

**Alaska's Workforce Future: Student Survey**

# **Comments**

# Alaska's Workforce Future: Student Survey

## Respondent Comments

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### Respondent Comments

18. Please enter other barriers to employment and tell more about any you have chosen above.
Just the financing really because college is so expensive
I don't know exactly what I want to do.
none
I'm really self driven but not sustained. I want to move out early and work towards my goals, but I am not ready.
I think I really need finance, because I grew up with a single mom. So its only her who provide for us. My dad passed away in 2018, so yeah but I really need more level of education.
I don't want to become in debt for going to school.
What I want to do costs a lot of money.
Ion really have much support in that aspect
Stable housing / needing to have a support family so how could I move forward in my ambitions
Wi-Fi funding no longer available. Vehicle maintenance is required. May have to relocate for clinical. Need more scholarships and grants, I apply for 1 everyday.
Work schedule, work support/collaboration, self motivation.
being black(a descendent of American child slavery) in America is a statistical fact in this country especially here in Alaska when employers can write you a letter stating that your age and your race is not a barrier wow using that to cloak, racism and discrimination
I have a lot of student loans and family medical debt. I must keep working to pay all of our living expenses. My continuing education options are limited due to those factors currently.
I am a full time working parent. 2 teens, 1 of whom will graduate from HS while I am still earning Master's degree. I am concerned about the cost of attending grad school while trying to save up for my teens' post-high school plans. Additionally, my parents are still alive and in their 80s. One parent has Alzheimer's. A step-parent is less involved in their care. My sibling and I have tried to take over some of these responsibilities. As their needs inevitably increase, I'll be spending more time and likely more money with them. I'm concerned about juggling this with my studies, but I'm also not getting any younger, and don't want to keep delaying my graduate studies.
Being a military spouse and moving often
Don't know where to start
I need to go to college for at least a year, but can't afford or don't know how to afford to.
Mainly just making up my mind and choosing a career path
Adulting is wild
I don't really see any barriers in a practical sense. I just need to grind away results, find shorter summer jobs and internships in the field of conservation I would like, meanwhile continuing to focus on my education and bringing more expertise to the table for future employers.
Appropriate child care, financial burden
Don't know how college process works. No guided help given you have to help yourself.
I might need more training, when it comes too different types of welding
None ready to work today
Social inabilities, time management, anxiety, mental health, stress, school schedule.
don't know where to start
I have a family of four, so commuting or figuring out where long-term training would take place is a bit of a struggle.
There's a culture of inequality in the trades--women get mistreated and bosses don't care. Why would I want to deal with that???
There are currently more applicants than available spots in most fields and other options are not very well advertised.
I work full time but I want a career. I have to plan for the future, a trade that will always be in demand something I can rely on.
Need to find the right referrals so may apply or obtain training
I just try my best and if it don't work out I go back and correct my wrongs and do my best

**18. Please enter other barriers to employment and tell more about any you have chosen above.**

I have no pet sitter for my fur babies but willing to do remote training.
Just money; it's very expensive to live in Alaska, so I'm living in a small bedroom so that I can finish graduate school.
I need more education
I have a disability, I am autistic.
Age and disability
Limited educational opportunities might hold me back, but I'll work through that and any other challenges I face.
Pay is too bad to afford living here
Can't drive yet but plan on getting a license
other barriers is money.
caregiver
FINNANCE I don't have money
Expensive not only to get out of Kodiak but to go to college without scholarship.
It's very very isolated where I live, and my living situation could be better.
My age
Being able to pay for attending avtec
The schooling
how I'm gonna pay for it
Unsure about what steps to take
my grades suck
Need letter from congressional officer.
Depending on where, and when I go I don't know how I'd be able to find a place to live.
Fishing
I would need ride daily and can't pay for bus
Wifi
Scared to leave home and uncertain if that's what i truly want to do.
Since I don't know exactly what I want do be yet, I don't know what to look for
You hear about grants and scholarships for kids but what about adults most info is targeted for younger adults which is great but there is a class of older adults that don't get the recourse available and are much more equip for the workforce
I don't want it to be to far away from my family and the people I love.
I don't know
Trying to stay focused.
I haven't decided about my life yet
Whether or not I can make it into the college I want to go to and where to get a job it is a competitive field.
wages do not reflect the cost of living in Alaska.
Business related things and cosmetology
nurse
Being separated from my family for a while.
Transportation meaning the flight out to Anchorage from rural village
I live in a rural village, so I'm a little uncertain on how to rent a house in Anchorage so I can complete my training
For my current job, it is on the job training and internet has helped me further my education in areas I have little to no experience.
Housing and support is huge, sort of hard to do a job when you don't get adequate sleep.
IBEW will pay for my tools and pay me during the apprenticeship
weather
Job availability, I want to work but right now am having a hard time finding a reliable job that is within my apprenticeship parameters.
I need flexibility due to disability challenges.
Need training to work
Housing, food, gas, just living is hard now while going to school and interning, I can barley live
Some apprenticeships are difficult to get into. Lack of CDL training availability.

18. Please enter other barriers to employment and tell more about any you have chosen above.
I'm currently under a working visa
Deafness
Would strongly prefer on the job training.
Finances
No confidence in finding gainful employment
Electrician or HVACR
I know I need to go to school but I can't afford college and my current job isn't flexible enough for me to go.
-Limited hours due to job hour, required hours for internship, class time, and study time while working full-time, a parent, and college student. -Single family household. -Caring for other family members. -Computer/technology access. -Before and after school care or activities. Limited and expensive.
Difficult home life
Not really sure where to start with the field I want to go in. Want to start somewhere I can rely on but not completely sure where or how to get there.
i am currently residing in a juvenile corrections center but am about to get out on May 15th and moving to a new community
I've been offered many good jobs but none will have me once I fail background check for a misdemeanor assault charge from years ago
I want to become a high voltage lineman, but the field is extremely competitive. Due to this I am trying to make my application look more appealing.
The lack of a centralized place to go for career options and ideas
All should be good unless the location is far away from anchorage I might be a bit unsure cause I get dropped off and picked up by my dad and sometimes use Uber. But I am going to get my drivers license as soon as possible and I might be uncertain a bit to figure out what I need to do and get to bring for work and the location to get started.
Not having financial resources while doing an apprenticeship
Currently trying to take care of my younger siblings
In contract for a few months still so can't apply for apprenticeship
Barriers is English is my second that may make less communication
English as second language
I'm 35 with a decent job. It would be hard to "re-start" my timeline financially.
If training away from home or taking time off work to go through the process would be hard financially
none
Schedule
I am still young so I don't exactly know how all of the system works.
Not being close to jobs I want and classes
How much I will be paid.
i have everything that i need
My education
Not being close to jobs I want and classes
Money for food
I have a lifelong seizure condition, among other issues.
The barriers keeping me from reaching my goals is my asvab score is low and i want to join the military after coming back from the Alaska military youth academy where i spent 5 months
Working during busy season and that's when classes are held normally or in my experience they have been held.
Time
Need training for repairing of sheet rock, hvac, and plumbing to be a construction real estate apprentice.
My Career is not really popular in Alaska more in other states
motivation

**18. Please enter other barriers to employment and tell more about any you have chosen above.**

Other thing we see often clicked on our application:

Lack of family support, still in the military transitioning soon

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23. Use this space for any last comments about the survey topics.
Thank you for making this survey
I don't know exactly what I want to do. I know I want to travel and achieve education in a vocation post grad, I just need to decide which vocation is right for me.
Why's college so
love Alaska I never want to leave it.
Need scrubs and or business casual attire as well as assistance with gas, parking, cost of living while I complete DMS Program to secure independent stability for my family.
what is the purpose of this? is anyone ACTUALLY going to do anything to keep us in the state of Alaska as our economy is absolutely horrible
I'm still a bit saddened with how my last year has panned out and how it's been approached by the industries, and even state organizations that I've been in contact with.
My value system is a positive work environment where people have passion and interest in there careers and the people they work with, followed by growth and compensation. I've applied and been accepted into a trade apprenticeship locally. They seemed to be less then supremely interested in competing on the first component. It's not bad or wrong, I'm just more disappointed. Especially since I pretty excited when I was aware of the opportunities available. Especially a lot of free or very cheap high end training, major room for development, and an aggressive pay scale. However they essentially disqualified themselves with extremely sub optimal work environments.
Thank for the opportunity to participate!
setting up some kind of voctech program has been a little difficult
I am clearly not the target group for this survey. It doesn't seemed geared toward adults.
Focused mostly on high school students
I do not have retirement because I've been working for the state of Alaska in a long-term non-perm job that does not pay into retirement. Social Security will be very small so I am not able to afford to retire and hope to further my ag education so I can have a permanent job.
we need housing to be cheaper so all of us trying to get out of high school can be prepared to leave home.
I think I would like to work with aerospace and/or engineering
I need a job I am a commercial fisherman for 15 years put some opportunity in front of me. I attend the nit welding program April 23rd jun14 then will return to fishing from Jun till aug I will be looking for work this fall hopefully a man camp
I will find a job around here in Kodiak when I grow up to become a adult.
I like the week long course I did here at the Alaska Works Partnership building with Manny Acuña. I feel like this survey will help.
Thank you for asking my opinion
I am graduating with my masters in social work in two weeks, and plan to stay in Alaska.
It was a good survey, I enjoyed how easy and quick it was but in depth questions! I had to stop and think for them, I hope the information is useful
I will be working with a friend in Mexico
Young people would benefit from learning the benefits of apprenticeships in the trades
The welding and iron work training I did was great. Both journeyman instructors were awesome.
Don't have any for now. Thank you
This good bassed to the training I did at AWP and I did building maintenance and electrical wiring but light now helps me more that why I was interested
Is perfect based on my needs and I appreciate for two training I got from Alaska work partnership, building maintenance, and electrical wiring pushed me to apply comfortable In weidner apartment homes as maintenance guy
Get more young people into trades!

**23. Use this space for any last comments about the survey topics.**

We need in depth carpentry training without apprenticeship  
I have a job and might get a raise  
Want to become CEO of Alaska Commercial Company or maybe be in the U.S Military.  
Mostly just looking for the highest paying job I can get don't care about benefits or the amount of time I have to work.

**4. In addition to qualities in Question 3, what else are you looking for in a job/career?**

I'm looking for something that I can enjoy that isn't too time consuming.  
Helpful and hardworking co-workers. Hands on jobs and not just an office job.  
Construction and health for wife  
Good work relationships and a healthy work environment.  
A career that will be fulfilling, lucrative, suited to my skill set, and provide adventure. I want to always be learning and growing so that I do not get board. Preferably my job will involve communication with others and the opportunity for movement. I do not want to be confined to a desk  
Maintaining a steady and long term career as well as strengthening my future with skills and opportunities  
Not male dominated - close to family - Maternity leave  
I am not sure  
I want a job that's unique, keeps me on my toes, and accommodates my desire for new things. Something fun, with obvious answers alongside room for creativity.  
Something that actively changes the world around me  
Cohesive coworkers.  
Respect new opportunities for the field of work  
Stability, healthy workspace, and trust.  
I want to be able to provide for myself and my family, take time off when I need to and to be respected. I also value making a difference in my community.  
Good employees and employer  
Stability and a work-family type feel.  
I don't know  
I am looking for a hands on experience with an agenda and minimal math.  
The experience we need to have and also some explanations from former workers.  
High pay and flexible hours  
Respect  
Able to do what i want during the day  
physical work  
A job that I'm interested in and i find enjoyable  
positive environment  
Good staff, friendly environment, flexible dates  
independency  
Full-Time long term job on Kodiak Island.  
Good communication  
I am still not really siren what i want to do after high school or college, but being able to help people out and still having fire time to do the things I like too do out of school or work.



**4. In addition to qualities in Question 3, what else are you looking for in a job/career?**

just mainly traveling the world and getting to be independent and learning how to live on my own

i don't know. I just wanna get paid to be able to fly outta here when I want

Something that I enjoy doing that also does not constrain me from doing the things I love doing in my leisure, and rather, supports them.

Clear lines of communication between all employees.

Good pay and good environment

I'm looking for a comfortable lifestyle while having a job I enjoy. I don't want to move around

Work from home.  
Positive work environment.  
Supportive team approach .

The ability to have fun in the work environment.

I wanna make good money and be able to travel. i would like to go get some sort of training done for anything that sparks my interest.

A kind and positive person

I'm not too sure

Skills development

A way to help others while making a living, and giving back to the state where I was raised.  
Alaskans face unique challenges in the 21st century, and I'm seeking a career that adapts to those unique experiences/needs.

A career that will help me with personal growth and development.

Vacation opportunities

Good education for what I want to do  
Writing involved of the English Language literature

a stable job that pays well and my hours aren't very strict.

good work environment

A nice and welcoming environment in the workplace. I want to feel appreciated at work and not have everything thrown onto me and feel like all my work goes unnoticed.

Working in a city and getting my training in the city. I live and grew up in a Village called Akiak, in the Bethel area 30 miles away up the Kuskokwim River. I've always been into carpentry, security, and nursing, it's quite hard to choose. Willingly, I graduated in 2022. I have a lot of experience, but I am still learning as I go. Thank you, and you can get a hold of me at (907) 420-4359. 5-9-24

One where I could do what I have to do

My Ideal career would involve Project Management and Quality Control.  
Somewhere I can develop my leadership and authority skills.  
Involves some creativity and innovation.

I don't mind if there is a lot of solitude in this profession as long as I am of service to others .

I want to have few hours, as I plan to get married fairly early in life. This would require a higher pay, though, so it's probably unrealistic.

My employer or organization to invest in my skill development and help to provide me with opportunity. I'm very much into professional growth over time, even if the job itself doesn't appear to be super glamorous. I've looked at extensively at different trade opportunities, but have started learning towards science and conservation jobs at my local university.

**4. In addition to qualities in Question 3, what else are you looking for in a job/career?**

The trades had certain appeal, and the unions provide substantial high end training. But I had some major concerns which I will get into soon.

Good options, good people around me.

Reliability, retention, being able to work year 'round. Union work and good pay.

A good work environment

I find physical jobs such as carpentry and plumbing to be very rewarding and give pretty fair pay. I also like working with co-workers. Being by myself makes me feel uncomfortable. I also like friendly work environments. I like to do jobs that aren't too dangerous but I am ok with using a saw every once in a while. But I wouldn't like to do it all the time.

Stability and consistency

specific grade to teach and direct administration qualities

Working in the medical field to pursue as a registered nurse

What I look for in a career is the chance to make friends and connections.

Flying

Something with growth potential and to keep learning

Nice people and company. Outside work and skills.

I'm looking for a job that can allow me to work in different states but brings me back home. I wish to live in Alaska, but work in other places

Opportunities and learning experiences

I'm looking to be able to form connections and build relationships with my peers

Consistent supervisory

I am looking for a position with a company that has a person first focus on their work culture. An active focus on employee satisfaction and a positive culture in the workplace is key to long term retention.

Working with other people

Good playing job

Aviation

A good work environment.

Respect from higher ups

The ability to create a work environment that is conducive for my disability.

Fun

I look for the pay rate, how many days I'm needed for the week along with how many hours I'd be working. would prefer if the team is committed and is able to cover if something happens.

good people to work with

something i enjoy doing

Leadership that I can respect and grow from.

Wireman

Skilled workers

out and about just welding

Balance between work and family time

equal respect for women, culture of professionalism, culture of safety and risk aversion in the workplace, lack of bureaucracy, flat organizational structure

To get training that would help my employment opportunities

Advancement

Training support

**4. In addition to qualities in Question 3, what else are you looking for in a job/career?**

Long term viability. A career that changes with technology.
Safe working conditions, healthy work environment, teamwork, livable wages, growth opportunities, work-life balance, recognition, autonomy.
Long term growth within the company or union
Something i like doing
High benefits high pay super visors that care about the team
I enjoy jobs that help me improve through guidance.
Job with pension
Something that makes my heart happy and keeps my body strong. If I have to spend most of my life doing it then I want to enjoy it.
what difference does it make when all the white people have social capital and racism and discrimination is allowed to fester in every single industry in this state unless you do that data this questionnaire was a waste of money
A variety of tasks so that every day is different. A physical aspect with little sitting/ computer time. Being outside. Having the ability to take large amounts of time off.
Good Leadership and respectful co workers.
A place I can be myself
To make myself proud
Something I can do to help children in need
Amazing scenery, beautiful landscapes and amazing co-workers.
Good playing job
fun
Good team work, good communication, and overall the safety of myself and others.
Rich
Lots of pay and hours
Something stable and pays good
A good paying job
Career
Retirement benefits
fun
Ability to work with other like minded people. Being able to accomplish a common goal.
Hands on, cooperative, planning, stress free, fame.
Respect to religious freedom, good coworkers, responsible boss
to be an military nurse
Good pay, flexible hours, help other people, get help when i need it, and good people to be around.
For my job/career, I will become a wildlife ranger.
Reasonable pay.
Good mentality
Good working environment
I'm really just looking to be able to climb in my workplace and have good benefits
People I wanna be around for hours on end, people in power to realize the work involved to get things done
A stable, well respected, and positive work place that shows support and companionship.
a good and fair way environment

**4. In addition to qualities in Question 3, what else are you looking for in a job/career?**

I'm looking who is flexible and willing to be open and train for real like extremities. And being willing to help others and the community.
Good people
Great work atmosphere and friendship
Something related to my interests, to be a herpetologist
I would look for job satisfaction and a sense of fulfillment or purpose in my work.
Outdoor
Somewhat physical
Status
Livable wages, safe work environment (as safe as it can be physically but mostly culturally), with room to grow in the company.
nothing on a computer
Challenging,
empathy from managers, bosses, co workers- we should put each other in each others shoes
I'm looking for a job that helps me expand my knowledge.
A job that requires me to be a life long learner and has job stability.
only working on the job. no extra work
flexible shifts and sick/vacation leave
Good co-workers
Nice people and company. Outside work and skills.
I am looking forward for the Alaska Electrical Joint Apprenticeship Training and Trust after i graduate high school
Freedom, holistic full-spectrum healing
I would like extensive benefits that support my children/family.
A carman
No bs
Good boss
I'm looking for a nice friendly environment, a workplace that has good flow.
Doing something I love so that it is something I look forward to doing and enjoy
Something that is rewarding but allows me to be there for my kids.
An Engineer, or Construction manager
Carpentry or line man
I LIKE WELDING
I'm looking for just a high paying jobs and with good benefits. Mostly good benefits.
To help as much people as I can
A job that uses the skills that I have. Cultural knowledge, public speaking, teaching culture, singing, etc.
Lots of money
a calm job
Somewhere that I get directions but I can work independently.
Walmart
I'm looking for something fun and outside in the woods
Able to see my family
maybe like Hands-on job

**4. In addition to qualities in Question 3, what else are you looking for in a job/career?**

One thing I do look for in a job is if I can bring family with me if I am needed at a state or country in which I will need to be there for longer periods of time.

Flexibility,

Hands on work

I would like for my job to be really involved when it comes to helping people

Local flexible hours and group works

If we got to sit a lot because I do not want to sit in an office all day.

NONE

Learn more information about job/company.

I like to travel especially with my job. I like flexible hours with high financial rewards.

I'm looking for that job I love doing. To wake up and be excited to go to work.

Freedom, stability, and pleasant work space

Room for improvement and development, challenging but beneficial, working with a team

Team cohesion and positive attitude workplace.

How are the people like? Are they lazy or are they hard-working? Do they know how to do the jobs.

I want my career to be just that, a career. I don't want to end up stuck in a job I feel is a chore.

Healthy work environment.

working with other people

Hands on work and teamwork based around mechanics

Good work environment

Something with high pay and a good work-life balance that doesn't require being away from home for weeks at a time.

flexible hours for school, and hunting. manual labor/our in the field

Nurse

having good money

A healthy work environment

what i look for in a job is a job that has a high pay rate, job that treats people right with no disrespect, a job that respects its employees, and a job or career where I'm respected.

Working with others that want the same things from employee and employer.

good work relationships

Consistency, Positive atmosphere, flexibility.

Not really looking for a career. Want to be a wife and mother only. Been working in education and do not want a career at all.

Security, having steady work.

A work environment that promotes safety.

I'm looking for a stable job with borderline fixed hours. I'd like the job to be in anchorage or the valley. I don't want to be gone from home at night

Stimulating. Opportunities for joy - fun projects, teamwork, helping others. Room to grow and develop.

Along career

Enough money

Not sure.

I just want to play basketball.

I'm just excited to try start working whenever I do

One that will make my parents proud and me happy.

**4. In addition to qualities in Question 3, what else are you looking for in a job/career?**

I'm gonna be a pt guy
Nothing
Crane operator
Good pay, being good at my job, and helping people
A job that allows me to help others and make a good impact on the community
High pay and everything in those questions
What I'm looking for in a job and in a career is to learn and accomplish my goals
Vacation and also holidays off
Something I am looking for in a job/career is a lot of hands on work. Mostly things that keep me on my toes.
enjoyment
Something that lets out your creative side
The ability to take time off when needed, like for an emergency
I'm looking for a job that will help discipline me.
I'm just mostly wanting to get more money to support myself and my family financially.
I'm looking for a good team to work with and people who can support me and my decisions or help me make the right ones and people who will make me want to go into work on days i don't want to
something i enjoy
I'm looking for a lot of flexibility and time with my family I also would like to enjoy what I do and maybe travel
To be useful in specific environment I live in. The region and community of the interior and artic Alaska I plan to live and grow in successfully and impact positively for our future
Flexibility and good pay
A job where I can make a great future career out of. Something that's reliable but also reliable towards me. Flexibility is important because I travel in Alaska quite a bit including fishing trips and road trips with family. Good paying and good benefits are also key.
I really only want to work somewhere with a healthy work environment.
A positive work environment.
A Job that sponsors my visa
Alignment with life plan
kind coworkers
I'm looking for something fun and outside in the woods
not be miserable
Fun and not miserable
Free time and/or interaction with others such as clients or coworkers; being able to form friendly relationships with others in the workplace.
High paying job
Employee Training Kind office environment Kind supervisors
I just want to go to Military (AirForce) to be a mechanic to learn more about engines. Mostly the benefits I will get after.
Uplifting work place.
Good staff and managers
Nice co-workers somewhat a good pay

**4. In addition to qualities in Question 3, what else are you looking for in a job/career?**

continued training opportunities with hands on experience
Not male dominated - close to family - Maternity leave
A lot of fish
free time for Fortnite
I don't really know
Self employment/anything but a corporate slave
A lot of experiences.
Good retirement package
Opportunity to work with individuals who have been in the field for a good amount of time.
Good pay, time off, overtime
Good paying job that I genuinely enjoy and that fits into my schedule
I am looking for good cooperation in a job or career.
Friendly working environment.
Knowledge, building strength, real hard challenges, and building
Electrician
Something i look for in a job/career is something that doesn't stress me out too much. Also looking for some good pay.

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