

**Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development****Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: Ilisagvik College****Project Title:****Project Type:** Equipment and Materials

## Ilisagvik College - Heavy Equipment

**State Funding Requested: \$150,000****House District: 40 / T**

One-Time Need

**Brief Project Description:**

Funding will be used to purchase a Class B truck for CDL training and heavy equipment operations classes.

**Funding Plan:**

Total Project Cost:	\$150,000
Funding Already Secured:	(\$0)
FY2013 State Funding Request:	(\$150,000)
Project Deficit:	\$0

*Funding Details:*

None

**Detailed Project Description and Justification:**

Ilisagvik College is the only accredited college within the boundaries of the North Slope Borough and it is the only tribal college in the state. The college offers two-year associate degrees, as well as many certificates and endorsements in vocational, academic and workforce development fields. Students are served at the campus in Barrow as well as the seven outlying villages via distance delivery. Last year 1600 students were enrolled at the college. Additionally the college enrolls students from around the state and has dorm accommodations for more students. Anyone who meets admission requirements can attend. With the possible upcoming construction of the natural gas pipeline project and the increase in oil and gas exploration, Ilisagvik would like to be considered as one of the state's leading training agencies. Expanding an already existing program to meet the growing needs of the state makes the most sense. As a recognized regional training center Ilisagvik has a track record of successfully delivering courses that result in local hire. Working with local employers we have identified a need for additionally training on certain equipment which includes a Class B truck for CDL training and a small capacity warehouse type forklift and pallet jacks. This additional equipment will help meet a local workforce need.

**Project Timeline:**

Equipment will be purchased and delivered in the summer.

**Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:**

Ilisagvik

**Grant Recipient Contact Information:**

Name:	Kathy Leary
Title:	Training Manager
Address:	Box 749 Barrow, Alaska 99723
Phone Number:	852-3333
Email:	kathy.leary@ilisagvik.edu

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☒ Yes ☐ No



January 20, 2012

Representative Joule  
House of Representatives  
Juneau, Alaska 99801-1182

Dear Representative Joule:

Greetings from the far north and thank you again for your continued support for Ilisagvik's Workforce Development programs that are putting Alaskans to work!

As the only accredited, Alaska Native controlled public institution in Alaska, and the only college located within the boundaries of the Arctic Slope, Ilisagvik College is one of the premier training institutions in Alaska. We have open enrollment and any individual who wants to attend Ilisagvik is welcome. Every program we offer provides substantial career and employment opportunities in the Arctic as well as elsewhere in Alaska. Besides the general population, our Workforce programs reach:

- Emerging, displaced and underemployed workers,
- Returning veterans reentering the workforce
- Trainings for the chronically unemployed
- Skills development for regulatory and other compliance for continued employment
- Employer requested certifications and endorsements which in turn affords local hire

We serve students at our campus in Barrow, all seven of the other North Slope villages, and have students attending classes from across the nation. We are proud to say that our enrollment numbers surpassed last year's student count as we educated almost 1600 students last academic school year.

Employers, other training providers and Vocational Rehabilitation representatives have asked us about how we can help our veterans return to the civilian workforce. VA benefits may be used for any approved program offered by a school that is authorized to grant an associates or higher degree. This is an unmet need throughout Alaska. We fit that requirement and are ready to support our veterans in any way possible.

Continued Oil and Gas exploration and development coupled with government and industry driven regulatory changes which mandate more industry certificates, Ilisagvik College is continuously preparing to address and update workforce programs that keep residents in their current jobs *and* provide skill sets to emerging workers for gainful employment. We currently train hundreds of residents each year who are directly employable in the North Slope oil fields. As a recognized Regional Training Center we have a track record of successfully delivering courses that result in local hire.

Our equipment need is based on repeated requests from employers. We are requesting support in the Capital Budget in the amount of \$150,000 to fill the gap we have with this equipment and to increase our long term training capabilities. These funds will be used to purchase a Class B Truck for CDL training and Heavy Equipment Operation classes, a General Industry, small capacity warehouse type forklift and pallet jacks, and the type scaffolding used by employers in oilfield support operations - all for Workforce Readiness certifications in response to employer identified needs. With state support to purchase these items we can train more residents for the workforce.

We appreciate your consideration in supporting the expansion of our Workforce Development Programs in response to the many construction and industry needs on the North Slope. Studies show that 70% of our residents do not want to leave their home region to obtain training, so offering these courses close to home is an important part of what we do for our rural residents and for rural sustainability. If you have questions or concerns, please feel free to contact us.

Quyanaqpak, Thank-You.



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