

New Mexico Purple Star School Initiative

Supporting Military-Connected Students Across New Mexico

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What is a Purple Star School?

Purple Star Certification is a designation awarded to public and charter schools demonstrating a strong commitment to supporting military-connected students and their families.



What is a Purple Star School?

PROUD TO BE A



SCHOOL

Core Objectives:

- Academic continuity
- Emotional and social support
- Offer stability for military connected students
- Create a welcoming school environment

Why Purple Star Matters for New Mexico

Impact on Families and Defense Communities:

- Clear, reliable indicator that helps families choose schools confidently.
- Communicates directly to military personnel that New Mexico prioritizes their children's education.
- Purple Star components can influence basing decisions.
- Fosters community stability.

Why Purple Star Matters for Military Connected Students

- There are 11,408 military-connected dependent children in New Mexico
- Active-duty members have approximately 7,947 child dependents
- Reserve members have approximately 3,461 children

Who Qualifies as a Military-Connected Student?

Active-Duty Military

Dependents of current U.S. Armed Forces personnel.

Former Members & Veterans

Dependents of former U.S. Military service members.

National Guard & Reserves

Dependents of active or former N.M. Guard and Reserve members.

Fallen Service Members

Dependents of service members killed in the line of duty.

Two Certification Pathways

Statewide Application: Because veterans and Guard/Reserve members live across every district, virtually all public schools serve military-connected students.

Route 1: Schools WITH Military-Connected Students

Target Audience

Designed for schools that serve one or more military-connected students.

Action Required

Full certification application detailing supportive programs, liaison designation, and transitional procedures.

Route 2: Schools WITHOUT Military-Connected Students

Target Audience

An alternative route strictly intended for schools that serve zero military-connected students across all grade levels.

Practical Reality

Due to statutory definition of military connectedness, virtually all public schools will utilize Route 1.

Requirements for Certification

01 Must Designate a Military Point of Contact

04 Advanced Enrollment

02 Professional Development

05 Student Transition Supports

03 Military Family Resources Webpage

06 Governing Board Resolution

SY26-SY27 Implementation Calendar

Key Deadline

38 schools with military-connected students applied.

4 schools applied using the application for schools without military-connected students.

Designation Period

Valid for three school years (SY27, SY28, and SY29).

Purple Star Schools will be announced October 23, 2026.

Reapplication Window

Opens December 2, 2026
Applications are due January 11, 2027, at 11:59 p.m.

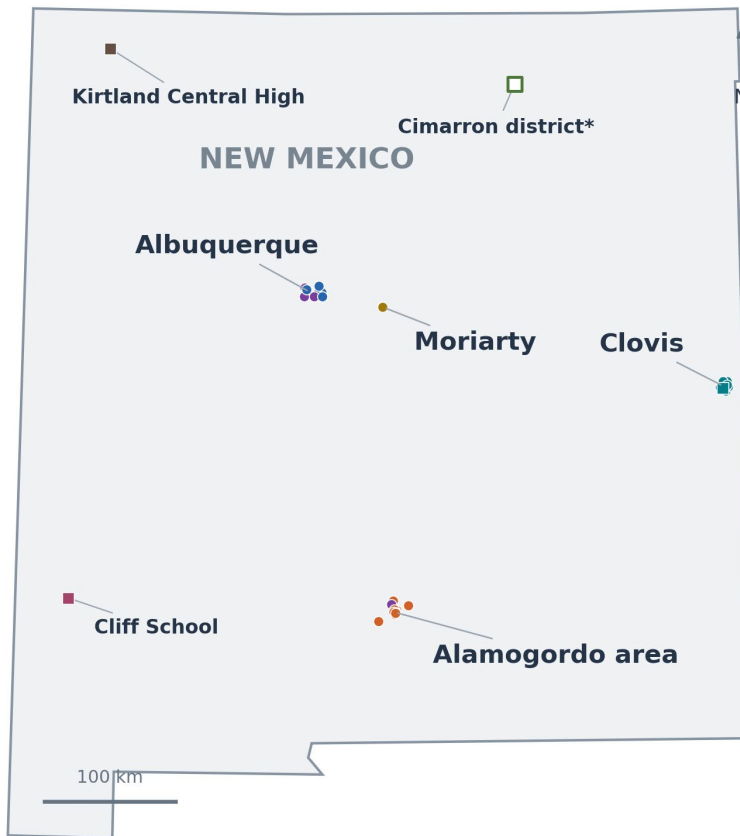
Purple Star Schools will be announced January 20, 2027.

Note: Certification is at the school level, not the district level.

New Mexico Purple Star School applicants

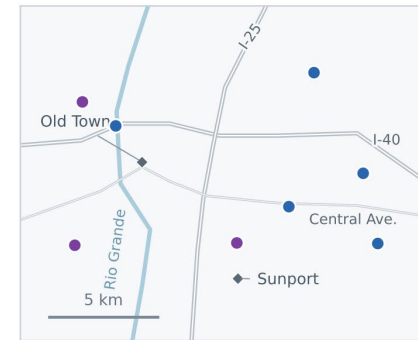
First round • 42 applicant entries • Both certification pathways

● Pathway 1 ■ Pathway 2



Local views • Major roads and landmarks • North is up

Albuquerque • 8 campuses



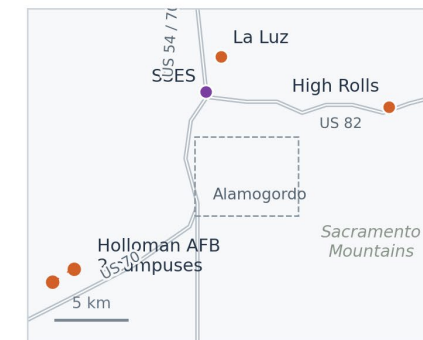
Clovis • 15 campuses



Alamogordo • 10 campuses



Nearby campuses • 5



Gray diamonds: landmarks • Roads and river are generalized reference features.

● Alamogordo ● Albuquerque ● State-authorized charters ■ Central Consolidated
● Clovis ● Moriarty-Edgewood ● Silver Consolidated ● Cimarron

*Cimarron: district location shown; applicant school site unconfirmed. District colors include authorized charters. Close markers offset for visibility.

Campus sources: applicant list, NCES EDGE & school records. References: NMDOT, city maps & geographic place records. Roads simplified for orientation. Updated Oct. 14, 2026.

For More Information

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