

APICDA Scholar

Spring 2022



AKUTAN - ATKA - FALSE PASS - NELSON LAGOON - NIKOLSKI - ST. GEORGE - UNALASKA (EX-OFFICIO)

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About Us

APICDA Purpose

The Aleutian Pribilof Island Community Development Association (APICDA) is a non-profit organization that serves residents of the following communities: **Akutan; Atka; False Pass; Nelson Lagoon; Nikolski; St. George; Unalaska** (ex-officio).

APICDA is a Western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) organization dedicated to strengthening local fisheries-based economies by increasing direct fisheries participation in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands (BSAI), building support infrastructure, and offering programs to assist the advancement of priority goals of the communities we serve. APICDA generates revenue through the management of CDQ quota, fisheries investments in the BSAI, and tourism operations. With guidance from the Board of Directors and staff, APICDA reinvests proceeds in its communities through a portfolio of regional education and training, public infrastructure development, economic development initiatives, job creation, community wellness, and cultural awareness initiatives.



Photo by Angela Johnson of Nelson Lagoon

About the Scholar

The APICDA Scholar is a newsletter for the local youth of APICDA communities, including our college students receiving the APICDA Emil Berikoff, Sr. Memorial Scholarship. This newsletter provides students with educational information, program opportunities and resources available at APICDA and other organizations that serve the Aleutian Pribilof region. If you like what you see here or have feedback to share, please let us know! We can be reached by email at education@apicda.com.

Student Spotlight



Ariel Go

Hometown: Unalaska

Why did you decide to go to college and what are you studying?

I am currently double majoring in Accounting and IT Management. Ever since I was young, my parents have constantly stressed the importance of furthering my education to get a well-paid and respectable job. I decided to go to college because I know that getting a college degree will allow me to pursue a career that I want. It's like a gateway for better opportunities and potential. In addition to this, I would also like to use my future job post-college to support my parents and the rest of my family financially.

What is a cause you are passionate about?

I am highly passionate about social issues, particularly assisting underprivileged individuals who suffer in poverty. I've volunteered at soup kitchens on various weekends throughout the fall 2021 semester. Also, in the Buccino Leadership Institute at my school, students are divided into what are called interdisciplinary teams (IDT) where each team works on different initiatives. I'm currently on a team that aims to create a sports camp for underprivileged youth. I serve on the fundraising committee to plan events and raise money for this initiative to be implemented.

Are you involved with a club, organization, etc. and how is that extracurricular activity going to help you in school and your career?

I'm involved in various clubs and organizations on campus, such as the Student Government Association, Accounting Club, Beta Alpha Psi, and others. As of now, I am the executive secretary of the Student Government Association. I believe SGA has helped me gain professional skills, such as effective communication, research, collaboration, organizing meetings, and more. The Accounting Club is a club primarily for accounting students that introduces members to various professionals and firms in the accounting/finance field. As for Beta Alpha Psi, it is an international honor society for accounting and finance students that gives its members a large network to connect with. They also host events that teach us study skills and introduce us to the new CPA Exam.

What have you learned from other students?

Going into your first year, you may be scared or nervous about everything. It's important to know that all the other Freshmen are in the same boat as you, so it wouldn't hurt to just go up and talk to someone. They'll definitely want to get to know you.

When working on teams, it's important to learn how to adapt to the strengths and weaknesses of those that are on your team. Everyone has different personalities and skill sets, so it's important to be mindful of that and to work with other students.

How do you study best?

I prefer to study alone when there's no one else around because this allows me to concentrate on my readings and assignments. If there are people talking or too much noise around me, I find it hard to study. However, I will say that I am not opposed to study groups as they help to solidify and clarify study materials that you may be confused about.

When stressed, what is your favorite activity to destress?

Whenever I am stressed, I always turn to two things. I either listen to music and just take a break from whatever it is I'm doing or go to the gym and work out.

What do you do to prepare for a test?

I study for a test a day or two beforehand because I believe I can retain the information better that way. I find a quiet space and spend the next few hours studying the material. After I read through the chapters in the textbook, I often look over the PowerPoint slides that my professors give out during class. After I go over the slides, I look over past assignments and work on any math problems that I may have had trouble with. Lastly, if my professors offer a practice exam or a study guide, I look over them and work through those as well.

What do you plan to do after graduation?

After receiving my bachelor's degree, I plan to possibly pursue a master's degree in accounting with a focus on auditing. I believe that, in this day and age, having a master's degree is essential in getting job opportunities. After this, I aim to work for an accounting firm, hopefully in the auditing department, and in the process, study for and take the CPA exams to become a Certified Public Accountant.

What advice do you have for new college students?

It's important for students going into college to set high, achievable academic goals for themselves and to fulfill those goals. However, as a sophomore in college, what I learned from almost two years I've spent at Seton Hall University is that it is important to maintain a healthy school-life balance. College is not a time for you to just study and get good grades. You have four years to establish life-long friendships and to learn how to be independent. I advise that you truly take advantage of the opportunities that are given to you in college. You should definitely focus on getting good grades, but it's important to have fun and enjoy! Also, going back to one of my previous answers, don't be afraid to approach others your first day or week moving in.

Youth Programs & Resources

Planning for Your Future Quiz

How do you learn best?

1. Read about a subject, listen to a teacher, and possibly hands-on activity after I've studied the subject
2. Small classes that combine book work and listening to a teacher
3. Small classes that combine book work, listening to an instructor, watching the instructor perform an example, and hands-on training
4. Instruction combined with watching an example and then hands-on work

Which would you rather do?

1. Join a campus community (e.g., Sports, Clubs)
2. Gain professional knowledge that can be used to provide paid services to my community
3. Gain a specific skill set in a short amount of time and use them later to provide paid services to my community
4. Gain a specialized skill set based on an employers needs and get paid in the process

How much variety would you like in your education?

1. Learning about a variety of subjects
2. Learning a framework of information that I could directly put to use
3. Some variety in my education, but focused on hands-on skills
4. Little variety; focus on one field to gain a specialized skill set

What interests you the most?

1. Researching and analyzing information to become highly knowledgeable about the world and my field of study
2. Combining research with relevant information from a teacher to gain understanding about a topic that will directly benefit me or my community
3. Learning a set of skills through hands-on training that will lead directly to a specific job or career
4. Starting a job with progressive pay increases as I develop my knowledge and skill set

Which number did you choose the most?

1. **Four-Year Colleges and Universities** offer a wide variety of bachelor's degrees. Many also offer vocational certificates, associates and master's degrees.
2. **Community Colleges** usually serve city, borough or regional residents. They typically have few eligibility requirements and offer vocational certificates and associate degrees.
3. **Vocational Schools and Colleges** offer career and technical training in a hands-on environment near your community.
4. **Apprenticeships** start you working from day one with on-the-job training and technical instruction. It can take one to six years for apprentices to become certified experts in their field of occupation.

Excerpted from:

Alaska Commission on Postsecondary Education. (2019). *Quiz: Which Postsecondary Path May Be Right for You?* College and Career Training in Alaska. Retrieved March 16, 2022, from <https://acpe.alaska.gov/PLANNING/Magazine-Training>





Youth Internships Available Now!

Are you 14 or older and interested in working at a local business/organization in your community? Would you like to earn scholarship funds while still in school? If you answered yes to one or both questions, then the APICDA Youth Internship program is for you!

APICDA youth internships provide students with entry-level, paid job opportunities and valuable hands-on experience. Internships may be arranged at an organization within the local community, or at APICDA or other organizations that serve the Aleutian Pribilof region. APICDA youth internships also provide students with an opportunity to earn the APICDA Work Invest Now Scholarship, which can later be used to help cover college or vocational training expenses.

We have extended the March 15 deadline. Apply today!

Please contact your local APICDA Community Liaison Officer (CLO), visit apicda.com, or email education@apicda.com for an application.

CASH FOR GOOD GRADES & ATTENDANCE!*

7th-12th Grade TAC Shareholders & Registered Descendants: TAC will draw (3)-\$100 cash prize winners for the categories below. **Spring 2022 Semester Report Cards are due Friday, July 1, 2022.

TWO CHANCES TO WIN!

- Excellent GPA (3.5 GPA or above)
- Outstanding Attendance (90% attendance)

TO SUBMIT YOUR REPORT CARD, YOU CAN:

- Scan and email it to shdev@aleutcorp.com
- Fax it to 907-563-4328 (if you fax it, please call to ensure the fax was received)
- Mail/deliver it to 4000 Old Seward Highway, Suite 300, Anchorage, AK 99503

* For official rules and deadlines visit aleutcorp.com/youthincentive





Membership Meeting
Aleutian Pribilof Islands
Regional Youth Advisory Council
Contact APIA Youth Services at
dustinn@apiai.org for future meetings

The Aleutian Pribilof Island Regional Youth Council (RYAC) meets on a monthly basis with APIA Youth Services staff to discuss ways that APIA can support teens and young Adults within the region.



The Regional Youth Advisory Council is a member of the United National Indian Tribal Youth (UNITY) an organization that works on a national level to make sure Alaska Native and American Indian Youths voices are heard at all levels of government.

Requirements:

Enrolled in a federally recognized tribe within the Aleutians

Between the ages of 12-24

Eager to create positive change within our communities

Postsecondary Programs & Resources

APICDA College Scholarships



Emil Berikoff, Sr. Memorial Scholarship (EBMS)

This program is named in honor of the late Emil Berikoff, Sr. of Unalaska, who served on the APICDA Board for 15 years before passing away in 2011. His contributions as a trusted board member and to the region were invaluable.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Be a resident of an APICDA community*
- Be enrolled part-time or full-time (minimum 6 credits/semester or 4 hours/quarter)
- Maintain a minimum 2.0 GPA for each term funded
- Demonstrate financial need (total family income must not exceed \$183,270)
- Submit a complete application packet by one of the deadlines below

EBMS Deadlines:

April 1 for Summer Term - **July 1** for School Year - **Nov. 15** for Winter & Spring Terms
Complete applications must be received by APICDA by 5:00 PM (AKST) on the day of the deadline.

*Akutan, Atka, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski, St. George, Unalaska



Haginaa Kidul (*Helping to Grow*) College Scholarship

This competitive scholarship program is offered to residents of APICDA CDQ communities* and residents of the non-CDQ Aleutian Pribilof region communities of Adak, Cold Bay, King Cove, Sand Point and Unalaska.

*Akutan, Atka, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski, St. George

Scholarships are awarded up to \$2,000 each per school year.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Be a full-time, permanent resident
- Be enrolled as a FULL-TIME student
- Maintain a minimum 3.0 cumulative GPA
- Must show intent to return to community or the region after completion of school
- Submit a complete application packet by 5:00PM (AKST) on June 1st

To learn more about APICDA college scholarships, please contact your local APICDA Community Liaison Officer (CLO), visit apicda.com, or email education@apicda.com.

APICDA Vocational Training Scholarships

Supplemental Education Scholarship

This scholarship program is available to qualifying residents of APICDA communities. Scholarships are awarded up to \$4,000 each per year, based on financial need.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Must be age 18 or older
- Be a resident of an APICDA community*
- Be enrolled in an accredited training program or vocational-technical institution
- Maintain a 2.0 GPA or passing grade
- Submit a complete application packet no later than 10 business days prior to the program start date

*Akutan, Atka, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski, St. George, Unalaska



Haginaa Kidul (*Helping to Grow*) Vocational Training Scholarship

This competitive scholarship program is offered to residents of APICDA CDQ communities* and residents of the non-CDQ Aleutian Pribilof region communities of Adak, Cold Bay, King Cove, Sand Point and Unalaska.

*Akutan, Atka, False Pass, Nelson Lagoon, Nikolski, St. George

Scholarships are awarded up to \$2,000 each per school year.

Eligibility Criteria:

- Be a full-time, permanent resident
- Must be age 18 or older
- Maintain a 2.0 GPA or passing grade
- Be enrolled in an accredited training program or vocational-technical institution
- Must show intent to return to community or the region after completion of training
- Submit a complete application packet no later than 30 days prior to the program start date

To learn more about APICDA vocational training scholarships, please contact your local APICDA Community Liaison Officer (CLO), visit apicda.com, or email education@apicda.com.



2019 APICDA-AMSEA Drill Conductor Training in Unalaska. Photo by Reba Temple.

Additional APICDA Scholarships

EBMS GPA Scholarship

Recipients of the APICDA Emil Berikoff, Sr. Memorial Scholarship (EBMS) who earn a 3.5 term GPA or higher are eligible for this scholarship. There is no application process; GPA Scholarship awards are automatically disbursed during the fall and spring terms.

Term GPA:

3.5 - 3.74

3.75 - 3.99

4.00

Award Amount:

\$500 per term

\$750 per term

\$1,000 per term

Work Invest Now (WIN) Scholarship

This scholarship is available to residents who successfully complete a youth or college APICDA internship. See pages 7 and 12 for more details about youth and college internships.

The youth WINS award is \$500 per internship, which can be applied later towards college or vocational training expenses. The college WINS award is \$2,000 per internship, and is disbursed during the fall and spring terms of the following academic year.

Additional Scholarship Opportunities You May Qualify For

The Aleut Foundation Scholarships

The Aleut Foundation (TAF) offers scholarships to shareholders and descendants of The Aleut Corporation. TAF's mission is to enhance the life and culture of Aleut people through funding their postsecondary education and career development.

Visit www.thealeutfoundation.org for more information about TAF scholarship offerings.

TAF Scholarship Deadlines:
Summer Term: April 30 th
Fall (School Year) Term: June 30 th
Winter/Spring Term: November 30 th
Vocational/Career Development: Open Year-Round





APICDA INTERNSHIPS

**AVAILABLE
NOW!**

Internship opportunities are available at APICDA, local organizations and entities that directly serve the Aleutian Pribilof region. Internships are available for local residents, college students receiving the APICDA Emil Berikoff, Sr. Memorial Scholarship (EBMS) and local youth ages 14 and older.



Thea Chesley (left), 2019 APICDA Operations-Program College Intern, helping APICDA staff pack backpacks with school supplies for local youth.

**ONE FULL-TIME POSITION WITH PROGRAMS
IS AVAILABLE AT THE ANCHORAGE OFFICE**

APPLY NOW!

As an APICDA Intern, you will participate in a paid internship up to 12 weeks and gain exposure in varying fields of work. Local youth and EBMS recipients have the opportunity earn the APICDA Work Invest Now Scholarship.

To apply or learn more, visit www.apicda.com/internships, contact your local APICDA CLO, email education@apicda.com or call toll-free 1-888-927-4232.

Four Tips to Help You Land Your First Job

As you get started on your journey to secure your first job, here are a few tips you should know before you dive in.

1. **Tailor Your Resume to the Job** – One strategy that can help you stand out to employers is to include keywords in your application and resume. Carefully reading the job description will help you find the right keywords for the job you are applying for. Also, be sure to start with a fresh resume so you can include relevant details and highlight past experience related to the job, rather than using the last resume you created for a different job.
2. **Be a Competitive Applicant** – You'll have a better chance of catching the eye of hiring managers by truly taking the time to read and learn about the company, and demonstrating that you *have* that extra knowledge by showing it in your application and at the interview.
3. **Get Organized!** – When it comes to applying to multiple jobs, you can avoid missing a deadline or misplacing a phone number by staying organized.
4. **Prepare for the Interview** – Give yourself a fighting chance by anticipating some of the standard questions that you'll be asked at your interview, such as, "Why are you interested in this position, what makes you the best fit for this job, and what skill-set do you bring to the table?" In addition, be prepared to ask some questions of your own. Asking questions shows that you're engaged and you've done your research, and will help you decide whether you really want this job.

References:

Glassdoor. (2021, June 29). *The Guide to Getting Your First Job*. Glassdoor. Retrieved March 24, 2022 from <https://www.glassdoor.com/blog/guide/guide-to-getting-your-first-job/>

Wolfe, Paul. (2017, September 27). *Five Ways to Increase Your Chances of Getting the Job*. The SHRM Blog. Retrieved March 24, 2022 from <https://blog.shrm.org/blog/five-ways-to-increase-your-chances-of-getting-the-job>



How to Get a Stellar Letter of Recommendation

When applying for a scholarship, admission to a university, or even a job, letters of recommendation are often needed. Teachers, counselors, coaches, or supervisors are good sources for these letters, and are usually happy to help, so don't feel nervous about asking. However, with a little preparation, you can be confident about getting stellar letters of recommendation.

1. Choose the Right People

Create a list of at least five people who can vouch for your qualifications and character. You may only need three actual letters, but it's always good to have extras just in case one doesn't come in time. Also, this gives you the chance to pick and choose which letters are the best fit for your purpose.

Teachers, Counselors, and Coaches

Choose a teacher with whom you've had the most interaction and succeeded in their class in the past couple of years. Your guidance counselor is a good choice if you have a good rapport with them. If you don't know that person well, schedule an appointment with them so that they can learn more about you. Coaches who are also teachers are also a great source since they can attest to your abilities both on and off the court. It is important to remember that these are busy people, so ask early; don't wait until the last minute. Make your request at least a month before the due date, and don't be afraid to give them a friendly reminder as the deadline approaches.

Coworkers and Supervisors

These are the best sources for letters that need to be included with job applications, yet they can also give account of your skills and abilities that may apply to the college setting. Consider asking people who have more work experience than you.

2. How to Ask

When seeking a letter of recommendation, ask the individual in person before sending them a formal, written request.

Face to Face

Avoid asking, "Could you write a letter?" Instead, ask your potential recommender, "Do you feel you know me well enough to write a letter of recommendation for me for this particular" position, program, or scholarship.

Written Request

After your selected writers have been confirmed in person, follow up with a personalized, formal recommendation request via either email or a printed copy hand-delivered or mailed. Each of these will be slightly different, depending on who you're sending them to, and should provide relevant contextual information that will make the writer feel comfortable and prepared to write the recommendation.

In your written request, be sure to include:

- Information on what you are applying for, including a description of position, program, or scholarship requirements and contact information for who will receive the letter
- Details about how and when the letter should be submitted
- An updated resume' or brag sheet
- Why you are interested in this particular position, program, or scholarship and how it fits into your short or long-term goals (your Personal Statement, if you have one)
- Talking points - anything you want included in the letter, anything that makes you unique

3. Send a Thank-You Note

Never underestimate the power of a thank-you. Always send your writer a thank-you note within two weeks of receiving the letter of recommendation. Tell them how much you appreciated the time and thought they put into the letter. Also, be sure to update your recommenders if you're hired into the position, accepted into the program, or receive the scholarship, even if this happens after the thank-you note has been sent.

References:

- Coursera. (2022, January 24). *How to ask for a letter of recommendation (template + tips)*. Coursera. Retrieved March 10, 2022, from <https://www.coursera.org/articles/how-to-ask-for-a-letter-of-recommendation-template-tips>
- Indeed Editorial Team. (2021, December 8). *How to ask for a letter of recommendation (with examples)*. Indeed Career Guide. Retrieved March 10, 2022, from <https://www.indeed.com/career-advice/finding-a-job/asking-for-a-letter-of-recommendation>
- Requesting a Letter of Recommendation*. NYU Department of Sociology. (n.d.). Retrieved March 10, 2022, from <https://as.nyu.edu/sociology/undergraduate/requesting-a-letter-of-recommendation.html>



About the Author

Kathy Kysar is the regional Writing Support Specialist for the UAF-Bristol Bay Campus. She supports all university students as a writing tutor, coach, and guide. **Kathy is available via phone, email, and Zoom, and challenges University of Alaska students to take advantage of her lifelong writing experience in teaching, marketing, and course design to help you become a successful academic writer.** She can be reached at krkysar@alaska.edu or 907-795-5403.

CONGRATS TO OUR RECENT GRADS!



Monica Yatchmeneff
General Studies
UAS

Karen Ravenscroft - B.A. Elementary Education, Western Governors University

APICDA COMMUNITY LIAISON OFFICERS (CLO'S)

Akutan - April Pelkey

Atka - Marii Swetzof

False Pass - Melani Hoblet

Nelson Lagoon - Katie Johnson

Nikolski - Lorraine DeLeon

St. George - Sarah Mercurief

Unalaska - Carlin Enlow

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Photo by Crystal Dushkin of Atka