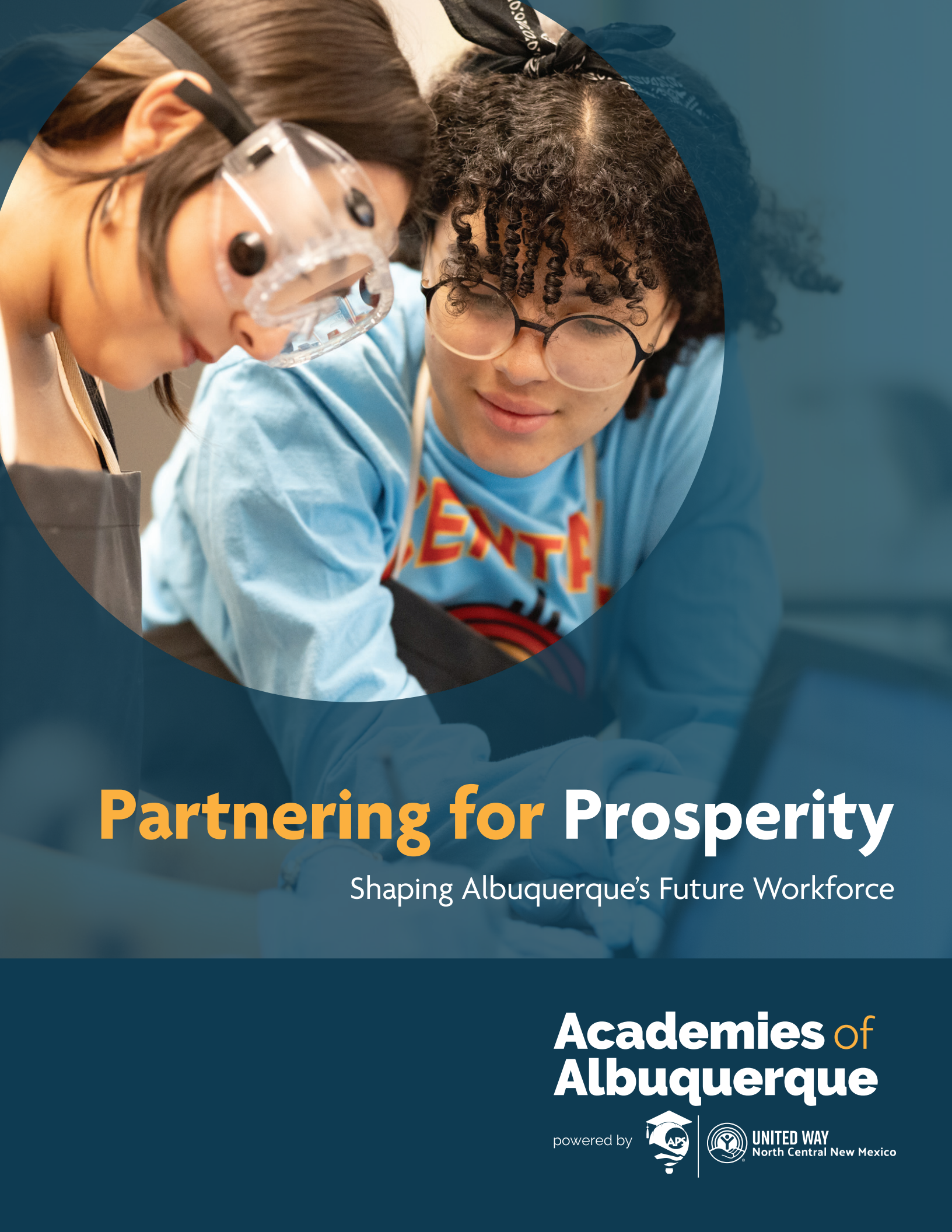

Partnering for Prosperity

Shaping Albuquerque's Future Workforce

Academies of Albuquerque

powered by APS | UNITED WAY North Central New Mexico

Building Tomorrow's Talent, Today

The future of Albuquerque's economy depends on a skilled workforce, prepared to meet the challenges of tomorrow. The Academies of Albuquerque will build that workforce right here, in our high schools. A reimagined high school experience connects students' passions with career pathways, creating a direct pipeline of talent for our community's businesses.

This guide is an invitation for you, Albuquerque's business leaders, to join us in this vital work. Your partnership is the critical link that ensures our students graduate with the skills and experience your industry demands. Together, we will build a stronger, more prosperous future for our city.

OUR CORE MISSION

Shape Albuquerque's future workforce by partnering with the Academies of Albuquerque. Together, we will prepare students with the skills, certifications, and experience your business needs while creating a sustainable talent pipeline for our community.

The Strategic Advantage: Why Partner with the Academies?

Investing in the Academies of Albuquerque is a direct investment in your company's future and the economic vitality of our community. This partnership offers tangible returns by addressing the most pressing challenges facing businesses today: sourcing qualified talent and fostering local economic growth.

1. Build Your Future Workforce Pipeline

Stop searching for talent and start building it. Our graduates emerge from a four-year, career-connected journey not as entry-level applicants, but as emerging professionals.

- Industry-Ready Skills: Students gain hands-on experience and learn curricula that you help shape, ensuring they possess the technical skills and practical knowledge your business needs from day one.
- Real-World Experience: Through internships and project-based learning, students have already navigated professional environments, understand workplace expectations, and can contribute meaningfully.
- Valuable Certifications: Students can earn industry-recognized certifications before they even graduate, making them highly qualified and productive new hires.

2. Drive Albuquerque's Economic Development

A strong local talent pool is the foundation of a thriving economy. Your partnership sends a powerful message that Albuquerque is a city that invests in its people and its future.

- Attract New Business: A proven system for developing skilled labor makes our city a more attractive location for companies looking to expand or relocate.
- Reduce Brain Drain: By creating clear career pathways and connecting students with local employers early on, we give our brightest young minds compelling reasons to build their careers right here in Albuquerque. This keeps talent, innovation, and future leadership within our community.

3. Make a Lasting Community Impact

Your involvement goes beyond business; it's an investment in the next generation of leaders, innovators, and engaged citizens.

- Mentor Future Leaders: Share your expertise and guide students as they navigate their career paths. Your mentorship can shape a young person's future, inspiring them to achieve their full potential.
- Foster Innovation: By exposing students to real-world business challenges, you cultivate an entrepreneurial mindset and empower them to become the innovators who will solve our community's future problems.

How to Get Involved: Pathways to Partnership

We offer a flexible range of partnership opportunities designed to align with your business goals and capacity. Whether you have an hour to share your expertise or can host a student for a semester, your contribution is invaluable.

Collaborative Opportunities

Partnership Pathway	Description	Your Investment
Curriculum Development	Advise on the skills and knowledge needed in your industry. Help ensure academic pathways align directly with employer demands.	Time and expertise in advisory meetings.
Host an Internship	Provide a student with immersive, hands-on work experience. Internships are the capstone, allowing students to apply their skills in a real-world setting.	A structured work experience and mentorship.
Provide Mentorship	Guide students through their academic and career journey. Offer advice, share your story, and serve as a professional role model.	Time for periodic check-ins and guidance.
Host a Teacher Externship	Give an educator a short-term placement at your company. Teachers bring this real-world industry experience back to the classroom, making learning more relevant.	A short-term professional immersion for a teacher.
Be a Guest Speaker	Share your career journey and industry insights with a classroom of students. Inspire them by making your profession tangible and accessible.	A one-time commitment to speak to a class.
Offer Job Shadowing	When a student observes a professional for a day, it is an excellent way for them to explore potential career interests.	A single-day hosting commitment.
Sponsor a Project	Present students with a real business problem. Benefit from their fresh perspectives and creative solutions.	Project definition and occasional feedback sessions.

The Academies Model: A Four-Year Journey to Career Readiness

Our model is a structured progression that systematically builds student expertise and professional maturity.

- **9th Grade - Explore & Discover:** Students are introduced to various career fields through hands-on activities and industry exposure, helping them identify their interests.
- **10th Grade - Connect & Apply:** Core academic subjects are taught through the lens of a student's chosen career pathway, making learning immediately relevant.
- **11th Grade - Specialize & Prepare:** Students take advanced pathway courses, work toward industry certifications, and prepare for real-world work experiences.
- **12th Grade - Experience & Excel:** The capstone year features internships and comprehensive projects where students demonstrate their mastery and readiness for college and careers.

Sponsorship Opportunities:

Signature School Sponsor | $50,000 per year with 3-year pledge

BENEFITS:

- Dedicated feature on Academies of Albuquerque website and social media channels
- VIP participation and speaking opportunity at Academy Launch, Annual Career Expo, and Annual Convening of 300 educators, business leaders, policymakers, and workforce development professionals conference.
- Priority selection for student engagement activities (listed below)
- Annual Impact Report demonstrating your ROI and student outcomes
- Recognition at community events
- Access to talent pipeline and first-look opportunities for interns and job candidates
- Inclusion in quarterly business and education leadership briefings

Shared Corporate Partner School Sponsor | $25,000/ year minimum 3-year pledge

BENEFITS:

- Shared logo placement on academy signage and digital materials
- Featured highlight on Academies of Albuquerque website and social media channels
- VIP participation and speaking opportunity at Academy Launch, Annual Career Expo, and Annual Convening of 300 educators, business leaders, policymakers, and workforce development professionals conference.
- Priority access to student engagement activities (listed below)
- Annual Impact Report demonstrating your ROI and student outcomes
- Recognition at community events
- Access to talent pipeline and first-look opportunities for interns and job candidates
- Inclusion in quarterly business and education leadership briefings

Career Expo Sponsor | $20,000/year

BENEFITS:

- Logo placement on Academies of Albuquerque website and printed materials
- Sponsor recognition (logo, website) on all Annual Career Expo printed and digital materials
- Premiere table placement at Career Expo

Academies of Albuquerque Partnership Engagement Opportunities

All sponsors are invited to participate in the following engagement activities based on availability and alignment with their industry:

- 9th Grade Career Expo Participant
- 10th Grade Industry Field Experience Host
- 11th Grade Job Shadowing Host
- 12th Grade Work-Based Learning: Internships / Part-time Jobs
- Guest Speaker / Career Speaker / Teacher for a Day
- Employability & Life Skills Training Facilitator
- Capstone or Career Coaching
- Classroom Advocate / Teacher Workplace Learning Host
- Problem-Based Learning Unit Collaborator
- Career & Technical Student Organization Supporter
- School Celebrations & Faculty Appreciation Events
- Job Training for Students with Special Needs
- Custom Engagements: Tailored to align with your industry and company values

We welcome a conversation to align your corporate goals with the right school, academy, and student experience. Together, we will ensure Albuquerque's students are equipped with the knowledge, skills, and opportunities to thrive.

Let's build a future workforce—one classroom, one student, one partnership at a time.

Join Us in Building the Future

The Academies of Albuquerque is more than an educational program; it is a community-wide movement to secure our economic future. By partnering with us, you gain a direct channel to your future workforce and play a pivotal role in strengthening the entire community.

Let's work together to create opportunities that transform lives and ensure every student is prepared for success.

Ready to shape the future of Albuquerque? Contact us today to learn how your business can become a partner.

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FIND OUT MORE: