Key Component Issues for FY2001 – 2002**

To continue to allow Alaskans guaranteed access to medical education not available in Alaska and, through the recently implemented service obligation for program participants, to address statewide professional medical workforce needs.

### **Major Component Accomplishments for FY2000**

1. Administered WWAMI contract between the Alaska Postsecondary Education Commission, the University of Alaska, and the University of Washington School of Medicine.
2. Developed and implemented program regulations, participation contract, and servicing system modifications to implement requirement that program participants serve in Alaska for five years following program completion. Non-compliant individuals will be required to repay the tuition differential paid on their behalf plus interest.
3. Provided information on WWAMI to all Alaskan high schools

### **Statutory and Regulatory Authority**

AS.14.42.030 (d)

## Key Performance Measures for FY2002

**Measure: the number of Alaska communities with access to medical services associated with WWAMI/UW;**  
(Added by Legislature in FY2001 version.)

**Current Status:**

In addition to the communities already served by WWAMI, eight communities in Alaska will receive either a new or an enhanced service in calendar year 2000 (Seward, Bethel, Fairbanks, Anchorage, Juneau, Wasilla, Kodiak, Soldotna).

**Benchmark:**

No benchmarks provided at this time.

**Background and Strategies:**

Here is a list of some of the services and programs provided to communities through WWAMI/University of Washington:

1. MEDCON

Within the state of Alaska, virtually every community has increased access or enhanced medical services associated with WWAMI/University of Washington through the MEDCON consulting service. In 1999, over 4,000 calls were made or roughly 11 calls a day. This service allows physicians from Ketchikan to Barrow to consult with a specialist and get recommendations on patient care.

MEDCON calls in calendar year 2000 have increased by 20% over the years 1991-1999. Historically, 47 Alaska communities have accessed MEDCON. Though there is a higher volume this year, it is expected that the same number of communities will access MEDCON.

2. Alaska Family Practice Residency

The Alaska Family Practice Residency graduated its first class of residents. The city of Seward has been recruiting for 9 years for full-time physicians. Two Family Practice Residency graduates are now practicing and living in Seward.

One graduate is practicing in Juneau, one in Fairbanks, and one in Anchorage.

The Alaska Family Practice Residency also started an Emergency Medicine Resident elective rotation in Soldotna.

This year residents will be doing rotations in Bethel (8), Fairbanks (2), Kodiak (2), Wasilla (3), and Soldotna (2).

The Residency patient care has increased about 10% over last year. In FY2001, the faculty physicians and residents conducted about 21,000 patient visits. Seventy-five percent of the patient population is medically underserved.

3. WRITE program (WWAMI Rural Integrated Training Experience)

The WRITE program opened a new 6-month clinical training site in Wasilla.

4. Clerkships

Clerkships in Advanced Internal Medicine and Plastic and Reconstructive Surgery will start this year in Fairbanks.

Over 10 physicians in Fairbanks will receive clinical faculty appointments from the University of Washington School of Medicine.

5. Pediatric Sub-specialty clinics

Each year, Alaskan children needing care from sub-specialist pediatricians are seen in Anchorage by University of Washington School of Medicine faculty that travel to Anchorage. For calendar year 2000, there will be an estimated increase of 40% in the number of patient visits. This year there will be approximately 587 patient visits. Last year, 286 patient visits were performed.

**Measure: the percentage of WWAMI participants who return to the state to practice medicine;**  
(Added by Legislature in FY2001 version.)

**Current Status:**

In calendar year 2000, there was 38% increase in the number of WWAMI participants who returned to Alaska to practice medicine. Nine of the ten student who entered the 1992 WWAMI class finished their training by year 2000 and seven of those have returned to Alaska to practice, for a return rate of 70% for that class.

**Benchmark:**

The average return rate for Alaska is 51.6% (much higher than the national average of 40%).

**Measure: the number of patient visits provided to Alaskans through programs and physicians associated with the University of Washington School of Medicine WWAMI program;**  
*(Added by Legislature in FY2001 version.)*

**Current Status:**

In calendar year 2000, 57% of the returning students chose to practice medicine on a medically underserved area of Alaska. In actual numbers, seven students returned and 4 of those are practicing in an underserved area. This reflects no change from previous years.

**Measure: the number of health-related programs developed in the state that are associated with WWAMI/UW; and**  
*(Added by Legislature in FY2001 version.)*

**Current Status:**

During calendar year 2000, there was a 29% increase in health related programs developed in Alaska by WWAMI/UW.

**Measure: the number of research projects in or about the state associated with the University of Washington School of Medicine WWAMI program.**  
*(Added by Legislature in FY2001 version.)*

**Current Status:**

This year WWAMI faculty will receive approximately 40% increase in the research funding for the year 2000. The average amount of research funding per year is \$500,000. This year the amount increased to approximately \$700,000.

**Status of FY2001 Performance Measures**

	<i>Achieved</i>	<i>On track</i>	<i>Too soon to tell</i>	<i>Not likely to achieve</i>	<i>Needs modification</i>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• the number of Alaska communities with access to medical services associated with WWAMI/UW;</li> <li>• the percentage of WWAMI participants who return to the state to practice medicine;</li> <li>• the number of patient visits provided to Alaskans through programs and physicians associated with the University of Washington School of Medicine WWAMI program;</li> <li>• the number of health-related programs developed in the state that are associated with WWAMI/UW; and</li> <li>• the number of research projects in or about the state associated with the University of Washington School of Medicine WWAMI program.</li> </ul>		X			
		X			
		X			
		X			
			X		

**WWAMI Medical Education  
Component Financial Summary**

*All dollars in thousands*

	FY2000 Actuals	FY2001 Authorized	FY2002 Governor
<b>Non-Formula Program:</b>			
<b>Component Expenditures:</b>			
71000 Personal Services	0.0	0.0	0.0
72000 Travel	0.0	0.0	0.0
73000 Contractual	1,411.5	1,444.2	1,507.3
74000 Supplies	0.0	0.0	0.0
75000 Equipment	0.0	0.0	0.0
76000 Land/Buildings	0.0	0.0	0.0
77000 Grants, Claims	0.0	0.0	0.0
78000 Miscellaneous	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Expenditure Totals</b>	<b>1,411.5</b>	<b>1,444.2</b>	<b>1,507.3</b>
<b>Funding Sources:</b>			
1004 General Fund Receipts	1,411.5	1,444.2	1,507.3
<b>Funding Totals</b>	<b>1,411.5</b>	<b>1,444.2</b>	<b>1,507.3</b>

**Estimated Revenue Collections**

Description	Master Revenue Account	FY2000 Actuals	FY2001 Authorized	FY2001 Cash Estimate	FY2002 Governor	FY2003 Forecast
<b>Unrestricted Revenues</b>						
Unrestricted Fund	68515	1,411.5	1,444.2	1,444.2	1,507.3	1,507.3
<b>Unrestricted Total</b>		<b>1,411.5</b>	<b>1,444.2</b>	<b>1,444.2</b>	<b>1,507.3</b>	<b>1,507.3</b>
<b>Restricted Revenues</b>						
None.		0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0
<b>Restricted Total</b>		<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>
<b>Total Estimated Revenues</b>		<b>1,411.5</b>	<b>1,444.2</b>	<b>1,444.2</b>	<b>1,507.3</b>	<b>1,507.3</b>

**WWAMI Medical Education**

**Proposed Changes in Levels of Service for FY2002**

This increment of \$63.1 reflects a contractually agreed upon inflation factor built into the support fees formula for participation in the Washington, Wyoming, Alaska, Montana, Idaho (WWAMI) regional medical school program at the University of Washington, School of Medicine. The increment maintains Alaska's ten reserved places at the University of Washington, School of Medicine, for students who have successfully completed their first year of medical school at the University of Alaska, Anchorage.

**Summary of Component Budget Changes**

**From FY2001 Authorized to FY2002 Governor**

*All dollars in thousands*

	<u>General Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2001 Authorized</b>	1,444.2	0.0	0.0	1,444.2
<b>Proposed budget increases:</b>				
-WWAMI Tuition Increase	63.1	0.0	0.0	63.1
<b>FY2002 Governor</b>	<b>1,507.3</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>0.0</b>	<b>1,507.3</b>