NEW MEXICO
Public Education Department

Strengthening Student Success: Insights from New Mexico Public Education Department Dual Credit Survey - Spring 2026

Stakeholder perspectives to inform policy, planning, and expansion of the NM PED Dual Credit Program

WHO RESPONDED?

The PED 2026 Dual Credit Survey captured 860 responses from stakeholders across K-12 and higher education, from 28 counties statewide.

- Students 35%
- Parents/Guardians 17%
- Faculty 11%
- Counselors 10%

WHAT ARE THE BENEFITS?

Respondents overwhelmingly agreed that the Dual Credit Program has strong value:

- 97% agree students benefit directly from the program.
- 96% agree Dual Credit offers a pathway to higher education.
- 93% would recommend the program to others.

WHAT IMPACTS STUDENT ENROLLMENT & SUCCESS?

Students face both practical and structural barriers to dual credit enrollment—but targeted supports can open the door to success.

BARRIERS

- Scheduling
- Teachers
- Other Activities

"Students with lower incomes need access to dependable computers and internet service." Respondent

" Need more individual academic advising." Respondent

OPPORTUNITIES

- More Outreach & Collaboration
- More Certified Teachers
- More Flexible Learning Formats

WHAT OUTREACH STRATEGIES ARE USEFUL?

Successful outreach to students and families is a critical success factor. The most helpful strategies include:

- High School Events 58%
- Advisor Presentations 43%
- Promotional Media 32%
- Family Outreach 28%

In-person engagement remains a key driver of enrollment.

WHAT ARE THE CHALLENGES?

Respondents identified several strructural and access-related challenges that affect engagement:

Class Period/Semester Scheduling 54%
Availability of Teachers/Faculty 42%
Extracurricular Activities & Sports 42%
Course Selection & Availability 40%
Communication with HS/College Representatives 38%
Family &/or Work Obligations 37%
Transportation 32%
Internet Access 29%

New Mexico was awarded a grant by the College in High School Alliance (CHSA) to develop and implement policies to strengthen dual credit in New Mexico. CHSA is a coalition of national, state, and local organizations collaborating to positively impact national and state policies and build broad support for programs that enable high school students to enroll in authentic, affordable college pathways toward postsecondary degrees and credentials offered with appropriate support. Key goals of the initiative, which each state in the cohort will be undertaking, include:

- Setting a Statewide Vision for Dual Enrollment
- Expanding Dual Enrollment Access
- Focusing on Intentional Dual Enrollment Experiences

BUILDING THE FUTURE OF DUAL ENROLLMENT

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WHAT CAN BE IMPROVED?

- **Dedicated Dual Credit Liaisons** → Many respondents skipped or marked "Don't Know" when asked if their school had a dual credit point person.
- **Flexible Course Options** → Over 600 cited scheduling and teacher availability as key barriers.
- **Expand Advising and Guidance** → Respondents who reported strong advising were significantly more likely to recommend the program.

NEW MEXICO COUNTIES

WHERE WERE RESPONSES FROM?

28 of New Mexico's 33 counties were represented

Top Responding Counties	Counties with No Response
• Bernalillo • Curry • Doña Ana • Grant • Otero	• Catron • Eddy • Guadalupe • Los Alamos • Quay
These counties provided the highest number of responses.	These may represent potential outreach gaps and are important targets for future engagement.

WHY DOES DUAL CREDIT MATTER TO NEW MEXICANS?

Here's what students, parents, and faculty are saying about the Dual Credit Program:

> "One of the biggest benefits is parents can save money on tuition & fees." — Student

> "I love that my children will be a step ahead when they start college." — Parent/Guardian

> "Allows students to experience college with the intentional support of high school staff." — Faculty

> "Students can get a jump start to career paths, vocational certifications, & college degrees." — School Counselor

WHO CAN YOU REACH OUT TO FOR MORE INFORMATION?

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https://web.ped.nm.gov/bureaus/college-and-career-readiness-bureau/college-credit-programs/dual-credit/