



Key Talking Points - Governor's Budget Proposal

- Behind every thriving economy is a strong university system. Education fuels opportunity, growth and economic prosperity.
- Education is a core responsibility of the state. UA is established in the Alaska Constitution.
- UA provides 90 percent of all higher education in Alaska and is the state's largest workforce development organization. Given the condition of Alaska's economy and the need for innovation and diversification, this is precisely the wrong time to divest in education.
- UA is a prime mover in Alaska's economy generating \$1.1 billion in annual economic activity, including the purchase of \$123 million in goods and services from 2,000+ Alaskan businesses.
- The Governor's proposal is a 41 percent (\$134 million) reduction in state funding to the University of Alaska.
- If sustained, this would be the largest year-over-year budget reduction in the university's 100-year history.
- UA has managed budget reductions in four out of the last five years, a cumulative loss of over \$195 million, severely impacting our ability to perform our mission on behalf of Alaska.
- The state's public investment in UA is essential to our ability to raise the other 63 percent of our budget – from student tuition, service fees, research revenue, alumni, private and other philanthropic giving.



If this passes, it would be the largest budget cut in the university's 100-year history.

- Tuition and research revenue – two critical sources of funding – will drop as a result of lower enrollment and fewer academic programs.
- A cut of this magnitude, will necessitate deep cuts that will impact every campus, program and aspect of our mission – education, research, community service.
- UA leads the world in Arctic research and built an international reputation that attracts faculty, students and investment. However, we operate in a highly mobile, international market for both talent and resources. Talent follows capital.
- There are 1,200 fewer people working at UA than there were just four years ago. This budget will likely result in the loss of an additional 1,300 staff and faculty.
- Alaska has the lowest college going rate in the nation. UA provides access and opportunity to every Alaskan through our network of community campuses.