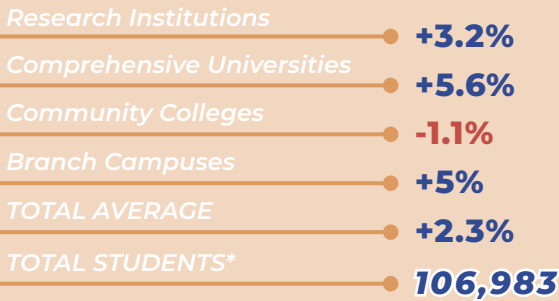




ENROLLMENT & OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP  
**DATA SPOTLIGHT**

**NEW MEXICO HAS INCREASED ENROLLMENT FOR THE FIRST TIME IN A DECADE**



\*Formula-Funded Higher Education Institutions

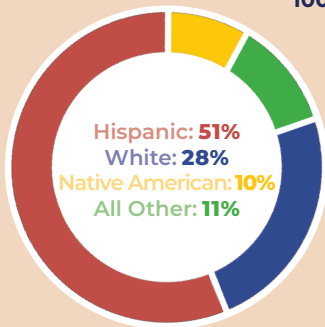
**2019-2021:** First-Time, Full-Time, Degree Seeking Enrollment **-14%**

**2021-2023:** First-Time, Full-Time, Degree Seeking Enrollment **+6.7%**

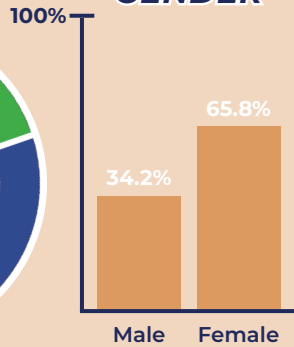
Source: Census Enrollment Headcount Report (HED, 2023).

**THE OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP IS SUPPORTING 42,379 NEW MEXICANS**

**RACE & ETHNICITY**



**GENDER**



Source: Preliminary eDEAR System Data (HED, Fall 2023).

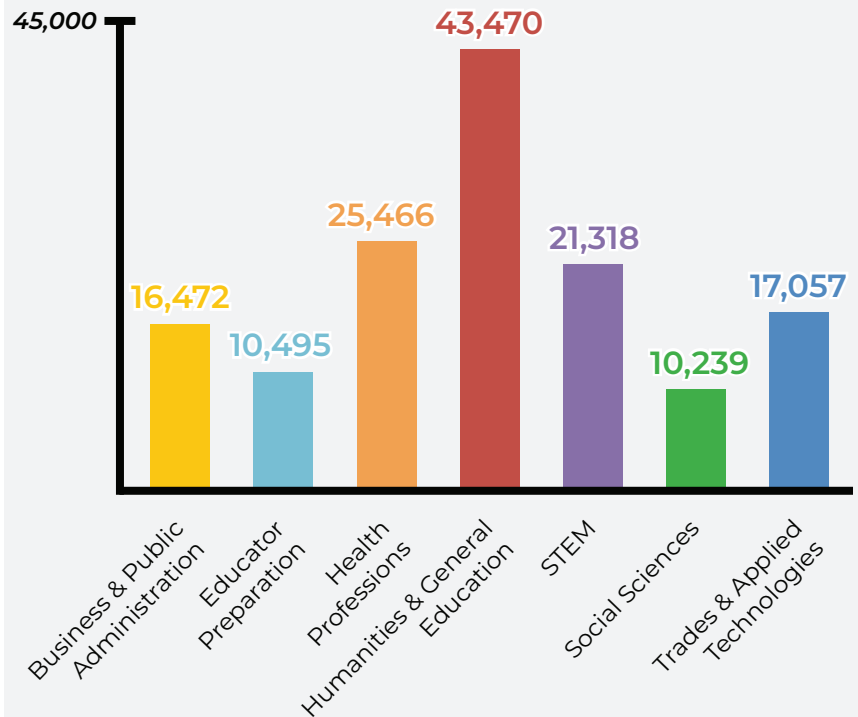
This past year, over 42,000 New Mexicans benefited from the Opportunity Scholarship and nearly 12,000 received the Lottery Scholarship.

New Mexico leads the nation in college access and affordability.

Over 65,000 jobs annually in New Mexico will require a postsecondary credential in 2031.



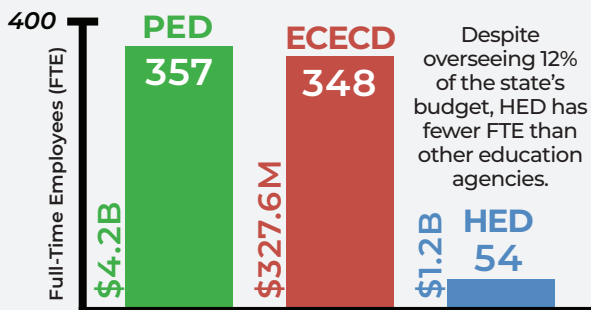
**GRAPH 1: CUMULATIVE DEGREE PRODUCTION**  
 Academic Years 2018 to 2023



Source: eDEAR System Data (HED, 2023).

**Total Awards: 144,517**

**GRAPH 2: STAFFING BY STATE EDUCATION AGENCY**



Source: House Bill 2 and SHARE (FY2024).

Despite overseeing 12% of the state's budget, HED has fewer FTE than other education agencies.

**FULL-TIME EMPLOYEES & VACANCIES**

The Higher Education Department has 41 state-funded, 12 federally-funded, and four fee-supported full-time employees (FTE), with a budget portfolio of over \$1.5 billion. The agency's vacancy rate is at an all-time low of 9%, or five vacancies, and all positions are posted or in the process of review, interviewing, or hiring. With monumental investments in state financial aid programs and institutional funding, the agency will need further support in several areas to achieve staffing capacity for current initiatives and further support successful programs. **The agency is requesting five full-time employees in Institutional Finance, Financial Aid, and Indian Education.**

# NEW MEXICO OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP

There is no wrong door to higher education in New Mexico.



## LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAMS

The Higher Education Department's **loan repayment programs provide repayment for the outstanding student loans** of practicing health professionals, teachers, and minority professors with doctorate degrees in New Mexico.

### TEACHER LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM 2024 AWARDS

Total Number of Awardees	454
Total Funding	\$4,997,000
Average Award Amount	\$5,500
Average Recipient Debt	\$48,000

● EXECUTIVE BUDGET REQUEST:  
**\$15,000,000 nonrecurring**

### HEALTH PROFESSIONAL LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM 2024 AWARDS - TOTAL: 724



● EXECUTIVE BUDGET REQUEST:  
**\$15,100,000 nonrecurring**

### MINORITY DOCTORAL LOAN REPAYMENT PROGRAM

A program dedicated to increasing the number of Black, Indigenous, Hispanic, people of color, and women teaching at colleges and universities in New Mexico.

● EXECUTIVE BUDGET REQUEST:  
**\$500,000 recurring and \$1,000,000 nonrecurring**

## In Fall 2023:

- *The Opportunity Scholarship supported 42,379 New Mexicans at public colleges and universities across the state.*
- *Opportunity Scholarship awardees are most likely to be Pell Grant recipients, Hispanic students, female students, or age 24 or younger.*
- *Students receiving the Opportunity Scholarship were more likely to be retained from fall to spring than the overall student population in New Mexico.*

Many jobs in today's economy require an education beyond high school. With the ever-changing workforce environment, proximity to the military bases and national laboratories, and employment shortages in critical fields, New Mexicans will need opportunities to continue to learn and grow their skills for career success and family-sustaining wages in their home state. But for too many, earning a degree or other credential after high school is oftentimes unaffordable. For others, financing their education saddles them with so much debt it prevents them from buying a home or saving for retirement. The Opportunity Scholarship promotes access to higher education programs, limits or eliminates student loan debt, and promotes economic prosperity.

EXECUTIVE BUDGET REQUEST:  
**\$157,900,000 recurring**



## COLLEGE BASIC NEEDS

A statewide survey of over 15,000 students, faculty, and staff in 2023 revealed:

**60%** → reported being food insecure

**63%** → faced housing insecurity

**20%** → reported being homeless

Source: New Mexico Basic Needs Survey (HED/UNM, 2023).

**College basic needs** refers to the support a student needs outside of tuition and fees surrounding other costs associated with college, such as housing, food, transportation, physical and mental health, and child care. A **\$2 million** appropriation is estimated to support more than 60,000 college students in New Mexico and expand opportunities for the Higher Education Department to support students beyond food security. The agency is also requesting **\$1 million** to support **mental and behavioral health initiatives** at colleges and universities to support student well-being and academic success.

### EXECUTIVE BUDGET REQUEST:

**\$2,000,000 nonrecurring for College Basic Needs**

**\$500,000 recurring and \$500,000 nonrecurring for Mental & Behavioral Health Initiatives**



## TRIBAL EDUCATION TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE CENTERS

Last year, legislation passed to establish two Tribal Education Technical Assistance Centers in New Mexico. The centers will focus on **supporting Tribes, Nations, and Pueblos to spend down state funding; develop culturally and linguistically relevant materials; enhance recruitment of Indigenous educators; professional development; and more.** Tribes, Nations and Pueblos are eligible to receive services as well as any institution serving Native American students, including school districts, charter schools, early childhood centers, colleges and universities, and Bureau of Indian Education schools.

### EXECUTIVE BUDGET REQUEST:

**\$2,225,000 recurring for Tribal Education Technical Assistance Centers**



## ANTI-HAZING PORTAL

Establishing a portal to **report incidents of hazing, sexual assault, and abuse** at schools across New Mexico.

### EXECUTIVE BUDGET REQUEST:

**\$500,000 recurring**



## NEW MEXICO LONGITUDINAL DATA SYSTEM

Evaluating what educational and workforce programs **drive success from cradle to career.**

### EXECUTIVE BUDGET REQUEST – C2:

**\$3,725,000 nonrecurring**



## INSTRUCTION & GENERAL FUNDING: NEW MEXICO'S OUTCOMES-BASED HIGHER EDUCATION FUNDING FORMULA

The higher education funding formula distributes new money based on eight different performance measures. These measures are separated into two categories, four shared measures and four mission-specific measures. Four small adjustments were made to the funding formula this year:

**1**  
*Used the highest level of weighted production within the last five years of data to establish a benchmark for the Institutional Performance Premium (IPP).*

**2**  
*Modified the IPP from two performance levels and one award level to four performance levels and four award levels.*

**3**  
*Increased the IPP award amount from 10% to 20% of new money allocated to shared measures and reduce the standard award percentage from 90% to 80%.*

**4**  
*Used dual credit weighting on a three-year average of the resident undergraduate part-time tuition rate per student credit hour instead of the part-time rate.*

### LOOKING AHEAD

*The Higher Education Department will be conducting a study in 2024 to evaluate the sustainability of higher education funding in New Mexico.*

## NEW MEXICO'S HIGHER EDUCATION SECTOR

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham and the Higher Education Department announced this fall that over 110,000 New Mexicans are pursuing career training certificates, associate, bachelor's and graduate degrees at public and tribal colleges and universities across New Mexico, an increase of 2.3% over last year. Over 11,000 New Mexicans are pursuing higher education for the first time and as full-time students. In 2022, all formula-funded colleges and universities submitted a Strategic Enrollment Management Plan to the agency and submitted updates in 2023 to identify successful strategies, strategies needing improvement, and future changes. While enrollment and graduation rates will take several years to stabilize as students move through the system, many indications show that progress is happening.

## AT A GLANCE: FY2025 EXECUTIVE BUDGET RECOMMENDATION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION

Overall Higher Education Funding: **\$1,327,196,100**

→ Higher Education Institutions: **1,123,202,100**

- Instruction & General Funding: **\$910,949,000**
  - 2.9% in new money
- Research & Public Service Projects: **\$211,186,000**

→ Higher Education Department: **\$203,994,000**

### QUESTIONS? CONTACT US!

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