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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 fifth annual Construction Career Days April 17 at the Alaska State Fairgrounds in Palmer and April 30 at the Soldotna Sports Complex.

"This event provides an opportunity for high school students to help make decisions about their futures," Labor and Workforce Development Commissioner Dianne Blumer said. "Alaska's young people have many choices as they decide on a path to their futures. Those next steps could be to enter the workforce, enter career training or pursue a college degree."

The April 17 sessions will be from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for 700 students from the Anchorage School District and Mat-Su Borough School District schools and from 1-3:30 p.m. for students from rural, private and home schools.

The April 30 sessions will be from 8 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. for Kenai, Soldotna, Nikiski and Skyview Schools and from 1-3:30 p.m. for Homer, Seward, private, home and rural schools.

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.

"Our department is committed to recruiting, retaining and growing a professional workforce and Construction Career Days provides an excellent venue where Alaska's future contractors and engineers can learn about the different career opportunities that are available in today's construction industry," Transportation and Public Facilities Commissioner Pat Kemp said.

Sponsors include Alaska employers, training trusts and career and technical educators. Additional career day information is available online at <u>akconstructioncareerdays.org</u>.

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