

LANL FOUNDATION

2025 Legislative Goals & Priorities



The LANL Foundation is the largest foundation in New Mexico solely focused on education.

Our priorities support evidence-based, systemic improvements to public education that address the Martinez/Yazzie lawsuit, reflect diverse community voices, and contribute to a strong, inclusive New Mexico economy. Our priorities align with the mission of the LANL Foundation to support students, families, and educators across Northern New Mexico.



Early Childhood Education

Fund and Establish Pilot Programs to Support Grandparents and Kin Raising Grandchildren

- **\$3.8 million** over three years to the Aging and Long Term Services Department to support a Grandparents and Kin Raising Children Pilot Project that would provide a monthly stipend and legal support to 250 grandparents or kin raising children within five public school districts.



Increase Investments in Prenatal to Five Programs

- **\$10 million** to the Early Childhood Education and Care Department to expand home visiting services to 2,400 children.
- **\$14.7 million** to Early Childhood Education and Care Department to align Family Infant Toddler (FIT) program reimbursement rates with the cost model, as well as **\$3 million** for the Tribal Investment Strategy. The FIT program provides early intervention to children from birth to age three at no cost to families.

K-12 Education

Fund Effective High School Transformation and Reengagement Strategies

- **\$15 million** per year for three years to the Public Education Department to sustain and evaluate the successful New Mexico Innovation Zones Initiative.
- **\$30 million** to the Public Education Department to support work-based learning and career technical education opportunities and support for student career technical organizations.



Support Improvements in Principal and Superintendent Licensure

- Amend the State Personnel Act (NMSA §22-10) and create a School Development Administrator Act, including a new three tiered licensure system for principals and superintendents. This act would also require clinical experience and curriculum aligned to national and state standards in any new principal preparation program.
- **\$5 million** to broaden school leader professional development and support improved school leader preparation.

Invest in Tribal Education

- Increase recurring funding to support **tribal educational sovereignty** and address *Martinez/Yazzie* findings. This funding should provide stable, non-reverting resources for Tribes to enhance education capacity, community programs, and collaboration with public schools.



Invest in Mathematics Education & Establish and Fund a Statewide STEM Innovation Network

- Create a **New Mexico STEM Innovation Network** to drive academic excellence and economic growth by uniting stakeholders to expand access to **STEM education** and **career pathways**. The network will align education with industry needs, enhancing student preparation and interest while strengthening the state's **workforce** and **economic development**.
- **\$6 million** over three years contingent on legislation to establish the **STEM Innovation Network**.
- **\$12 million** for targeted investments in **mathematics education** to the Public Education Department.

Support the Educator Workforce

- Invest in a high performing educator workforce by **increasing salaries** and sustaining funding for the **National Board Certified Teachers Program**.
- **\$20 million** to the Public Education Department to support the **Educator Fellows Program**.
- **\$20 million** to the Higher Education Department for the **Teacher Loan Repayment Program** to provide college debt relief to working teachers.



Fund Programs to Improve Student Engagement

- **\$20 million** to the Public Education Department to support the **out-of-school programs**, **high impact tutoring**, and **educational enrichment activities**.

Revise the State Equalization Guarantee to Address the *Martinez/Yazzie* Consolidated Lawsuit

- Amend **Article 8 of the Public School Code (NMSA §22-8)** to ensure recurring, **targeted funding** for **at-risk student programs**, **protected funding for English learners**, and increases for **secondary education** given the demands to schools to improve experiences and increase access to **career technical education** for high school students.
- **\$132 million** to the **Public School Support** appropriation.

Anti-Donation Clause

Amend the Anti-Donation Clause and Enact Enabling Legislation

- Enact a **Joint Resolution** to amend the New Mexico Constitution to **repeal the current Anti-Donation Clause** to make it easier for government and non-profits to work together in service of our communities and clarify the eligibility of Pueblos, Tribes and Nations to receive public funds.
- Enact the **Vibrant Communities Act** to provide guardrails and processes to implement these constitutional amendments.

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