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ALTA Commencement: Closing 2025, Looking Ahead to 2026

This month NMSU celebrates the class of 2025 with a Fall Commencement Ceremony to be held on December 12th and 13th. We would like to take a moment to congratulate our graduating Aggies on their achievements and wish them all the best moving forward!

Speaking of graduation ceremonies... we are proud to recognize our cohort from the 2025 Aggie Leadership Training Academy, which consisted of 33 outstanding employees from a wide range of staff and faculty positions. These individuals completed a year-long journey of personal growth and professional development, which culminated in our graduation ceremony held on Nov 21, 2025. If you know the following individuals, please take a moment to congratulate them on their success:

Adriana Delgado

Heidi Sanchez

Marisa Van Dommelen, MS

Alice Delgado

Jennifer Chandler

McKenna Garcia

Andrea Arrigucci

Joaquin Tadeo

Mike Townsend

Anowar Islam

Josh Taylor

Dr. Nikki May

Ashley Burkholder

Joy Nelson

Dr. Ricardo Ramirez

Dr. Cheryl Lombardi

Jude Betancourt

Salvador Valenzuela-Chávez

Damian Lopez

Kelly Ahrendes

Sarah Krohn

Dr. Dénise Rodriguez-Strawn

Dr. Kimberly Ventura

Spri Aubrey

Francisco Martinez

Kristen R. Torres

Ufuomakaro Ademila

Frank Sage

Lori King

William Ketzeback

Gloria Brownell

Mariah Preciado

Yvette Benitiz

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[Training Center home](#) | [New Mexico State University - BE BOLD. Shape the Future®](#)

While commencement is often associated with the culmination of a journey, it also refers to the beginning of something new; with that in mind, we are excitedly planning for 2026! Each transition to a new iteration of ALTA allows us to refine and ensure the program stays relevant to the needs of our university. Please look out for the announcement of the next application cycle in early 2026, but in the meantime...

Do you know an Aggie employee who would be a great candidate for ALTA?

If so, please take a minute to submit the [2026 Aggie Leadership Training Academy Recommendation Form](#) (just a name and contact info required).

We will reach out to recommended individuals once the next application cycle begins. Alternatively, you may send an email to trainingcentral@nmsu.edu with the subject line "2026 ALTA Cohort Recommendation". We look forward to welcoming the next cohort of rising leaders at NMSU!

Congratulations!



12 DAYS OF Learning

This LinkedIn Learning initiative is designed to help you make time for professional development during the busy holiday season. The challenge begins **December 8th** and offers a simple way to invest in yourself.

Complete all 12 days by watching a short LinkedIn Learning video each day between December 8th and December 23rd. To stay on track, print the calendar and check off each day as you finish.

Invest in yourself—each day brings you closer to new skills and greater success!

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
DEC 8 Day 1 The New Rules of Work Think Like an Entrepreneur (3m 10s)	DEC 9 Day 2 Developing Your Professional Image Developing Your Edge (3m 32s)	DEC 10 Day 3 Improving Your Focus Two Facets of Focus (1m 22s)	DEC 11 Day 4 Leading Yourself Managing Your Peers (2m 29s)	DEC 12 Day 5 Success Habits Three Benefits of Great Listening (3m 157s)
DEC 15 Day 6 Time Management Tips How to Deal with Feeling Overwhelmed (4m 32s)	DEC 16 Day 7 Happiness Tips Tips for Thinking Positively (3m 30s)	DEC 17 Day 8 Lead with Emotional Intelligence Leading with Empathy (3m 50s)	DEC 18 Day 9 Achieving Happiness & Success Overcome Perfection (2m 41s)	DEC 19 Day 10 Management Tips Understand Strengths and Weaknesses (2m 36s)
DEC 22 Day 11 Communication Tips Craft a Story with Impact (3m 46s)	DEC 23 Day 12 Happiness Tips Tips for Getting More Sleep (3m 33s)			

The BRIDGE will be temporarily paused as we undertake a redesign to enhance its value. The updated newsletter will feature special announcements from additional HR departments, ensuring more comprehensive communication and support for NMSU staff. We appreciate your patience and look forward to sharing the improved format soon.

Important Dates



**NMSU
CLOSED
DEC 24 – JAN 02**



IDEAS for the BRIDGE?
Tell us here: [The BRIDGE Newsletter Ideas!](#)
Thank you for your input!