

Larry LeDoux
Commissioner
P.O. Box 110500
Juneau, AK 99811-0500
www.eed.state.ak.us



Eric Fry
Information Officer
907.465.2851
cell: 907.321.5564
eric.fry@alaska.gov

Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
August 17, 2010

Department Proposes Regulations for New Scholarships

JUNEAU – The State Board of Education & Early Development, meeting August 13 by teleconference, has sent out for public comment a revised version of proposed regulations affecting the new Alaska performance scholarships.

The Alaska performance scholarships provide financial incentives for students to take a rigorous high school curriculum that prepares them for college and career training. To be eligible, students must meet requirements in curriculum, grade point average, and assessment scores. There are three levels of scholarships. Eligible students must be Alaska residents and attend a postsecondary institution in Alaska.

The scholarships, proposed by Governor Parnell, were created in the past legislative session by Senate Bill 221.

The proposed regulations would do the following:

- Require school districts to determine a student's level of eligibility, record it on the student's transcript, and send the transcript to the Department of Education & Early Development.
- Set the assessments and assessment-score thresholds for student eligibility for each of the three levels of scholarship. The allowable assessments are the ACT, SAT and WorkKeys. WorkKeys scores establish eligibility only for students who will use the scholarship in a certificate career or technical school program.
- Set the curriculum requirements for eligible students in the high school Class of 2011. The requirements are: 4 credits in language arts; 3 credits in social studies, including ½ credit in Alaska history; 1 credit in health/physical education; and either 3 credits in science and 2 in math, or 3 credits in math and 2 in science, or 2 ½ credits in science and math each.

- Set procedures for students in home-based education and private schools to demonstrate their eligibility for the scholarships.

The State Board is scheduled to address the proposed regulations at its meeting September 9-10 in Palmer. The State Board is accepting written public comments until 4 p.m. September 7. Oral public comments may be offered beginning shortly after 8 a.m. on September 9, either in person at the meeting or at the following Legislative Information Offices: Anchorage, Barrow, Bethel, Fairbanks, Juneau, Kenai, Ketchikan, Kodiak, Kotzebue, Mat-Su, Nome, and Sitka.

To see the proposed regulations and learn how to comment, go to <https://www.eed.state.ak.us/regs/comment.html>. Or call Information Officer Eric Fry at 907-465-2851.

More information about the Alaska performance scholarships is at http://akadvantage.alaska.gov/Grants_and_Scholarships/Alaska_Scholarship.aspx.

###

