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## Press Release

COMMISSIONER'S OFFICE

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
July 13, 2012

No. 12-40

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### **AVTEC Offers Final 2 Village Internet Agent Training Courses**

JUNEAU, Alaska—As part of an effort to increase Internet access across Alaska, an information technology program at AVTEC-Alaska's Institute of Technology will produce trained technicians to maintain personal computers and networks in Alaska's remote villages.

The Village Internet Agent program will provide free tuition, books and supplies to qualified students, although students will be responsible for their housing, meals and travel.

VIA is a partnership with AVTEC, the University of Alaska and 20 other entities, which is funded by a \$4.5 million federal "Bridging the e-Skills Gap" program that is part of the federal Broadband Technology Opportunities Program.

Classes for the 80-day, six-hour-a-day program are held at the AVTEC campus in Seward. The next course will be Aug. 29-Dec. 21. The final course will be offered Jan.7-April 30.

In addition, AVTEC offers 16 long-term training programs ranging from six weeks to 11 months and roughly 60 short-term training programs that take from a week to six weeks to complete. Information is available online at [www.AVTEC.edu](http://www.AVTEC.edu) by selecting the "Training Programs/Courses" link or call 800-478-5389 or 907-224-3322.

AVTEC's main campus is in Seward. Classes for the school's Allied Health program are held in Anchorage. Remote-site and distance-delivery classes in nearly all AVTEC's training programs are available statewide.

Alaskans who are interested in the VIA program, or other AVTEC training, should contact the AVTEC Admissions Office for details on qualifying for the program and also for testing.

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AVTEC – Alaska's Institute of Technology  
[Labor.Alaska.Gov/AVTEC](http://Labor.Alaska.Gov/AVTEC) or [AVTEC.edu](http://AVTEC.edu)  
800-478-5389 or 907-224-332