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APS Quick Reference Guide

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Certificate Program Providers

What is the Alaska Performance Scholarship (APS)?

The APS is a merit-based scholarship available to qualifying Alaska high school students, which can be used to help cover the costs of postsecondary education or training in Alaska. A program of the State of Alaska, the APS is administered by the Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE).

Who can get the APS?

Alaska residents who graduate from an Alaska high school (public, private, or home school) in 2011 or later, and who meet the qualifying requirements, are eligible for the scholarship.

How does a student qualify for the scholarship?

Alaska high school students qualify by taking a specific, rigorous curriculum, earning a minimum 2.5 GPA, and scoring well on college placement or work-ready exams.

How much is the scholarship?

There are three award levels: Level 1 = up to \$4,755 per certificate; Level 2 = up to \$3,566 per certificate; and Level 3 = up to \$2,378 per certificate. The amount for which a student may qualify is based on a combination of GPA and test scores.

What costs does the APS cover?

The APS may be used to pay for costs of attendance not covered by other resources, including tuition; fees; books; equipment (including tools and other supplies); transportation (travel to training site); and room and board.

Can Registered Apprenticeship programsⁱ participate in the APS program?

Yes, training providers that have a status – authorization or exemption from authorization – with ACPE may apply for program participation. Providers must meet the criteria under AS 14.43.830, 20 AAC 16.235, and 8 AAC 81. Applications, available from ACPE, require an executed program participation agreement; evidence of financial soundness and fiduciary responsibility for administering state scholarship money; and enrollment in the ACPE-approved electronic disbursement method; among other criteria. ACPE determines if the provider meets their regulatory requirements, and then collaborates with the Department of Labor and Workforce Development (DOLWD), the agency responsible for approving the actual CTE certificate programs.



**ALASKA DEPARTMENT OF LABOR
& WORKFORCE DEVELOPMENT**



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What is the application timeline for training providers?

- Application forms are available in early March and must be submitted no later than May 30.
- Determinations are made in 10 – 15 business days, with some exceptions.
- If approved, APS awards may be used for CTE certificate programs beginning July 1 or later.
- Approvals are valid for two years.

If approved for participation in the APS, what are my responsibilities as a training program provider?

Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:

- Administer funds in accordance with applicable statutes and regulations
- Maintain appropriate documentation (student identity, eligibility, disbursement amounts, etc.)
- Submit annual outcomes-related reporting to ACPE (e.g. academic performance, graduation)
- Allow the State access to student, administrative, and financial records, for auditing purposes
- Have a qualifying student advisory program (counseling students with respect to courses, academic progress, career options, and options to receive assistance for students with personal challenges), and document each APS recipient’s participation in the advisory program

Where can I go or who can I contact for more information about APS program participation?

ACPE:

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DOLWD:

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ⁱ A “Registered Apprenticeship” is a U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) program that meets USDOL apprenticeship standards and has received their approval. Upon program completion, students earn a “Completion of Registered Apprenticeship” certificate, an industry-issued, nationally-recognized credential that validates proficiency in an apprenticeable occupation.