

Monday, September 19, 2011

Washington, D.C. – Congressman Ben Ray Luján of New Mexico’s Third District announced today that Northern New Mexico College is receiving a \$503,225 grant through the Department of Education’s Educational Opportunity Centers Program (EOC). The goal of the EOC program is to increase the number of adults who pursue a higher education.

“This important grant will help Northern New Mexico College assist those who want to continue to expand their horizons and continue their education beyond high school. In this increasingly global economy, it is critical that our young adults have the knowledge and training they need to compete in the workforce,” Congressman Luján said. “By helping students get the information and resources they need to enroll in postsecondary programs, this grant will show New Mexico’s young adults that a higher education is within reach and encourage more people to pursue a college degree.”

The grant will help fund the New Mexico Educational Opportunity Center (NMEOC), which will provide counseling and information on college admissions to 2,000 first-generation, low-income adults who are 19 years of age or older across Northern New Mexico. The focus of NMEOC will be to encourage, motivate and assist young adults who have never considered higher education, have dropped out of high school, or have stopped pursuing a college degree. NMEOC also provides services to improve the financial and economic literacy of participants.

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