

Report Card

Kirtland Air Force Base and Education *in the Albuquerque Area*

When transferring to Kirtland Air Force Base (KAFB), an important consideration for many is the quality and type of educational opportunities available in the area. We believe that for students of all ages, the greater Albuquerque area offers a myriad of excellent educational choices. Whether you are a parent wondering about what the schools will offer your children, or if you are interested in post-secondary education and career-related training, Albuquerque and central New Mexico have something for you and all the members of your family.

Elementary and Secondary Education

- Albuquerque Public Schools (APS) is a large school system, generally outperforming state and national levels on standardized tests.
- Local college bound students perform statistically higher on SATs than the national average.
- New Mexico spends more on schools based on personal income than most other states. Annual spending has increased 72% over the past 10 years, from \$3,618 to \$6,225 per student.
- At 14.5 students per teacher, the student teacher ratio for Albuquerque is superior to the national average.
- Parents of APS students generally rate the quality of their children's education highly, noting that the schools meet their children's needs, have helped their children's academic development, are safe, and offer good access to computers and technology.
- A wide range of very highly accredited private schools are available for grades K-12.
- New Mexico has received national recognition for its efforts to improve teacher quality from the American Federation of Teachers, US Department of Education and other organizations.

Programs

APS OFFERS AN ARRAY OF SPECIAL PROGRAMS FOR STUDENTS

- Magnet Schools:** These schools offer special concentrations including leadership, international studies, scientific research and technology, communication arts, business, and contemporary arts.
- Math, Science and Technology Partnership:** State-of-the-art learning experiences include science/technology labs and portable laptop labs, curricula, and collaboration with the business community and government agencies.
- MESA Program:** Math, Engineering, and Science Achievement program which prepares students for college majors in those fields. Activities include tutoring, competitions, field trips, and workshops, as well as academic and career counseling.
- The Career Enrichment Center (CEC):** Provides coursework for high school students who exhibit specialized needs or interests and who are highly motivated. Some classes may be taken at Albuquerque's community college, TVI, for college credit; other courses allow students to work with groups like the Associated General Contractors of Albuquerque and earn valuable work experience and wages. Bus transportation is available.
- Before/After School and Summer Programs:** These provide a variety of activities, including arts and crafts, field trips, study time, and extended learning. Services are provided by Campfire, Albuquerque Parks and Recreation, Bernalillo County Parks and Recreation, and YMCA. Supplemental educational programs are also offered by various schools.

Albuquerque Public Schools

88,751 students • 80 elementary schools grades K-5
26 middle schools grades 6-8 • 11 high schools grades 9-12 • plus alternative schools and charter schools

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Kirtland AFB School Initiatives

KAFB continues to work with military families and the schools to provide educational outreach and activities ranging from facilitating student enrollment to providing on-base science programs and mentoring.

- ✎ School Committees: KAFB has committees made up of the base commander, parents, base officials, public school teachers, counselors and administrators that meet regularly with APS officials.
- ✎ Educational Town Halls: Held regularly at KAFB for base personnel with children attending Highland Cluster Schools.
- ✎ Job Shadowing: A budding tutoring and mentor program.
- ✎ Mentoring: Opportunities for area university students to mentor high school and younger students in partnership with APS.
- ✎ Air Force STARBASE La Luz: Provides Space and directed energy activities for students. Works with 2,500 students yearly (currently targeting 5th graders), with plans for middle and high school students.



Post Secondary Education

The greater Albuquerque area offers a wealth of post secondary education options. Many of the colleges and universities offer campuses in central Albuquerque as well as at conveniently located branches.

- ✎ Technical Vocational Institute (TVI) offers everything from basic junior college classes to specialized courses that lead to a variety of careers.
- ✎ The University of New Mexico offers undergraduate and graduate degrees with business, medical, and law schools in addition to the main colleges.
- ✎ UNM Continuing Education offers business-related and fun courses for everyone in the community.
- ✎ Private colleges, such as the University of Phoenix, offer even more choices including classes on base.

KPC

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The Kirtland Partnership Committee (KPC) is a non-profit organization of business and civic leaders, formed in 1996 to support Kirtland Air Force Base. As active community members, we are concerned with crucial local issues such as education.