

STATEWIDE IN ALASKA

Highlights: Alaska's Manpower Outlook 1970's, a dynamic occupational research project, is underway in the Alaska Department of Labor's Research and Analysis Section. The State Department of Education's Vocational Education Division has contracted with the Department of Labor to conduct this \$100,000 research program during fiscal year 1970. Project plans are being completed and the system of data gathering is nearing final definition. A twofold output is planned from this program. Through surveys of employers (both inside and outside of Alaska), schools and training institutions, and individuals, a comprehensive study of occupational demand versus expected supply for the 70's will be developed. The second part of this program will be to develop a comprehensive system to periodically evaluate and update occupational demand and supply information beyond the completion of the project. This research is to provide accurate information on present and future labor demands to industry planners, vocational counselors, community developers and potential job seekers.

Broad program direction is being provided by an Advisory Board specially constituted for this project. The chairman of this Board is Frank Cox, Planning and Research Director from the Office of the Governor. Advisory Board members and their departments are: Bill Jermain, Labor; Ernie Polley, Education; and Ted Borden, Economic Development. Occupational research team members from Labor's Research and Analysis Section include John Post, research supervisor, Richard Listowski, project technical lead, and Judy Brakel, statistical assistant. Dr. George W. Rogers joined the research unit staff as a consultant in mid-September.

Program emphasis is on today and in the future. An economic model for the 1970's will be developed to put the survey data in perspective. Employers will be requested to forecast their needs for specific occupations for 1972, 1975 and 1980. A list of approximately 200 occupations will provide the basis for the employer and school contacts. This list is designed to capture occupations currently in demand as well as those which may likely be in demand in the future.

Alaskan employer surveys will start in Mid-October 1969 with completion expected by December 1969. Survey of potential employers outside Alaska will start in late October 1969 with completion expected in January 1970. School surveys will also start in late October 1969 with completion expected in December 1969. The survey of individuals will continue throughout and beyond this project with the help of Department of Labor, other government agencies, and private groups.

Document preparation will begin in December 1969 with first draft completion planned for May 1970. Data of significance will be released on a preliminary basis throughout the program as available. The definition of the system of update will be published by April 1970.

Any questions concerning this ongoing occupational research project should be directed to:

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