



# Adult Education Division

The Adult Education Division oversees the provision of targeted educational services outlined by the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (AEFLA), Title II of the federal Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act. Adult education and literacy programs are recognized nationwide as both an important public service and a robust economic catalyst. During fiscal year 2017-2018, the Adult Education Division served a total of 12,227 students, supported by \$5,235,900 in state funding and \$4,279,774 in federal funding from the U.S. Department of Education. Conservatively calculated without including public assistance savings or increased tax revenue, ***New Mexico received a 535% return on its investment.***

**1,153 students unemployed at entry entered the workforce and generated \$16,948,750 in wages after the second quarter of exiting program.** Source: Department Workforce Solutions & LACES

**839 HSE graduates, \$7,853,040 Estimated earnings (\$180.00 additional weekly earnings x 839 graduates x 52 weeks)**  
Source: Bureau of Labor, U.S. Department of Labor and LACES

**847 transitioning to college or vocational training with increased earnings of \$3,215,212 (\$73.00 additional weekly earnings x 847 transitioning x 52 weeks)** Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics, U.S. Department of Labor and eDEAR.

**$\$16,948,750 + \$7,853,040 + \$3,215,212 = \$28,017,002$  (FY17-18 RETURN) /  $\$5,235,900$  (FY 17-18 State INVESTMENT) =**

## 535% ROI

### ADULT EDUCATION HELPS NEW MEXICANS

- Strengthen foundational literacy and numeracy skills
- Earn a High School Equivalency Credential (HSE)
- Learn English as a second language (ESL) and civics
- Strengthen workplace readiness and “soft skills”
- Participate in workplace and apprenticeship training
- Transition to postsecondary education
- Develop sustainable career pathways
- Help children succeed, in and out of school
- Break generational cycles of low literacy and poverty

The adult education system includes 24 subgrantee program providers across New Mexico offering free instruction and training to eligible adults, including dislocated workers and out-of-school youth ages 16-18. Most of these providers are postsecondary institutions. All adult education program participants are in need of core skill development; most lack a high school diploma or equivalent and have multiple barriers to supporting themselves and their families. For adults with low literacy levels, securing meaningful employment with a family-sustaining wage, effectively participating in their children’s education, accessing community services, and informed civic engagement can be a challenge. In collaboration with core partners, the Adult Education Division works to address these needs for the benefit of all New Mexicans.