

New Mexico Lacks Skilled Workers To Fill The Technical Workforce Pipeline



- College graduation rates remain low
- Graduating students lack basic career skills



- Employers have difficulty finding skilled workers
- Technical positions go unfilled

Accelerate Prepares An Educated Technical Workforce

Accelerate is a collaborative pilot project of the non-profit Regional Development Corporation that has been funded by the US Department of Energy for five consecutive years and carried out on six college campuses in northern New Mexico. Focusing on non-traditional STEM students in the educational pipeline and on transitional workers with retraining needs, the program's components were established to overcome specific barriers encountered by the region's students and employers:

Inability to get through remedial math requirements in a timely manner



Accelerate Math Experience

Life issues get in the way of finishing college



Dedicated proactive advisors who establish one-on-one relationships

First in family to go to college, and students retraining lack relevant soft skills



Career readiness training and events

Students lack relevant experience in their field of study and must earn money while in college



Stipends for attending career readiness training, networking events and internships

IMPACT

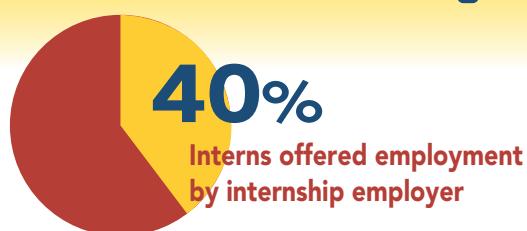
851 Students Served



78% Non-White

100% Non-Traditional

28 Average Age



The career workshops and the exposure to employers at the networking events gave me valuable insight into thinking and operating in a professional environment."

~Student Quote

+20 percentage points in persistence and graduation rates

+16 percentage points Accelerate students who received 2-year degrees and transferred to a 4-year program



An educated and trained workforce is paramount to the future of LANL and Northern New Mexico. The Accelerate program is the kind of collaborative effort that is needed in order to fill the technical workforce pipeline.