

EXCEL Alaska - *Education for Life*

Summer Newsletter - July 2019



This is the last of the 2018-19 school year. With these final sessions, we can report we served close to 550 students!

The 2019-20 EXCEL Alaska school year starts this month with the George River Internship (GRI), followed by the Math-Science Expedition (MSE) in August. Beyond that, we will be having some exciting sessions and some exciting news to share!



EXCEL / MAPTS Capstone

Our MAPTS Capstone Students traveled to Delta Junction for two weeks of training. They learned not only how to operate several pieces of heavy equipment, how to perform "walk-arounds" to check fluid levels, belts, critical moving



parts of each rig, and proper reporting procedures. They added specific employability skills to their toolbox, and they learned how to fill out time cards.

The MAPTS training is so comprehensive, they learned First Aid/CPR as well as earning an entry level surface mine training certificate from the University of Alaska. This certificate

includes "140 hours of MAPTS Surface Mine Training Camp: Worksite Health & Safety Practices; Environmental Awareness, Protection & Enhancement; Employability Standards Skills; Intro to Ground Control; Intro to Surface Haul Truck CAT 769, 12 hours; Intro to Dozer CAT D5, 12 hours; Articulated Haul Truck Case 340B, 12 hours; MSHA 5000-23 Certificate issued for MSHA Part 48 Surface Inexperienced New Miner; Equipment Inspections & Field Level Risk Assessment; Intro to Skid Steer & Telehandler Operations."

Following this training, each student moved on to a two-week paid internship with a Calista subsidiary. They were placed at STG Crane, Granite Construction, STG, Inc, Yukon Equipment, Brice Environmental, Brice Construction, Brice Engineering, or Brice, Inc.

An experience such as this is only accomplished through strong partnerships. We thank Donlin Gold, MAPTS, Calista, and The Kuskokwim Corporation for working with us to make this program so very successful.

Problem Solving * Know How to Learn * Respect Others



- **Did you know?** - Alaska's employment was up an estimated 0.3 percent in May, or 900 jobs, from May 2018.



Summer XL

Summer XL 2019 has just come to a close. This year's 21-day relevant, hands-on intensive learning camp was held at AVTEC where students stayed on campus

for the full three weeks to experience dorm life and prepare for their futures. Students attended six hours of class each day and assessed themselves each night on the YES Employability Standards. Students chose one of the intensive strands from Heavy Diesel, Aviation-Ground School, Small Marine Motor and Fabrication, Maritime, Business Office Technology, and Culinary Arts.



Additionally, students had the opportunity to complete Driver's Education to earn received their instructional permits and/or driver's license. Of the 59 students who attended, every student who needed their driver's permit, passed the written exam!

Here's how it played out for credits and certificates:

- **Career Class:** .5 High School Credit in Career Development and Life Work Planning
- **Driver's Education:** .5 High School Credit in Driver's Education
- **Diesel Heavy:** .5 High School Credit in Diesel Heavy
- **Business Office Tech:** .5 High School Credit in Business Office Tech
- **Culinary Arts:** .5 High School Credit in Culinary CTE, Basic Shipboard Culinary Training (BSCT), General Basic Culinary, ServeSafe Card
- **Small Marine Motor & Fabrication:** .5 High School Credits in Small Marine Motor and Fabrication
- **Aviation Ground School:** .5 High School Credits in Aviation Ground School
- **Maritime:** .5 High School Credit in Maritime CTE, Basic Training - US Coast Guard and STCW Approved, First Aid & CPR, Personal Safety & Social Responsibility, Basic Fire Fighting, Personal Survival Techniques, Knot Tying/USCG Knot Letter & Nautical Skills Fast Track

Our thanks to AVTEC for customizing the curriculum for each of the classes, to NIT for helping so many students achieve and obtain driver's licenses and/or permits, and to CKT Aviation for instruction for our Aviation strand. We couldn't possibly provide the internship experiences to students without the help of many, including Donlin Gold, Calista, Alaska Air Transit, 49th State Brewery, The K3 Group, Pathfinder Aviation, and Sheldon Air Service.

Obtain a Driver's License * Communication * Fit for Duty



Did you know? - 74% of the world's trade is carried by ship, 95% of the U.S. international

trade is transported by ship, 55% of the U.S. population lives within 50 miles of a coastline, and 60% of the U.S. energy is imported by ship



EXCEL Internship Program



We realized such fantastic results with the internship program with our MAPTS Capstone students and with last year's aviation students, expansion of the program was a natural move to help more students transition to adult life.

This summer, we brought a total of fifteen students into the Summer Internship program from all the strands. Students were selected based on their interest and

performance at Summer XL. We have students placed in entry level jobs in culinary, aviation, and as laborers. Others are looking for jobs in areas of interest such as retail, while others are seeking seasonal jobs to help pay for higher education as they have their sights set on jobs requiring degrees or other certification involving additional training.

We feel this expansion of EXCEL Alaska is a wonderful addition and we will foster its growth to assist future students even further to realizing their personal life goals. We will continue to follow each cohort and help them in any way we can as they transition to successful lives as adults.

Good Attendance * Follows Through * Accepts Advice



Did you know? - The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development estimates employment and [job openings for airline pilots, co-pilots and flight engineers](#) will grow nearly 12 percent between 2014 and 2024.



What's Coming Up!

The 2019-2020 school year is ahead of us! Please check in frequently to our Facebook page for upcoming events and registration deadlines.

July:

- George River Internship - July 13-22

August:

- Math Science Expedition - August 8-19

September:

- EXCEL Launch - September 9-14
- EXCEL Leadership - September 23-28



Fulfilling industry request, look for more opportunities for students to obtain drivers' licenses this year! If you have any questions about any of EXCEL's camps or sessions, please contact Tony at twilson@excelalaska.org.

Volunteer * Graduate from High School * Manage Stress



Board News

If you have an interest in serving on EXCEL Alaska's Board of Directors on either the advisory board or the executive board, please contact [Carol Wilson](#), EXCEL Alaska's Executive Director.



Did you notice? After each session report in this newsletter (and in previous newsletters) there are three words, or set of words, separated by an asterisk, such as "Fit for Duty * Respect Others * Dependable." Each of these has been taken directly from the *YES! Employability Skills* program, and all the skills are embedded in the curriculum for EXCEL Alaska. We use them in foundational sessions as well as specialty sessions and they are one of the reasons our students are so successful. Not only are they good for the workplace, but they are wonderful for classroom management. Students understand what Alaska employers are looking for and they hear it again and again

when they are participating in their mock interviews, job tours, and from other instructors in other programs, such as MAPTS and NIT. If you would like to know more about the *YES! Employability Skills* program, or if you would like posters for your workplace or school, please contact us, or partner, [APICC](#).



Want a Great Career?

Alaskan Employers Expect:

<h3 style="text-align: center;">WORK ATTITUDES</h3> <p>RESPONSIBLE/SELF-DISCIPLINED Is a self-starter, committed to and accountable for work assigned. Does not do the bare minimum to get the job done.</p> <p>WILLING TO LEARN/PRIDE IN DOING A GOOD JOB Is flexible, ambitious, shows initiative, efficient. Willing and able to respond to change in work assignments or learn new technology and new ways of doing things. Willing to do the job even until it is done correctly. Able to see long term results of efforts on the job.</p> <p>SAFETY-CONSCIOUS Always thinks about safety in every aspect of the job, takes responsibility for work area actions. Notices and reports unsafe situations in the workplace. Does not have to be told to use safety procedures, concerned for the safety of others.</p> <p>MANAGES STRESS AND PERSONAL PROBLEMS Manages job pressures constructively. Does not allow personal problems to interfere with work.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">SKILLS/COMPETENCIES</h3> <p>POSITIVE OUTLOOK Views the good in situations and works constructively to solve problems. Has a positive self-image, is self-confident, sets personal goals.</p> <p>FOLLOWS THE RULES Performs tasks in the prescribed manner, does not break rules but will help change rules if needed.</p> <p>WORKING WITH OTHERS Is able to work as a productive team member, able to share information, credits and praise, others, pays the team above personal interests.</p> <p>RESPECTS OTHERS Has good manners, shows concern, courtesy, appreciates multicultural diversity.</p> <p>TECHNOLOGY USAGE Smartphones and tablets have changed the workplace in a short amount of time. Begins your employees technology guidelines.</p>
<h3 style="text-align: center;">WORK ETHIC</h3> <p>HONESTY AND INTEGRITY Actions are based on a personally held set of values, can be trusted to follow the rules even when supervisors are not present, keeps one's word, is consistent with the company mission and vision.</p> <p>ACCEPTS ADVICE, SUPERVISION, CRITICISM Has high self-esteem and does what is asked, accepts criticism and uses it to improve.</p> <p>DEPENDABLE / FOLLOWS THROUGH Works diligently to complete tasks, alerts supervisor to job problems or delays.</p> <p>GOOD ATTENDANCE / ON TIME Can be depended upon to be at work except for very good reasons.</p> <p>ACCURACY OF WORK / NO WASTE Is careful and avoids mistakes, corrects errors, takes pride in work well done, holds high standards.</p> <p>VOLUNTEER Volunteering shows initiative and a commitment to community.</p>	<h3 style="text-align: center;">OPEN DOORS TO EMPLOYMENT</h3> <p>GRADUATE FROM HIGH SCHOOL A high school diploma is a minimum education requirement for employment.</p> <p>HAVE ENGLISH PROFICIENCY Many services are available for people who speak English as a second language. Employers need workers who are proficient in English, as this can be a barrier of entry in many professions.</p> <p>HAVE A VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE A driver's license is a formal form of ID and demonstrates initiative. Keep a clean driving record as many companies will not hire someone with a DUI.</p> <p>GAIN TRAINING/EDUCATION Some employers say if you have mastered soft skills, they will give you the rest. Others require job specific training or experience.</p> <p>BE ABLE TO PASS A DRUG SCREENING Many companies have a zero tolerance for substance abuse. Often it means employees do not show up for work, or can be a safety hazard if they have been using drugs or alcohol in the recent past.</p> <p>NARROW GAPS IN EMPLOYMENT If you have poor work history or you are an offender, utilize resources offering help. Many companies hire offenders, the honest, persons yearn self-provisionally, and rebuild your resume.</p> <p>POSSESS BASIC EMPLOYABILITY SKILLS Utilize some of the soft skills programs to help you develop the competencies, attitudes, and values employees are seeking.</p> <p>SOCIAL MEDIA With the ever-increasing use and variety of social media, many employers track social media for potential employees' character and to see if the applicant would be a good fit for the culture of the organization. Use social media wisely.</p> <p>FIT FOR DUTY Be able to pass a medical assessment to be sure an employee can safely do a specific job or task under the working conditions.</p>



Alaska Process Industry Careers Consortium
APICC.ORG



Look forward to more in the next EXCEL Newsletter!
In the meantime, keep up with us on [Facebook](#).

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