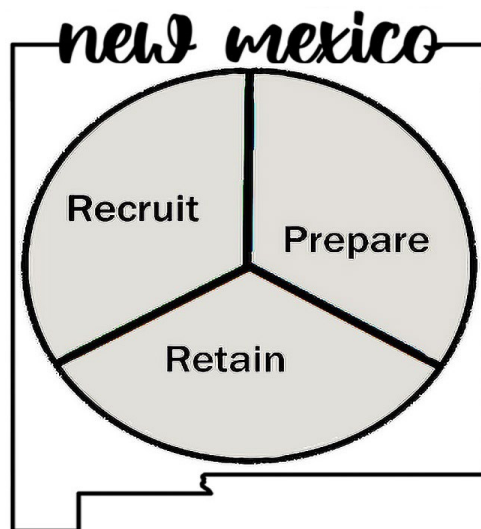




LEAP is a state-accredited alternative licensure program for new teachers across New Mexico, approved by the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED). Offered by CES in Albuquerque, LEAP supports aspiring educators through a dynamic and supportive pathway to licensure. The program is available statewide and includes monthly in-person training held in three regional hubs: Albuquerque, Artesia, and Las Cruces.

LEAP is designed to empower new teachers with the tools, coaching, and confidence they need to succeed and grow in the classroom—right from the start!



CES LEAP is an alternative teacher preparation program across New Mexico designed for full-time classroom teachers in their first year. Candidates are selected through an **application** and **interview** process, they begin their LEAP journey each **July with Pre-Service**, an **induction** to teaching, and end it with LEAP Into Action, a conference celebrating their completion the following June in Albuquerque.

Over the following 11 months, LEAP candidates participate in cohort-based professional development alongside 200 early-career educators across New Mexico. They receive weekly support from **experienced instructional coaches**, who are **career educators dedicated to mentoring** new teachers.

Professional development in LEAP:

Methods: Monthly evening sessions focused on teaching at the Elementary, Secondary and Special Education level

Saturday PD: Monthly full-day Saturday workshops, held in person across three regional hubs

1:1 Coaching: Inclusive of classroom visits and networking throughout program

Upon successful completion, candidates receive a **Transcript** and **LEAP Certificate of Completion** and are supported in applying for a **Level 1 teaching license through the New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED)**.



Simplify procurement.
Maximize results.

Program Length

- The shortest ALP offered in NM, LEAP is 11 months spanning July-June.

Program Benefits

- 1 :1 LEAP Coach assigned during program; virtual coaching occurs monthly.
- 1 year towards ERB retirement is earned *during* program, salary and benefits *during* program are equivalent to 1st year teachers in New Mexico.
- LEAP is not affiliated with residencies or any IHE, teachers must be a *Teacher of Record* during LEAP and teach in New Mexico.
- Dual-Licensure options are unlike any other state offering for LEAP candidates, allowing candidates to choose Elementary & Special Education or Secondary & Special-Education while in program, finishing program for *two* licenses, instead of just one.
- Post-program supports (TESOL endorsement, Bilingual Endorsement, CALP certification) are paid for by CES LEAP once candidates complete.

Program Pathways & Licensure Testing

- Elementary K-6
- Secondary 8-12
- Special Education K-12
 - Secondary + Special Education = Dual Secondary
 - Elementary + Special Education = Dual Elementary
- LEAP candidates who are pursuing Level 1 licensure may select the Portfolio or Praxis pathway and LEAP candidates adding additional licensure to already held licenses are exempt from initial portfolio in program.

Program Cost per Candidate

- \$1500.00 per candidate per semester (\$3000.00 program tuition total)
- Books \$200 apiece, varies.
- Travel (to regional PD each month, June conference in Albuquerque, accommodations), varies.

Program Contact

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- Tim Flores, LEAP Coach (Tflores@ces.org)
 - Alexis Esslinger, LEAP Director (Alexis@ces.org)