

AUTOMOTIVE TECHNOLOGY

The Automotive Technology program at NMSU Grants provides students automotive service experience through theory and practical application of skills. The auto service industry requires technicians to have tangible working skills, critical thinking skills and customer service skills (all of which are addressed throughout the program). NMSU Grants has the unique ability to have small class sizes, which gives students individualized responses and attention from instructors and faculty members. Students can work to receive an Associate of Applied Science in Automotive Technology, or a Certificate in Automotive Technology. In addition, the program works closely with the Welding Trades and Energy/Electrical Trades programs, to give students the possibility to expand their automotive skills in other disciplines. Students have enjoyed the ease at which their skills can be applied to other trades programs. Students will also work closely with the community by offering their services to those in the surrounding area that request automotive service.

Students who complete the Associate of Applied Science – Automotive Technology program are given several benefits if they continue in the career field. The National Institute for Automotive Service Excellence (the leading certification group in the United States for automotive technicians) requires mechanics to gain at least two years of hands-on training for certification, however after completing our Associate program, only one year of on-the-job training is required. This incentivizes students to complete the program and gain as much experience as possible before attempting ASE certification tests. Students can gain entry level service positions in various automotive capacities such as dealerships, specialty repair shops, auto part distribution stores, and even aftermarket service shops (custom vehicle shops).