



represented minorities. Sixty-two percent of the programs target students with particular characteristics, most commonly low-income students and those from traditionally underrepresented racial or ethnic groups; 69 percent of students participating in outreach programs across the country are non-white.

The PED also reports that the survey cited above lists 19 programs in New Mexico, eight in the Albuquerque area and others from Deming, Hobbs (2), Las Cruces (2), Las Vegas, Portales (2), Santa Fe and Socorro. Six of the programs hold weekend activities; the one Albuquerque program with weekend activities does not focus on math and science skill development. Not included in the survey was New Mexico's MESA program (Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement), a program that has been in existence for over 20 years.

### **FISCAL IMPLICATIONS**

The appropriation of \$50 thousand contained in this bill is a recurring expense to the general fund. Any unexpended or unencumbered balance remaining at the end of FY05 shall revert to the general fund.

### **TECHNICAL ISSUES**

According to the PED, clarification is needed regarding a number of aspects of this program, such as objectives and goals, target audience, program activities, relationship to other outreach programs and alignment of activities with New Mexico standards and benchmarks for mathematics and science.

### **OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES**

In the interest of accountability, the institution receiving the appropriation in this bill shall submit a program evaluation to the Legislative Finance Committee and the Commission on Higher Education by August 2007 detailing the benefits to the State of New Mexico from having implemented this program.

This request was not in the list of priority projects submitted to the Commission on Higher Education for review. Consequently, this request was not included in the Commission's funding recommendations for FY05.

**LB/dm**