



Who should apply?

Valencia County Elementary School Teachers and Organization Leaders who are:

- Level 1 teachers looking to gain knowledge and insight on how to create accessible and equitable outdoor spaces
- Those wanting to see an inclusive system change to include outdoor education as part of the daily curriculum
- Those who teach a diverse body of students with a range of abilities who want to find ways to connect with support organizations and nature
- Leaders of supporting organizations offering school programs for elementary public schools in Valencia County

TOTAL ACCEPTED: 20



This program is made possible by the support of the NM Outdoor Recreation Division's Outdoor Equity Fund and META's Community Action Grant



Photo: Outdoor Classroom at Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School

How to apply?

Applications OPEN April 1st! Don't WAIT! They will be available on our website: totalnm.org

Interested individuals should email us their name, school, grade level, a short description of why they are interested in joining this program, and any questions to Allison at:

allison@totalnm.org



<https://www.facebook.com/totalnm>



<https://www.instagram.com/totalnewmexico/>



<https://www.totalnm.org/>

What is TOTAL NM?

TOTAL NM (Teaching Outdoors To ALL Learners) New Mexico is founded on the transformative idea that inclusive, accessible, and equitable outdoor spaces can benefit the educational experience for all students of all abilities and backgrounds.



Photo: Outdoor Classroom at Cottonwood Classical Preparatory School

Our Program:

We use outdoor education to harness the power of nature. This is done through hands-on experiential learning that encompasses all core-based subjects. TOTAL NM and partners are designing a six-month Outdoor Educator Leadership Program for educators to create, improve, grow, and sustain accessible outdoor classroom spaces in public schools throughout Valencia County for the direct benefit of all students.



Photo: NM Forestry Camp, USFS

Program Structure:

Educators and partners will meet twice (in person and virtually) monthly for six months to collaborate on ideas, plans, and executive programs that are specific to their school's needs.

Program Timeline: July-December 2024

Goals:

The Outdoor Educator Leadership Program will have seven main goals to assist with outdoor space creation and sustainability at public schools:

- Get students outside daily through outdoor activities and lessons in the schoolyard
- Create a community of practice with teachers
- Build strong relationships between schools and local supporting organizations
- Establish statewide frameworks and guidelines for starting and sustaining outdoor classrooms at schools
- Provide additional funding for outdoor classrooms across school districts
- Grow leadership skills among students and educators
- Strengthen curriculum with outdoor education to align directly to core standards needs



Photo: Students at Coral Community Charter School

Benefits: (and more!)

- Gain materials, resources, tools, and funding are given to support time, effort, and design for outdoor spaces supported by the NM PED outdoor learning initiative.
- Attend Professional Development
- Engage students with hands-on experiential learning
- Be part of the first-of-its-kind effort to create a statewide framework supporting outdoor classrooms
- Improve the social, emotional, and behavioral health of students being outdoors
- Build student and educator leadership skills
- Involve the community through practice with resources to sustain outdoor spaces

\$600 in Funds upon completion of the program!