UAF’s location in Interior Alaska provides easy access to glaciers, permafrost, the Pacific and Arctic oceans, and other elements of a sub-Arctic climate. Accordingly, several research centers and academic departments focus their scholarly work on issues particular to the North. These include the environmental impact of human activities, development of renewable and nonrenewable resources and energy sources, and the understanding and preservation of Indigenous Northern cultures.

The vice chancellor for research oversees all university research activities and has primary responsibility for the university’s research mission. The VCR office directs the development of university research policies and oversees sponsored programs, research integrity, and intellectual property and licensing.

Assistantships are available for graduate students working on research with faculty in many research institutes and centers. Each researcher has a joint appointment with an academic department. Any student interested in specific faculty research projects and the availability of assistantships should contact the appropriate academic department.