



Application Guidelines for Schools & Educational Programs

Invitation to Apply

The Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education (ACPE) and Alaska 529 invite schools and educational programs to submit an application for participation in the Kids2College program.

Each year, ACPE and Alaska 529, with the support of The Sallie Mae Fund, share Kids2College with 2,000-3,000 students in communities across Alaska, with approximately 50% of those students participating in a campus visit, and the remaining 50% participating in virtual campus tour or virtual campus event.

Application Process

If you are interested in program participation, please complete the online school application. **To be considered for priority shipping**, the application should be received by ACPE no later than **October 1 each year**. We will work very hard to meet earlier shipment requests so programs can begin on time as requested. Late applications are supply dependent.

Program Guidelines

The Kids2College program offers 5th through 8th grade students an opportunity to learn about college and career options through classroom lessons and activities, including a college & career panel where professionals share their own college and career experiences with students, either in-person, virtually, or through video recordings. The Kids2College curriculum helps prepare students to plan their own college and career pathways and may be supplemented with a virtual or in-person visit to a nearby college campus/training center or virtual campus tours.

Kids2College is designed to reach low-income, first generation college-going students, however all interested schools are encouraged to apply.

Curriculum

Applicants are expected to review the curriculum and implement a schedule that allows completion of all 6 lessons prior to the campus visit. Completion of all 6 lessons is a program requirement. The supplemental activities found in the back of the Teacher's Guide are optional and enhance each lesson, further strengthening the curriculum, and helping students prepare for their Lesson 6 presentations. Power-Point templates are available for each lesson. Digital & print curriculum are available for in-school, distance and hybrid learning models.

Surveys

Pre- and post-surveys allow us to gauge student thoughts about high school and college before and after program participation. This requirement helps us to monitor program outcomes. All schools are encouraged to use online surveys whenever possible. Paper surveys should be submitted to ACPE within one week of completion.

Pre-surveys must be completed prior to starting the curriculum.

Post-surveys must be completed within 1-2 days of a campus visit or virtual tour, after completion of curriculum.

Trainings

1-hour program trainings are offered monthly from September through February, informing educators of critical updates and walking through program details.

College & Career Panel

The Lesson 5 College & Career Panel allows students to hear directly from professionals about their own college and career pathways. This lesson helps to prepare students for their own presentations in Lesson 6. Please coordinate with your local/campus coordinator for help in recruiting volunteers for your panel. If your school does not have a local coordinator, the statewide coordinator will assist with scheduling a virtual panel. In addition to in-person panels and virtual panels, we also have pre-recorded video panels to meet the needs of students in an asynchronous learning environment.

Campus Visit

Where available, the campus visit includes a day of age appropriate college classes and hands-on activities designed to give students a feel for college life. Students typically begin with an introduction to the campus prior to splitting into groups to attend their classes. Students often break for lunch during their field trip and end their day with a closing ceremony or guest speakers. Virtual campus events, pre-recorded events, and virtual tours are available for students unable to participate in an in-person campus visit.

Program Materials & Expenses

Program Materials

In general, sponsorship will cover curriculum, promotional materials, college & career panels, and teacher trainings.

Lunch and Transportation Expenses

If an in-person campus visit is offered, schools are asked to provide transportation and sack lunches for students on the day of the campus visit. This allows program sponsors to provide curriculum to more students across Alaska. If your school has difficulty meeting these costs, please contact shelly.morgan@alaska.gov or 907-269-7972 to discuss potential options for alternative arrangements.

Participant Selections

Granting partners will review applications and notify schools of selection to participate with a digital letter of agreement to sign electronically. Applications received by October 1 should be notified by October 10.

For More Information

If you would like more information on the Kids2College program or have questions regarding the application process, please contact shelly.morgan@alaska.gov or 907-269-7972.

Please submit completed application online by October 1 and direct any questions to:

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