NMSU Doña Ana Community College

ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES

# Infrastructure is

health infrastructure.

How DACC prepares the technical workforce behind safe water, resilient facilities, energy systems, UAS applications and healthy communities.

## A BROADER VIEW OF HEALTH

Health outcomes depend on more than clinical care. They also depend on clean water, safe buildings, reliable power, resilient infrastructure and trained technical workers.

**Dr. Laura De La Cruz | Dean, Advanced Technologies**

Doña Ana Community College

# Health happens where people live, work and learn

Advanced Technologies supports the systems surrounding direct health and human services.

### SAFE WATER

Treatment, testing, reuse and reliable operations.

### HEALTHY BUILDINGS

Design, construction, accessibility and indoor environments.

### RESILIENT ENERGY

Reliable systems that keep essential services operating.

### CONNECTED RESPONSE

UAS, sensors and technical systems that extend situational awareness.

## The workforce behind these systems is part of New Mexico's health capacity.

# A regional technical workforce engine

Hands-on education aligned with essential and emerging industries.

**~2,000**

**STUDENTS**

Approximately 2,000 students across the division.

**11+**

**PROGRAMS**

Aerospace, construction, drafting, electronics, HVAC, water, welding, IT and more.

**30+**

**PATHWAYS**

Degrees, certificates, credentials, transfer and work-based learning.

**1**

**MODEL**

Identify need → adapt training → connect learners → sustain partnerships.

DACC's public program list spans aerospace, building construction, drafting/design, electronics, HVAC, water, welding, computing and related technical fields.

# Public health starts at the tap

Water and wastewater systems require trained operators who understand treatment, sampling, process control and system failures.

## WHAT DACC TRAINS

Treatment processes
Sampling and analysis
Process calculations
Equipment and system troubleshooting

## WHY IT MATTERS

Safe drinking water
Sanitation and wastewater
Community resilience
Industrial and municipal capacity

## REGIONAL REACH

DACC reports more than 400 Water Technology graduates working across municipal, laboratory, industrial, reuse and planning settings.

**Current DACC work includes expanding water-sector partnerships, internships and laboratory capability.**

# Design decisions become health conditions

The built environment shapes accessibility, safety, ventilation, movement and the usability of public facilities.

- CAD and Building Information Modeling (BIM)
- Technical drawings and multidisciplinary design documents
- Interpreting specifications, dimensions and materials
- Design skills that support clinics, housing, schools and public facilities

**HEALTH CONNECTION**

Accessible layouts
Safer circulation and egress
Facility renovation and modernization
Housing and community design
Coordination across building systems

# Healthy communities need people who can build and maintain them

DACC emphasizes hands-on construction skills, sustainable practices, blueprint reading, safety and energy-efficient building.

## HOUSING

Skilled construction capacity supports housing quality, repairs and community stability.

## FACILITIES

Healthcare and human-service spaces depend on safe, maintainable building systems.

## WEATHERIZATION

Energy-efficient buildings reduce operating burdens and improve resilience.

**Workforce capacity is an implementation issue. Funding buildings without skilled people to construct and maintain them leaves a gap.**

# Continuity of care depends on continuity of systems

Power, climate control, electronics and controls are invisible until they fail.

## ENERGY & ELECTRICAL

Technical preparation supports reliable electrical systems and energy-aware operations.

## HVAC

Indoor environmental control matters in clinics, long-term care, schools, housing and public buildings.

## ELECTRONICS & CONTROLS

Sensors, controls, troubleshooting and equipment maintenance underpin modern facilities and devices.

**Resilience is a workforce skill as much as an equipment purchase.**

# Drones extend reach when distance matters

DACC's aerospace pathway includes UAS, sensors, diagnostics and emerging technology.

## POTENTIAL PUBLIC-SERVICE USES

Damage assessment
Remote inspection
Mapping and situational awareness
Search support
Delivery pilots where appropriate

## WORKFORCE SKILLS

UAS operations
Sensors and data
Systems troubleshooting
Safety and regulation
AI-assisted analysis

## THE VALUE

Train local technicians to use tools responsibly, interpret data and support agencies operating across large rural areas.

**Technology does not replace responders. It gives trained people another tool.**

# Connected systems create shared responsibility

Water, facilities, energy and health services increasingly rely on networked controls and data.

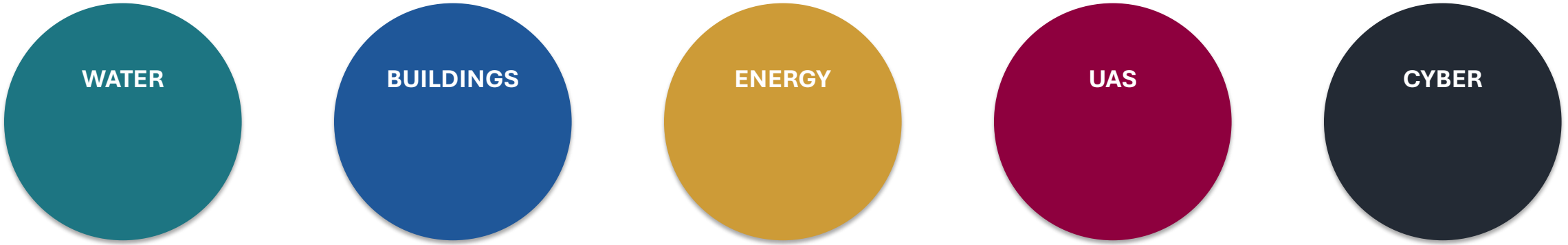
- Protect operational technology and connected infrastructure
- Build cyber awareness into technical occupations
- Prepare technicians to recognize risk, document incidents and work across disciplines
- Connect water and cybersecurity education around critical infrastructure

## WHY IT BELONGS HERE

A cyber incident affecting water, power, building controls or communications becomes a service-delivery problem, not only an IT problem.

# The same technician skills cross sectors

Health and human services benefit when technical education is designed around systems, not silos.




**Public health** | **Housing + facilities** | **Continuity** | **Reach + inspection** | **Protection**

**Shared foundation: safety • troubleshooting • data literacy • systems thinking • applied problem solving**

# Build the workforce with the people who need it

DACC adapts technical education through public, industry and education partnerships.

**1**

**LISTEN**

Define the workforce problem with agencies, employers and communities.

**2**

**BUILD**

Align curriculum, equipment, credentials and applied learning.

**3**

**CONNECT**

Create internships, work-based learning, recruitment and continuing pathways.

**Example: DACC is developing water-sector partnerships with regional public utilities and local government.**

POLICY LENS

# Questions worth asking when health investments involve infrastructure

These questions connect appropriations, programs and workforce capacity.

- Who will operate and maintain the system after it is funded?
- Is local technical training aligned with the equipment and infrastructure being purchased?
- Are rural and border communities included in workforce pathways?
- Do projects include internships, apprenticeships or other work-based learning?
- Are cybersecurity, resilience and lifecycle maintenance built into implementation?
- Where can community colleges serve as training and demonstration partners?

THE TAKEAWAY

# Health infrastructure

needs a workforce.

DACC Advanced Technologies prepares people to build, operate, protect and improve the systems communities rely on every day.

**Water • Buildings • Energy • UAS • Cyber • Technical Systems**

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**Thank you.**

# Selected public sources used for this briefing


- DACC, Architecture and Construction Technologies: program descriptions for aerospace, construction, drafting/design and electronics.
- DACC, Advanced Technologies Learning Outcomes: Water Technology, Building Construction, Drafting & Design and Aerospace outcomes.
- DACC, Water Technology: program overview and graduate reach.
- DACC, Academic Programs: current Advanced Technologies program list.
- New Mexico Legislature, Legislative Health & Human Services Committee: 2026 committee information and meeting materials.


Prepared for the New Mexico Legislative Health & Human Services Committee, 2026. Program initiatives described as current DACC work reflect institutional planning and partnership activity.