



University Business Policies and Procedures Manual

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UNM HISTORY, MISSION, AND ORGANIZATION

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Subject to Change Without Notice

1. General

From time to time, University colleges and departments are called upon to provide general information about the University in the recruitment of faculty, staff, or students. Outlined below are some very general information about the University which may be helpful.

2. History of The University of New Mexico

2.1. Origins

The University of New Mexico was created by an act of the Territorial Legislature in 1889, opened as a summer school on June 15, 1892, and began full-term instruction on September 21 of the same year. The original campus in Albuquerque was comprised of twenty (20) acres, with a single structure.

In creating the University, the Legislature designated it as the state University whose object should be to "provide the inhabitants of the state of New Mexico with the means of acquiring a thorough knowledge of the various branches of literature, science, and arts."

2.2. Accreditation

The University of New Mexico has been fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools since 1922. It is currently recognized by an extensive list of accrediting organizations in many fields.

2.3. The University Today

In 1989, The University of New Mexico celebrated its centennial year. Today, the University is the largest of the state's publicly-supported institutions of post secondary education. In addition to the original Albuquerque campus, the University also operates branch colleges in Valencia County, Gallup, and Los Alamos, as well as graduate centers in Santa Fe and at the Los Alamos National Laboratory. Total enrollment in The University of New Mexico undergraduate, graduate, and professional programs exceeds 31,000 students.

3. Mission of The University of New Mexico

The mission of The University of New Mexico is to serve the educational needs of the citizens of the state, and those of the nation and world. This mission involves four (4) interrelated dimensions:

(1)

The University develops and offers comprehensive educational programs at the associate, baccalaureate, master, and doctoral levels in a wide range of academic, professional, and occupational fields.

(2)

The University, a designated Carnegie I research university, conducts research and engages in scholarly and other creative activities to support undergraduate, graduate, and professional educational programs, and to create, interpret, apply, and accumulate knowledge.

(3)

The University contributes to the quality of life in New Mexico by providing selected services to the public that are part of, contribute to, or originate from the University's teaching and scholarly activity programs.

(4)

The University Health Sciences Center is a valuable resource to New Mexico. Added value is provided to health care through leadership in providing innovative, collaborative education; advancing the frontiers of science through research critical to the future of health care; delivering health care services that are at the forefront of science; and facilitating partnerships with public and private biomedical and health enterprises.

4. Administrative Organization

The President of the University is appointed by The University of New Mexico Board of Regents and is directly responsible to them. As the chief executive officer of the institution, the President directs the administration in carrying out University policy, and has the authority to assign and reassign administrative duties.

5. Additional Information

The [UNM Fact Book](#) provides updated information concerning enrollment statistics, employment, budget, etc.

6. Related Links

[UNM Fact Book](#)

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