



## PRESS RELEASE

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
**February 26, 2015**

### **Alaska Military Youth Academy to graduate 124 cadets**

**CAMP DENALI, Alaska** – The Alaska Military Youth Academy will celebrate more than 20 years of service to the state of Alaska during the graduation of 124 cadets of Class 2015-1 from its ChalleNGe program Feb. 27.

The 10 a.m. graduation ceremony will be held in downtown Anchorage on the first floor of the Dena'ina Civic and Convention Center in the Idlughet (Eklutna) Ballroom. The ceremony will feature testimonies and speeches from graduating cadets and video messages from Senator Lisa Murkowski and Congressman Don Young.

During their 22-week residential phase at the AMYA ChalleNGe program, the corps of cadets focused on academic excellence, leadership and followership, physical fitness, life coping skills, responsible citizenship, vocational training and service to the community. The 124 cadets set to graduate from the Alaska Military Youth Academy will join the 4,362 previous graduates since 1994.

Upon graduation, cadets take part in the yearlong Post-Residential phase where graduates return to their communities to put into practice the principles they received and continue their education (high school, college or vocational schools), enter the workplace or enter the military. The goal of this phase is for graduates to sustain and build on the gains made during the residential phase.

The Alaska Military Youth Academy continues to help intervene in and reclaim the lives of youth and produce program graduates with the values, skills, education and self-discipline necessary to succeed as adults.

- Who:** Alaska Military Youth Academy
- What:** Graduation ceremony for 124 cadets
- Where:** Idlughet (Eklutna) Ballroom, Dena'ina Center, 600 W 7th Ave., Anchorage
- When:** Friday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m.

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