

Kotzebue Tech Center offers land management training

Kotzebue Technical Center is offering a 17-week course that has been specifically designed to train land managers for regional and village corporations in Alaska. This program was in part made possible through a grant from the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

Native corporations have expressed a need for personnel who have had training in land management. These technicians must know how to make wise decisions about their land selections and how these lands are to be managed for the benefit of the corporation. These jobs often depend on a knowledge of legal land descriptions, mapping, business and scientific management of forests, range lands, waters and minerals.

This comprehensive introductory program will begin January 27, 1986, and will be completed May 19, 1986. The program curriculum is structured around core courses required of all trainees. Any courses in which the trainee can demonstrate competence will be waived so the trainee can move on to any of the four elective courses. All the courses are organized into packets for each task; each packet has

learning activities and performance measurement. Training highlights will include guest lecturers and field trips.

According to KTC Director, Gale Vick, a course like this has never before been available. "Our interest is to train entry level employees who will have a good basic understanding of the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (ANCSA), natural resources, corporate land management and associated office and surveying skills."

Program capacity is fifteen (15) trainees. It is currently advertised to two groups of potential students: (a) those who already hold positions as entry-level employees in this field; and (b) those who seek such positions. Partial scholarships are available to 12 participants who qualify under the income criteria set by the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA).

Graduates of the program will be awarded both a certificate of completion and a skill card detailing knowledge and performance. Information concerning the project can be obtained from Cheryl Edenshaw at 442-3733.