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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

No. 10-03

Jan. 13, 2010

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### **Nominations for Alaska Apprentice Awards Due March 15**

JUNEAU, Alaska—The Alaska Department of Labor and Workforce Development is accepting nominations for its third annual Apprenticeship Awards Celebration, Showcasing Real Workforce Development Success.

“Registered apprenticeship helps Alaska’s youth plug directly into the labor market,” Labor Commissioner Click Bishop said. “Apprenticeship also works for Alaska employers – they are able to establish training standards, and develop a local and loyal workforce.”

The Apprenticeship Awards recognize outstanding achievements toward building a skilled Alaska workforce through registered apprenticeship. Commissioner Bishop will present one Apprentice of the Year award, two Instructor of the Year awards and three Sponsor/Employer of the Year awards.

Registered apprenticeship is a national training system that can increase productivity and improve the quality of the workforce by combining paid learning on-the-job and related technical instruction in a skilled occupation.

Applications, which are available online at [jobs.alaska.gov/apprentice/10apps.html](http://jobs.alaska.gov/apprentice/10apps.html), must be received by 5 p.m. on Monday, March 15. Applications will be reviewed by a committee of peers and chosen by Commissioner Bishop. Winners will be announced on Wednesday, April 28 at the third annual Building Alaska’s Future Apprenticeship Conference in Anchorage at the Egan Center.

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2010 Apprenticeship Awards Information and Nomination Forms

[jobs.alaska.gov/apprentice/10apps.html](http://jobs.alaska.gov/apprentice/10apps.html)

Think Apprenticeship!

[jobs.alaska.gov/apprentice/index.html](http://jobs.alaska.gov/apprentice/index.html)

Registered Apprenticeship Resources for Employers and Future Apprentices

[EarnAndLearnAk.Org](http://EarnAndLearnAk.Org)

Alaska Economic Trends, February 2009

<http://www.labor.state.ak.us/trends/feb09.pdf>