



Albuquerque Institute for Mathematics and Science at UNM
Best Practices: [College Readiness](#)

Mission: Albuquerque Institute for Mathematics and Science @UNM (AIMS@UNM) is committed to preparing its students, grades six thru twelve, for college, community, and beyond through a rigorous focus on math and science and an emphasis on global participation. AIMS@UNM has created a highly structured school environment that sets high academic and behavioral expectations for its students. With an emphasis on mathematics and science, and a requirement for “Critical Language” study, the school’s mission is to prepare all students for college. Beginning in the sixth grade and continuing through their graduation, all students enjoy a common culture of college preparation.

Performance: According to the CREDO study, AIMS is one of only six schools in the State that outperforms more traditional public schools. The school has consistently met AYP goals each year, increasing student proficiency yearly. Math proficiency has increased by 40%, science by 45%, and reading by 38% over a three year period. The achievement gap has diminished from 38% in reading to 2% currently, and math from 28% to 5%. Our graduation rate is 93.3%, with 100% of our graduates attending college.

Goal: To share best practices related to documenting and supporting individual and group learning.

Practice: Dual Enrollment

Dual enrollment is positively associated with high school graduation and college enrollment rates, college grade point averages and progress toward college completion. It is an effective strategy for helping students make a better transition from high school to college, make adult world connections, and persist in college once they’re there.

The Albuquerque Institute for Mathematics and Science @ UNM measures students preparation for college, personal goal setting, and students’ adult world connections through participation in Dual Enrollment classes and student performance in those classes. Dual enrollment classes are a requirement for graduation from AIMS.

AIMS@UNM dual enrollment students consistently outperform those of the local educational authority. Comparison of AIMS@UNM data to dual enrolled students across the state shows that 94 percent of the grades earned by AIMS@UNM were C and above in their dual enrollment courses as opposed to 89 percent statewide. 85 percent of the grades earned in dual enrollment courses by AIMS@UNM students were a B and above as compared to 75 percent state wide.

Data: Scores for “the Compass” in the 8th grade, “The Plan” in 10th grade, “ACT” in the eleventh and twelfth grade consistently demonstrate that over 80% of our 8th and 10th graders meet or exceed college readiness indicators. 100 percent of the AIMS graduates had obtained dual enrollment credits as a requirement of their diploma. 94% of the grades earned were C and above. 100% of the AIMS graduates were accepted into college, and all are currently continuing to pursue their college educations. It is not unusual for our graduates to obtain 50 or 60 credits respectively at the University level and enter the post-secondary institution with junior status.

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