

The Alaska Department of Education and Early Development (DEED) will use the Education Stabilization Fund-Rethink K-12 Education Models Discretionary Grant to expand the Alaska Statewide Virtual System (AKSVS) under Absolute Priority Number Two into a hub of rich and robust virtual resources for students, educators, and families. AKSVS is an existing statewide K-12 virtual system designed to support teaching and learning and was developed in partnership with Florida Virtual School in rapid response to the COVID-19 pandemic.

Through this grant project, DEED will expand AKSVS by developing and managing a statewide Learning Management System (LMS) to deliver high quality remote access to equitable and culturally-relevant programming; online teaching; online courses; and family, parent, and student engagement. The statewide LMS will provide the ability to cache content for offline learning for both students and educators. Furthermore, the AKSVS Hub will serve as a clearinghouse for additional student-centered resources, as well as parent and caregiver supports focused on maximizing opportunities for at-home learning.

Through a partnership with Alaska Tribal organization(s), DEED will develop a virtual cultural warehouse with its home in the AKSVS Hub. Online learning modules will be created to align with state academic standards to advance long-term strategies of increasing access to relevant content for 21st century learners along with building capacity for digital badging and micro-credentialing in Alaska's education continuum. Through this project, Alaska will be positioned to be a model for other states regarding the integration of Indigenous content and methods as a way of improving educational outcomes for all students.

State activities include establishment of partnerships, LMS project set up, building the LMS, data collection and reporting, and training and professional development.