

OCTOBER NEWS

COLLEGE & CAREER READINESS BUREAU

Grant Opportunity!

NM PED has a grant opportunity to bring more computer science education and professional development opportunities to New Mexico schools and districts. Utilizing funds from House Bill 548, the PED is offering \$500,000 in competitive grants to promote intensive, high-quality professional learning activities that focus on increasing teachers' computer science content knowledge and to expand and/institute computer science programs. [Apply](#) by October 31.



UPDATE: Perkins V

From August 29 through September 10, seven Perkins V stakeholder meetings were held to formulate recommendations for the upcoming funding cycle. Stakeholder feedback made it evident that many positive practices are already in place and identified several areas that could improve programs for students. One area of concern was the need to start career exploration at the middle school level. Stakeholders view Dual Credit courses as a valuable asset, but identified several barriers that also will need to be addressed, especially transportation and inconsistent standards. There was overwhelming support for involving industry, and confidence that consortium partnerships will deepen communication between partners. When businesses form long-term partnerships for curriculum design, mentorships, and internships, these connections can help students see local opportunities for careers, thereby potentially lessening "brain drain." The conversation will continue with Local Needs Assessment meetings in November and December. [Click here](#) to join the mailing list.



ROADS on Mars Challenge

The NMSU College of Engineering will host the Rover Observation and Drone Survey (ROADS) on Mars Challenge April 2020. This challenge is an immersive opportunity for students to use the latest technology to explore, inspire, create, and achieve. Students will learn how to apply programming, geology, biology, visual and engineering design, and social media to compete for a grand prize. The competition is open to students in grades 3 – 12. Registration for this opportunity is free and closes November 15. [Click here](#) to learn more.

Support and Implementation of English Language Development

On October 29, the Southwest English Learners Research Partnership will host a free event on administrator leadership for supporting English Language Development (ELD). The purpose of the event is to provide an opportunity for administrators to explore their role as leaders in supporting implementation of ELD as a comprehensive system in their schools and districts. This event will provide an opportunity for participants to hear from experts and New Mexico district leaders about the practices and foundational supports that administrators should have in place for schools to foster effective implementation of ELD. [Register here](#) by October 23.

Launch of New Autism Portal with 24/7 Accessible Online Resources

Earlier this month, the PED's Special Education Bureau announced the launch of New Mexico's first-ever [Autism Portal](#), an interactive platform with trainings, archived e-courses and a variety of support resources for autism spectrum disorder (ASD). The portal is a result of collaboration between the PED, the University of New Mexico Center for Development and Disability, and the Developmental Disabilities Supports Division at the New Mexico Department of Health. [Learn more](#).



October Reminder

The FAFSA officially opened on October 1. There is [\\$21.8 million](#) in annual unclaimed Federal financial aid in New Mexico. Help students fund their future. Learn more about the myths of financial aid [here](#). Students should visit <https://studentaid.ed.gov/sa/fafsa> to fill out their free application. Have your students fill out the FAFSA today!

Important Dates

- October 16 – Primary PSAT Test Day ([See other test dates](#))
- October 26 – Santa Fe [FAFSA Rodeo](#)
- November 1 – [BPA](#), [DECA](#), [FCCLA](#), [HOSA](#), [TSA](#), [EdRising](#), Membership Registration Deadlines
- November 1 – (17-18) Perkins Redistribution Final RfR Deadline
- November 15 – AP Exam Ordering Deadline
- February 1 – [Skills USA](#) Membership Registration Deadline

Scholarship of the Month

[CIA Scholarship Opportunity](#)

- 18 years of age by date of application to the scholarship program
- Demonstrate financial need or
- 1000 SAT (new official score scale) or 1500 SAT (old score scale); or 21 ACT score or higher (high school students)
- GPA of at least 3.0 on a 4-point scale for high school and/or college
- Availability to work at least two 90-day summer tours prior to graduation and willingness to work at CIA full time after graduation

