

# **State of Alaska FY2015 Governor's Operating Budget**

## **Department of Education and Early Development Teaching and Learning Support Results Delivery Unit Budget Summary**

## Teaching and Learning Support Results Delivery Unit

### Contribution to Department's Mission

This Results Delivery Unit supports the mission of the Department of Education and Early Development as defined in the department level performance management model. Please refer to the information provided under the Department of Education and Early Development.

### Core Services

- Federal program funding and compliance
- Academic standards, academic assessment and accountability
- State system of support to increase school effectiveness
- Active partnerships

### Major RDU Accomplishments in 2013

- Worked with districts directly and sponsored a curriculum alignment institute to support the implementation of the revised Alaska content standards in reading, writing and math, adopted by the State Board in June 2012;
- Continued to work with Alaska stakeholders and Education Northwest on the implementation plan and timeline of implementation of state regulations on educator evaluation, which for the first time incorporate student learning data into the evaluation process;
- Successfully sought from the U.S. Department of Education a waiver from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) to put in place an Alaska designed school accountability system with a new Alaska School Performance Index, and the State Board of Education and Early Development adopted regulations to implement the waiver;
- Continued work with school districts to refine the Alaska Learning Network courses, a partnership including all Alaska school districts, to develop and administer efficient Alaska distance education; and,
- Continued to implement the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS) in collaboration with the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education, the Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development, and Alaska school districts.

### Key RDU Challenges

#### **1. Academic growth in reading, writing and math, to prepare all students to graduate college, career and culturally ready.**

Parents, community leaders, state legislators and many other Alaskans want to know about the quality of education in their local schools. They also want to be able to improve the schools that need help and to ensure that each and every school is accountable for producing results. The school reform effort to implement higher standards, with college and career ready expectations, offers great promise in preparing all students to graduate college and career ready. The State of Alaska has worked with local districts to ensure curriculum and assessments are aligned to standards. The continued efforts to ensure students receive instruction that meets their needs, and helps to improve achievement when a learner is struggling, remain a challenge. The department works with schools struggling with student achievement, in addition to all schools as they implement the new content standards, to provide support for increasing student achievement.

#### **2. Implement new state content standards and refine state assessments**

##### **Statewide Assessment System**

The State of Alaska has adopted a comprehensive assessment system for all students that includes standards-based assessments to determine student performance relative to the Alaska content standards. The State Board of Education and Early Development adopted new standards in June 2012, and the department continues to work with districts to support them as they align curriculum, materials and instruction to teach those standards. New

assessments must be put in place by 2015 by the department to assess those standards. These assessments provide information to hold schools and communities accountable for the academic achievement of children. Each year, all schools report assessment information to their communities regarding their progress.

### **3. Implementation of changes, based on the state waiver from the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA) as authorized by No Child Left Behind (NCLB), to the school accountability system**

The federal No Child Left Behind (NCLB) legislation, which amended the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), required that each state implement a Statewide Accountability Plan to measure whether a school is making progress. The United States Department of Education invited states to apply for waivers from ESEA over the past year, and Alaska received a waiver in May 2013. The waiver includes three major components:

- College and career-ready standards for all students;
- State-developed differentiated accountability system for schools, including recognition and support; and,
- Supporting effective instruction and leadership.

The new Alaska content standards, and assessing those standards, will address the first component of the waiver. The second component of the waiver changes the accountability system from one based heavily on the test scores from the Standards Based Assessments to a system that accounts for attendance, graduation rate, preparing students for college and career success, and accounts for growth in performance from one year to the next. Finally, the third component of the waiver includes a significant change to the way teachers and principals are evaluated, requiring the use of student learning data in those evaluations. Each aspect of the waiver provides for improvement in our accountability structure, but will be a challenge to implement as we work to engage all stakeholders and create a vastly different and more appropriate way to hold schools accountable for student achievement.

Maintain support for the Alaska Statewide Mentoring Project and the Alaska Administrator Coaching Project; which will result in decreases in turnover of Alaska educators and improved student achievement.

Sponsor professional development for the implementation of the new content standards and statewide literacy plan.

### **Significant Changes in Results to be Delivered in FY2015**

- Implement Alaska's new English language arts and mathematics standards, moving all schools from awareness and transition of the standards to full implementation;
- Develop and implement new state assessments of the content standards in English language arts and mathematics;
- Support districts as they implement new teacher and principal evaluation systems to incorporate student learning data, and provide for a stronger teacher and leader workforce;
- Continue implementation of high school curriculum changes to best prepare students for Alaska Performance Scholarship eligibility;
- Provide focused district and school improvement support services;
- Increasing concentration on effective reading programs in grades K-3;
- Facilitate the implementation of high quality digital learning; and,
- Provide support to increase the statewide graduation rate.

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**Teaching and Learning Support  
RDU Financial Summary by Component**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	FY2013 Actuals				FY2014 Management Plan				FY2015 Governor			
	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds	UGF+DGF Funds	Other Funds	Federal Funds	Total Funds
<b>Formula Expenditures</b> None.												
<b>Non-Formula Expenditures</b>												
Student and School Achievement	12,164.2	2,812.6	133,109.1	148,085.9	12,969.4	700.3	154,009.4	167,679.1	12,011.2	700.3	153,987.9	166,699.4
OWL	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	761.8	0.0	0.0	761.8	761.8	0.0	0.0	761.8
Live Homework Help	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	138.2	0.0	0.0	138.2	138.2	0.0	0.0	138.2
Alaska Learning Network	0.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	1,100.0	0.0	0.0	1,100.0	1,100.0	0.0	0.0	1,100.0
State System of Support	1,950.0	0.0	0.0	1,950.0	1,963.2	0.0	0.0	1,963.2	1,962.5	0.0	0.0	1,962.5
Statewide Mentoring	3,000.0	0.0	0.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	0.0	0.0	3,000.0	3,000.0	0.0	0.0	3,000.0
Teacher Certification	745.3	0.0	0.0	745.3	905.8	16.4	0.0	922.2	904.2	16.4	0.0	920.6
Child Nutrition	100.0	0.0	54,727.9	54,827.9	101.9	0.0	52,601.5	52,703.4	101.8	0.0	52,600.0	52,701.8
Early Learning Coordination	9,472.1	0.0	79.6	9,551.7	9,186.6	0.0	275.5	9,462.1	9,185.8	0.0	275.3	9,461.1
Pre-Kindergarten Grants	2,707.7	0.0	0.0	2,707.7	2,000.0	0.0	0.0	2,000.0	2,000.0	0.0	0.0	2,000.0
<b>Totals</b>	<b>30,139.3</b>	<b>2,812.6</b>	<b>187,916.6</b>	<b>220,868.5</b>	<b>32,126.9</b>	<b>716.7</b>	<b>206,886.4</b>	<b>239,730.0</b>	<b>31,165.5</b>	<b>716.7</b>	<b>206,863.2</b>	<b>238,745.4</b>

**Teaching and Learning Support  
Summary of RDU Budget Changes by Component  
From FY2014 Management Plan to FY2015 Governor**

*All dollars shown in thousands*

	<u>Unrestricted Gen (UGF)</u>	<u>Designated Gen (DGF)</u>	<u>Other Funds</u>	<u>Federal Funds</u>	<u>Total Funds</u>
<b>FY2014 Management Plan</b>	<b>30,790.9</b>	<b>1,336.0</b>	<b>716.7</b>	<b>206,886.4</b>	<b>239,730.0</b>
<b>Adjustments which will continue current level of service:</b>					
-Student and School Achievement	-580.1	0.0	-100.0	-5.5	-685.6
-State System of Support	-0.7	0.0	0.0	0.0	-0.7
-Teacher Certification	0.0	-1.6	0.0	0.0	-1.6
-Child Nutrition	-0.1	0.0	0.0	-1.5	-1.6
-Early Learning Coordination	-0.8	0.0	0.0	-0.2	-1.0
-Pre-Kindergarten Grants	-2,000.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	-2,000.0
<b>Proposed budget decreases:</b>					
-Student and School Achievement	-382.2	0.0	0.0	-16.0	-398.2
<b>Proposed budget increases:</b>					
-Student and School Achievement	0.0	4.1	100.0	0.0	104.1
-Pre-Kindergarten Grants	2,000.0	0.0	0.0	0.0	2,000.0
<b>FY2015 Governor</b>	<b>29,827.0</b>	<b>1,338.5</b>	<b>716.7</b>	<b>206,863.2</b>	<b>238,745.4</b>