

**Opening for the Director of Rural Education
at the Alaska Department of Education & Early Development**

The Director of Rural Education will be instrumental in bringing about education reform through a variety of approaches, including bridging the cultural differences between rural communities and the public education system.

The director will build the capacity of the department, school districts and rural communities to meet the academic needs of rural students. The fundamental task is to engage communities in their schools and to assist educators in working with the communities.

In the task of identifying, building and coordinating services to students, the director will work with local school boards and schools; parents, elders and other community members; Native entities such as tribal, village and regional corporations; nonprofit organizations devoted to rural, Native or education issues; the department's management team and staff; the University of Alaska and other universities and research entities; and other relevant resources in rural communities.

The director will be an integral part of the department's team that implements comprehensive improvement efforts in academically low-performing districts and schools. The director will be a leader in implementing the Alaska Education Plan to ensure academic success for rural Alaskans. The director will supervise the implementation of the state's cultural standards for schools as endorsed by the State Board of Education & Early Development.

The position will be based in Juneau and involve extensive travel. The director will report to the commissioner of Education & Early Development and work closely with the deputy commissioner. The director will work with the Governor's Rural Adviser as needed.

The position requires hands-on community-level work. The ideal candidate will understand public education and school reform strategies, the history of education in Alaska, rural Alaska governance including tribal organizations, and Alaska's diverse cultures. The ideal candidate will have administrative experience (in education or other fields) or classroom experience, and experience in bringing about organizational change. The applicant should have at least three years of experience in a similar capacity. A state educators' certificate is not required.

The director's position is range 24, paying from approximately \$6,740 to \$7,215 a month, depending on experience, and receives the usual state benefits. It is an exempt position and is not represented by any collective bargaining unit.

To apply, send a letter of intent and resume to eric.fry@alaska.gov or by mail to Alaska Department of Education & Early Development, ATTN: Eric Fry, 801 W. 10th St., Suite 200, P.O. Box 110500, Juneau AK 99811-0500. Please do not fax materials. Applications must be received by 5 p.m. July 31, 2009. Eric Fry can be reached at 907-465-2851.