Students can get loans

Gov. Bill Sheffield says Alaskans seeking student loans will be able to get them as usual this year, despite a 10 percent across-the-board cut to all loan programs.

The loan programs were reduced in funding at the same time all the other state functions were scaled back to accommodate a drastic fall in world crude oil prices.

"We will be able to continue loan-

ing money to students who need the money to go to school," Sheffield said.

The Postsecondary Education Commission has worked out an arrangement in conjunction with the Office of Management and Budget that will allow the state to take \$6.1 million out of the loan program, but without reducing service to those wishing to take out a loan this year.