



MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT

Between

SEALASKA HERITAGE INSTITUTE and

UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST

This MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT (MOA) is designed to further the communication, collaboration, and partnership between SEALASKA HERITAGE INSTITUTE and UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST.

a. PURPOSE

Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI) is submitting a project proposal to the U.S. Department of Education's (DOE) Alaska Native Education program for its FY 2019 funding opportunity. SHI is submitting the proposal to request DOE's support for the *Haa Yoo X'atángi Deiyí: Our Language Pathway* project.

The three-year Our Language Pathway Initiative will allow SHI and the University of Alaska to implement objectives that have been: (1) collaboratively designed to provide services for Alaska Native students and families living in Southeast Alaska and (2) further refined through the execution of these project-specific MOAs.

- **Objective 1:** 16 credentialed language scholars proficient in their heritage language demonstrated by heritage language Certificate or Type M Certificate and capable of serving as heritage language educators over the three-year project.
- **Objective 2:** 16 heritage language scholars completing two classroom internships and two community based internships; each internship will be 15 weeks for 20 hours per week, totaling 1,200 hours for four internships during the three-year project.

Execution of this MOA will allow **SHI** and the **University of Alaska Southeast (UAS)** to enact the partnership necessary to implement **Objective 1** and **Objective 2** of the project. It is anticipated that

participating UAS students will directly benefit from this partnership and from their involvement in the collaborative three-year *Haa Yoo X'atangi Deiyi: Our Language Pathway*.

b. PARTNERS

Sealaska Heritage Institute (SHI) was created by Sealaska Corporation Inc. (Sealaska) in 1980 as a nonprofit 501(c)(3). Sealaska recognizes SHI as its tribal organization established for the purposes of applying on its behalf for grants and contracts—and to administer programs and funding—to enhance the culture, education, heritage, and well-being of its tribal members. Further, SHI is sanctioned by Sealaska to apply for and operate projects that are funded by the DOE's Alaska Native Education program to serve its tribal members.

SHI is governed entirely by Alaska Natives and operates with a mission to “*Perpetuate and enhance the Tlingit, Haida, and Tsimshian cultures.*” SHI is located in Alaska's capital city of Juneau and it serves the region of Southeast Alaska. SHI has 39 years of experience partnering with Alaska Native parents and youth, tribal Elders, educators, leaders, local communities, and school districts to develop and collaboratively manage educational programming that meet the: (1) State of Alaska Content and Performance Standards for Alaska Students and (2) Alaska Standards for Culturally Responsive Schools.

The **University of Alaska Southeast (UAS)** mission focuses on student learning enhanced by faculty scholarship, undergraduate research and creative activities, community engagement, and the cultures and environment of Southeast Alaska. UAS is a student-centered institution—its goal is helping students succeed in achieving their educational and career goals. UAS offers myriad options for students to earn post-secondary associate, bachelor, and/or master's degrees.

- UAS is regionally accredited by the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). In fulfilling its mission, UAS emphasizes values of excellence, diversity, access, collaboration, sustainability, and stewardship. In particular, its programs focus on educational initiatives supportive of the Alaska Native languages, arts, and cultures that are unique to Southeast Alaska.
- UAS offers the Native & Rural Student Center (NRSC), which operates with a mission to create a student-centered inclusive environment that honors diversity, celebrates cultural traditions and knowledge, and enhances the learning experiences of UAS students. Since 1996, the NRSC has provided an inviting atmosphere filled with opportunities to gather with peers, receive academic support, and develop leadership skills.

Recognizing our collective responsibilities to those that we serve, and that through the combined efforts, knowledge, and resources of our organizations we can better achieve our common goals and initiatives, SHI and UAS will partner to achieve the primary goal identified in the *Haa Yoo X'atangi Deiyi: Our Language Pathway* of increasing the number of heritage language educators with language certifications for heritage languages to be used in instruction across grades and curriculum.

c. SCOPE

Sealaska Heritage Institute agrees to:

1. Partner with UAS and to enhance Alaska Native languages, instructional opportunities, collaborative academic offerings, and overall enrichment in Lingít, Xaad Kíl, and Sm'algıax for Alaska Native students.
2. Collaborate with Partners to seek funding that benefits Alaska Native heritage language programming at SHI and UAS.
3. Grant access to students and professors to the William L. Paul Sr. Archives, ethnographic and art collections, and exhibits.
4. Provide heritage language scholars dedicated working space in the Walter Soboleff Building for listening to archival recordings and language resources.
5. Work with administrators, instructors, and students at UAS to design structured learning opportunities for Alaska Native heritage language scholars and professors.
6. Provide one internship opportunity for each heritage language scholar within Sealaska Heritage Institute language and youth programs.
7. Develop and implement annual summer language institutes open to heritage language scholars, UAS students, professors, and community members.
8. Sponsor 32 community languages sessions in partnership with heritage language scholars open to UAS students, professors, and community members.
9. Sponsor 16 heritage language scholars to attend UAS full time through *Haa Yoo X'atángi Deiyí: Our Language Pathway*.

University of Alaska Southeast agrees to:

1. Support SHI as an Alaska Native organization for the purposes of the Alaska Native Education Equity Program (20 U.S.C. 7515 7511-7546).
2. House up to 16 heritage language scholars in student residences on campus to facilitate a shared language immersive environment.
3. Assure space is available for heritage language scholars to remain on campus one additional week after the end of spring semester in early May to attend the annual Summer Language Institute, coordinated by SHI.
4. Support visiting heritage language scholars/speakers on campus; one per year over three years to broaden the Alaska Native language education received at UAS.
5. Participate in planning for heritage language pathway development.
6. Provide office space for two language project coordinators on campus employed by SHI on campus 25% of the time.
7. Work to build language programs and classes in Sm'algıax (Tsimshian) to establish future Southeast regional heritage language certificates.
8. Continue offering heritage language courses dependent on the certificate and completion of the academic program by heritage language scholars.
9. Collaborate as appropriate with other universities within the University of Alaska statewide system to develop and offer courses of common interest available to heritage language scholars by distance delivery.
10. Create a supportive learning environment for Alaska Native students and heritage language scholars.

11. Partner with SHI to provide cultural expertise on grants that will expand the Alaska Native language programs or target Alaska Native youth or require an Alaska Native Organization partnership.
12. Partner with SHI to develop and implement Alaska Native language programs that allow Native students of all ages to have a "campus experience" and strive to make this experience as affordable as possible.
13. Seek approval from the University of Alaska Board of Regents to create a heritage language Certificate in Lingít (Tlingit) and X̱aad Kíl (Haida) offering the following courses for 29 total credits. Offer the following courses for Sm'alg̱yax (Tsimshian) heritage scholars to earn a Type M Certificate through the Alaska Department of Education and Early Development and establish a foundation heritage language certificate in the future.

Heritage Language Courses Offered at University of Alaska Southeast

	Lingít (Tlingit) Heritage Language Certificate	X̱aad Kíl (Haida) Heritage Language Certificate	Sm'alg̱yax (Tsimshian) Type M Certificate
Required Classes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AKL S205* Intermediate Tlingit I ● AKL S206* Intermediate Tlingit II ● AKL S305 Advanced Tlingit I ● AKL S306 Advanced Tlingit II 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AKL S207* Intermediate Haida II ● AKL S208* Intermediate Haida II ● AKL S307 Advanced Haida I ● AKL S308 Advanced Haida II 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● AKL S109* Beginning Tsimshian I ● AKL S110* Beginning Tsimshian II
	AKL S410	Heritage Language Teaching Methods and Materials	
	AKL S401	Alaska Language Apprenticeship/Mentorship	
	LING F100	Language, Education, & Linguistics	
Select one	ED S302	Foundations of Literacy and Language Development	
	ED S448	Classroom Management in K-8 Classrooms	
	ED S222	Orientation to the Teaching Profession	
	ANL F287	Teaching Methods for Alaska Native Languages (distance from UAF, as needed)	
ED S621A	Curriculum Development		
Select one	AKL S241	Native Oratory	
	AKL S451	Intro to Alaska Native Language Linguistics I	
	AKL S452	Intro to Alaska Native Language Linguistics II	
	AKL S350	Tlingit Oral Literature	
	AK S391	Internship	
	AK S394	Practicum	

*Note: Courses are three credits unless noted with * to indicate four credits*

Collectively Parties agree to:

1. Use opportunities to educate governments, educational institutions, and public and private foundations about the Alaska Native Education Equity Program (20 U.S.C. 7515 7511-7546).
2. Support each other's programs and protect annual congressional appropriations.
3. Support continued funding for SHI of Alaska Native language programs.
4. Designate a lead person for collaboration at each institution.
5. Develop student internships and language learning opportunities between institutions.
6. Collaborate to develop grant proposals to foundations and other entities as deemed appropriate.
7. Meet at least semi-annually to review and assess progress toward the purpose of this MOA and to modify the MOA as necessary to advance Alaska Native language and Alaska Native youth academic performance.

This MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT hereby supports efforts between SEALASKA HERITAGE INSTITUTE and UNIVERSITY OF ALASKA SOUTHEAST for the *Haa Yoo X'atangi Deiyi: Our Language Pathway* project submitted in response to the U.S. Department of Education, Alaska Native Education Program funding opportunity.



Rosita Worl, PhD, President
Sealaska Heritage Institute

June 7, 2019

Date



Richard A. Caulfield, PhD, Chancellor
University of Alaska Southeast

June 7, 2019

Date