

Date: February 2, 2020

To: John Stalvey, Interim Provost

From: Denise Runge, Dean

Re: AY20 Expedited Program Review Findings

Program/s in this review: Airframe (UC), Powerplant (UC), Aviation Maintenance Technology (AAS)

Specialized accrediting agency (if applicable): none, but programs fall under certification requirements of the Federal Aviation Administration (FAA)

Campuses where the program is delivered: Anchorage

Members of the program review committee:

- Lou Nagy, Professor
- David Helms, Assistant Professor
- Levi Hohl, Assistant Professor

Centrality of Program Mission and Supporting Role The Aviation Maintenance Technology programs are very well-aligned with the mission of UAA and of the CTC. The programs meet a clear workforce need in an industry designated as “high demand” by the Department of Labor, preparing individuals who obtain immediate employment with air carriers, aviation repair services, and related positions. It enjoys strong external partnerships, which support the needs of industry and of its enrolled students.

Program Demand (including service to other programs), Efficiency, and Productivity

Demand for the program has remained steady during the review period despite general enrollment declines at UAA, and the program has taken steps to become increasingly efficient. The programs had an average of 105 majors per year, with 99 during the 2019 review year. The labs in which many of the courses are taught generally hold either 24 or 30 students.

Most sections are at two-thirds to three-quarters capacity, with an average class size of 19.3. The program has done a good job of containing its instructional costs. For 2019, the student credit hours per full time equivalent faculty member, or SCH/FTEF was 465.9. Its tuition revenue per credit hour is \$214.1 and its cost per credit hour is \$215.4, for a ratio of .99, indicating the program is covering its instructional costs. Overall the program can grow its enrollment and further reduce its costs, but only to an extent. At some point costs will rise proportionately, since it is already operating efficiently for a program of this type.

Program Quality, Improvement and Student Success The quality of the program is evidenced by its FAA certification, by high student pass rates on the national exams, and by industry support, including 100% job placement of graduates. The program and its curriculum must meet the strict standards of the FAA and must regularly update to remain in compliance. As part of the program, students take the national certification exams. The faculty note in their review that its students consistently score well above the national average. The Aviation Maintenance AAS has a retention rate that is significantly higher than the UAA average. The programs have graduated an average of 29 students per year, combined, and its students are more likely to graduate within four years than the average UAA associate degree-seeking student. With the addition of the division's Student Success Advisor and more active mentoring by faculty, the program is working to further improve these metrics.

Program Duplication / Distinctiveness Duplication: UAF offers similar programs. The UAA program has seen consistently strong enrollment, and likewise the UAF programs appear to be well enrolled also. Given the high demand for these positions both state wide and across the US, the duplication is justified and appropriate to serve the needs of industry. Distinctiveness: The UAA certificate programs are offered primarily as a part time option for working students, whereas the UAF programs are intensive and can be completed within a single calendar year. The two programs regularly refer students to the other, based on the student's interest in attending full or part time.

Commendations and Recommendations *Commendations:* The program is commended for its outreach and partnership efforts in recent years, including its work with the Alaska Air Carriers, school districts, and others on alternative pathways such as concurrent enrollment and apprenticeships. The program is commended for maintaining efficient and effective delivery of the program with schedules designed to accommodate working students. *Recommendations:* The program should continue to explore alternative modes of delivering its programs in order to further enhance productivity and efficiency.

Decision *Continuation:* Program is successfully serving its students and meeting its mission and goals. No immediate changes necessary, other than regular, ongoing program improvements.