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CONTACT: Jay Walterreit  
walterrj@alpenacc.edu  
(989) 358-7215

*For immediate release:*

## **ACC FALL SEMESTER ENROLLMENT GROWS**

ALPENA, MICH. — With one week to go before classes close Alpena Community College is showing strong growth in Fall Semester students and revenue.

As of Friday morning, August 30, ACC's student headcount had increased 5.0% over the same point last year. That equates to an additional 72 students. Fall Semester 2018 headcount was 1,445; Fall Semester 2019 headcount is currently 1,517. Credit hours are up 4.5% (14,922.50 credit hours this year versus 14,280.00 last year).

ACC President Dr. Don MacMaster attributes the student increase to the extensive work the College has been doing with local school districts, offering a variety of dual enrollment and early college courses. Dual enrollment course enrollment is 6.7% in headcount and 7.0% in credit hours so far this semester.

“Dual enrollment and early college courses are great for all involved,” said MacMaster. “The students earn college credits at little or no cost to themselves and the schools are able to help their students be successful in college while still receiving money from the state. And of course ACC benefits when more students go to college.”

Technology has also played in role in the growth. ACC has deployed more video conferencing systems in area schools which enables more students to take classes without having to travel to a campus. It also makes it easier for ACC to consolidate students from various schools in one class section, which allows more sections to be offered.

ACC's enrollment increase is even more notable when considering how other Michigan community colleges are faring. According to the Michigan Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers community college weekly enrollment report (<https://www.macrao.org/Reports/ccweekly.asp>), ACC is the only northern Michigan community college reporting growth.

**Northern Michigan Community College Credit Hour and Headcount for Fall Semester as of August 30, 2019**

<u>Community College</u>	<u>Credit Hours</u>	<u>Head Count</u>
ACC	+4.5%	+5.0%
Bay de Noc CC	-6%	-5%
Delta CC	-3.3%	-3.4%
Gogebic CC	-8.17%	-5.85%
Kirtland CC	-1.00%	-1.61%
North Central	-4.57%	-5.45%
Northwestern	-3.9%	-4.3%

ACC's early college partnerships have also expanded this year. In addition to Alpena Public Schools, ACC has made new early college arrangements with Alcona Public Schools and Oscoda Public Schools.

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