

Rural Alaska Honors Institute

RAHI

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**UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA
FAIRBANKS**

RAHI Mission Statement

The UAF Rural Alaska Honors Institute, known as RAHI, was established at the request of the Alaska Federation of Natives in 1983, to prepare rural and Alaska Native high school students for academic excellence and college success.

- The Rural Alaska Honors Institute (RAHI) is a six-week bridging program that assists students in rural Alaska in making the academic and social transition between high school and college. The program is for college-bound students who are willing to work hard and who are dedicated to excellence.





- RAHI's goal is to produce a group of young men and women each year who have developed skills, work habits, self-awareness, and self-confidence sufficient to enhance their success and enjoyment in higher educational pursuits.

- During the RAHI summer residency students earn as many as 9-11 university credits, thus starting a college transcript. These credits are transferable to other universities.





- Morning: college writing, study skills, library science, team building.
- Afternoon: choice of biochemistry, college math, business management, or process technology, followed by choice of: Alaska Native dance, yoga, or karate.

(Course offerings subject to change)

- Students live in a UAF residence hall with full time tutor/counselors. Personal help is provided to assist with course work and practically anything else needed to be successful and comfortable at RAHI.





- RAHI prepares students for college success. These students make new friends for life. Email, Facebook, and newsletters to alum help keep everyone in touch. RAHI is a memorable experience that changes lives.

- To apply to RAHI students must be:
 - be a rural or Alaska Native high school junior or senior who has lived most or all of their life in rural Alaska
 - have at least a 3.0 cumulative grade point average
 - plan to earn a college degree
 - be willing to live in a residence hall with all required rules of conduct





- RAHI is a competitive program, with applications from all over the state of Alaska. The RAHI selection committee reviews every single completed application, and from their recommendations are chosen the RAHI students.

RAHI's educational philosophy



- RAHI's educational philosophy is one of high expectations, intrusive intervention by academic and dorm staff, and a holistic approach to dealing with students. The program's goal is to impart academic content for college preparation in collaboration with time management and personal maturity issues.

RAHI relaxing for the weekend after midterm exams



Konrad Frank, RAHI 2005 (Angoon)

- Konrad *Shák' Sháani Éesh* is the Community Engagement Educator for the Association for Alaska School Boards. He will share with us his story of attending RAHI.

RAHI class outdoors



RAHI Karate Class





Credits and Grade Point Averages (2016)

- Eighteen rising freshmen finished the program with a total of 178 UAF credits (average of 9.89) and a g.p.a. of 3.5.
- Fifty rising seniors finished the program with a total of 501 UAF credits (average of 10.02) and a g.p.a. of 3.47.
- Overall, 68 students earned 679 UAF credits (average of 9.99) and a g.p.a. of 3.47.

(RAHI academic coordinator's annual report)

Alaska's Future Leaders

- RAHI's process of helping to prepare the next generation of rural leaders is an ongoing investment. Just as investing in a financial institution, the interest accrues slowly, but after over thirty-five years, it amounts to something significant. There is great satisfaction in the realization that RAHI has helped forge the next generation of educators, business leaders, tribal officials, and scientists serving the peoples of rural Alaska.



RAHI Research

- A select group of students are chosen to do real life research with university professors and researchers, culminating in a
- professional poster and presentation. They also receive academic credit for their efforts.

RAHI Research



RAHI Alum work in jobs as diverse as:

- 54 teachers
- 34 Native administrators
- 14 engineers
- 10 accountants
- 9 biologists
- 8 nurses
- 6 city managers
- 8 lawyers
- 5 hospital administrators
- 5 artists
- 5 education administrators
- 4 principals
- 4 health administrators
- 4 counselors
- 3 magistrates
- 3 legislative liaisons
- 2 chemists
- 1 medical doctor
- 1 Vista volunteer
- 3 pharmacists
- 3 flight attendants
- 1 geologist
- 1 oceanographer
- 1 New York City budget analyst

Between 1983 and 2016, there
are over 1,700 RAHI alum:

Medical Doctor - 1

Doctor of Pharmacy - 3

Doctor of Physical Therapy -1

Doctor of Chiropractic 1

Ph.D. 3

Law Degrees 8

Masters Degrees 109

Professional Certificates 25

Baccalaureate Degrees 413

Associate Degrees 235 Certificates
126

Total Degrees: 926

*Over 250 RAHI students are currently
enrolled in colleges throughout Alaska
and U.S.*



RAHI 2016 Class



Reason to attend the program

- When just comparing minority students, RAHI rural Alaska Natives are nearly twice as likely to successfully complete a Bachelor's degree program than other rural Alaska Natives (19% vs. 10%).

American Institutes for Research

RAHI works!

For more information, contact:

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(photos by RAHI staff)