March 1, 2019

Dear UAA School of Education Students,

The University of Alaska Board of Regents just completed the second day of its regularly-scheduled full board meeting. Of note on the agenda was a discussion about the UAA School of Education accreditation.

The board concluded that it requires more information to determine the best path forward for students in initial teacher preparation programs. It unanimously passed a motion directing President Johnsen to ensure that an expedited program review is completed by the end of March. The board also affirmed that admissions to initial licensure programs remain suspended.

The Board of Regents will consider all information before it votes on the path forward at its next meeting scheduled for April 8, 2019.

What’s important to know

- There is a path to licensure for UAA graduates of initial licensure programs through summer 2019. This was made possible by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development’s (DEED) decision to accept program verifications from UAA for teacher candidates and consider these students to have graduated from a state-approved program.
- Beyond August 2019, UAA initial teacher preparation programs do not provide a clear path to licensure at present.
- Going forward, the university is committed to providing a pathway to licensure in Anchorage.
- UAA will hold students harmless from costs and fees associated with transfers. We will ensure students have a path to licensure either at UAA, or through accredited programs offered through UAF or UAS.

We will continue to keep you updated as things progress. For more information, please reference our FAQ on the School of Education website. You can also view President Johnsen’s presentation materials to the Board of Regents.

If you have questions, please call our Student Assistance Line at 907-786-6200. We are committed to providing you with information and resources to help you make the best possible decision to reach your educational goals.

Thank you,

Claudia Dybdahl
Interim Director
UAA School of Education