

| Academic Pathways                        | Present in the State |  | Special Efforts to Reach Underserved Students |  | State Support |   |
|--|----------------------|--|---|--|---------------|---|
| <u>Advanced Placement (AP)</u>           | Yes                  | AP-New Mexico is working in collaboration with State Department of Education, College Board, and Commission on Higher Education to support teachers and schools to develop comprehensive AP programs. State scholars AP program was implemented in 2003 to better prepare students academically by encouraging them to take more rigorous courses. | Yes   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low-income students - through the WCALO initiative</li> <li>• Native Americans</li> <li>• Rural students</li> </ul> | Yes           | State funding; New AP Course Incentive fund and AP fee exam reduction   |
| <b>Bridge Programs</b>                   | Yes                  | Programs are in place to help bridge students to college in specific content areas.  | Yes   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Native American students</li> <li>• Special populations</li> </ul>  | Yes           | State legislation   |
| <u>Charter Schools</u>                   | Yes                  | Starting to align the curriculum with the colleges   | Yes   | Special populations  | Yes           | State funding and regulations; In the initial year of a charter school, state funds are based upon a projected number of students that the charter school plans to enroll                               |
| <b>College Level Exam Program (CLEP)</b> | Yes                  | Colleges accept the test.  | No  |  | DK            | No further information available  |
| <u>Distance Learning/ Virtual School</u> | Yes                  | New Mexico Virtual College (NMVC) is a state-wide collaboration of colleges and universities throughout New Mexico providing AP, GED and concurrent enrollment.  | Yes   | Special populations  | Yes           | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Collaborative effort of state education stakeholders.</li> <li>• State legislative support</li> <li>• Private foundation funding and membership fee</li> </ul> |
| <b>Dual Credit/ Dual Enrollment</b>      | Yes                  | Early Admittance Program for high academic achievers. There is a limitation on the number of classes that can be taken. Local institutions set entrance requirements.  | Yes   | Special populations  | Yes           | State legislation, funding and recently revised policy  |

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| <b>Early or Middle College High Schools</b> | Yes                  | At least one middle college high school program at the University of New Mexico's campus and more on the way                                      | Yes   | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Low-income students</li> <li>• Racial and ethnic minority students</li> <li>• Rural students</li> </ul>  | Yes           | Recently received a grant from the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation for the program in Gallup, NM |
| <u>GED in College Settings</u>              | Yes                  | There are programs that link the GED to colleges.   | Yes   | Low-achieving students  | Yes           | The NM State Department of Education, the NM State Board of Education regulation on GED testing    |
| <b>International Baccalaureate (IB)</b>     | Yes                  | One private school participating  | No  |   | No            |  |
| <u>Jobs for New Mexico Graduates</u>        | Yes                  | Pilot program in 2003; a school-to-career program   | Yes   | The program looks for a specific profile, and the student must be at risk of dropping out. Students sought are: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Incarcerated youth</li> <li>• Low-achieving students</li> <li>• Low-income students</li> <li>• Racial minority students</li> </ul> | Yes           | Combination of foundation contributions, public sector grants and participating school funds       |
| <u>Tech Prep</u>                            | Yes                  | Tech Prep programs are developed through the collaboration of secondary and postsecondary instructors in consultation with business and industry. | Yes   | Special populations   | Yes           | Federal Perkins funding  |

**Summary of academic pathways:**

State officials are working to bring key stakeholders together to construct stronger academic pathways through collaborations. The AP program encourages students to enroll in a more rigorous high school curriculum. New Mexico is also involved in the early/middle college movement with a school in Gallup and is looking to add additional schools. Currently under discussion, alignment of exit and entrance exams with college standards will facilitate a smoother transition for students.



**Interesting or unique models identified by state officials:**

- Early/Middle College in Gallup, NM
- Jobs For New Mexico Graduates
- State Scholars AP Program

**Observations by state officials about special efforts to reach underserved students:**

Most academic pathways in New Mexico make special efforts to reach underserved students, particularly underrepresented racial and ethnic minority, ESL, and low-income students. Some pathways do not designate a specific underserved population, seeking instead to serve a group of students given a generic label of “special populations”. The Jobs for America’s Grads program seeks to serve a diverse student body.

**Observations by state officials about state support for pathways:**

The dual credit and bridge programs have recently had their legislation refined. The state has received a grant from the Gates Foundation to support the Early/Middle College program, and it utilizes the federal Perkins grant to implement the Tech Prep program.

**Lessons learned by state officials:**

- Some officials feel apprehensive regarding the new ideas’ meshing with No Child Left Behind. Educators are attempting to ensure that new programs fall within the scope of No Child Left Behind.
- The local districts need technical assistance with the new equipment.
- The state needs to couple the efforts of the teachers and administrators and develop some best practices that can then be distributed to help other sites better serve students.

**Programs recommended by state officials:**

| <u>Pathways</u>                            | <u>Educational Institution</u>        | <u>Contact person</u> | <u>E-mail</u> | <u>Phone</u>   |
|--|---------------------------------------|-----------------------|---------------|----------------|
| High School/ University Partnerships       | Loving High School                    | David Chavez          | --            | (505) 745-2010 |
|  | NM State University - Carlsbad Branch | Ricky Williams        | --            | (505) 745-2020 |
|  |                                       | George Walker         | --            | (505) 234-9200 |
| High School/Community College Partnerships | Pecos High School                     | Roy Herrera           |               | (505) 757-4700 |
|  | Luna Community College                | Leroy Sanchez         |               | (505) 454-2501 |



## NEW MEXICO

## State Profile

### State official's contact information:

| <u>Name</u>           | <u>Title</u>  | <u>Agency</u>                          | <u>E-mail</u>  | <u>Phone</u>   |
|-----------------------|---|--|--|----------------|
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(Prepared by Christopher Evans/ Updated August, 2006/ \*State official reviewed this state profile. \*\*State official was forwarded this state profile for review.)