



# UAS Accreditation

FISCAL YEAR 2026

UA Board of Regents – September 2025

*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 primary point of contact for information regarding accreditation. During the current accreditation cycle, the Dean of Arts and Sciences is serving as the Accreditation Lead and is designated as an Accreditation Delegate through NWCCU. The Accreditation Lead directs the Accreditation Team and holds primary responsibility for the authorship and coordination of all accreditation reports and materials.

Institutional accreditation is regularly reviewed and reaffirmed by the NWCCU. UAS' accreditation was last reaffirmed in July 2019, following a self-study on Institutional Effectiveness and a subsequent campus visit. In April 2022, the NWCCU conducted a mid-cycle review and confirmed that all recommendations from the 2019 evaluation had been fully addressed. We also maintain ongoing communication with the NWCCU about substantive changes, such as program additions, suspensions, and deletions, as well as updates on leadership and organizational structure.

We are actively engaged in our current accreditation review cycle, a critical process that underscores our commitment to excellence and continuous improvement at UAS. Our Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review (PRFR Report, Standard 2) was submitted on March 1, 2025, and we anticipate formal feedback from NWCCU by the end of August. We are now focused on the Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness (EIE Report, Standard 1). To ensure a comprehensive and inclusive process, we have established an accreditation committee comprising faculty and leaders from across the institution. Each member is responsible for specific sections of the EIE report, with clearly defined deadlines and deliverables. Our approach includes multiple rounds of internal review and early submission to NWCCU for formative feedback, recognizing the value of input from our accrediting body in strengthening our final submission. This proactive and collaborative effort reflects our dedication to upholding the highest standards in education and institutional effectiveness. The committee just completed work on the second draft of the report, and we are on track for early submission to NWCCU by December with a final submission on February 17, 2026.

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	Completed: The Interim Provost convened an accreditation committee that successfully submitted the PRFR (Standard 2) on March 1, 2025. We anticipate feedback from NWCCU by the end of August 2025 and will incorporate any required revisions into our EIE report.
Year 7 Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness	Spring 2026	Summative Evaluation of Mission Fulfillment	In progress: The Dean of Arts and Sciences—who previously served as Interim Provost—is now serving as the Accreditation Lead and has convened an accreditation committee to guide development of the EIE Report (Standard 1). Deadlines and deliverables have been established, with outlines and early drafts developed in Spring and Summer 2025. The second draft is due July 31, and the final draft is due December 2025 in preparation for submission by February 17, 2026.

### ***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 Accred	Most Recent Reaffirm	Next Review	Status	Efforts
School of Education	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>- Elementary Education, BA, Grad Cert, MAT</li> <li>- Reading, Grad Cert, MEd</li> <li>- School Administration (Educational Leadership), Principal K-12, MED</li> <li>- Secondary Education, Grad Cert, MAT</li> <li>- Special Education, BA, Grad Cert, MAT, MED</li> <li>- Superintendent (Educational Leadership), Grad Cert</li> </ul>	Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)	NCATE from Spring 2005 to Spring 2020; CAEP since Spring 2020	Spring 2025	Spring 2032	Full Accreditation Achieved for Both Initial and Advanced Programs	<p>The EPP has established a strong system of continuous improvement grounded in evidence and stakeholder engagement. In December 2024, we hosted our CAEP site visit following years of preparation, which included multiple formal submissions, program reflections, and thousands of pages of documentation and evidence presented to the review team. The accreditation decision was finalized in spring 2025. We provide structured training on key assessment tools, including the STOT, PCA, and LiveText, and deliver targeted orientation and support for student teaching that is reviewed by our External Advisory Committee. Regular feedback from candidates, supervisors, and host teachers informs decisions about placements, instruction, and program design. Across three cycles of data, we have collected and analyzed performance results, conducted validity and reliability studies, and used these findings to make measurable improvements. Our CAEP work demonstrates a culture of accountability, collaboration, and a clear commitment to preparing effective educators for Alaska's schools.</p>

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 Fall 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	The initial CAAHEP accreditation was in May 2017 with no deficiencies. Our medical assisting program is required to do an annual report on all learning outcomes; all thresholds were met in March 2025. The last comprehensive review was accepted in May 2022 and the next site visit is scheduled for October 29-30, 2026.
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 had a site visit in March 2025 as part of the Demonstration Program, and received full accreditation with no conditions.