Alaska Airlines awards travel scholarships

Alaska Airlines has awarded 56 travel grant scholarships to 1989 Alaskan high school graduates.

The grants provide students with one round-trip ticket from an Alaska Airlines location nearest their community to an Alaska Airlines destination closest to the college or university in which they will be enrolled. The students were chosen from areas throughout the state.

To qualify for the grants, students were required to maintain a minimum 2.5 grade point average and a part-time job while enrolled in high school.

Leadership skills and career goals were also considered by each community's three-member screening selection committee.

"Going to college is an expensive proposition," said Regional Vice President Bill MacKay. "For Alaskan students, that cost includes travel expenses which are often difficult for the parents to afford."

Alaska Airlines initiated the travel grant program on a limited basis in 1983 to help students defray some of the costs of going to college.