

New Mexico ECHS Data Terms & Definitions

Clear terminology for consistent ECHS reporting and communication

Purpose: This reference separates terms defined by NMAC 6.30.13 from additional terminology used to clarify ECHS data and reporting. Use the NMAC terms for state reporting whenever applicable.

1. Terms Defined by NMAC 6.30.13

Term	Definition	NMAC Reference
Dual Credit	High school student enrollment in college-level courses offered by a postsecondary institution that allows students to earn credit toward high school graduation and a postsecondary degree or certificate simultaneously.	6.30.13.7(C)
Career Technical Education (CTE)	A sequence of courses directly related to preparing individuals for employment in current or emerging occupations requiring an industry-recognized credential, certificate, or degree.	6.30.13.7(B)
Pathway	A sequence of classes at the ECHS, in partnership with the postsecondary partner, that leads to a certification, associate's degree, or transferrable courses for a bachelor's degree.	6.30.13.7(G)
Postsecondary Partner	A postsecondary educational institution that has an agreement or memorandum of understanding with an ECHS.	6.30.13.7(F)
Work-Based Learning	Activities that develop workplace skills, including tours, job shadowing, work experience rotations, mentoring, entrepreneurship, service learning, internships, co-ops, or youth pre-apprenticeships aligned with a registered apprenticeship program under the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions.	6.30.13.7(H)
Workforce Recognized Credential	Industry-recognized workforce credentials, certificates, associate's degrees, or bachelor's degrees from a postsecondary partner.	6.30.13.7(I)
Workforce Partner	A business, workforce, chamber, economic development, tribal, or other industry representative that provides ongoing mentoring and on-the-job experience connecting ECHS students to employment settings and employability skills.	6.30.13.7(J)

NMAC Data Review: NMAC 6.30.13.11 identifies student attainment of workforce recognized credentials, participation in work-based learning experiences, students earning college credit, number of students

enrolled, student participation in each pathway, and low-income enrollment compared with the district high school population among the data reviewed annually.

2. ECHS Data, Outcomes & Continuous Improvement Terminology

Purpose: These terms are included to clarify data reported in ECHS outcomes and dashboards. They are not additional NMAC definitions.

Term	Definition	Recommended Use
Benchmark	A defined level of performance used to determine whether a student, group, or program is on track toward an expected outcome.	Use benchmarks in action planning to establish clear performance expectations and measure progress toward desired outcomes.
Data Quality	The accuracy, completeness, consistency, and reliability of data used for reporting, monitoring, and continuous improvement.	Use data quality checks in continuous improvement planning to ensure decisions and action plans are based on accurate, complete, consistent, and reliable data.
Postsecondary Skill-Based Certificate Or Credential	A certificate or other industry-recognized credential earned through a postsecondary program or postsecondary partner that demonstrates skills and competencies required or valued for entry or advancement in a specific occupation or career field. (Note: Credentials such as CNA, EKG Technician, and CompTIA certifications may qualify when they demonstrate skills and competencies aligned to a specific occupation or career field. General safety or response training, credentials such as CPR or OSHA 10, are not included in this category.)	Use this term in the ECHS Outcomes Report and Data Dashboard to identify skill-based certificates and other industry-recognized credentials earned through postsecondary education or a postsecondary partner.
Secondary CTE Industry Credential	An industry-recognized credential earned through a high school CTE program. It may be an important career-readiness milestone and may support Perkins requirements.	Use this term for secondary CTE and Perkins reporting to identify industry-recognized credentials earned through a high school CTE program.
Associate's Degree	A postsecondary degree awarded after successful completion of a two-year associate degree program.	May be reported separately as a specific outcome; it is also included within the NMAC definition of workforce recognized credential.
First-Generation College Attender	A student whose parent(s) or legal guardian(s) have limited or no experience with postsecondary education, based on the definition and data source used by the school or district.	Use the school or district's established definition and reporting method consistently.

Student Persistence / Retention	The percentage of eligible students enrolled in the prior year who remain enrolled in the current year, using clearly defined exclusions.	Define the population, exclusions, and reporting period before calculating the measure.
Term	Definition	Recommended Use
Postsecondary Enrollment Following Graduation	Enrollment in a postsecondary education institution in the fall immediately following high school graduation.	Use this term to report the percentage of ECHS graduates enrolled in postsecondary education in the fall immediately following graduation.
Workforce Entry Following Graduation	Employment entered by an ECHS graduate following high school graduation.	Use this term in outcomes reporting to identify ECHS graduates who enter the workforce following graduation.