

Five Reasons Dual Credit is a Smart Investment that Pays Off For Students, Families, and the State

1. Dual Credit Is the “Bridge” to a K-14/16 New Mexico

New Mexico's economic well-being relies on industries that offer middle- and high-skilled jobs and pay life-sustaining wages. In turn, all of the Governor's target industries rely on strong pipelines of well-qualified talent – **New Mexico True Talent** – and **Dual Credit** connects our graduates with the best jobs and careers in New Mexico.

With unprecedented alignment between the state's Public Education and Higher Education systems, including a renewed commitment to advancing Career and Technical Education, New Mexico's students can now go further faster to earn college credentials at higher rates than ever before, increasing their economic wellbeing for a lifetime.

Every New Mexico high school student can and must be a college student! Success for our students happens at many levels – earning career certifications, two-year degrees, four-year degrees and higher. Their academic outcome secures their financial success, and generates economic impact for New Mexico for the long-term.



Additional benefits of college completion include:

- Increased good health (lower obesity and smoking risks, higher likelihood of good diet and preventative healthcare and health insurance)
- 4.9 times greater asset income
- 4.9 times lower risk of incarceration
- 3.5 times lower risk of poverty
- 2.2 times less likely to be unemployed, 74% less likely to be out of the workforce

2. Dual Credit Is an Investment that Pays for Itself

Every \$1 New Mexico invests in Higher Education for Dual Credit generates returns when graduates enter the workforce 1-2 years quicker and at higher incomes:

- ✓ \$11 for New Mexico families in increased income and reduced student loan debt.
- ✓ Up to \$3 in higher education funding, reduced need for remediation, and increased state tax contributions
- ✓ Up to \$1.17 in Lottery Scholarship Fund relief

The following chart demonstrates the impact for just 2,000 Students (10% of all Dual Credit Students) leaving with one year of college credit (30 hours):

Economic Benefit in Income, Taxes, and College Savings Per 2,000 Students	University Graduates	Community College Graduates
Family Student Loan Debt Saved	\$5,877,300	\$3,879,000
One Year Quicker Entry into the Workforce with Increased Income from College Credential	\$31,600,000	\$7,300,000
Remediation Savings	\$960,000	\$960,000
Increase in PIT Contribution	\$1,550,000	\$357,000
Increase in GRT from Additional Spending Power	\$1,250,000	\$287,000
Savings to Lottery Scholarship Fund	\$7,700,000	\$2,320,000

