

Click Bishop  
Commissioner

P.O. Box 111149  
Juneau, AK 99811-1149  
www.labor.alaska.gov



Beth Leschper  
Communications Director  
907.465.2700  
cell: 907.723.1321  
beth.leschper@alaska.gov

## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

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### **Labor & Transportation Departments Team Up for Construction Career Days**

*Events in Palmer & Soldotna Provide Hands-on Career and Technical Education  
Experiences for Alaska Students*

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Departments of Labor and Workforce Development and Transportation and Public Facilities are again joining forces to provide career and technical education opportunities for students at the fourth annual Construction Career Days April 20 at the Alaska State Fairgrounds in Palmer from 8 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Sponsors include Alaska employers, training trusts and career and technical educators.

“My message to students is two-fold – first, stay in school. A high school diploma or GED is the minimum you’ll need for your future. Second, you’ll need education and training after high school,” Labor Commissioner Click Bishop said. “This is an exceptional opportunity for students to explore careers that provide good pay and benefits. We appreciate the sponsors and those offering presentations and activities.”

Students will be able to explore interactive exhibits, trade industry displays and heavy equipment demonstrations. Planned activities include hands-on participation with welding, surveying, electrical wiring, spike driving and drilling.

"Construction is one of the primary industries of natural resource-rich states like Alaska," Transportation Commissioner Marc Luiken said. "Transportation construction for highways, airports and the ferry system has been and will continue to be a significant part of industry in Alaska. As we move forward to build a new natural gas pipeline and other major projects across our vast state, contractors will need to fill their workforce with skilled construction workers from technical training programs."

A second event is scheduled for April 27 at the Soldotna Sports Arena in Soldotna, with more than 400 students from across the Kenai Peninsula scheduled to attend.

High school students from Mat-Su, Anchorage, Valdez, Unalaska, Galena, Glennallen, Craig, Seward, Homer, Tyonek and surrounding private and home schools will attend the events.

Every student at the free expositions will receive a hardhat, safety equipment and a construction career information book. Additional career day information is available online at [akconstructioncareerdays.org](http://akconstructioncareerdays.org).

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