



## 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 share Kids2College with 2,000-3,000 students in communities across Alaska. Students participate in either in-person or virtual campus events, virtual campus tours, and college & career panels where they interact with professors, students and alumni to learn about different postsecondary pathways.

### Application Process

If you are interested in program participation, please complete the online Program 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 can always be processed for digital curriculum materials, if print materials are unavailable.

### Program Guidelines

The Kids2College program offers 5<sup>th</sup> through 8<sup>th</sup> 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. Although recommended for grades 5-8, we can also work with grades 4-12.

### Curriculum

Applicants are expected to review the curriculum and implement a schedule that allows completion of all 6 lessons prior to the campus event. Completion of all 6 lessons is a program requirement. The supplemental activities found in the back of the Teacher's Guide 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 postsecondary learning options both before and after program participation. This requirement helps us monitor program outcomes and make program improvements. 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 event 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. Additional times are available upon request.

## College & Career Panel

The Lesson 5 College & Career Panel allows students to hear directly from professionals about their own college and career training pathways. This lesson helps prepare students for their own Lesson 6 presentations. 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 ACPE statewide coordinator will assist with scheduling your panel. In addition to in-person, virtual, and hybrid panels, we offer pre-recorded video panels to meet the needs of students in an asynchronous learning environment.

## Campus Events

Where available, campus events include a day of age appropriate college classes and interactive 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

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 indicate in your application and contact [shelly.morgan@alaska.gov](mailto: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](mailto:shelly.morgan@alaska.gov) or 907-269-7972.

**Please submit completed application online (preferably by October 1) and direct any questions to:**

Shelly Morgan, K-12 Specialist  
Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education  
800 E. Dimond Blvd.  
Anchorage, AK 99515  
[shelly.morgan@alaska.gov](mailto:shelly.morgan@alaska.gov); 907.269.7972