

# University of Alaska Southeast Institutional and Programmatic Accreditation

*UA Board of Regents – September 2023*

## 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. That reaffirmation focused on a process of continuous improvement. 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. 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	The NWCCU meet on 6/21-24/22 and accepted the UAS mid-cycle report and determined prior recommendations to be Fulfilled
Year 6	Spring 2025	Standard 2 – Policies, Regulations, and Financial Review	
Year 7	Spring 2026	Evaluation of Institutional Effectiveness	

## Specialized Program Accreditation (Regents Policy 10.02.070B)

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

### Teacher Education

The UAS School of Education received its accreditation by the Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP). This accreditation covers 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:

- o Elementary Education BA
- o Elementary Education MAT
- o Reading, MA
- o School Administration (Educational Leadership), Principal K-12, Master's
- o Secondary Education MAT
- o Special Education BA
- o Special Education MAT
- o Special Education MED

### Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs

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

- o Associate of Applied Science, Accounting
- o Associate of Applied Science, General
- o Bachelor of Business Administration, Accounting
- o Bachelor of Business Administration, Human Resources
- o Bachelor of Business Administration, Management
- o Bachelor of Business Administration, 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. Health Information Management professionals work in a variety of healthcare settings. HIM professionals manage patient records and provide quality patient care, sound fiscal management of resources, and data governance supporting confidentiality of patient records. Management of patient records includes acquisition, analysis, and protection of digital and traditional types of information. 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 Certificate

The UAS Medical Assisting 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 multiskilled 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 (CAAHEP, 2022).

School	Program	Accrediting Agency	Date of Initial Accred.	Date of Most Recent Reaffirm	Date of Next Review	Status, including commendations and recommendations	Efforts to address outstanding recommendations
School of Education	Initial Licensure & Advanced Level	Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation (CAEP)	May 2020	May 2020	Fall 2025	Full Accreditation. Four areas were identified for expanded efforts prior to the next accreditation visit: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Initial Licensure Standard 2.2 (Clinical Educators),</li> <li>• Advanced Level A.1 (Content and Pedagogical Knowledge),</li> <li>• Advance Level A.3.3 (Selectivity During Preparation), and</li> <li>• Advanced Level A.3.4 (Selection at Completion)</li> </ul>	Annual reports are submitted that detail the specific efforts made to improve practices to remediate the areas identified as needing improvement. Efforts include both internal faculty collaboration and coordination around the identified topics, and work with an external advisory committee to increase relevance and coherence between the School of Education and public school districts in Alaska.
School of Career Education Sitka Campus	Associates of Applied Science Health Information Management Education Program	Commission on Accreditation for Health Informatics and Information Management Education (CAHIIM)	1998	May 2022	2029-2030	Full Accreditation with no conditions	N/A

School	Program	Accrediting Agency	Date of Initial Accred.	Date of Most Recent Reaffirm	Date of Next Review	Status, including commendations and recommendations	Efforts to address outstanding recommendations
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 Arts and Science	Certificate, A.A.S and B.B.A degrees	Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs (acbsp.org)	November 2019	November 2019	November 2029	Full Accreditation. All 2019 recommendations resolved November 2021	All UAS business certificates, AAS, and BBA programs are fully accredited with no conditions. A quality assurance report will be submitted in September to provide an update.