



# ILISAĠVIK COLLEGE

## ILISAĠVIK COLLEGE: Priorities for the 119th Congress, 2/25

Tribal Colleges and Universities (TCUs) provide rigorous postsecondary education and research opportunities for American Indians and Alaska Natives (AIANs) and other rural community residents. TCUs offer higher education that is uniquely Tribal, founded on Native languages, culture, and philosophy, with strong student support systems and community engagement. Through these educational opportunities, research, and industry partnerships for high-demand careers, TCUs are laying the foundation for sustainable economic development within Tribal Nations and beyond. Together, we build *Strong Sovereign Nations through Excellence in TRIBAL higher education*, empowering individuals and strengthening communities.



## ILISAĠVIK COLLEGE FACTS

- Enrollment Trends (Spring 2024/Fall 2024): 489
- Affordable Tuition: \$205 per credit hour; ~\$4,780 per year (est.)
- Student to Faculty Ratio: 4:1
- Part-time/Full-time: 82% Part-time; 18% Full-time
- Persistence Rate: 60%
- Highest Level of Degree/Program Available: Bachelor of Business Administration (B.B.A.)
- TRIO Programs: No
- Fun Fact: Ilisaġvik College is the Northernmost College in the U.S.

**Ilisaġvik College (IC)** offers a variety of critical support services to students, including comprehensive academic and student service-oriented advising; complimentary transportation to and from classes; a student relief fund for emergency needs; a laptop loaner program; a student wellness program and behavioral health supports; free tutoring services; and cultural outreach and education. Holistic student support is the pathway to success for our primarily first-generation college students.



## ILISAĠVIK COLLEGE: Strengthening the Workforce

TCUs prepare professionals in high-demand fields, including agriculture and natural resources management, health, information technology, and building trades. By teaching the job skills most in demand within our communities, TCUs are laying a strong foundation for Tribal and regional economic growth.

IC has short-term workforce development classes and training and offers a Construction Technology (CTT) program that confers an Associate of Applied Science and various certificates. Our CTE and CTT programming includes heavy equipment operations, carpentry, electrical, plumbing, welding, scaffolding, pipeline insulation, and pipe fitting. The degree, certificates, and endorsements within the program are designed to prepare students to enter the workforce or to provide those currently employed with the opportunity to upgrade their skill level. IC uses the National Center for Construction Education and Research (NCCER) curricula, which are nationally recognized for craft training. NCCER maintains a National Registry that provides transcripts, certifications, and wallet cards to students who complete all required coursework. Our CTT, CTE, and workforce classes reflect workforce needs and prepare students for immediate employment.

TOTAL ALUMNI IMPACT	
\$2.3 BILLION	ADDED INCOME
28,778	JOBS
Job equivalents indicate jobs created by TCUs, both full- and part-time. They are based on industry-specific jobs to sales ratios. The \$2.3 billion alumni impact supports 28,778 jobs nationwide. (EMSI & AIHEC, 2015)	

### ILĪSAĠVIK COLLEGE: Driving Economic Development

In November 2024, AIHEC conducted an economic impact study to analyze the importance of TCUs in the regional and national economy. TCUs act as a catalyst for economic growth locally and regionally by enhancing educational opportunities, research, and leadership skills for Tribal and other rural students.

IC provides economic development for our Tribe (Iñupiaq) and other Alaska Native Tribes by offering workforce-driven training and programs that help students find immediate job placement. In Alaska, there is a need for teachers, healthcare workers, and construction and resource development workers. We offer an indigenous education program, a liberal arts program that provides a transfer track to four-year colleges for education, an allied health program and pre-nursing certificate, a dental health therapy program, and several construction technology program areas.



### ILĪSAĠVIK COLLEGE: Building Our Future

TCUs are resilient, resourceful, and proud to lead the nation in many areas, including preparing an American Indian and Alaska Native workforce of engineers, nurses, land managers, technicians, and teachers. Always looking to the future, TCUs are focused on building new partnerships, advancing educational excellence, and creating economic opportunities for Tribal and regional communities.

IC is keen to meet growing workforce demands. The college sees avenues for additional partnerships and expansion in education (implementing a four-year degree), maritime vocations, more investment and apprenticeship tracks in carpentry and plumbing, expanded CDL and heavy equipment classes across rural Alaska, and the establishment of a dedicated science program (Associate of Science degree). We maintain partnerships with stakeholders such as the Aleut Community of St. Paul Island, North Slope Borough School District, Alaska Pacific University, the University of Alaska system, the Alaska Native Tribal Health Consortium, and more. We want to continue to grow and meet the workforce needs of our beautiful state.

