The University of Alaska launched the "Stay on Track" campaign in Fall 2011 to promote timely graduation. A key element of the campaign encouraged students to enroll in 15 credits per semester, the number needed to finish most degrees within four years.

One concern about the campaign was whether some students might struggle with a heavier course load and see a decline in their grade point average.

METHODOLOGY:

- We looked at total enrollment in 15+ credit hours for the entire MAU from Fall 2008 through Fall 2012.
- Then we pulled data on enrollment in 15+ credits for entry cohorts from Fall 2007-Fall 2012.
- We also tracked the Successful Learning Rate (SLR) for Fall 2007-2012 entry cohorts, looking at both those who enrolled in 15 or more credits and those enrolled in less than 15 credit hours.

SOURCES:

- UAA Factbook, 2009-2012
- UAA Spring Closing Student Characteristics Report (2008-2012)
- UAA Student Learning Progress Model data compiled for Fall 2007-2012 entry cohorts

Since the launch of the "Stay on Track" campaign for Spring 2012, enrollment in 15+ credits has increased. It is too soon to see an impact on UAA's graduation rates, but the data shows that the increased credit load has not had a negative impact on student achievement.

Are more UNDERGRADUATES enrolling in 15+ credits?

Are more NEW students enrolling in 15+ credits?

Are students SUCCESSFUL at this higher credit load?

Historically students enrolled in 15+ credits achieve a higher SLR than those enrolled in less.

Successful Learning Rate (SLR) is the proportion of courses passed compared to the total courses attempted.