



Deadline to apply: April 27, 2026
For submission or questions contact:
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2026 LESC Paid Teacher on Special Assignment Program

The Legislative Education Study Committee (LESC) examines a wide range of education issues, both fiscal and programmatic, that affect the achievement and well-being of prekindergarten, elementary, and secondary students and teachers in New Mexico. LESC is an inclusive workplace committed to providing a welcoming environment for everyone where all voices are heard and valued.

Current public PreK-12 teachers in New Mexico are invited to apply to join LESC in Summer 2026 as a teacher on special assignment (TOSA). This paid opportunity offers the chance to work alongside education policy professionals, learn more about how the legislative process impacts our schools, and interact with elected officials.

What will the TOSA do?

LESC recognizes the immense expertise, skill, and professionalism that teaching requires. We believe a current teacher's perspective is an important contribution to our work and aim to provide TOSAs with insights into education policy making in our state that will support TOSAs as leaders in their schools and communities. The TOSA will be assigned a mentor policy analyst and together you will determine tasks that build on individual strengths, interests, and project needs. Tasks could include conducting background research, writing briefs, contacting school districts, or conducting quantitative or qualitative analyses.

Who is eligible?

Current teachers in New Mexico K-12 public schools who are interested in how the legislative process impacts education policy are welcome to apply.

When does the program begin and end?

The 2026 LESC TOSA program will take place in person in Santa Fe for 6-8 weeks over school summer breaks, typically between June 1, 2026, and August 28, 2026. There is some flexibility to accommodate other obligations and time commitments you may have. If the suggested dates or length of internship are a concern, please reach out to discuss your specific situation.

Is this a paid opportunity?

The LESC is committed to both providing meaningful work experience and compensating TOSAs for their contributions. Earnings will be determined based on hours worked, and finalists will receive additional information about the offered rate.

Where does the TOSA work?

The TOSA will report to our Santa Fe office at the New Mexico State Capitol. To ensure LESC can provide the best experience possible, only candidates who can commit to working in-person will be considered.

Are there travel commitments?

Once a month, LESC lawmakers meet to hear from community members, discuss education issues, and consider policies for the next legislative session. These committee meetings happen around the state and are a great opportunity to interact with lawmakers and see first-hand how policies are created. These meetings typically require 3-4 days of travel, with approved food and lodging expenses covered and transportation provided by staff. Please note most expenses are reimbursed after travel, with individuals covering upfront costs during meetings. Arrangements can be made to support upfront travel costs for individuals requiring financial assistance.

How do I apply?

Complete an online application [HERE](#).

The online application will prompt you to upload a resume and a writing sample.

Questions or concerns?

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