



GIS Camp Application

Background and Purpose

The Alaska Department of Education & Early Development is looking for 10 teacher/student teams to participate in a pilot blended course for environmental science. This pilot course, through Alaska's Learning Network and sponsored by Kenai Peninsula Borough School District and has room for 10 Alaskan teachers to bring two high school students each to Seward, Alaska the week of August 6-10, 2012 with a follow-up course in the Fall 2012 semester online. Students will receive 1 semester credit in Environment Science and teachers will receive 2 credits from the University of Alaska Fairbanks.

PILOT BLENDED LEARNING:

1-week, face-to-face in Seward, Alaska (Aug. 6-10, 2012)

1-semester distance education follow-up (Fall 2012)

Details posted online: <http://gis.asof.org/>

Cost: Each team will be provided up to \$2,000 to help reimburse the cost of travel to/from Seward. All other expenses are paid for once in Seward, including: Enrollment fees for courses, room and board in Seward, field trips in Seward, ESRI (GIS/GPS) site licenses for each team. Camp participants (including teachers, students, and facilitators), will stay together at AVTEC (Alaska Vocational Technology Education Center) in Seward.

Funding is made possible through the Alaska Staff Development Network as the professional development coordinator for Alaska's Learning Network.

Deadline for submissions: Monday, April 2, 2012.





Camp Details: Once in Seward, facilitators from the Alaska Geographic Alliance, University of Alaska, Kenai Peninsula Borough School District, and the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development will conduct activities throughout the week in Seward to include field trips to collect data for projects, lab work to learn the ESRI software, team building, boat trip to Fox Island, presentations by local experts in the Seward Sealife Center and National Park interpreters. Each day will begin with breakfast together, lab time to learn software and upload data, and then field trips in the afternoon to collect more data for application in the labs the next day.

More details will be provided once a team is accepted. The week-long camp is roughly scheduled as follows:

	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
Morning	<p>INTRODUCTIONS: Meet the teams</p> <p>LAB: Intro to geospatial technologies (Online GIS Mapping with ArcGIS.com Map Viewer, ArcGIS Explorer Online, GPS Fundamentals, Introduction to online map server and online work portfolios)</p>	<p>LAB: More instruction and practice with geospatial technologies</p>	<p>LAB: Brief classroom session to prep for field trip.</p>	<p>LAB: Processing data and project work (Processing core samples; Uploading, viewing, and presenting GPS data and field study information in ArcGIS Explorer Online platform via online map server and online work portfolios)</p>	<p>LAB: Completion of Camp projects Sharing</p>
Afternoon	<p>FIELD: Walking Field Trip</p> <p>Learn to use GPS, how to take tree core samples, etc</p>	<p>FIELD: Short drive and then a hike to tree avalanche site</p> <p>Collecting core samples and GPS data/ photographs/ site descriptions</p>	<p>FIELD: Boat to Fox Island</p> <p>All-day trip to visit earthquake site</p> <p>Collecting core samples and GPS data/ photographs/ site descriptions</p>	<p>LAB: Applying data collected to software for camp project</p> <p>Intro to Moodle online site for follow-up distance course</p>	<p>FINAL PRESENTATIONS: Sharing</p> <p>Preparing for local landscape projects in follow-up distance ed course</p> <p>Next Steps</p>
Evening	<p>TEAM BUILDING: Seward Sealife Center – scavenger hunt</p>	<p>TEAM BUILDING: Legend of Place</p>	<p>TEAM BUILDING: Exit Glacier with local interpreter</p>	<p>TEAM BUILDING: Community project experts</p>	<p>Return home</p>



Eligibility

All Alaska public school districts may be eligible to apply with a team of three: 1 teacher and 2 students, including any science/technology/geography high school teacher in Alaska who can bring two high school students that will return with them to their site and complete a project in the fall, 2012 semester. Only 10 teams will be selected, with preference given to rural high schools, and regional representation, as much as possible.

Teams who are accepted into the program will need to prepare their team ahead of time by bringing:

- 2012/2013 calendar schedule
- identify 1 or 2 environmental issues in your community to discuss
- identify 1 or 2 local experts who might assist with project in the Fall 2012
- a local legend about your community (Legend of Place: past/present/future)
- agreed team expectations
- District travel permission & parent permission forms signed.

Application Review Process

A panel of reviewers composed of EED staff, Alaska Staff Development Network, Alaska Geographic Alliance, University of Alaska, and Kenai School District, will read all applications received by the deadline. Applications will be scored independently using the scoring form and rubric included in this RFA. Reviewers will then conference to clarify the accuracy of reviewers' understanding. Each reviewer will assign a rating to each of the components published in this competition. The reviewer may, for each section, use the entire range of scores, including zero, even though only descriptions of the minimal, good, and excellent scores are provided. The reviewers' total scores will be averaged and then priority and incentive points will be added to the appropriate application's average score. This final score will determine the order by which applications will be considered for funding; funds will be awarded to the highest final scoring application.

Review panelists will be asked for recommendations for improving the project and commenting on the feasibility of the budget. These comments may form the basis for adjustments negotiated to the project prior to issuance of the grant award.

Award Process

The state retains the right to refrain from making any awards if it determines that to be in its best interest. This competition does not, by itself, obligate the state. The state reserves the right to add terms and conditions during grant negotiations. These terms and conditions will be within the scope of the competition and will not affect the application reviews.



A maximum of fifty points per will be awarded to applications based on the following:

Points	Priority Area
25	Applications with a team who are participating for the sake of learning skills and hands-on use of tools to mentor others in their community.
25	Applications with a team who is committed to making an impact on their community with their project findings.

By April 6, 2012, the state will issue a written Notice of Intent to Award (NIA) the school district and send copies to all applicants. The NIA will identify the application(s) selected for award.

Appeals Process

Chapter 40 of the Alaska Administrative Code governs the process of appeals. This information is available on the Alaska Legislative website at www.legis.state.ak.us/folhome.htm.

- a) Scroll down to Alaska Information and select "The Alaska Administrative Code,"
- b) Select "Title 4 Education and Early Development,"
- c) Scroll down to and select "Chapter 40. Review and Appeals of Actions and Decisions Regarding Funding. (4 AAC 40.010 - 4 AAC 40.050)."

Timeline

Competition Begins	Tuesday, November 15, 2011
Audio Conference for Applicants	March 6 & March 22, 2012 at 3:30 p.m.
Submissions Due	January 4 – April 2, 2012
Notice of Intent to Award	April 6, 2012
Grant Award Issuance	April 13, 2012
Grant Period	April 13 – Dec. 31, 2012

Technical Assistance

EED personnel are available to provide technical assistance and answer questions about the GIS Camp and the competitive grant application. Please contact Roxanne Mourant at (907) 465-8578 or roxanne.mourant@alaska.gov.

An audio conference for all applicants will be held March 6 and March 22, 2012 at 3:30 p.m. A representative of your organization may participate, though participation is not required. A representative from each school is welcome to participate: 1-800-315-6338 pin: 8578#.



Assurance of Nondiscrimination

The Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (EED) is an equal opportunity employer and will not discriminate in the Department employment, supervision, practices, services or educational programs on the basis of race, religion, color, national origin, age, sex, handicap, marital status, changes in marital status, pregnancy, parenthood, veteran's status, veteran's disability or political affiliation.

Other Considerations

Fiscal Procedures

All funds for the GIS Camp grants must be assigned to individual accounts that can be readily identified and verified.

All payments will be made on a reimbursement basis for expenditures incurred by the grantee of up to \$2,000 for travel reimbursements. Reimbursement requests must be submitted to the Alaska Staff Development Network (ASDN) no later than December 31, 2012 on a form (supplied by ASDN) and a computer printout indicating the date of obligation, vendor name, accounting object code, and exact amount of the transaction. The final payment will not be made until after the grant activity has been concluded and the required final project has been submitted to EED. Expenditures in excess of approved budget amounts will be the responsibility of the grantee.

Eligible expenditures will be limited to those directly necessary and essential to the accomplishment of the proposed grant activity. These will customarily include personnel salaries, benefits, consultant fees, materials and supplies, travel, telephone and postage. Indirect expenses may be charged only by the fiscal agent provided the applicant has a state approved indirect cost rate. The eligibility of any disputed item shall be determined by EED, ASDN, and the sponsoring school district or agency shall be responsible for any disputed expenditure. Changes in budgets for approved grant applications shall be conditional on written approval from ASDN.

The authorization to encumber grant monies will expire at the scheduled conclusion of the approved grant. The final financial statement should be submitted not later than 60 days after the grant expiration date.

School district grantees are responsible for ensuring that audit and accounting procedures are in compliance with OMB Circular A133. Nonprofit agencies' and school districts' regular audit must include a separate schedule of receipts and expenditures by expense object codes for each grant.



Disallowable Costs

The following are costs not allowed under OMB Circular A-87: bad debts, contingencies, contributions and donations, entertainment costs, fines and penalties, interest and other financial costs, expenses of local governmental bodies such as school boards and city councils, undercover of costs under grant agreements, and/or application preparation costs.

Items that may be considered to be educational incentives for students or staff are assumed to be extraneous to the conduct of a federally funded program. If an applicant plans to use these federal funds for items such as t-shirts, banners, stickers, pencils, pizza parties, gift certificates, or other similar purposes, a written justification must be filed with EED program manager and approved prior to reimbursement.

Subcontracts

The Department of Education & Early Development retains the right to establish the following procedures for subcontracting within a project resulting from this RFA.

- a. A grantee may receive travel reimbursement costs of up to \$2,000.

Ownership of Copyright and Patents

Ownership of any copyrights, patents, or other proprietary interests that may result from grant activities shall be governed by applicable federal regulations. The Department retains the rights for no-cost use or replication of any materials, designs, or programs developed through the use of these funds.

News Releases and Publications

The State of Alaska encourages agencies to publicize approval of these projects and their activities. Every local recipient of funds under this RFA must, in any publication or public announcement, clearly identify any program assisted as a funded program from Alaska's Learning Network through a grant from the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development. The EED program manager must approve all press releases concerning this project prior to release.

The following disclaimer must be printed on materials resulting from work supported by the grant:

"The content of this work was developed with the assistance of funds provided by the Alaska Staff Development Network, in collaboration with the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development (EED). However, these contents do not necessarily represent the policy of the EED, nor endorsement by the Alaska Staff Development Network."

Indemnification

Any contractor shall indemnify, save harmless and defend the state, its officers, agents and employees from all liability, including costs and expenses, for all actions or claims resulting



from injuries or damages sustained by any person or property arising directly or indirectly as a result of any error, omission or negligent act of the contractor, subcontractor or anyone directly employed by them in the performance of this contract.

All actions or claims including costs and expenses resulting from injuries or damages sustained by any person or property arising directly or indirectly from the contractor's performance of this contract which are caused by the joint negligence of the state and the contractor shall be apportioned on a comparative fault basis. Any such joint negligence on the part of the state must be a direct result of active involvement by the state.

Insurance

During the life of this grant, any contractor shall purchase and maintain insurance with a carrier or carriers satisfactory to the Department of Administration, Division of Risk Management, covering injury to persons or property suffered by the State of Alaska or a third party, as a result of errors or omissions or operations which arise both out of and during the sub-contractor engaged in work under this grant. A thirty (30) day prior notice to the contracting officer is required before cancellation, non-renewal or breach and ground for termination of the contractor's services.



GIS CAMP APPLICATION:

Teacher Name: _____

District: _____

School: _____

Email contact: _____ Phone: _____

Student #1 Name: _____ Grade: _____

Student #2 Name: _____ Grade: _____

Why would your team like to participate? _____

What impact do you hope to have on your school/community with this experience? _____

APPLICATIONS DUE: MONDAY, APRIL 2, 2012

Send to: Roxanne.mourant@alaska.gov / Fax: 907-465-2989