



2025 Aleutian Marketplace Micro Grant

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Aleutian Marketplace Micro Grant Surpasses \$100K Milestone to Boost Regional Small Business Growth

Juneau, Alaska – The Aleutian Marketplace Micro Grant (AMMG) program has now awarded more than \$117,000 in funding to support small businesses in the Aleutian and Pribilof region. Since 2022, 39 micro grants have been distributed to help entrepreneurs grow and sustain locally owned businesses.

The Aleutian Marketplace provides early-stage funding and support for in-region businesses. AMMG funds can be used for a wide range of business needs, from equipment and supplies to marketing and production support.

“The Aleutian Marketplace Micro Grant has played an important role in supporting a wide range of small businesses across the region,” said Luke Fanning, CEO of APICDA. “Programs like this help ensure our communities have resources available to build self-sustaining, locally owned businesses that create jobs and diversify local economies.”

In 2025, each micro grant recipient was awarded \$3,000 to support the development and growth of their small businesses. The awardees include:

- **A New Perspective Photography**, *Unalaska*
- **Aleutian Blades** (Lawn Care), *Unalaska*
- **Aleutian Life Studios** (Piano Lessons), *Unalaska*
- **Aleutian Sisu** (ATV Repair & Rental), *Nikolski*
- **Bering Sea Salt** (Gourmet Salt), *St. Paul*
- **Gundersen Drones**, *Sand Point*
- **Optical Aleutians** (Optometry), *Unalaska*
- **R&C Ice Cream & Bakery**, *King Cove*
- **Scan Dawgs Gear Work**, *Unalaska*
- **Small Craft Café**, *Sand Point*

Skoey Vergen, President and CEO of Aleut, added: “Aleut is honored to support small businesses that are fueling innovation and strengthening communities throughout the Aleutian and Pribilof region. We

applaud the winning entrepreneurs for their vision and for creating meaningful opportunities. Congratulations!”

The Wells Fargo Foundation has been a proud supporter of AMMG since its inception.

Since its founding in 2014, the Aleutian Marketplace has been an important source of support for local entrepreneurs, helping turn ideas into revenue-generating ventures and stimulating economic development across the region.

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APICDA is a non-profit dedicated to strengthening local fisheries-based economies through increasing direct fisheries participation in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands, building support infrastructure, and offering programs to assist the advancement of priority initiatives in its six member communities in the Aleutian-Pribilof region of Alaska. APICDA is one of six western Alaska Community Development Quota (CDQ) organizations whose purpose is to provide eligible western Alaska villages with the opportunity to participate and invest in fisheries in the Bering Sea and Aleutian Islands, alleviate poverty, and provide economic and social benefits for residents of western Alaska.

The Aleut Corporation (Aleut) is an Alaska Native regional corporation representing the Aleutian and Pribilof Islands, serving over 5,000 Unanga shareholders. Its diversified portfolio includes subsidiaries in real estate, government contracting, infrastructure, and more. For details, visit aleutcorp.com.