

UAS Accreditation

FISCAL YEAR 2025

UA Board of Regents – September 2024

Mission: The University of Alaska Southeast is a student-centered university that provides instruction in liberal arts, professional, and technical fields. On the homelands of the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian peoples, we serve the coastal environments, cultures, economies, and communities of Alaska, through interdisciplinary education, workforce development, and scholarship, research, and creative activity.

Institutional Accreditation (Regents Policy 10.02.070A)

The University of Alaska Southeast (UAS) has been accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU) since 1983. This accreditation includes the Juneau, Ketchikan, and Sitka campuses. At UAS, the Provost serves as the Accreditation Liaison Officer and is the primary point of contact for information regarding accreditation.

Institutional accreditation is regularly reviewed and reaffirmed by the NWCCU. UAS's accreditation was reaffirmed in July 2019 following our mid-cycle review. In addition to these reports and visits, we communicate regularly with the NWCCU about substantive program changes including additions, suspensions, and deletions and about changes to institutional leaders and organizational structure.

We are actively engaged in our upcoming accreditation review cycle, a critical process that underscores our commitment to excellence and continuous improvement at UAS. The PRFR (Standard 2) report is due on March 1, 2025, followed by our Standard 1 Self-Evaluation Report on March 1, 2026. To ensure comprehensive and inclusive preparation, we have established an accreditation committee comprising faculty and leaders from across the institution. Each member is tasked with specific sections of the PRFR or Standard 1 documents, with clearly defined deadlines and deliverables assigned by the Provost. Our approach includes submitting early drafts to NWCCU for feedback, recognizing the value of early input from our accrediting body to strengthen our final submissions. This proactive and collaborative effort reflects our dedication to upholding the highest standards in education and institutional effectiveness.

Below is a schedule of recent and upcoming institutional accreditation milestones. For more information about UAS institutional accreditation visit <https://uas.alaska.edu/provost/academic-affairs/accreditation.html>.

Milestone	Date	Description	Summary of Actions
Comprehensive Peer Evaluation, Reaffirmation	April 2019	Onsite Review based on UAS Self-Study	Reaffirmed with 5 commendations and 3 recommendations
Mid-Cycle Evaluation & (virtual) site visit	April 2022	Review focused on Assessment, Data Collection and Analysis, and Planning. Update on prior recommendations	NWCCU accepted the UAS mid-cycle report and determined prior recommendations to be Fulfilled
Year 6 Review	Spring 2025	Standard 2 – Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review	In Progress: The Interim Provost has convened an accreditation committee who are actively working on this report. Early drafts are being reviewed Fall 2024. Final goal of completion: December 2024.
Year 7 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness	Spring 2026	Summative Evaluation of Mission Fulfillment	In progress: The Interim Provost has convened an accreditation committee who are actively discussing the requirements for this report. Deadlines and deliverables have been established with early outlines and drafts in the Spring 2025/Fall 2025. Final draft due December 2025.

Specialized Program Accreditation

There are multiple degrees and certificate programs that hold specialized programmatic accreditation at UAS.

Education

The UAS School of Education received its accreditation from the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). This accreditation covers both initial and advanced teacher preparation programs. CAEP is recognized by the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development, the U.S. Department of Education, and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation to accredit programs for the preparation of teachers and other professional school personnel. The following UAS programs are accredited:

- Bachelor of Arts (BA)
 - Elementary Education
 - Special Education
- Master of Arts in Teaching (MAT)
 - Elementary Education
 - Secondary Education
 - Special Education
- Master of Education (MED)
 - Reading
 - School Administration (Educational Leadership), Principal K-12
 - Special Education

- Graduate Certificate
 - Elementary Education
 - Reading
 - Secondary Education
 - Special Education
 - Superintendent (Educational Leadership)

Business

The following UAS Department of Business and Public Administration undergraduate programs are accredited by the Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (ACBSP):

- Certificates
 - Accounting Technician
 - Small Business Management
- Associate of Applied Science
 - Accounting
 - General Business
- Bachelor of Business Administration
 - Accounting
 - Human Resources
 - Management
 - Management Information Systems

Health Information Management

The Health Information Management Associate Degree (A.A.S.) is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM). The Health Information Management (HIM) program provides a course of study, using primarily e-Learning methodology, which prepares entry-level health information professionals. Graduates are eligible to write the national examination; successful completion of the examination leads to the professional credential of Registered Health Information Technician (RHIT).

Medical Assisting

The UAS Medical Assisting Certificate program is accredited by the Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP) upon the recommendation of the Medical Assisting Education Review Board (MAERB). Medical assistants are multi-skilled health professionals specifically educated to work in a variety of healthcare settings performing clinical and administrative duties. The practice of medical assisting necessitates mastery of a complex body of knowledge and specialized skills requiring both formal education and practical experience that serve as standards for entry into the profession.

School	Program	Accrediting Agency	Initial Accredited	Most Recent Reaffirm	Next Review	Status	Efforts
School of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Elementary Education, BA, Grad Cert, MAT - Reading, Grad Cert, MEd - School Administration (Educational Leadership), Principal K-12, MED - Secondary Education, Grad Cert, MAT - Special Education, BA, Grad Cert, MAT, MED - Superintendent (Educational Leadership), Grad Cert 	Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)	NCATE from Spring 2005 to Spring 2020; CAEP since Spring 2020	Spring 2020	Spring 2025	<p>Full Accreditation. The institution had one Area For Improvement (AFI):</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Initial Licensure Standard 2.2 (Clinical Educators) 	Annual reports are submitted that detail the specific efforts made to improve practices to remediate the area identified as needing improvement. The EPP provides training for host teachers, student teachers, and university supervisors on the Student Teaching Observation Tool (STOT), Professional Characteristics Assessment (PCA), and LiveText. The EPP also offers orientation sessions for the student teaching field experience, reviewed by the External Advisory Committee. Additionally, feedback from host teachers and student teachers is collected via surveys to inform candidate placements and program improvements, with data spanning from spring 2021 to spring 2023.
School of Arts and Science	Certificate, AAS and BBA degrees in the Department of Business & Public Administration	Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (acbsp.org)	Nov. 2019	Nov. 2019	2029	Full Accreditation. All 2019 recommendations resolved November 2021	In November 2023, ACBSP reviewed the Quality Assurance report and put two conditions on the current accreditation. The conditions were related to assessing emphasis courses and the HR plan. We anticipate the conditions will be removed in 2025 when our next report is submitted.

School of Career Education (Sitka Campus)	Medical Assisting Certificate	Commission on Accreditation of Allied Health Education Programs (CAAHEP)	May 2017	May 2022	Fall 2026	Full Accreditation with no conditions	N/A
School of Career Education (Sitka Campus)	AAS Health Information Management	Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM)	1998	May 2022	2029-30	Full Accreditation with no conditions	The HIM Program is currently part of the Demonstration Program for the new CAHIIM 2026 Curriculum requirements. The program will have another site visit in March of 2025 as part of the Demonstration Program.