University of Alaska Fairbanks

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OVERVIEW

The University of Alaska Fairbanks (UAF) is Alaska's flagship research university and a Land, Sea, and Space Grant institution. With a mission to serve the various needs of the state, UAF delivers high-quality education, research, and public service across urban and rural communities. UAF is internationally recognized for its expertise in Arctic and climate science and offers a broad array of undergraduate, graduate, doctoral students, and certificate programs. Its main campus in Fairbanks and six rural campuses serve as hubs of innovation, discovery, and workforce development.

WORKFORCE TRAINING

UAF offers a range of workforce development programs aligned with regional and statewide industry needs, particularly in STEM and technical fields. Our Community and Technical College provides stackable credentials, industry-aligned certificate programs, and apprenticeships in fields such as welding, aviation, healthcare, and process technology. UAF also offers Google Career Certificates, Microsoft Certifications, and AI/data science bootcamps. Through partnerships with regional employers and agencies, UAF delivers customized training and career pathways, including programs for Indigenous and rural communities. Co-op and internship opportunities provide students with real-world, hands-on experience in Alaska's high-demand sectors.

RESEARCH CAPABILITIES

UAF is a global leader in Arctic and climate change research, home to research institutes such as the Geophysical Institute, the International Arctic Research Center, and the Institute of Arctic Biology. UAF conducts cutting-edge research in space physics, Unmanned Aircraft Systems (UAS), remote sensing, renewable energy, and natural hazards. Strengths in engineering and computer science include robotics, autonomous systems, materials testing,

and algorithm development. As the lead institution for the Alaska Center for Energy and Power, UAF supports federally funded research in energy systems, AI, and environmental monitoring. UAF hosts one of 14 UARCs nationwide.The core mission of the Geophysical Detection of Nuclear Proliferation University Affiliated Research Center is to assist the Department of Defense (DoD) and the Interagency in achieving dominant capabilities through technical excellence and innovation in early detection and analysis of nuclear proliferation as it applies to geophysical phenomenology.

FACILITIES & INSTRUMENTATION

UAF's research and training facilities include an advanced UAS flight range, high-performance computing centers, a rocket range, cold regions engineering lab, and state-of-the-art laboratories in atmospheric sciences, biology, and geophysics. Specialized environments include a vacuum lab, UAS labl, and Arctic testbed for remote and autonomous systems. UAF also operates the Alaska Satellite Facility and Toolik Field Station, providing access to remote field research in extreme environments. The College of Engineering and Mines hosts facilities such as fabrication labs, thermal energy systems, and a virtual cyber range to support workforce readiness and innovation.

PAST PERFORMANCE

UAF has a strong track record of workforce development and federally funded research. It has implemented custom training programs for dislocated workers through Department of Labor grants and collaborated with industry on precision fabrication and process technology training. UAF has received over $231M of research funding in FY2024, with active awards from NSF, DoD, NASA, NIH and DOE. UAF is the lead institution on a multi-university Arctic research initiative and has contributed patents in remote sensing, UAV operations, and materials science.