



## ADMINISTRATIVE RULES AND PROCEDURES OF NMSU

**NOTICE:** The NMSU policy system is in transition. Operational rules and procedures that were contained in former NMSU Policy Manual, re-titled “Regents Policy Manual” (RPM), have been relocated to the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP). As a first step, on October 21, 2015, the Board of Regents authorized a replica of the NMSU Policy Manual to serve as the initial set of Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP). When a regents policy is amended, the corresponding rule will also be amended to maintain consistency for the duration of the transition. As provisions are repealed from the RPM, they continue in effect as rules in the ARP until further amended. During the transition, some provisions may appear in both the RPM and the ARP. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion this duplication may cause.

*Amended 09.12.17 (See 2.69 revised as 14.69 and 16.69, 16.70, Appendix 6-A and 17.30)*

*Amended 08.08.17 (See 3.70, 5.29, 4.65, and 7.20.20)*

*Amended 06.13.17 (See 5.45.10)*

*Amended 05.10.17 (See 6.26, 6.55 and 5.85 through 5.91)*

*Amended 04.11.17 (See new Rule 15.50)*

*Amended 03.14.17 (See new Rule 5.14; revised Rules 5.25, 5.27; renumbered 5.25 et seq and 2.05 et seq moved to Ch 17)*

*Amended 02.16.17 (See new Rule 11.05, superseding Rule 5.94.20; repeal of Rules 1.05 and 1.14)*

*Amended 01.10.17 (See 2.36)*

*Amended 12.13.16 (See 6.82, 16.20)*

*Amended 11.08.16 (See Rule 7.20.42)*

*Amended 10.19.16 (See Rules 2.05.05 and 13.10)*

*Amended 10.11.16 (See Rules 4.40 and 7.08)*

*Amended 08.09.16 (See amended Rule 7.45 and reformatting)*

*Amended 07.12.16 (See new Rule 2.89 and amended Rule 2.50)*

*Amended 06.27.16 (See amended Benefits Rules 7.09, 7.15, 7.20.25, 7.27 and 7.20.75; ratified 6.86 replicated herein)*

*Amended 06.21.16 (See amended Rules 2.80, 4.30 and 8.50)*

*Amended 06.08.16 (See provisional amendment to Regents Policy 6.86 B. replicated herein)*

*Amended 05.13.16 (Non-substantive revisions throughout due to BOR's 05.13.16 repeal of Regents Policies from Chapters 2 and 5, and amendment to Regents Policy 1.05.96, which was replicated.)*

*Amended 05.10.16 (See amended Rules 4.05.50 and 4.30.10)*

*Amended 04.12.16 (See amended Rules 2.90.20 and 4.30.30, with Appendix 4-A, and corrected Rule 6.70)*

*Amended 03.16.16 (See amended Rules 1.05.10 and 1.05.20, for consistency with amended Regents Policies 1.05.10 and 1.05.20; also non-substantive revisions due to repeal of Regents Policies 9.04, 9.05, 9.10 and 9.20)*

*Amended 12.11.15 (See amended Rule 4.30.10, for consistency with amended Regents Policy 4.30.10; also non-substantive revisions throughout due to repeal of many Regents Policies)*

*Amended 12.07.15 (See Rule 1.10)*

**ARP Initially Authorized by the Board of Regents 10.21.15**

## **Equal Opportunity/Affirmative Action Statement**

New Mexico State University, in compliance with applicable laws and in furtherance of its commitment to fostering an environment that welcomes and embraces diversity, does not discriminate on the basis of age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, retaliation, serious medical condition, sex (including pregnancy), sexual orientation, spousal affiliation, or protected veteran status in its programs and activities, including employment, admissions, and educational programs and activities. Inquiries may be directed to the Executive Director, Title IX and Section 504 Coordinator, Office of Institutional Equity, P.O. Box 30001, 1130 E. University Avenue, Las Cruces, NM 88003; 575-646-3635; [equity@nmsu.edu](mailto:equity@nmsu.edu)

NMSU is committed to providing reasonable accommodations to qualified individuals with disabilities upon request. To request an accommodation, please contact Student Accessibility Services, Corbett Center Student Union, Room 2008, Las Cruces, NM 88003; 575-646-6840 or [sas@nmsu.edu](mailto:sas@nmsu.edu) or the Office of Institutional Equity, O'Loughlin House, 1130 E. University Avenue, Las Cruces, NM 88003; 575-646-3635 or [equity@nmsu.edu](mailto:equity@nmsu.edu). One week advance notice is appreciated. To request this document in an alternate form, please contact the NMSU General Counsel at the Office of University General Counsel, [gencounsel@nmsu.edu](mailto:gencounsel@nmsu.edu) or 575-646-2446.  
(v080917)

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## **Chapter 1**

### **Governance Authority, Organizational Structure and Policy Development and Approval**

- 1.10 [Protocols for Adoption and Amendment of Regents Policies and Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU](#)
- 1.15 [Non-Academic Units-Creating, Reorganizing, Relocation, Eliminating](#)
- 1.20 [Gender Equity Policy and Statement of Principles](#)

## **1.10 -Protocols for Adoption and Amendment of Regents Policies and Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU**

### **PART 1: INTRODUCTION**

The Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU are adopted pursuant to the authority granted in Regents Policy 1.10. This Rule establishes the protocols by which policies, rules and procedures which govern the operation of the NMSU system will be developed, reviewed and officially adopted. As used in the ARP, the term “rule” shall also refer to and include procedures. The Regents Policy Manual (RPM) and the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) may be viewed or downloaded from <http://manual.nmsu.edu/policies-and-procedures>.

The regulatory activities of the NMDA, undertaken in accordance with the State Rules Act, NMSA 1978, § 14-4-1 et seq., are outside the scope of this Rule.

Departmental or unit directives which relate only to internal unit operations are not subject to the development, review and approval requirements of Rule 1.10, and shall not govern the activities of any individual, department or unit external to that unit. Internal unit rules and procedures shall not violate nor be inconsistent with any provision of the RPM or the ARP.

### **PART 2: AUTHORITY TO INITIATE POLICY OR RULE PROPOSALS**

Any individual or NMSU entity may propose a new or revised policy or rule for consideration. This “Proposal Sponsor” is responsible for shepherding the proposal through the procedural steps as described in Part 6 of this Rule.

### **PART 3: POLICY OR Rule ADMINISTRATOR**

Each policy and each rule proposal must specify one NMSU department or unit to serve as the primary policy or rule administrator. The policy or rule administrator will be the unit most involved in implementation of the policy or rule, and typically will have the greatest subject matter expertise.

### **PART 4: SCOPE OF APPLICATION OF POLICY OR Rule**

Each policy and rule proposal shall specify the scope of its application. While most policies and rules will apply NMSU system-wide, some may have a more limited scope (e.g. community colleges only, NMSU-Las Cruces campus only).

### **PART 5: ROLE OF OFFICE OF UNIVERSITY GENERAL COUNSEL**

UGC will advise and assist Proposal Sponsors with initial proposal development and monitoring proposals through review and comment periods and the approval process. UGC is responsible for updating and maintaining the official RPM and the ARP, including making these records available on the NMSU website and documenting the revision history for each policy and rule. UGC shall make the forms and templates referenced by this Rule available on the General Counsel website and linked to this rule. UGC may provide comment on any proposal at any stage in the policy development, review and comment period, and formal approval process.

### **PART 6: DEVELOPMENT, REVIEW AND APPROVAL PROCESS**

Proposals for new or amended policies or rules shall be subject to the following:

- A. Proposal Development. To initiate a proposal for a new or amended policy or rule, the Proposal Sponsor will utilize either the [Policy Proposal Template](#) or the [Rule Proposal Template](#), together with the [Review Track Form](#) (available on the UGC website). Throughout the approval process, the Review Track Form, together with the proposal and any and all comments by reviewers shall constitute the “Proposal Packet”.
- B. Preliminary Review. The Proposal Sponsor shall submit the proposal and the Review Track Form to UGC and to the Policy/Rule Administrator for initial review. Both the Policy or Rule Administrator and UGC shall provide preliminary advice and feedback to the Proposal Sponsor. At such time as this Preliminary Review is complete and the Proposal Sponsor has made any agreed upon modifications to the proposal, these preliminary reviewers shall sign the Review Track Form which shall indicate only that their review is complete. Either the UGC or the Policy/Rule Administrator may attach a comment memo to the Review Track Form either in support of or in opposition to the proposal.
- C. Review Assignments. Once the preliminary reviews are complete, UGC shall transmit the Proposal Packet to the Office of the Chancellor and the proposal will be placed on the agenda for the next meeting of the Assignment Advisory Group (AAG). The AAG shall be comprised of the Executive Vice President and Provost, the Chair

and Vice Chair of the Faculty Senate, and the Chancellor. Decisions of the AAG shall be made by majority vote; with the chancellor's vote controlling in the event of a tie. The AAG shall make review assignments as follows:

1. The AAG will assign the proposal to either the Academic Track or the Administrative Track for review and comment as outlined in Sections D, E and F below. Proposals within the legislative jurisdiction of the Faculty Senate under Regents Policy 1.05.70, as well as other proposals where the AAG may determine that the Faculty Senate legislative process is appropriate, shall be assigned to the Academic Track for review. All other proposals will be assigned to the Administrative Track. The assigned review track will be noted on the Review Track Form. Nothing in this rule regulates or alters the Faculty Senate process for review and adoption of Faculty Senate Propositions.
  2. The AAG will determine which other NMSU entities must be notified and afforded the opportunity to review and make recommendations concerning the proposal, and will indicate those determination on the Review Track Form. Any NMSU entity may elect to provide comment on any proposal during the review and comment period.
  3. Proposals for minor changes with minimal impact on NMSU operations and those which require urgent adoption may be immediately approved on a provisional basis and assigned for immediate review by only the UAC.
  4. The Proposal Packet shall be returned to the UGC. UGC will prepare a [Routing Form](#) to conform to the AAG's review and comment assignments, and will transmit the Routing Form and a copy of the signed Review Track Form to the Proposal Sponsor.
- D. Academic Track Proposals. In addition to the other approval procedures described in this Rule, proposals assigned to the Academic Track are subject to the following procedures and restrictions:
1. The Proposal Sponsor is responsible for identifying at least one willing faculty senator sponsor (FS Sponsor) who will be responsible for obtaining Faculty Senate approval and for coordinating the review and comment process described in Section F. below.
  2. Academic Track proposals shall not be submitted to the reviewing entities for consideration, nor shall the review and comment period be deemed to commence, until after the Faculty Senate Sponsor agrees that the proposal is ready to proceed.
  3. Faculty Senate Propositions may be brought into the Rule 1.10 approval process before, during or after enactment in the Faculty Senate.
  4. Unless the Chancellor otherwise authorizes, an Academic Track proposal may not be submitted to the UAC for a second read or vote until approved by the Faculty Senate.
  5. Academic track proposals shall be submitted to UAC for second read in the form approved by Faculty Senate. If the UAC recommends veto or recommends amendment to a Faculty Senate approved proposal, then the Faculty Senate Chair and Vice Chair will decide whether to forward the proposition to the Chancellor for a decision without change, or to withdraw the proposal for reconsideration by the Faculty Senate.
- E. Administrative Track Proposals. Policy and rule proposals assigned to the Administrative Track do not require formal faculty senate legislation, but may be referred by the AAG to the Faculty Senate for review and comment.
- F. Review and Comment Period. Both Academic Track and Administrative Track policy and rule Proposals will be subject to a review and comment period, which shall be conducted as follows:
1. The Proposal Sponsor shall transmit a copy of the Routing Form and the Proposal Packet to the leadership of the appropriate reviewing groups indicated on the Routing Form. The Proposal Sponsor or designee will arrange to present the proposal to any of the reviewing groups as may be requested. The reviews may be conducted in any order and the Routing Form may be signed in counterparts.
  2. The proposal may be submitted to UAC for an informational "first read" at any point during the review and comment period. UAC will take no formal position on the proposal at this stage.

3. Each reviewing group will indicate its support for or opposition to the proposal on the Routing Form, and may also elect to attach a memorandum in support or opposition. Within 6 weeks after the Proposal Sponsor's request for review, each reviewing organization will return the signed Routing Form and any memorandum to the Proposal Sponsor. Upon request of a Reviewing Group, the review and comment period may be extended by the Proposal Sponsor, or by the Chancellor upon adequate justification, and shall be automatically extended for an additional week when the 6 weeks includes Spring Break, the Winter Holiday or the Thanksgiving Week.
  4. Once all reviews are complete, or at the conclusion of the review and comment period, whichever occurs first, the Proposal Sponsor shall remit the Proposal Packet to UGC. In the event the proposal was modified by the Sponsor during the review and comment process, a copy of the proposal as it was presented shall be attached to the Routing Form(s) indicating which version was approved by each reviewing unit. In situations where an Administrative Track Proposal is modified in response to comments during the review and comment process, the Proposal Sponsor shall seek guidance from UGC to determine whether such changes are sufficiently significant to require re-review by the reviewing groups which did not have the opportunity to comment upon the final version. If the Policy Sponsor and UGC disagree about the need for re-review, the Chancellor may be consulted on this issue. If re-review is required, UGC will prepare a Supplemental Routing Form to indicate the necessary additional reviews. Once all reviews are complete, or the time period for review has expired, UGC shall submit the proposal to the Office of the Chancellor for inclusion on the agenda of the next UAC meeting.
- G. **UAC Recommendation.** All policy and rule proposals will be submitted for review and recommendation by the UAC. If the proposal was presented to UAC for first read during the review and comment period, then the proposal will receive a second reading and an advisory vote at the first UAC meeting following the review and comment period. Otherwise, absent a vote waiving the first reading, the proposal will stand for a first read and will appear on the agenda of the following meeting of the UAC for second reading and a vote on whether to recommend approval to the Chancellor.
- H. **Chancellor Approval or Veto.** Upon consideration of the recommendations of the UAC and other reviewing entities, the Chancellor may approve or veto the proposal. The Chancellor will indicate that decision on the Routing Form, and the decision will be announced at the next UAC meeting. Policy 1.05.70 will govern in any situation in which an Academic Track rule or policy proposal, formally approved as a Faculty Senate Proposition, is vetoed or otherwise not acted upon by the Chancellor.

Following the Chancellor's decision, the Proposal Packet shall be returned to UGC. The UGC shall submit a copy of the signed Routing Form reflecting the Chancellor's decision and a copy of the proposal to the Proposal Sponsor. The Proposal Packet shall be retained by UGC for record retention purposes.

In the case of new or revised rules approved by the Chancellor, the UGC will make the approved changes and additions to the ARP. UGC will also submit a summary of ARP revisions as an informational item for placement on the Board of Regents regular meeting agenda.

In the case of Regents Policy proposals, UGC will submit the proposal for placement on the Board's next regular meeting agenda.

Rule Administrator:	Office of University General Counsel
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	12.07.15
Revision History:	12.07.15: UAC recommended approval; Chancellor approved. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 1.10 as initial Rule 1.10.

### **1.15 - Non-Academic Units - Creating, Reorganizing, Relocating, Eliminating** (See [Rule 6.05 for Academic Units - Creating, Reorganizing, Relocating, Etc.](#))

For the purpose of this policy, a non-academic unit is defined as a unit that is **not** within a college, an undergraduate major, a graduate degree program or the library, whether these units are located on any NMSU campus. Any proposal to create, reorganize, relocate and/or eliminate a non-academic unit must be submitted for review and approval through the appropriate vice president, vice provost or dean and the executive vice president and provost. Refer to chart of approval process, [Appendix 1-H to Regents Policy Manual \(formerly Appendix 5-B\)](#).

If a change results in a structural change to the organizational hierarchy, the change will be effective January 1 or July 1 following the approval. Structural changes are defined as changes that affect the hierarchical organizational and reporting structure. Changes to organizational attributes may be processed at any time throughout the year. These changes are defined as: department long title, acronym, mail stop code, PO Box number, street address, city, state, zip code, building name (See Rule [2.50 Namings](#)), room number, telephone number, fax number and departmental e-mail address.

Procedure: After the appropriate administrative approvals are obtained, the requesting department head/director must submit an Organization Request Form to the Office of Human Resource Services for processing. The form must be submitted with all relevant documentation attached no later than November 30 (for January 1 effective date) and May 31 (for July 1 effective date).

## **1.20 - Gender Equity and Statement of Principles**

*[Policy approved by the Administrative Council 06.10.07; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07]*  
*See Also Policies [3.25 Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus](#).*

New Mexico State University (“NMSU”) is committed to promoting and improving gender equity by adjusting its policies and administrative rules and procedures, and implementing concrete actions designed to improve gender equity throughout the university community. To this end, NMSU adheres to the following principles:

*NMSU affirms the sex and gender equality of all individuals in the NMSU community. Gender Equality among faculty, students, staff and associated workers is a source of human excellence, cultural enrichment and social strength. NMSU recognizes that a harmonious climate in relation to gender is essential to the academic, professional and personal development of its members.*

*NMSU acknowledges its ongoing responsibility to develop and support a responsive and open environment that is gender inclusive; to promote anti-sexism; and to create a study, work and living environment that is free of discrimination and harassment on the basis of sex, gender or gender identity.*

*NMSU is committed to the objective of ensuring sex and gender equity in the NMSU community. NMSU is committed to improving the status of women at NMSU to achieve sex and gender equity.*

*NMSU acknowledges its ongoing responsibility to develop and support a university community whose diversity reflects the students it educates; to support equity and full participation by women in the issues such as compensation and distribution of resources; and to support a work environment in which individuals with family responsibilities are not disadvantaged.*



## Chapter 2

### General Operating Rules and Procedures

- 2.03 Art, Archives and Other Cultural Collections
- 2.05 NMSU Athletics *[Moved to Chapter 17]*
- 2.10 Auditors, External \*
- 2.11 Auditors, Internal - Office of Audit Services \*
- 2.15 College Budget Committee
- 2.20 Distribution Lists (ABCD) for Printed/Electronic Material
- 2.25 Emergency Preparedness and Response
- 2.30 Fire Safety, Prevention and Emergency Services
- 2.35 General NMSU Information and Communications Technology Policies
  - 2.35.1.1 General Policies**
    - 2.35.1.1.1 Acceptable Use
    - 2.35.1.1.2 Computer Accounts
    - 2.35.1.1.3 NMSU Account Purge
    - 2.35.1.1.4 Distribution of Information to NMSU Employees and Students
    - 2.35.1.1.5 NMSU Official Email Address
    - 2.35.1.1.6 NMSU Office Software Standards
    - 2.35.1.1.7 Employee Access to Data and Potential Conflict of Interest
    - 2.35.1.1.8 Emergency Notification
    - 2.35.1.1.9 Telephone Equipment Use
  - 2.35.1.2 Security Policies**
    - 2.35.1.2.1 NMSU Password Maintenance
    - 2.35.1.2.2 Computer Virus Scan Software
    - 2.35.1.2.3 NMSU Institutional Data Security
    - 2.35.1.2.4 NMSU Server Administration and Operation
    - 2.35.1.2.5 Computer Operating System Critical Updates
  - 2.35.1.3 ICT Administration**
    - 2.35.1.3.1 Acquisition of Software Systems
    - 2.35.1.3.2 NMSU Records Access
    - 2.35.1.3.3 Caller ID
    - 2.35.1.3.4 *Repealed 10.21.15; See Business Procedures Manual*
    - 2.35.1.3.5 *Repealed 10.21.15; See Business Procedures Manual*
    - 2.35.1.3.6 Bandwidth Management
    - 2.35.1.3.7 Network Connection
    - 2.35.1.3.8 NMSU Wireless Network
    - 2.35.1.3.9 Alarm Systems
- 2.36 Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards
- 2.37 Investments *[Superseded by Rule 13.10, Investment Management]*
- 2.40 Legal Services \*
- 2.45 Lobbying \*
- 2.50 Namings
- 2.53 Police (University)
- 2.56 Purchasing
  - 2.56.05 Professional Services Contract
  - 2.56.10 Procurement of Professional Design Services

- 2.57 Reserves \*
- 2.60 Environmental Health and Safety
  - 2.60.10 Safety and Health - Environmental Health and Safety Office
- 2.64 Security Cameras on University Premises
- 2.65 Social Security Numbers, Use of
- 2.68 Arrowhead Center, Inc. (f/k/a NMSU Technology Transfer Corporation, Inc.) \*
- 2.69 Travel *[Superseded by Rule 14.69 - University Related Travel Guidelines]*
  - 2.69.1 International Travel, **Generally** *[Superseded by Rule 16.69 - University Related International Travel]*
  - 2.62.2 International Travel in Countries Subject to U.S. Travel Warnings *[Superseded by Rule 16.69 - University Related International Travel]*
- 2.70 United Way
- 2.75 University Advancement - Gift Income, NMSU Endowments, NMSU Foundation, Inc.
- 2.80 University Communications; Use of NMSU Logo; Website(s) Guidelines
- 2.89 Use of Preferred Name
- 2.90 University Records
  - 2.90.10 Records Integrity and Retention
  - 2.90.20 Access to Student Educational Records - FERPA Compliance
  - 2.90.30 Protection of Non Public, Personal Information
  - 2.90.40 Inspection of Public University Records
- 2.91 Identity Theft Protection Program
- 2.92 University Research Park \*
- 2.94 Weather, Inclement (Closings)
- 2.95 Parking and Traffic Regulations
  - 2.95.1 Statutory Grant of Authority
  - 2.95.2 Delegation of Board's Authority
  - 2.95.3 Jurisdiction/Scope of Application
  - 2.95.4 General Guidelines
  - 2.95.5 NMSU Permit or Placard Issuance Requirements
  - 2.95.6 Parking Fees
  - 2.95.7 Requirements for Display of Permit
  - 2.95.8 Parking Requirements
  - 2.95.9 Vehicle Operation Requirements
  - 2.95.10 Establishment of Controlled Access Areas for Motorized Vehicles
  - 2.95.11 Establishment of Utility Cart Safety Program
  - 2.95.12 Fraudulent Practices Prohibited
  - 2.95.13 Methods for Enforcement of Parking and Vehicle Operation Regulations
  - 2.95.14 Booting and/or Towing of Vehicles
  - 2.95.15 Citations: Fines and Fees; Citation Appeal Process

**\* NMSU Policy System in Transition:**

*These provisions appear in both the Regents Policy Manual (RPM) and the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) as a result of the replication of the NMSU Policy Manual authorized by the Board of Regents on October 21, 2015. That replication was the first step in a project to restructure and update NMSU system policies and procedures into a Regents Policy Manual and a distinct set of administrative rules and procedures, to provide operational guidelines for management. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion caused by this duplication.*

## 2.03 - Art, Archives and Other Cultural Collections

*[Amendments to Policies 2.03 and 2.04, merging and substantively revising the two (repealing 2.04), were recommended by the Administrative Council 03.09.11; approved by the Board of Regents 03.14.11]*

- A. Purpose: To ensure the proper acquisition, inventory, professional care and use of the university's art, archives and other cultural collections.
- B. Scope of Application: This rule applies throughout the NMSU System; it addresses all art owned by NMSU, including art acquired to become part of the university's permanent art collection (i.e. those works of art in the custody or control of the Art Gallery), art acquired via the Art in Public Places Act, art donated to or acquired by any NMSU entity.
- C. Rule Administrator: These administrative rules and procedures are administered by those officials with continuous position appointments to the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee, the University Museum, University Archives, as well as by appropriate state personnel and committees formed pursuant to the New Mexico Art in Public Places Act.
- D. General Guidelines:
  - 1. **Art Belonging to NMSU:** Works of art for museums or for display in public buildings or places are distinct from other types of personal property owned by the NMSU Board of Regents. The acquisition of art is exempt from the New Mexico Procurement Code, but is subject to other state requirements and other university requirements relating to gifts in kind. For the purpose of this rule, "art acquisition" includes the receipt of artwork through any means, including purchases using publicly appropriated or privately donated funds, commission, gift, trade, transfer, exchange, or bequest. The Art Gallery coordinates the management of all university owned art. It is the Art Gallery's charge to exhibit, maintain, and preserve the university's art consistent with current professional standards. The Director of the Art Gallery serves as the curator of the NMSU System art collections.
  - 2. **Mission of the Art Gallery:** Through the exhibition, research, and interpretation of original works of art, the Art Gallery supports the University's pedagogical goals and endeavors to educate its audience and raise its awareness to the diverse and valuable experience available in the visual arts.
  - 3. **Art Committees:** The following committees are hereby recognized:
    - a. The Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee, a standing committee charged with identifying and recommending acquisition of artwork for the NMSU permanent collection, as well as making recommendations for the conservation and presentation of art in the cultural collections owned by the university. The Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee is the committee granted the authority to approve expenditures from the NMSU Permanent Art Collections Account, in collaboration with other members of the university community and in accordance with the provisions outlined herein. See subsection E. below.
    - b. The University Cultural Collections Committee, a standing committee charged with approving the acquisition of art and other cultural collections available or offered to NMSU, and with decisions relating to the conservation and presentation of art and other objects in the cultural collections owned by the university.
  - 4. **NMSU Archives and Special Collections:** NMSU Archives (Hobson-Huntsinger University Archives) selects, preserves, houses, and makes accessible all records of enduring value created by administrators, faculty, students and alumni of New Mexico State University. Through its programs the University Archives seeks to illuminate the history, evolution, and societal role of the institution.
    - a. **Political Papers Archives:** Political paper archives consist of the congressional, selected gubernatorial and personal papers of senators and members of both the state and U.S. House of Representatives and U.S. Senate from New Mexico serving from 1916-present, highlighting their political careers at the local, state, national, and international levels.
    - b. **Reprographics/Digital Duplication:** This division responds to internal and external reproduction requests, as well as coordinates regarding conservation and cataloguing photographic materials and audio and video recordings that are added to the collections.
    - c. **Rio Grande Historical Collections (RGHC):** The RGHC division acquires, preserves, and makes

available for research records of organizations, personal papers, and other unpublished materials which document the cultural heritage and history of New Mexico and the Spanish Borderlands.

- d. **Special Collections:** The Special Collections division houses published research materials including books, periodicals, maps and newspapers. The most heavily used of these materials relate to the history, culture, peoples, and resources of New Mexico; the broader Southwest and the Borderlands; and materials supporting specialized university programs.
- E. **Art Acquisition:** This subsection does not address the acquisition of art for capital improvement projects, which is governed by state law. *See* subsection I. below.
1. **Funding:** The university shall set aside a sum each year in the NMSU Permanent Art Collections Account, an amount equivalent to \$1 for each student enrolled full time each academic year, for the restricted use of funding the acquisition, conservation and presentation of works of art. The Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee is the entity authorized to approve expenditures from this account.
  2. **Criteria:** All works of art proposed for acquisition, conservation or presentation for the benefit of the university may be evaluated by the Director of the Art Gallery, the Department Head for the Department of Art, or any other interested individual member of either the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee or the University Cultural Collections Committee. All recommendations shall be considered by the University Cultural Collections Committee, which shall make the final decision on behalf of the university, based on the following criteria:
    - a. **Quality, Condition and Aesthetic and Academic Value:** The quality and condition of the object, aesthetic value and appropriateness to the academic environment and the department to which it is donated. The object under consideration should be relevant to an existing collection or should be capable of forming the nucleus for a new collection. The value of the object for scholarly use within an established collection on campus should be considered.
    - b. **Care and Maintenance Requirements:** The university is committed to properly care for and maintain the objects in its cultural collections in accordance with acceptable professional standards. The director of the Art Gallery, a representative of the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee (other than the director of the Art Gallery), and the chair of the University Cultural Collections Committee are also charged with bringing issues such meeting professional standards for adequate storage, protection, and preservation to the attention of the two committees for resolution.
    - c. **Security and Logistical Concerns:** The security and appropriateness of the location for installation of the object. Considerations for protection of the object through security systems and insurance restrictions should also be considered.
    - d. **Purpose for Acquisition:** The intention is that an object shall remain in the collection so long as it retains its authenticity, pertinence to the collection, and physical integrity. Short range acquisition for the purpose of later sale, as well as speculative acquisition for short-range sales should be discouraged and then only entered into with the express approval of the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee.
    - e. **Legality:** NMSU will operate with due diligence in researching the background of any art objects to be acquired in order to assure compliance with applicable state and federal laws.
  3. **Decision making Authority:** The responsibility to search for accessions is shared between the director of the Art Gallery, the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee. University officials, faculty, staff and other support groups of the Art Gallery shall not obligate the university to any acquisition; prospective donors or sellers should be advised that all objects proposed for acquisition by the university are subject to review and recommendation from the director of the Art Gallery and the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee, and approval from the University Cultural Collections Committee, subject to these administrative rules and procedures and other gift acquisition protocols which may apply.
  4. **Valuation of Gift Art:** NMSU officials, faculty, staff or other agents shall not participate in the appraisal of gifts of art, archival material or other special collectible offered to the university for the purpose of establishing the tax deductible value.
  5. **Acquisition by Gift or Bequest:**
    - a. **Donor Restrictions:** The university prefers to receive gifts free of restrictions that might affect the university's ability to utilize the gift in the most efficacious manner on behalf of the students and the NMSU community. There can be no commitment to permanent display, nor can the university commit to retain ownership in perpetuity. Every effort should be made to limit restrictions to a reasonable period,

after which they will expire. Any restriction shall be documented and maintained with the records pertaining to the gift and kept on file at the Art Gallery.

- b. Gift Agreement: The gift of objects or works of art needs to be formalized in a deed of gift agreement which includes statement of transfer of legal title and where applicable, copyright and literary rights and signature of the donor. The deed of gift or a copy of the deed of gift should be kept on file at the Art Gallery. Documentation should include:
  - i. Name and address of donor and intermediary, if any;
  - ii. Description of the object in sufficient detail to enable easy identification and a photograph;
  - iii. Date of acquisition by the donor and method of acquisition;
  - iv. The original cost or appraisal of the object at the time of original acquisition;
  - v. Any records, receipts or other documents that provide proof of ownership;
  - vi. Date of donation to the university and date of acknowledgment;
  - vii. A history of the object and any information that may have bearing in its authenticity or enhance its educational value;
  - viii. A current appraisal by an independent qualified appraiser;
  - ix. Factors used to arrive at the current value;
  - x. De-accession of the object, if not retained by the university; and
  - xi. Any restrictions or conditions placed on the gift by the donor and the expiration date of the conditions.
6. Acquisition by Purchase: The purchase of a work of art for the university, either through commission or purchase, will be formalized by a written contract for commission or bill of sale. Proposals will be reviewed by the director of the Art Gallery, the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee. Contracts will follow the template created by these committees, if any, in consultation with the university's general counsel.
7. Acquisition by Incoming Short Term Loan: Under ordinary circumstances, the university does not accept deposits of objects or works of art unless there is reason to believe that the deposit will be changed to a permanent gift to the university or that it is unlikely that the object of value will be preserved in any other way. The university will provide professional care for art objects received on loan, but will not assume responsibility for any loss or injury to the deposit which may occur. Should an object be received for long-term loan, the specific period of the loan shall be defined in a written loan agreement at the outset. Loan agreements shall follow the template created by the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee, if any, in consultation with the university's general counsel.
8. The following documentation will be maintained for all incoming loans: copies of all loan forms; incoming and outgoing condition reports, to include any special requirement for the object; all records of transport; any records that pertain to the work with regard to value and insurance.

F. Art Inventory, Custody and Conservation:

1. Designation of Art Custodian and Duties: Any NMSU entity physically in possession of a work of art shall assign a specific person to serve as custodian of the art and liaison to the director of the Art Gallery. At least once annually, as directed by the director of the Art Gallery, the designated unit art custodian shall annually verify the object is secured in accordance with standards for insurance against risk of loss, and document its physical condition and location. The art custodian shall send the results of this art inventory to the director of the Art Gallery.
2. Art Conservation: All proposals for necessary restoration and repair to works of art shall be presented to the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee for consideration. Professional conservators should be consulted when feasible. If restoration work is needed, requests for funding should be submitted through normal administrative channels. University administration is responsible for the cost of conservation of university art. Should conservation be unfeasible and the poor condition of a work of art impugn the integrity of the piece, the work should be removed from view, or in the case of murals, be appropriately covered, upon consultation with the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee.

G. Outgoing (Short Term) Loans from the University's Permanent Art Collection:

1. Short Term Loans to Other Public Institutions: In keeping with its traditional support of scholarly and educational exhibitions, the Art Gallery may loan NMSU works of art to qualified educational and exhibiting institutions for up to one year. Prior to lending, the following conditions must be met:

- a. The object to be loaned must be able to survive, intact, the rigors that will be imposed by transportation and handling.
    - b. The borrowing institution shall have proper environmental controls, qualified handlers, and adequate security for the protection of the object. Facilities reports will be required.
    - c. The director of the art gallery shall ascertain that there will be no immediate need for the work within the NMSU community.
    - d. The borrowing institution will provide wall to wall insurance; a certificate of insurance will be required.
  2. Long-Term Loans from Collection to Other Public Institutions: Loans to institutions for extended tours, exceeding 1 year, may be made at the discretion of the art gallery director, on the condition that all institutions involved in the tour meet the above qualifications for loan. Long-term loans from the permanent collection may be made from time to time to other institutions at the discretion of the art gallery director. Objects selected for such loan should not be of primary importance to the NMSU art collection, nor be of substantial value.
  3. Record of Outgoing Loans: For all short and long term outgoing loans, the following records will be maintained: copies of all loan forms; incoming and outgoing condition reports, to include any special requirement for the object; all records of transport; any records that pertain to the work with regard to value and insurance.
- H. De-accession: A de-accession is the removal of an object from the university's art collection with legal transfer of title or other appropriate action. The following de-accession process applies in the event any university department wishes to dispose of a university owned work of art.
1. Requests for De-accession: The director of the Art Gallery shall present a written request for de-accession to the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee. The request should include a justification and a proposed destination for the work of art. Written outside appraisals will be sought for any object of significant value that is being considered for de-accession. The Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee shall make its recommendation(s) to the NMSU Board of Regents. An object should not be de-accessioned on the grounds of taste, current or otherwise. The Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee should discourage the sale of objects without clear justification and deter the sale of objects for revenue.
    - a. Reservation for Distinct Special Collection: If the director of the university museum, or the library's archives and special collections department head desire the object for a collection, the Art Gallery Acquisitions Committee and the University Cultural Collections Committee should release the object for approval by the acquisitions committee of the established collection. If the object is not desired for an established collection, the de-accession process shall continue.
    - b. Current Restrictions on Gift of Art: Objects with mandatory donor restrictions may not be de-accessioned prior to expiration of any time limitation or until permitted by a court of competent jurisdiction. If it is practical and reasonable to do so considering the value, the Art Gallery should notify the donor if it intends to dispose of such objects within 10 years or the donor's lifetime, whichever is shorter. If there is any question as to the intent or force of the restrictions, the Art Gallery will seek advice from the university's general counsel.
    - c. De-accession of Objects: The manner of de-accession chosen will be in the best interest of the Art Gallery and its collection. Any profit from the de-accession will be applied to acquisitions and/or art conservation. Consideration may be given to placing the object through gift, exchange, or sale with another tax-exempt public institution. If the object is to be sold to a non-public entity, a public auction or other publicly noticed sale should be conducted. Staff and officials of the university are ineligible to purchase or otherwise acquire NMSU works of art. If any profit is accrued through the sale of an object, it shall be deposited into the NMSU Permanent Art Collections Account.
    - d. Respect to Artist: The de-accession of works will be accomplished in such a manner that it will not impugn the reputation of the artist or the artist's body of work. Should the de-accession of works by living artists be required, the feelings of the artist should be respected and whenever possible, the artist should be consulted regarding the de-accession of the work of art.
    - e. Documentation of De-accessioned Objects: Full record of all exchanges and sales will be maintained. Records of the Art Gallery shall document the de-accession process and the final destination of the object.
  2. Museum Items: In the absence of a specific de-accession procedure for items in the University Museum, the

above art de-accession procedure shall apply. The Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences is authorized to promulgate rules and procedures for the de-accession of museum items.

**I. Art Acquisition for Capital Projects:**

1. New Mexico law, at NMSA 1978, § 13-4A-1 *et seq.*, known as the Art in Public Places Act, requires one percent of the amount appropriated for new construction or major renovation or \$200,000, whichever is less, to be allocated for the acquisition and installation of works of art. New Mexico Arts, a division of the New Mexico Office of Cultural Affairs administers such acquisitions. Expenditures for works of art are required by law to be contracted for separately from all other items in the new construction of the public building.
2. The state's guidelines include the involvement of a Local Selection Committee, consisting of members reflecting the cultural diversity of the community and with an interest in the project. The membership typically includes a representative from the users of the building, the owner representative or designee, an architect, an arts professional or community art representative, an artist not competing for the project, and up to two community or student representatives or a member of the Board of Regents.
3. The university architect, the director of the Art Gallery, and the head of the Department of Art shall serve on all Local Selection Committees as position appointments, as long as permitted by applicable state regulations. The Local Selection Committee is responsible for selection of art for the identified public building, using the public selection process and adhering to the procedures developed by the New Mexico Arts division. Those procedures may be viewed at NMAC 4.12.11.2 through 11.16.

**J. Additions to the University's Archives:** This subsection establishes a set of standard guidelines by which records proposed for addition to the NMSU archives collection will be appraised during the acquisition process.

1. Ownership and Disposal Authority: The records of the official activities of the units and staff of NMSU are the property of the institution. Their de-accession is controlled by the NMSU Board of Regents or subject to state and federal law. Proposals to dispose of records should be reviewed by and receive the concurrence of the Department Head for Archives and Special Collections.
2. Appraisal Guidelines: *See* NMSU Archives Appraisal Guidelines for records. [NMSU Library: Policies and Procedures - Policy #012](#)
3. Authority to Accept: The NMSU Board of Regents has delegated authority to the Archives and Special Collections Department, with the approval of the dean of the University Library, to accept on behalf of the university, collections of documents of 100 cubic feet or less. Other larger collections may only be accepted by the Chancellor or the executive vice president and provost in accordance with other applicable NMSU gift acceptance policies. Such larger collections shall be reported to the Board of Regents.

## **2.10 - Auditors, External**

The university external auditors shall be selected and retained according to the guidelines provided in the state auditor's rules currently in force. The Board of Regents reserves the right to apply stricter guidelines in selecting and retaining external auditors than those required by the state auditor's rules.

## **2.11 - Auditors, Internal – Office of Audit Services**

*[Amendments approved by the Board of Regents 07.23.07]*

- A. Purpose: This policy establishes and authorizes the Office of Audit Services as the administrative unit tasked with performing internal audit functions, and reporting to the various NMSU components, the Regents Audit Committee of the Board of Regents, and the Chancellor and/or the Board of Regents.
- B. Mission and Internal Audit Function: The Office of Audit Services provides university-wide, independent, objective assurance and consulting services designed to add value to, and improve university operations. It helps the university community accomplish its objectives by bringing a systematic, disciplined approach to evaluate and improve the effectiveness of risk management, control, and governance processes. The Office of Audit Services assists members of management in effectively carrying out their respective responsibilities by determining whether the organization's network of risk management, control and governance processes are adequate to ensure that:

1. Risks are appropriately identified and managed;
  2. University policies and procedures, and external laws and regulations are followed;
  3. Resources are acquired economically, used efficiently, and are adequately protected;
  4. Significant financial, managerial and operational information is accurate and reliable;
  5. Program objectives are achieved and are consistent with university objectives.
- C. Authority: The internal audit staff is authorized full, free and unrestricted access to all university records in any form; to all facilities and real estate; and to all personnel relevant to an audit. With approval from the NMSU affiliated organization, internal audit staff may review records of affiliated organizations in conjunction with a specific university audit. Internal audit staff is correspondingly responsible for handling documents and information obtained in a prudent and ethical manner.
- D. Neutrality: Internal auditors will avoid participating in activities that might reasonably appear to compromise their independence or objectivity. They will have no direct responsibility or authority over any of the operating activities examined, and their review does not relieve operating personnel of their responsibilities.
- E. Internal Audit Duties: The chief audit executive and staff of the Office of Audit Services have responsibility to:
1. Develop a flexible annual audit plan using appropriate risk-based methodology, including concerns identified by management, and submit the plan to the audit committee for review and approval;
  2. Operate in accordance with the International Standards for the Professional Practice of Internal Auditing and the Code of Ethics of the Institute of Internal Auditors;
  3. Provide audit reports and memoranda that contain reasonable and cost-effective recommendations for control issues identified, and facilitate the resolution of audit issues with appropriate managers;
  4. Suggest the need for policies and procedures where appropriate, or changes to existing policies and procedures;
  5. Perform appropriate assurance and consulting services to assist management in meeting its objectives;
  6. Assist in the investigation of significant suspected fraudulent activities within the university;
  7. The chief audit executive serves as an *ex officio* member of the University Administrative Council.
- F. Reporting Structure: In order to maintain independence, the staff of the Office of Audit Services reports to the chief audit executive, who reports administratively to the Chancellor and functionally to the Board of Regents. The chief audit executive shall meet with the Regents Audit Committee periodically, as outlined in its Charter, and will present an annual report on the activities and operations of the department.
- G. Scheduling Audit Projects and Reporting Results: With the exception of emergency audits and those requiring an element of surprise, audit clients will receive advance notice of planned audits and the Office of Audit Services staff will make reasonable efforts to accommodate client needs in terms of scheduling.
1. Audits involving suspected fraudulent activities are processed differently from other internal audits, so as not to compromise a police investigation or personnel action.
  2. At the conclusion of an audit project, the chief audit executive will issue a formal report or audit memorandum to the audit client and appropriate members of senior management.
  3. On an annual basis or as time permits, the Office of Audit Services staff will perform a follow-up on formal recommendations included in audit reports and memoranda. Follow-up reports will summarize the status of audit issues and any actions taken by management to resolve the issues. Any items not resolved at the conclusion of a second follow-up, will be referred to the Chancellor and to the Regents Audit Committee for resolution.



4. Results of audit work are shared with the Regents Audit Committee members and with the Board of Regents on an annual basis, or more often if appropriate.

## **2.15 - College Budget Committee**

Each college will establish a standing College Budget Committee. The majority of the members of each College Budget Committee will be elected from that college's faculty. The College Budget Committee will review the college annual operating budget both past and projected and provide input to the dean. In addition, all budget proposals that flow to the university Budget Committee from each college will be reviewed by the Faculty College Budget Committee which will then provide a written recommendation to the dean of the college.

## **2.20 - Distribution Lists (ABCD) for Printed/Electronic Materials**

Printed memoranda and materials regarding university business may be circulated to groups of individuals on campus by requesting distribution through Printing and Duplicating and Mail Services addressing programs. Designations from the list below -- A B C D -- may be used. Electronic mail may provide an avenue for communication of significant administrative information to key administrators, with the following guidelines:

### **A. Composition of the List:**

1. Chancellor, executive vice president and provost, and senior vice presidents/provosts.
2. Associate and assistant vice presidents/provosts, presidents of community colleges, academic deans, associate and assistant deans.
3. Administrative department heads and directors.
4. Academic department heads (main campus only).

- B. Posting to the List: Only list members or their designees may submit announcements to ABCD. Distributions may be made to A or B or C or D or any combination of these. Posting to the list(s) should be restricted to significant administrative announcements. Other communications, such as announcements of workshops, receptions, etc. might be posted via other communication vehicles managed by the Office of University Communications and Marketing Services.

- C. ABCD-Copy: Individuals wishing to receive electronic copies of electronically mailed ABCD postings may subscribe to ABCD-Copy. ABCD-Copy subscribers will receive only electronic announcements which are addressed to all four groups: A, B, C, and D.

## **2.25 - Emergency Preparedness and Response** (See Also [NMSU-Las Cruces AHEOP](#); and Rules [2.30 Fire Safety, Prevention and Emergency Services](#); [2.35.1.1.8 Emergency Notification](#); and Regents Policies [2.53 Police-University](#); [2.60 Environmental Health and Safety](#))

- A. Purpose: To facilitate compliance with state and federal laws relating to emergency preparedness and response, by clarifying the Board of Regents' delegation of authority relating to emergency planning and preparedness and to disaster consequence and recovery management functions. These delegations include authorization of NMSU personnel to plan and take action as necessary for the protection of the university community and university assets, in the face of potential and actual emergencies; this Rule is not intended to limit in any way the authority granted by state or federal law to public safety entities and their employees and representatives who may be serving as incident commanders or other emergency responders. The actual emergency operational protocols to be followed in the field by the incident commander(s) and emergency responders are not within the scope of this Rule. See [All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan\(s\)](#).
- B. Scope: This Rule applies throughout the NMSU system, including but not limited to the NMSU community colleges, the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, and to other external entities which may be located on university premises.
- C. Rule Administrator: This Rule is administered by the NMSU Chancellor, in coordination with appropriate advisory bodies and university officials.
- D. Definitions, Roles and Responsibilities:
  1. **AHEOP** is an All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan which is required to be developed and maintained by each NMSU Component to maximize the preparedness for unforeseen emergencies, including coordination with police, fire and emergency medical service providers who might be involved in the event of such emergencies.

2. **CART** is the university's "Central Administration Response Team", which serves the entire NMSU System, and consists of the NMSU Chancellor and other executive management personnel. *See E. 1. Below.*
3. **Communicable Disease Preparedness Committee** is the committee that, in conjunction with the Emergency Planning Committee, is responsible for planning and preparedness regarding Continuity of Operations, health disasters, and other disasters of long duration. This committee works directly with the various NMSU entities to accomplish this planning and preparedness.
4. **CoOP** is the Continuity of Operations Plan, which is plan developed by each NMSU Entity to identify its essential mission(s), and the mechanisms for continuing to achieve them during an emergency. Each CoOp should provide the information necessary to enable the NMSU Entity's personnel to operate in a variety of circumstances, such as from a remote site, without electricity, without computer connections, etc. *See Also Section G below.*
5. **CRT** is the Component Response Team, which is a team of key administrative leaders designated by each NMSU Component whose responsibility is to make decisions relating to disaster/emergency consequence and recovery management for that component. The CRT for the NMSU-Las Cruces Component consists of the same membership as that of the CART.
6. **Disaster** means a sudden event, such as an accident or a natural catastrophe that causes or has the potential to cause great damage or loss of life.
7. **EAP** is an Emergency Action Plan required by the Occupational Safety and Health Act, administered by the U.S. Department of Labor, to notify employees, students and/or volunteers of what to do in the event of a potential or actual emergency, including emergency training exercises. The EAP communicates emergency information in advance of an emergency and explains how to report a fire or other emergency, provides an evacuation route and reunification location, as well as protocols to ensure that all persons associated with each NMSU Entity are accounted for. *See Also Section F. below.*
8. **Emergency** means a serious, unexpected, and often dangerous situation requiring immediate action.
9. **Emergency Planning Committee** means the standing university board that advises and provides recommendations to the NMSU Chancellor regarding emergency planning and preparedness for the system, the CART and the CRTs, particularly related to the All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan. *See Also Official List of University Boards.*
10. **Emergency Responder** means an employee or representative of a public safety entity who performs duties to save lives or property and/or to preserve order during an emergency. Emergency responders include the first responders, any non-NMSU involved public safety entities, and the official(s) designated to serve as the Incident Commander(s).
11. **Essential Personnel** means those employees who perform job duties or functions deemed by the administrative head of their NMSU Entity to be critical to operations. Essential Personnel are required to work, and/or to be available to work, in the event of any emergency, and especially during emergencies of extended duration.
12. **External Entity** means any non-NMSU entity or agency located on NMSU premises, as a tenant or a business partner.
13. **Incident Commander** is the person (or in unified command, the people) who are appropriately trained and responsible for decision making during the on-scene emergency resolution.
14. **NMSU Component** refers to the NMSU-Las Cruces campus; to the community college campuses (Alamogordo, Carlsbad, Doña Ana and Grants); as well as to the New Mexico Department of Agriculture, which has a dual reporting line to the NMSU Board of Regents and to the Governor.
15. **NMSU Entity**, sometimes also referred to as "unit", is a general term which may refer to a college, a department or any other individual administrative unit within the NMSU System, including but not limited to agricultural experiment stations. Private not-for-profit corporate entities recognized to be affiliated with NMSU for fundraising, research, public service, or student activity purposes, while subject to certain NMSU policies and procedures to maintain recognized status, are not considered "NMSU entities", and if located on

NMSU premises, are referred to as “External Entities”.

E. Policy Statements:

1. **Membership and Authority of the Campus Administrative Response Team (“CART”):**

- a. The membership of the university system’s Campus Administrative Response Team, commonly referred to as the “CART”, is determined by the NMSU Chancellor, in consultation with the Emergency Planning Committee.
- b. The membership of the CART is reflected in the AHEOP that covers the NMSU-Las Cruces and Doña Ana Community College campus located on the NMSU-Las Cruces campus.
- c. The primary responsibility of the CART is to make decisions and carry out directives relating to disaster/emergency consequence and recovery management.

2. **The CART’s Resources Group:** The primary responsibilities of the members of the CART Resources group are those associated with service as either an Incident Commander or an Emergency Responder as part of the active resolution of the emergent circumstances, and to provide information when feasible and as requested to the CART. The current membership of the CART Resources Group is reflected in the AHEOP that covers the NMSU-Las Cruces and Doña Ana Community College campus located on the NMSU-Las Cruces campus.

- a. The CART’s Resources group shall be available as a resource for the other campuses and facilities within the NMSU system.
- b. The CART’s Resources group typically includes, and is not limited to the following areas:
  - i. NMSU Police Department
  - ii. NMSU Fire Department
  - iii. Environmental Health and Safety
  - iv. Facilities Operations and Utilities
  - v. Information and Communication Technology
  - vi. News and Media Relations
  - vii. Campus Health Services
  - viii. Counseling Services
  - ix. Housing and Residence Life
  - x. VPR Biosafety Officer

3. **Emergency Planning and Preparedness/All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan (AHEOP):** Each NMSU Component, as defined above, shall develop and maintain an All Hazards Emergency Operations Plan to guide responders, administration, and that Component’s community during emergency situations. Each AHEOP shall identify and address the common hazards specific to their component.

- a. The AHEOP for NMSU-Las Cruces also covers the Doña Ana Community College due to the overlap of the campuses, available for viewing at NMSU-AHEOP. There is not a requirement for the Doña Ana Community College that is located on the NMSU- Las Cruces campus to maintain a separate and distinct AHEOP. The university’s Emergency Planning Committee and/or its individual members, are available to assist and provide guidance to the NMSU Components as they draft and maintain their AHEOPs.
- b. Each NMSU Component is encouraged to coordinate with the appropriate local law enforcement, fire and emergency medical jurisdictions as its AHEOP is drafted; the National Incident Management System (“NIMS”) is the model for command and communications.
- c. Prior to submission to the NMSU Chancellor for approval and signature, each NMSU Component shall obtain review and approval of its proposed AHEOP from the CART or appropriate CRT, and the Emergency Planning Committee.
- d. The NMSU Chancellor shall review and give final approval on behalf of the university, for each AHEOP, for each NMSU Component.
- e. The NMSU Components shall review their respective AHEOPs every two years and update accordingly. Substantive changes made to the components’ AHEOPs require approval by that component’s president and the NMSU Chancellor; non-substantive revisions do not require re-approval and signature. Examples of non-substantive revisions include but are not limited to illustrating or clarifying applicable procedures and/or updating contact or resource information.

4. **Emergency Planning and Preparedness/Emergency Action Plan (“EAP”):** Each NMSU Entity shall develop and maintain an EAP to guide department/unit faculty, staff, students and others immediately following notification of an emergency situation and/or communication as part of an emergency training

exercise. Examples of emergency situations that might trigger the need to invoke the EAP include natural disasters, hazardous material spills, or manmade disasters.

- a. The goal of this plan is to get unit-level personnel and those in the area (to include students and visitors) to safety as quickly as possible. The EAP is not intended to address the actual response to the emergency or hazardous situation, which is carried out by incident command and emergency responders, respectively.
- b. The EAP shall require contact with each affected employee and/or student, as well as notification to the appropriate emergency responder, each time the plan is invoked.
- c. The EAP shall be updated as often as necessary, and shall be reviewed periodically with affected employees and/or students to ensure familiarity with it.

5. **Emergency Planning and Preparedness: Continuity of Operations Plan (“CoOp”):** In coordination and consultation with the Communicable Disease Preparedness Committee, each NMSU Entity shall develop and maintain a Continuity of Operations Plan. Appropriate elements for this plan may include the following:

- a. **Line of Succession:** Each NMSU Entity should keep an up-to-date listing of contact information for the employee in charge of the unit, and at least two others in order of succession. This line of succession and contact information shall be communicated within each NMSU Entity, as well as up to the entity’s next level of supervision.
- b. **Intra-Unit Communications:** Each NMSU Entity shall maintain a list of current contact information for all employees and volunteers, to facilitate communications in the event any type of emergency. The type of communication that may be required is likely to vary depending upon the nature and timing of the unforeseen emergency, and may involve the use of telephone trees, e-mail, personal visits to homes, etc. (NOTE: Intra-unit communication during an emergency should also be addressed within the EAP).
- c. **Designations of Essential, Alternate Essential and Standby Personnel:**
  - i. Each NMSU Entity shall determine the job duties and functions that would be critical to continuity of operations.
  - ii. A list of the personnel who perform these duties and functions shall be transmitted to the chair of the Communicable Disease Preparedness Committee (by job position and incumbent employee), who shall review and submit to human resource services for designation as “essential personnel” in each job description.
  - iii. Personnel identified to fill essential positions or alternates for essential positions will be listed on the CoOP for that NMSU Entity. Alternates for Essential Personnel will also be identified, as well as any personnel that might be needed on a standby basis.
  - iv. Notwithstanding prior designations, any position may be designated as essential, alternate essential or stand-by as needed at any point during an emergency situation

6. **Personnel Considerations During Emergency:** The following human resources policies shall apply when employees work as needed during emergencies:

- a. **Communication of Designation(s) to Employees:** Each NMSU Entity shall communicate any special designations to its employees (e.g. “essential” “alternate essential” or “standby”). As noted above, designations may be changed by department head or other appropriate supervisor during an emergency, if needed.
- b. **Reasonable Flexibility:** In an emergency, both employer and employee should be as flexible as possible to enable employees to work, including facilitating working from home and other remote locations (telecommuting); allowing full-time employees to work part-time; using flexible work schedules; and other appropriate solutions.
- c. **Extension of Deadlines:** All probationary periods and other such deadlines will be extended for the duration of the declared university emergency.
- d. **Responsibilities of Essential, Alternate Essential and Standby Personnel:** Essential personnel shall report for work unless specifically directed by supervisor or authorities not to report for health and safety reasons. Alternate essential personnel whose designations are changed to essential shall report for work upon notification of changed designation. Standby personnel, not designated as essential or alternate to essential, shall not report to work during a university State of Emergency and may only work if pre-approved by the NMSU Entity.
- e. **Work Outside Normal Scope of Employment Duties.** Employees may be required to work outside their normal scope of responsibility as deemed necessary by appropriate NMSU administrator. This includes employees with the necessary skills that are needed to work outside their colleges/vp units. Base compensation will be at the individual’s regular base pay for their primary job unless other arrangements

are approved by HR Services.

- f. Compensation and Leave Time: Non-exempt/hourly employees will receive regular rate of pay and overtime compensation for time worked in excess of 40 hours per week. Exempt/salaried employees will receive regular base pay for time worked and be eligible for a hardship differential if excessive overtime is required. Employees not able to work at any location or not needed to work will not receive regular pay but may be granted paid or unpaid leave consistent with university policies.

**7. Declaration of State of University Emergency/Notification/Authority to Act:**

- a. Declaration of State of University Emergency: The NMSU Chancellor is authorized to declare a State of University Emergency for any of the NMSU Components, NMSU Entities and/or External Entities. When the NMSU Chancellor is not available, the line of succession for said office shall be followed, with the successor having equal authority. Such a declaration is typically used when inter-agency assistance or relief is sought.
- b. Emergency information shall be communicated to the university community as appropriate based on the decisions of the incident commander, the CART Command, or others pursuant to Rule 2.35.1.1.8.m Emergency Notification.
- c. Authorization for action by Administrator or Supervisor: Each administrator or other supervisor in charge of an NMSU Component or NMSU Entity is authorized to take action as may be necessary to preserve life or university property during an emergency situation without prior authorization, but such emergency response action should be followed by immediate notification to NMSU Chancellor as soon as is reasonable under the circumstances.
- d. Authorization for action by NMSU Employees: Each NMSU employee is authorized to act as may be necessary to preserve life or university property during an emergency situation, in the absence of a supervisor, but such emergency response action must coincide with immediate notification to any member of CART Command, Resources or Operations teams, who shall notify the NMSU Chancellor as soon as reasonable under the circumstances.

**8. Incident Command and Emergency Response:**

- a. For emergencies and disasters occurring on the NMSU Las Cruces campus, the central campus of Doña Ana Community College, or surrounding university property, the NMSU Police and/or the NMSU Fire Department will serve as incident commander, as appropriate based on the type of emergency.
  - i. The incident commander (s) will coordinate with CART in the event that evacuations, shelter in place, building closures, etc. have been ordered for the immediate preservation of life and property.
  - ii. The Incident Commander may invoke mutual aide agreements with other agencies, as appropriate, without the need for Chancellor approval or a formal declaration of university emergency.
  - iii. Incident commanders (emergency or nonemergency) and other members of the CART may activate the Central Administration Response Team in support of their emergency operations.
  - iv. The NMSU Police or the NMSU Fire Department shall maintain policies and procedures to provide their respective personnel with the necessary procedural guidance for routine and emergency situations.
- b. For emergencies and disasters occurring on NMSU property other than the NMSU Las Cruces campus, the central campus of Doña Ana Community College, or surrounding university property, the appropriate local police or fire jurisdiction will serve as incident commander, as appropriate based upon the type of emergency.
- c. For situations where there is not an immediate life-threatening emergency, other individuals and entities may act in the role of incident commander. These individuals will be designated as “nonemergency incident commander” and do not have the same training requirements as emergency incident commanders. Examples of nonemergency incident commanders include the associate vice president for facilities and services when related to utility outages and the associate vice president for information technology when related to information system(s) or telecommunication outages.

**9. Disaster Consequence and Recovery Management/Follow Up (After Action Reviews):**

After any major emergency or disaster, the Emergency Planning Committee shall coordinate with the appropriate individuals and entities to ensure a formal after-action review is conducted in order to identify successes, policy, rules and procedures, or plan changes needed, and potential areas for improvement.

- F. Procedural Guidelines: The Rule administrator, in collaboration with the Emergency Preparedness Committee, may issue procedural guidelines, including templates, checklists, forms or other materials that will facilitate the implementation and application of this Rule.

#### **REVISION HISTORY:**

Amendments approved by Administrative Council 05.12.09 and 07.14.09; ratified by Board of Regents 07.29.09.

Amendment recommended by Administrative Council 02.13.13; approved by Board of Regents 03.11.13. Amendment recommended by Administrative Council 04.14.15; approved by Board of Regents 05.08.15.

### **2.30 - Fire Safety, Prevention and Emergency Services**

*[Amendment adopted by the Administrative Council 07.14.09; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09] (See also [Fire Prevention Guidelines and Practices](#) approved by the Administrative Council 05.12.09)*

- A. Purpose and Scope: This amended Rule, and corresponding Fire Prevention Guidelines and Practices, are established in order to protect and preserve the safety of the public and NMSU property. This Rule and the Fire Prevention Guidelines and Practices apply to university students, employees, visitors and contractors working or conducting business on the NMSU Las Cruces (NMSU) and NMSU Doña Ana Community College (DACC) located on the NMSU Las Cruces campus.
- B. DFES Jurisdiction: Consistent with the university's Emergency Preparedness Rule, the NMSU Department of Fire and Emergency Services:
1. Serves as the primary response agency for NMSU-Las Cruces and NMSU-Doña Ana Community College for emergencies such as fire, medical, hazardous materials mitigation and confined space rescue operations.
  2. Provides mutual aid assistance to City of Las Cruces and Doña Ana County's 15 fire districts.
  3. Provides EMS services at special events conducted on campus or at the request of an NMSU entity.
  4. DFES is also under the broader jurisdiction of the New Mexico State Fire Marshal's Office (FMO). The State of New Mexico has adopted the National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) Standards. DFES is granted Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) from the New Mexico State FMO and is the authority in all matters dealing with fire safety for NMSU and NMSU-DACC. For other NMSU campuses and locations, the Authority Having Jurisdiction is the New Mexico State Fire Marshal, local county fire marshal or municipal fire department.
  5. As delegated from the New Mexico State Fire Marshal's Office, the NMSU Department of Fire and Emergency Services is the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) and performs the fire safety inspections as requested or as determined for facilities located on the NMSU-Las Cruces and NMSU-Doña Ana Community College campuses. The inspections are conducted for the purposes of identifying and recommending corrective action to eliminate or reduce the potential for loss of life or property due to fire. The inspections are conducted utilizing State adopted National Fire Protection Association (NFPA) codes, with the International Building Code and International Fire Code as reference.
  6. NMSU Office of Environment Health and Safety is responsible for occupational fire safety and shares fire inspection duties with the NMSU Department of Fire and Emergency Services.
- C. Fire Prevention and Safety, Generally:
1. The National Fire Protection Association (NFPA), International Fire Code (IFC), International Building Code (IBC) and the Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) standards are the primary resources used in the development of the Fire Prevention Guidelines and Practices. Because the DFES is recognized as the Authority Having Jurisdiction (AHJ) in matters related to fire safety, interpretations and/or deviations may be allowed in some cases. Deviations will be evaluated and determined by DFES on a case-by-case basis. Specific issues not addressed in the *Fire Prevention Guidelines and Practices* may be referenced in one of the above standards, and will apply as determined by the DFES.
  2. The *Fire Prevention Guidelines and Practices* is intended to facilitate the training of NMSU personnel and compliance by NMSU by restating some of the more fundamental requirements of the above referenced national and state standards and laws. Due to the risk of serious injury and/or death from fire or fire-related emergencies, students, employees, visitors and contractors shall comply with the *Fire Prevention Guidelines and Practices*. Any hazardous or emergency situation, even if only suspected, shall be reported to DFES.

3. Fire Emergency Action and Evacuation. The NMSU Office of Environmental Health and Safety and the NMSU Fire Department shall coordinate regarding the requirements of the Fire Prevention Guidelines and Practices relating to general and specific fire evacuation plans for the protection of university students, employees, visitors and contractors from the hazards associated with a fire-related emergency which may occur on university property. Examples of fire-related emergencies that would require initiation of building evacuation include and are not limited to:
  - a. The smell of smoke (regardless of how small an amount),
  - b. The sight of smoke (regardless of how small an amount),
  - c. The smell of gas or other hazardous chemical,
  - d. Electrical equipment that is sparking,
  - e. Any fire, regardless of how small, even if it has already been extinguished.

D. Roles and Responsibilities of NMSU Entities:

1. NMSU Administration: To provide NMSU, through support and funding, with a fire safety program which will provide staff, faculty, employees, students, and visitors the guidelines, programs, and policies which will ensure their safety.
  2. Deans, Directors, and Department Chairs: Responsible for implementing fire safety programs in areas under their control, and providing assistance to DFES in conducting fire safety inspections, correcting hazards and concerns, and implementing fire prevention and evacuation policies.
  3. Office of Environmental Health and Safety (EH&S): Responsible for the development, coordination, implementation, and training of safety programs. The EH&S is responsible for providing assistance to all NMSU staff, faculty and employees in correction of safety hazards and concerns.
  4. Managers and Supervisors: Responsible for ensuring that their areas of responsibility are compliant with approved fire safety practices, receive the required training and coordinate code violation corrections with DFES.
  5. Maintenance Personnel: Responsible for ensuring the proper maintenance, operation, and documentation of all emergency and safety devices under their control.
  6. Students, Employees, Visitors and Contractors: Shall become aware of and comply with fire safety programs, attend required training, and report any suspected fire safety hazard to DFES.
  7. Students: Although not specifically required to be trained in the same manner as faculty and staff, students are urged to become familiar with the safety policies of NMSU and should report any potential fire safety hazard to DFES.
  8. Contractors: Are responsible for compliance with local, state and federal safety standards. Contractors have the responsibility to ensure that their work does not create fire or other safety hazards.
- E. Other Considerations: Emergency Procurements: For purposes of the New Mexico Procurement Code, an emergency condition is a situation which creates a threat to the public's health, welfare, safety, or to property such as may arise by reason of floods, epidemics, riots, equipment failures or similar events. The existence of the emergency condition creates an immediate and serious need for services or construction that cannot be met through normal procurement methods. The Procurement Services Office may either initiate or authorize others to make emergency procurements, provided that such emergency procurements shall be made with such competition as is practicable under the circumstances. A written determination of the basis for the emergency procurement and for the selection of the particular contractor shall be included in the procurement file. Emergency procurements shall not include the purchase or lease-purchase of heavy road equipment. In the event of an emergency, as defined above, the Procurement Services Office may purchase without bids. During regular working hours, the Procurement Services Office should be informed at once of emergency purchases greater than \$2,500. When circumstances beyond the department's control prevent following established procedures or when delay would be detrimental or prove costly to the university, an emergency purchase may be made with the approval of the director of the Procurement Services Office.

### 2.35.1 through 2.35.3 - NMSU Information and Communication Technologies

[Amendments superseding former Policy 2.35 and parts of former Policy 3.75 approved by the Administrative Council 04.14.09; amendments adopted by ratification by the Board of Regents 07.29.09] [Amendment repealing former policies 2.35.1.3.4 and 2.35.1.3.5 recommended by University Administrative Council 08.11.15; approved by Board of Regents 10.21.15.]

## ICT GENERAL PROVISIONS

### 2.35.1.1.1 - Acceptable Use

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule defines appropriate and inappropriate use of NMSU-owned and controlled resources, such as electronic devices, software, computer systems and networks that are directly, or through a third party, used to transmit, receive, process or store information or data such as computers, servers, databases, Personal Data Assistants (PDAs), telephones, wireless devices, e-mail systems, voice messaging systems and internet connectivity. Also included is the use of non NMSU-owned electronic resources storing or connecting to NMSU data. In addition, the Rule defines privacy of data, copyright/intellectual property rights to data, and data ownership and access.

B. **Rules:**

1. **Ownership and Use:** NMSU computing equipment and resources are owned and/or administered by the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University. Access to NMSU equipment and resources is a privilege granted to students and employees to facilitate instruction/learning, research and administration. All users of NMSU computing equipment and resources are required to affirm the following:

*I have read the Acceptable Use Rule, and I understand and agree to abide by the terms of the Rule. I also understand that my use of NMSU equipment and resources must be in accordance with the Rule. I recognize that violations of this Rule may cause restriction or elimination of my access to NMSU computer resources, other disciplinary action, or civil or criminal penalties.*

2. **User Responsibilities:**

- a. NMSU computing equipment and resources are used to support the mission of the university and may not be used for commercial or profit-making purposes.
- b. NMSU computing equipment and resources may only be used by users in ways that do not violate the law or NMSU policies.
- c. The willful transmission of known destructive applications and viruses by a user is prohibited.
- d. Users whose activities place high loads on the NMSU system must conduct these activities in off hours or in low system demand times.
- e. Users are responsible for protecting university data and technologies from unauthorized uses and security threats.
- f. Users must be considerate of the rights of other users.

3. **Copyright Compliance:**

- a. NMSU shall comply with the Copyright Law of 1976 and its amendments (Title 17, United States Code), including the Digital Millennium Copyright Act of 1988. Faculty, staff, and students should be aware that copyright infringements occurring on university networks may result in termination of networking privileges as well as other penalties under federal law.
- b. Users must be in compliance with copyright laws and licensing agreements. The University's Office of Information and Communication Technologies may block access to information alleged to be in violation of copyright laws. If a user is found to be in violation of copyright laws, the information found to be in violation shall be deleted from the university's computing system(s). Also, the violator may be subject to other sanctions.

4. **Misuse of Information and Technology Services:** The university reserves the right to sanction a user for the misuse of university information and technology equipment and resources. In addition to other standards specified in NMSU policy or rules and procedures; examples of misuse include, but are not limited to:

- a. Intentionally altering, disabling, destroying or stealing electronic resources.



- b. Unauthorized access.
  - c. Use of illegal software or data.
  - d. The development and/or use of programs which impede the use of the network or cause damage.
  - e. Attempting to defeat or circumvent any security measures, controls, accounts, or record-keeping systems.
  - f. Using information and technology equipment and resources for unlawful purposes including fraudulent, defamatory or harassing acts, acts of violence, etc.
  - g. Invading privacy and confidentiality rights protected under the law.
5. **Incidental Personal Use of Electronic Resources by Employees:** Incidental personal use of electronic university-owned resources is covered in NMSU Rule [3.75 Non Work Related Use of University Resources](#), which prohibits, in part:
- “...viewing, displaying, downloading, printing, procuring, or transmitting of sexually explicit material; nor of any other material that would violate university policy, rule, procedure, or the law, including but not limited to, those relating to sexual harassment, fraud, hostile workplace, obscenity, libel, defamation, or hate/violent misconduct.”*
6. **Privacy:** Notwithstanding users' rights to privacy, and any rights under the Electronic Communication Privacy Act of 1986, FERPA HIPAA and GLBA, users grant specific permission to university to inspect users' accounts and file space for investigation of violation of university policy or rules and procedures or as needed for maintenance functions. When investigating a possible abuse of the system, Information and Communication Technologies has the authority to examine files, passwords, accounting information, printouts, tapes, or other material that may aid in the investigation. Investigations must follow university procedures. Use of university equipment or resources implies consent to this Rule.
7. **Access - Investigative Purposes:** The university reserves the right to access a user's account when there is reasonable suspicion that a law or university policy, rule or procedures have been violated. The following steps for a request to access a user's account include:
- a. Requests for access based on a reasonable suspicion must be in writing and approved prior to access being granted by Chancellor/Chancellor, provost, general counsel, human resources, internal audit department or law enforcement.
  - b. Each request must specify the purpose for which access is being requested.
8. **Access - Non-Investigative Purposes - Work Related:** Access to work-related files is permitted as long as there is a work-related need and the users are, by the nature of their work, approved to access these files. When an employee separates from the university, all work-related files remain the property of the university.
9. **Sanctions:** Use of information technology equipment or resources in violation of applicable laws, university policy, rule or procedures may result in sanctions, which include, but not limited to, the sanctions listed below:
- a. Withdrawal of use privileges.
  - b. Disciplinary action, up to and including, expulsion or discharge from a position.
  - c. Legal prosecution.

### 2.35.1.1.2 - Computer Accounts

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule outlines the eligibility requirements associated with the four different types of accounts that ICT provides.
- B. **Rule:** This Rule requires all active employees, students, and eligible NMSU retirees to have an account managed by ICT. This Rule also requires each department or unit and each chartered organization to be provided one ICT-managed account.

### 2.35.1.1.3 - NMSU Account Purge

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule outlines the normal account purge process with respect to persons no longer affiliated with NMSU.

- B. **Rule:** Former employees who have separated from the university but have not retired from the university, and former students without pending financial obligations, must have their NMSU account purged.
1. Once separation from NMSU occurs, the NMSU account shall remain active for one year.
  2. After one year, email notifications of the impending purge shall be sent to the NMSU account.
  3. Under certain circumstances, at the direction of the Chancellor, provost, senior vice presidents, CIO, or assistant vice president for human resource services, the NMSU account shall be terminated immediately.
  4. Data associated with the purged account shall not be retained by the university.
  5. NMSU is not responsible for data lost due to an account purge and may not be capable of recovering the data once an NMSU account has been purged.
  6. Employee access to institutional data is revoked immediately upon separation.

#### **2.35.1.1.4 - Distribution of Information to NMSU Employees and Students**

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule identifies the official university mass communication mediums for employees and students of the university.
- B. **Rule:** All official mass communications shall be transmitted via the university's email system. Official mass communications are memoranda or documents that are distributed to wide audiences, such as departments, colleges or all employees. Directors, supervisors and managers are responsible for insuring that all employees who do not access email regularly are provided this information through postings and distribution of the information in whatever means possible to reach each employee.

#### **2.35.1.1.5 - NMSU Official E-mail Address**

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule requires that a valid NMSU email address is assigned to each student, faculty and staff member to ensure that e-mail is a viable communication medium at NMSU.
- B. **Rule:** The official email address for NMSU students, faculty and staff shall be their <NMSU Username>@nmsu.edu. This address shall be populated as the official email address in the electronic records and shall be marked as the preferred address for official communication. If desired, students, faculty and staff may choose to forward emails from this address to an address of their choosing by changing their email settings. The official e-mail address (ending in @nmsu.edu) for all non-student employees is required to be displayed in the official NMSU phonebook.

#### **2.35.1.1.6 - NMSU Office Software Standards**

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule specifies the official standard file formats for electronic documents that are shared between NMSU employees.
- B. **Rule:** The official standard file formats for electronic documents at NMSU shall be Microsoft Office application file formats: word processing - Word (.doc), spreadsheet - Excel (.xls), electronic presentation - PowerPoint (.ppt), and Adobe Portable Document Format (.pdf). All documents that are distributed for editing, collaboration or communication between employees shall use these file formats.

#### **2.35.1.1.7 - Employee Access to Data and Potential Conflict of Interest**

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule specifies the authorization requirements for NMSU employees who have access to the university's central computing systems, and through those systems, access to wide-ranging types of data that creates the potential for conflicts of interest
- B. **Rule:** In order to mitigate the risk of conflict of interest, any employee who has update/modify capabilities to data, where those capabilities may result in a conflict of interest, must obtain authorization from the appropriate data custodian. The data custodian is authorized to grant employee access based on job responsibility.

### 2.35.1.1.8 - Emergency Notification

*[Recommended by the Administrative Council 02.12.13; approved by the Board of Regents 03.11.13]*

- A. **Purpose:** The purpose of this Rule is to establish a consistent method for collecting and maintaining contact information, delineate responsibilities of specific university offices, and provide guidance for the use of collected contact/notification information.
- B. **Scope:** This rule applies throughout the NMSU System.
- C. **Rule Administrator:** The administrator of this Rule is the associate vice president for information technology. The university's Emergency Planning Committee, established by the NMSU system Chancellor, will also serve as an advisory body to the associate vice president for information technology, as needed for implementation and day-to-day management of this Rule.
- D. **Rules:** Students, faculty, and staff within the NMSU System are required to provide emergency notification information to the university that shall be used to contact them in the event of an emergency.
  - 1. At their discretion, students, faculty and staff may also provide emergency contact information.
  - 2. Both emergency notification information and emergency contact information shall be collected via university central administrative systems.
  - 3. Official NMSU email shall be used as one method of contact.
  - 4. Depending on the availability of notification/contact information, additional communication methods, such as text messaging and cellular phone calls, shall be employed.
  - 5. Emergency contact/notification information provided to NMSU shall be used only by designated offices for notification of emergencies or for testing of the emergency notification system(s).
- E. **Procedures:**
  - 1. **Types of Information Collected:**
    - a. Emergency Notification Information: This information is used for mass notifications sent to the NMSU community. Examples of the use of this type of information include: tornado warning, active shooter alert, chemical release notice, etc.
    - b. Emergency Contact Information: This information is used to contact next of kin or others in case of a personal emergency. Examples for the use of this type of information include: illness, accident, etc., such as when the student/employee is unable to communicate to emergency personnel.
  - 2. **Collection of Information:**
    - a. Emergency Notification Information: Students, faculty, and staff have control over their emergency notification information, and shall be responsible for updating their information in the university's central administrative systems. When a new employee or student establishes a NMSU username, she/he shall be required to provide an email address and phone number. In addition, other optional contact information, such as text and cellular numbers, shall be requested.
    - b. Maintenance of Emergency Notification Data: NMSU is responsible for controlling emergency contact information. NMSU shall grant access to the data to select offices, including campus presidents, the Office of Information and Communication Technologies, and agents of the university contracted to provide emergency notification services. Written agreements regarding confidentiality of the data and limitations on use shall be maintained by the Procurement Services Office for any contracted services.
  - 3. **Mass Emergency Notifications:**
    - a. An emergency notification of students, staff, and faculty may be initiated when the following criteria are met:
      - i. There is a major incident or threat affecting the safety of the NMSU community

- ii. The emergency notification can help alleviate threats to others or shall otherwise improve public safety
    - iii. The emergency notification will not adversely impact public safety
  - b. The contents of emergency messages will vary depending on the circumstances of each incident. The following are examples of items that might be contained in a message:
    - i. Statement that an emergency situation exists
    - ii. Location of the emergency
    - iii. Nature of the emergency (e.g., fire, explosion, shooting, tornado, flood, etc.)
    - iv. Guidance on actions to be taken
  - c. Authorized NMSU personnel shall:
    - i. Make a determination regarding the notification method (e.g., text message, phone calls, e-mail, etc.) based on the circumstances of the incident and
    - ii. Initiate the notifications.
    - iii. After an emergency notification has been made, additional information shall be posted on the university website.
4. **Communication with those Identified as Emergency Contacts:**
- a. University officials shall use Emergency Contact information to contact in case of a personal emergency. Examples for the use of this type of information include: illness, accident, etc., such as when the student/employee is unable to communicate to emergency personnel.

#### **2.35.1.1.9 - Telephone Equipment Use**

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule specifies the appropriate use of university telephones, pagers, fax machines and telephone credit cards.
- B. **Operational Rules:** University desk telephones, cell or mobile telephones, pagers, fax machines, and telephone credit cards shall be used for NMSU business purposes: deans, department heads, directors and other administrative officers shall be responsible for the fiscal management of telephone related expenditures.
  - 1. In the event that it is necessary to make a personal long distance call, the call shall be charged to an employee's personal credit card or home phone whenever possible.
  - 2. If a personal long distance call or fax is charged to a university desk phone, fax machine, pager or credit card, the employee shall identify that the call is personal in nature on the monthly statements sent from telecommunication and networking services and shall reimburse the university for such calls. Employees are required to sign monthly certifications stating that all calls not reimbursed are business related.
  - 3. Management shall periodically review personal calls of each employee to verify that the employee reimburses the university.

### **ICT SECURITY**

#### **2.35.1.2.1 - NMSU Password Maintenance**

- A. **Purpose:** This rule specifies the requirements for passwords that are used to access university computer systems.
- B. **Operational Rules:** Passwords used to access university systems shall:
  - 1. Be selected in such a way that the password cannot be guessed or reverse engineered.
  - 2. Not be any word found in an English language dictionary, names of people, etc.
  - 3. Be selected using accepted industry standard techniques.

4. Be a mixture of characters and numbers and at least 6 characters in length.
  5. Be changed every 120 days and not reused.
  6. All systems that support password aging and password selection are required to have these features enabled.
- C. **Confidentiality of Passwords:** Passwords for individually assigned user and administrator accounts should never be shared with any other person including a supervisor. This excludes system passwords which are used by technical staff to maintain an application, database, server, router, firewall or other network components. Requests for employees to share their password with others should be reported to the ICT security officer. In instances where shared administrative accounts are required due to system design or system limitations, shared passwords are permitted with approval of the appropriate data custodian and ICT chief security officer.

### 2.35.1.2.2 - Computer Virus Scan Software

- A. **Purpose:** To specify the requirements for virus scan software installed on NMSU network-connected desktop/laptop computers and other portable computing devices.
- B. **Rule:** Any desktop/laptop computer or other portable computing device connected to NMSU network infrastructure shall have operational antivirus software installed and updated as appropriate. Where appropriate, servers using network infrastructure should have operational antivirus software installed and updated. Computers failing to comply with this Rule shall be subject to the loss of network privileges. *See* Network Disconnection Rule and Security Tips at [ICT Security](#).

### 2.35.1.2.3 - NMSU Institutional Data Security

*[Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 07.14.09; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09]*

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule provides for the secure management of NMSU institutional data.
- B. **Rule:**
1. **Definition of Institutional Data:** Institutional data is defined as all information, documents and other data, regardless of physical form or location that is used, created, received, maintained or held by or on behalf of NMSU in the course of university business.
  2. **Authorized Access to Institutional Data:** Access to, distribution and/or any other use of institutional data is based on an employee's position and duties. Such access shall be granted and monitored through the employee's supervisor by the appropriate records custodian and the appropriate vice president, dean or director. All employees shall comply with applicable federal and state laws, including FERPA, GLBA, and HIPAA, as well as with applicable university policies relating to the secure access, maintenance, distribution, storage or other use of institutional data. (*See also* Rule [2.90 University Records](#))
    - a. Transmission of university data to other persons or entities affiliated with NMSU, such as third party vendors, must have prior approval by the appropriate vice president/dean/director and the appropriate records custodian.
    - b. Employees shall not transfer their authority for access to institutional data to any person.
    - c. Employees with access to institutional data shall not access, distribute or otherwise use such information for any purpose other than those required to perform their job duties. (*See* Regents Policy [2.90.40 Inspection of Public University Records](#) for distinct procedures available to request public institutional information in one's personal capacity.)
- C. **Non-Disclosure Notification Form:** All employees authorized to access NMSU central computer systems, including but not limited to Banner and COGNOS, shall be given and shall sign a Non-Disclosure of Sensitive/Confidential Information Employee Notification form. A copy of this form is available at [Administration Non Disclosure](#). The lack of a signed Non-Disclosure form shall not relieve the employee of the responsibility to comply with applicable state and federal law and NMSU policies relating to the secure access, maintenance, distribution, storage or other use of institutional data. (*See also* Rule [2.90 University Records](#))
- D. **Information Stored on Desktop Computers and Portable Computing Devices:** Users with access to institutional data shall maintain reasonable measures to ensure the security of the data. The following requirements must be observed:

1. Institutional data shall only be stored on university-owned computers or on computers owned by contractors to the university.
  2. Institutional data must be removed from computing devices when the data is no longer required.
  3. Regular backups shall be performed on computing devices that store university data.
  4. Institutional data should be encrypted on computing devices that store university data.
  5. Institutional data shall not be stored on removable media unless approved by the appropriate data custodian.
- E. Information Security on Desktop and Portable Computing Devices: All desktop computers and portable computing devices that hold institutional data, including university-owned devices used at home, shall:
1. Have automatic updates enabled to the operating system and virus protection as appropriate.
  2. Require a password for access when started or rebooted.
  3. Use a password-protected screen saver that locks access when unattended.
  4. Not run file sharing software, in particular software that allows the sharing of music and videos.
- F. Information Security on Servers: All servers on which university-owned data are maintained shall follow existing university policy and administrative rules and procedures. Servers shall also:
1. Have automatic updates enabled.
  2. Have a trained, full-time employee assigned as the primary system administrator of the server. Students and temporary staff shall not be the primary contact for the server.
  3. Reside on a physically separate subnet than that of desktop computers.
  4. Have all unnecessary services turned off and/or removed from the server.
  5. Have backups of data, operating system and applications performed regularly. The backup media should be stored offsite in a secure storage area.
  6. Have a firewall enabled.
  7. Not be used as a desktop or personal computer.
  8. Use a web browser only for the download/update of software.

#### **2.35.1.2.4 - NMSU Server Administration and Operation**

- A. Purpose: This Rule addresses servers connected to the NMSU network. It specifies who is eligible for accounts, security maintenance requirements and the Rule for reporting server break-ins.
- B. Rule: Account eligibility and account maintenance: Account maintenance shall be in accordance with university policies and procedures. In general, computer accounts are limited to NMSU faculty, staff, and students. Other accounts used to facilitate official NMSU efforts are permitted and shall be limited to those services needed to assist the institution. Accounts should not be provided to family, friends, or other non-NMSU affiliates.

Access to the server should be limited to those computers (clients) that need access to the available services on the server. The server system administrator shall make efforts to restrict other access. Unused services shall be removed from the machine. The sharing of disk drives shall be limited to those clients who require access. Those sharing the disk are required to ensure the disk is password protected and does not violate copyright laws by exporting vendor software.

- C. Security: Employees responsible for any computer classified as a server shall make every effort to ensure that

the server is not compromised by internal and external malicious activity by:

1. Regularly updating the server operating system as updates become available.
2. Updating the server with all known security patches.
3. Regularly performing account audits.
4. Regularly performing access control reviews.
5. Regularly performing a review of services provided by the server.

The server system-administrator is responsible for reporting any security-related incident to the ICT chief security officer.

The department that owns the server is responsible for 1) performing any audits required by information and communication technologies, NMSU, or other legal authorities and 2) bearing the costs of server administration tasks.

#### **2.35.1.2.5 - Computer Operating System Critical Updates**

- A. Purpose: This Rule details the requirements for critical updates to university network-connected computers.
- B. Rule: All computers using NMSU network infrastructure are required to have all applicable critical updates applied within 10 days of their release. It is the responsibility of the computer owner to ensure that all critical updates are applied to the computer's operating system except when the update and the applications that reside on the server are in conflict. Also see security tips at: [Security Tips](#).

### **ICT ADMINISTRATION**

#### **2.35.1.3.1 - Acquisition of Software Systems**

- A. Purpose: This Rule specifies the approval requirements for the purchase of software systems that interact with university data.
- B. Rule: The acquisition of any software system that interacts with university data or has enterprise-wide impact requires approval by the appropriate university data custodian(s), Procurement Services Office and the university's central computing department, ICT. Failure to do so shall result in one of the following:
1. Delay of the software system's implementation and integration with the university's central systems
  2. Postponement of related technology project
  3. Exclusion of the system from connectivity to university systems and data

Practices such as "vendor exercising," which is the practice of inviting vendors to demonstrate their products prior to Procurement Services Office's involvement in the product's purchase, violate NMSU purchasing guidelines and are prohibited.

- C. Process: The acquisition and implementation of software systems Rule process, [Security Guidelines](#), details the software systems evaluation, notification of potential software systems acquisition, and the acquisition approval process.

#### **2.35.1.3.2 - NMSU Records Access**

- A. Purpose: This Rule specifies the requirements for accessing computer data logs.
- B. Rule: Access to computer data logs is restricted. Access to these logs shall be granted with written approval of Chancellor/Chancellor, provost, general counsel, human resources, internal audit department or law enforcement.

### 2.35.1.3.3 - Caller ID

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule defines the caller id Rule in effect at the NMSU Las Cruces campus and Alamogordo campus telephone systems. Caller identification information is deployed for both incoming and outgoing calls.
- B. **Rule:** It is the Rule of NMSU to share caller identification information with national telecommunications infrastructure. Telephone numbers that are listed as “private” on NMSU’s telephone system shall be registered as “blocked” with external carriers. Caller identification information on all “unblocked” numbers shall be shared.

### 2.35.1.3.4 - Mobile Communication Device Usage

*[Repeal recommended by University Administrative Council 08.11.15; approved by Board of Regents 10.21.15-- See Business Procedures Manual]*

### 2.35.1.3.5 - High Speed Data Connectivity in Employee’s Home

*[Policy recommended by Administrative Council 06.11.13; adopted by the Board of Regents 06.20.13] [Repeal recommended by University Administrative Council 08.11.15; approved by the Board of Regents 10.21.15--See Business Procedures Manual.]*

### 2.35.1.3.6 - Bandwidth Management

- A. **Purpose:** This rule ensures that adequate bandwidth is available for official university use as overseen by NMSU’s Information Technology governing bodies.
- B. **Rule:** NMSU limits aggregate bandwidth for applications associated with peer-to-peer file sharing depending on bandwidth availability. NMSU shall not eliminate the use of peer-to-peer file sharing programs on the network, nor monitor the content of file sharing programs, unless mandated by law.

### 2.35.1.3.7 - Network Connection

- A. **Purpose:** Connections of devices to the NMSU institutional network are controlled to prevent disruption of service or loss of institutional or personal data.
- B. **Rule:** ICT is responsible for the design, installation, and operation of the NMSU’s institutional network. This network includes all voice, video, and data connections.
  - 1. **Device Compliance:** All devices connected to the institutional network must comply with requirements published in university policies. Devices not in compliance, or which disrupt other network clients, may be disconnected.
  - 2. **Network(s) Compliance:** To insure compliance with current policies and regulations, all network wiring, related components and installation must be approved by ICT. Installations that do not comply with published requirements are not authorized to be connected to the institutional network.
  - 3. **Protective Network Disconnection:** Any networked device that compromises or critically impacts the NMSU network shall be immediately disconnected from the network until such time that the cause of the compromise or impact is rectified. If a networked device is identified as potentially harmful to NMSU’s network, the device owner shall be notified to take corrective action to ensure that the NMSU network shall not be impacted. If corrective action is not taken, the network device shall be disconnected from the network. In addition, any networked device that is not operating with updated virus scanning software, up-to-date critical operating system updates, or other software necessary to protect the NMSU network, may also be disconnected from the network.
  - 4. **Data Network Device Registration:** All devices connected to NMSU-Net must be registered with the netreg.nmsu.edu. Devices that are not registered shall be disconnected. This includes all devices such as printers, servers, workstations, and other devices.
  - 5. **Guest Connections:** Entities and devices belonging to entities that connect to the NMSU network (NMSU-Net) and are not governed by the Board of Regents of New Mexico State University (NMSU) shall be considered guest connections.



6. **Fees:** NMSU reserves the right to impose a fee on any and all users, including guest connections. If required by either the ISPs or by action of the NMSU Administration. Advance notification shall be given to those affected.

### **2.35.1.3.8 - NMSU Wireless Network**

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule ensures the continued safety and usability of the wireless network infrastructure at NMSU.
- B. **Rule:** Installation, engineering, maintenance, and operation of wireless networks serving NMSU faculty, staff, or students, on any property owned or tenanted by NMSU, are the sole responsibility of ICT's telecommunication and networking services.
  1. Individuals and departments shall not independently deploy wireless networking equipment on NMSU wireless network infrastructure without approval by ICT's telecommunication and Networking services division.
  2. Any wireless networking equipment independently installed without prior approval shall be subject to disconnection/removal without notice.

### **2.35.1.3.9 - Alarm Systems**

- A. **Purpose:** This Rule establishes the guidelines for alarm systems in use at the university, effective July 1, 1999.
- B. **Rule:** ICT and the university police are jointly charged with establishing and maintaining intrusion alarms, panic alarms, or personal safety alarms on the campus in accordance with the following guidelines:
  1. All alarms shall utilize a standardized system.
  2. All intrusion, panic and personal safety alarms shall report to the police department.
  3. A reasonable fee shall be charged for monitoring alarms and for responding to false alarms.
  4. All alarms installed on the NMSU campus after July 1, 1999 shall comply with this Rule.

## **2.36 - Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards**

### **PART 1: INTRODUCTION**

This Rule facilitates the protection of payment cardholder data and the compliance with Regents Policy 2.90, Information Data Security, and with applicable data security standards set forth by the payment card industry. Because many NMSU entities accept payment card payments, the university is a payment card-processing merchant, and as such, must comply with the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standard (PCI DSS). The following details the requirements for compliance with PCI DSS.

### **PART 2: SCOPE**

The PCI DSS Rule applies to all NMSU entities, individuals, and contractors to NMSU who:

- A. Accept payment card payments at NMSU;
- B. Oversee the technology used to accept payment card payments;
- C. Have oversight over payment card transactions, or;
- D. Are responsible for training personnel who accept payment card payments.

### **PART 3: COMPLIANCE, OVERSIGHT AND ADMINISTRATION**

The [NMSU PCI DSS Compliance Steering Committee \(The Committee\)](#) oversees and administers NMSU's PCI DSS compliance efforts. The Committee shall work with the various merchants and other parties to ensure compliance with the applicable regulations relating to the security of payment cardholder information. For more information, visit [pcidss.nmsu.edu](http://pcidss.nmsu.edu) or email the Committee at [pci-Team@nmsu.edu](mailto:pci-Team@nmsu.edu).

## PART 4: DEFINITIONS

- A. Data/Process Flow: “Data/process flow” refers to a graphical representation of how payment card data flows through a logical and/or physical system.
- B. Merchants: “Merchants” are any NMSU entities or contractors to NMSU that accept, process, or store payment card data.
- C. Payment Card: “Payment card” refers to a credit or debit card used to purchase goods or services.
- D. Payment Card Activities: “Payment card activities” refers to the acceptance, processing, storing, or transmission of cardholder data.
- E. Payment Cardholder Data: “Payment Cardholder Data” refers to the PAN in conjunction with any of the following: cardholder name, payment card expiration date, or payment card service code (three/four-digit security code).
- F. PCI DSS: “PCI DSS” refers to the Payment Card Industry Data Security Standards, which are the proprietary security standards mandated by the major card companies, including Visa, MasterCard, American Express, Discover, and JCB.
- G. Point of Sale (POS): “Point of Sale” refers to the place where a sales transaction is completed.
- H. Primary Account Number (PAN): “PAN” is the payment card number (credit or debit) that identifies the issuer and the particular cardholder account (a.k.a. Account Number).

## PART 5: GENERAL REQUIREMENTS, MERCHANT REQUIREMENTS, AND GOVERNANCE

- A. General Requirements: Appropriate security and control measures must be in place to ensure the security of payment cardholder data. The following chart outlines the PCI DSS goals and requirements for the security of payment cardholder data. For more information, visit [pcidss.nmsu.edu](http://pcidss.nmsu.edu) for specific procedures.

Goals	PCI DSS Requirements
Build and Maintain a Secure Network and Systems	1. Install and maintain a firewall configuration to protect cardholder data 2. Do not use vendor-supplied defaults for system passwords and other security parameters
Protect Cardholder Data	3. Protect stored cardholder data 4. Encrypt transmission of cardholder data across open, public networks
Maintain a Vulnerability Management Program	5. Protect all systems against malware and regularly update anti-virus software or programs 6. Develop and maintain secure systems and applications
Implement Strong Access Control Measures	7. Restrict access to cardholder data by business need-to-know 8. Identify and authenticate access to system components 9. Restrict physical access to cardholder data
Regularly Monitor and Test Networks	10. Track and monitor all access to network resources and cardholder data 11. Regularly test security systems and processes
Maintain an Information Security Policy	12. Maintain a policy that addresses information security for all personnel

- B. Merchant Requirements: NMSU merchant responsibilities include network, data and physical-access security, merchant training, compliance reviews, and reporting. A list of current and specific duties and responsibilities of merchants, which are amended by the Payment Card Industry periodically, can be found at [pcisecuritystandards.org](http://pcisecuritystandards.org). The following are the general requirements for merchants:

1. Only merchants and vendors pre-approved by the Controller's Office and the Committee are authorized to handle university credit card processing. Third-party vendors or service providers contracted by a merchant must supply a contract addendum or other certification assuring their compliance with the current PCI DSS as appropriate. If applicable, a list of service providers must be maintained by the department or unit contacts, as well as the compliance status of each vendor, must be verified by the department or unit at least annually.
  2. Any post-authorization storage of cardholder data must have prior approval by the Controller's Office and The Committee and must meet current PCI DSS. A current inventory must be provided to the Controller's Office and The Committee, reflecting any storage locations for cardholder data.
  3. Merchant shall engage approved software and hardware vendors and obtain approval from The Committee before maintaining and/or retrieving payment cardholder data for future or recurring transactions or accepting payment cardholder data over the internet.
  4. Merchant shall designate personnel to document cardholder activities, develop procedures, coordinate training, and act as primary contact in regards to cardholder data before the merchant can accept, process, or store cardholder data.
  5. Merchant shall immediately notify Treasury Services, ICT, and The Committee of any breach involving payment cardholder data and document and cooperate with the investigation as directed.
  6. Departments and units which operate payment card systems must maintain documentation of all procedures, including data/process flows, for handling payment card data and systems consistent with PCI DSS. Documentation required of PCI DSS and this Rule must be readily available during business hours at the request of the Controller's Office or The Committee.
  7. Departments and units which operate payment card systems must maintain a list of current devices and software used to process credit card data or used in the cardholder environment and monitor devices for attempted tampering or replacement. Each device must be labeled appropriately. The list must be supplied to the Committee annually. The inventory list must include:
    - a. Make and model of devices;
    - b. Location of each device;
    - c. Device serial number or asset tag, and;
    - d. Software and software version.
  8. Each department or unit must complete a PCI DSS Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) for each merchant ID, along with the corresponding Attestation of PCI Compliance prior to operation of any payment card processing system, and on an annual basis at a time communicated from the Controller's Office or The Committee with at least 30-day notice,
- C. PCI DSS Governance: The following are the official governance authorities responsible for ensuring the university maintains compliance with PCI DSS requirements:
1. The NMSU PCI DSS Compliance Steering Committee (the Committee) will require that all university merchant processes meet PCI DSS requirements, and;
  2. The Committee will review the implementation, operation and certification of merchant processes in order to manage risk, complexity, and expense of maintaining compliance with PCI DSS.
  3. The Committee shall:
    - a. Create or procure, distribute, and review for relevance and value, training courseware and materials for NMSU merchant departments;
    - b. Review with Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) personnel new cardholder technologies in use at NMSU and emerging in the industry;
    - c. Conduct bi-annual review of Payment Card Industry DSS compliance rules and procedures with ICT and Treasury Services;
    - d. Conduct periodic visits to merchant business sites for merchant site and procedural reviews, and;
    - e. Review each merchant department's payment card procedures to assure PCI DSS compliance.
  4. Treasury Services shall:

- a. Through the Controller's office, be the final approver for all merchant payment card processing applications and merchant processing locations;
- b. Review monthly third party scans of computers used by departments for merchant payment card processing and notify ICT and The Committee of any failures for ICT follow-up;
- c. Coordinate annual merchant SAQ completion;
- d. Review each merchant department's yearly training logs;
- e. Oversee new payment card merchant account requests, and;
- f. Coordinate corrective action and reporting with relevant merchant departments, Administration and Finance, University Communications, and ICT, upon discovery of a cardholder data breach.

5. Information and Communication Technologies shall:

- a. Maintain availability and security of central servers, networks, and associated hardware that process or transmit cardholder data;
- b. Verify that all controls, such as firewalls and encryption technologies are in place, up-to-date and functioning;
- c. Ensure network penetration testing takes place as required by PCI DSS;
- d. Take corrective action on failures identified in monthly third-party scans;
- e. Maintain logs for required periods as appropriate for certain hardware equipment;
- f. Recommend technical solutions to enhance compliance and security, and;
- g. Provide technical expertise to merchant departments in support of payment card activities.

Rule Administrator:	Sr. Vice President for Administration and Finance
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	January 30, 2012
Revision History:	01.10.17 Amendment recommended by University Administrative Council; approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15 BOR approved replica of Policy 2.36 as initial Rule 2.36. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 2.36:</b> 12.13.11 adoption of new policy recommended by Administrative Council; 01.30.12 Policy adopted by Board of Regents.
Cross References:	<a href="http://pcidss.nmsu.edu">pcidss.nmsu.edu</a>

## 2.37 Investments

*[SUPERSEDED by Rule 13.10 - Investment Management]*

## 2.40 Legal Services

- A. Service of Process on NMSU: The Office of the Chancellor shall be the only office authorized to be served with all suits, summonses, garnishments, and other legal documents for the university.
- B. Authority of the Chancellor to Initiate or to Defend Legal Proceedings: The Chancellor is authorized to initiate or to defend any legal proceeding involving or affecting the university, the Board of Regents, any administrator, a member of the staff, a member of the faculty, or a member of the student body. The Chancellor will seek confirmation of any action taken at the board's next regularly scheduled meeting.
- C. Representation of NMSU Employees within Course and Scope of Employment: The board authorizes the general counsel to represent all university employees who are defendants in a lawsuit which results from the performance of their duties as employees of the university. It is the intent of the board that the university represents such defendants in both their individual and professional capacities as long as the general counsel determines that the defendants were acting within their duties and responsibilities as employees of the university. The general counsel will inform the board on a regular basis concerning the actions taken under this policy.
- D. Contract Approval: Official contracts or agreements must have the approval of the general counsel as to form. Contracts and other matters which do not require special consultation with the general counsel prior to approval will be processed by attaching a Contract Approval Form which will be routed to the general counsel.
- E. Access to University General Counsel: Any university employee who wishes to discuss official university business with the general counsel may, with the concurrence of appropriate department head/director and dean/vice president, make an appointment by calling the Office of the General Counsel. The members of the Administrative Council may call the Office of the General Counsel directly to make appointments.

## 2.45 - Lobbying

- A. In compliance with Section 310 of Public Law 101-121, it is the policy of the university that no monies shall be used directly or indirectly to influence any member of the federal legislative or executive branches unless in strict compliance with the exceptions of that public law and the regulations issued there under.
- B. No employee of the university, agent of the university, or paid lobbyist shall contact any employee or officer of the federal, state, or local governments for the purpose of influencing that employee or officer without complying with this policy.
- C. The vice president for research is directed to be the sole individual responsible for assuring the compliance with this policy. The vice president for research may designate one or more individuals to act in the absence of the vice president for research, in order to assure continuity.

## 2.50 – Namings

### PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND SCOPE OF APPLICATION

This Rule is adopted pursuant to the authority granted by the NMSU Board of Regents in Policy 18.00 - Advancement. This Rule supersedes replicated Rule 2.50 and its corresponding “NMSU Naming Policy Minimum Thresholds”. This Rule shall apply in all situations in which a gift is given with the intention of creating any of the following:

- A. Named Endowments (e.g. scholarships, lectureships, professorships, chairs);
- B. Named Physical Entity (e.g. buildings, structures, interior spaces, landscapes, outdoor spaces, roads, etc.);
- C. Named Academic Entities (e.g. programs, endowed funds, academic positions, scholarships, academic units (e.g. schools, colleges, departments, libraries, etc);
- D. Named Collections (e.g. books, archives, art, museum, etc.);
- E. An Honoric Naming; or
- F. Other Recognitions (e.g. electronic book plates, donor walls, named awards etc.).

### PART 2: DEFINITIONS

- A. Academic Entities: All non-physical entities, to include: colleges, schools, academic departments, academic centers, institutes, programs, public information presentations, laboratories, clinics, divisions, research centers, chairs, professorships, lectureships, fellowships, teaching awards and prizes.
- B. Collections: Libraries or parts of libraries and other collections of significant size and scientific, historic, artistic, research or cultural value.
- C. Endowments: An endowment is a fund that can be established through gifts from private individuals, corporations, foundations, associations, and other organizations.
- D. Honorific: “Conferring or implying honor or respect; generally defined as recognizing outstanding individuals distinguished in character or attainments”.
- E. Philanthropic: The act of philanthropy; generally defined as gifts to the University that have real or in-kind monetary value.
- F. Physical Entities: All physical facilities and buildings, including portions thereof. Examples include:
  1. Laboratories, classrooms, seminar rooms, meeting rooms, lounges, wings, halls, floors, galleries;
  2. Athletic fields, athletic facilities,
  3. Wings of buildings or substantial parts of buildings, residence halls, large auditoria, concert halls;
  4. Plazas, parks, fountains, gardens, lawns, courtyards, walkways, pathways;

5. Natural landmarks;
6. Parking facilities;
7. Roadways.

### **PART 3: HONORIFIC NAMINGS**

An honorific naming may be bestowed to those (e.g. person(s), organization, group, etc.) who have made exemplary or meritorious contributions to the University or society. The recognition afforded the honoree may also include private financial contributions related to the naming opportunity. Honorees shall not be currently employed within the NMSU System nor currently hold any appointed or elected office.

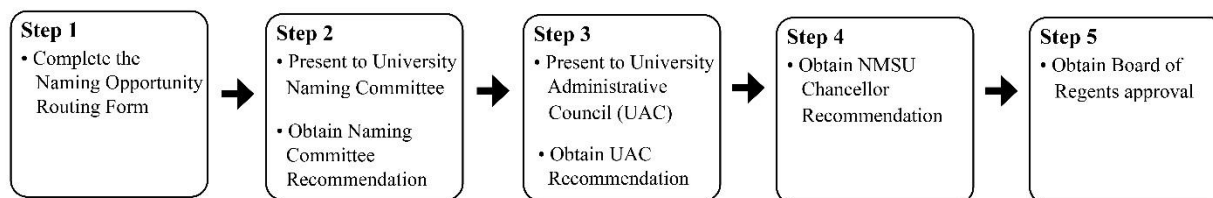
### **PART 4: NAMING RIGHTS**

Any naming may be disapproved by the Board of Regents or the Chancellor, as appropriate, as may be deemed to best serve the interests of the institution.

- A. Permanence of a Naming: The naming of physical entities is intended to be in place for the life of the specific physical entity. Should circumstances change so that the purpose for which the physical entity was established is significantly altered or if the physical entity is no longer needed or habitable, the Chancellor and, if appropriate, the Board of Regents, in consultation with appropriate academic and/or administrative leadership and the donor(s), if possible, will determine an appropriate way to recognize the donor's naming gift in perpetuity. If the University and the donor(s) previously established a Gift Agreement or contract that provides a practicable course of action, then that action shall be followed.
- B. Removal of a Name: NMSU System naming opportunities shall bear only the name of individuals or entities that exemplify the attributes of integrity, moral character, and leadership consistent with the mission of NMSU System. If, in the determination of the Chancellor and, if appropriate, the Board of Regents those attributes are not maintained, the Chancellor and the Board of Regents reserve the right to remove the donor's/honoree's name from an entity at any time.

### **PART 5: NAMING PROCEDURES**

- A. Announcements: NMSU entities shall respect the privacy of involved parties and exercise discretion during the naming process, and under no circumstances shall an announcement about a potential naming be made prematurely and prior to the final approval required by this Rule.
- B. Namings Committee: The NMSU Naming Committee is recognized as an advisory body which reviews and makes recommendations regarding proposed namings. The Naming Committee shall be chaired by the Vice President for University Advancement. The committee shall consist of the following members, or their authorized designee:
  1. Executive Vice President and Provost;
  2. Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance;
  3. Vice President for University Advancement;
  4. ASNMSU President;
  5. Chair of the Faculty Senate;
  6. Chair of the Employee Council;
  7. Chair of the Campus Planning Committee; and
  8. Academic Deans.
- C. Naming Proposal Approval Process: Naming and Recognition proposal submissions shall be considered by the Naming Committee only upon submission of a [Naming Opportunity Approval Request Form](#). The approval of naming proposals will follow the procedural steps outlined in the flow chart below.



## PART 6: PROCEDURES FOR PLEDGES

The terms and conditions for namings which are funded as a total gift pledged to be paid over a period of time shall be clearly specified in writing in a formal Gift Agreement, which shall address the timing of the official naming and the consequences for not fulfilling the pledge. Generally, naming will occur after the pledge has been fulfilled and the total required amount has been received by NMSU Foundation, Inc. If the situation justifies an earlier official naming, there shall be a clear, documented understanding and agreement by the donor that the naming will be altered or removed if the pledge is not fulfilled within the agreed upon timeframe.

## PART 7: NAMING IN ANTICIPATION OF A PLANNED GIFT

A naming associated with a planned gift will be considered upon realization of the gift or upon receipt of a minimum of 50% of a cash gift. Any naming requested as a result of a planned gift must adhere to the requirements of this Rule, including but not limited to the provision of the requisite documentation.

## PART 8: ENDOWMENTS

A. Endowments – General Provisions: The following applies to all endowments at NMSU:

1. Endowments are invested to allow for the principal to remain intact (nonexpendable) in perpetuity, while a portion of endowment earnings are distributed annually to support the purpose designated by the donor(s) through a formal gift agreement with the NMSU Foundation, Inc.
2. Endowments may be designated to benefit academic or non-academic positions, students, programs, physical spaces or specific academic or non-academic departments and units. They are typically named after their donor(s) or a person(s) the donor wishes to honor.
3. Endowments may be established by a one-time gift, a series of gifts, a pledge paid over a period of a specific number of years, wills, trusts, gifts of appreciated assets, or by a combination of these. Gifts can be added to an established endowment at any time.
4. In certain instances, which must be outlined in a gift agreement, a specific amount of the gift commitment must be received prior to the actual naming of the position, program, building, space, or project.
5. For endowments matched by the State of New Mexico, NMSU must adhere to applicable state law.
6. Certain terms are commonly used with endowments. The National Association of College and University Business Officers (NACUBO) uses the following definitions:
  - a. Permanent Endowment: "Endowment funds are funds received from a donor with the restriction that the principal not be expendable." These endowments are only subject to modification as may be allowed by law and NMSU System policies.
  - b. Quasi-Endowment: "A quasi-endowment fund is a fund that functions like an endowment fund but which may be totally expended at any time at the discretion of the governing board." This may be gift funds that the donor did not specifically direct for use as an endowment, or funds available to the institution from other sources that can be designated for an endowment. The funds are invested in the same manner as a true endowment and have the same payout provisions.

B. Endowments - Minimum Thresholds: A naming opportunity funded through an endowment must be accompanied by a signed gift agreement and meet university guidelines on endowment minimums by type. The minimum thresholds for endowments, listed below, are set and amended by the NMSU Foundation.

1. **Endowed Faculty Chair**:
  - a. \$1 million minimum threshold required.
  - b. To recruit, retain and reward superior faculty members.

- c. To enhance the faculty member's scholarly efforts and/or research program.
  - d. In such cases, the position, not the specific person, is supported by the endowment.
2. **Endowed Faculty Professorship:**
- a. \$250,000 minimum threshold required.
  - b. To recruit, retain and reward outstanding faculty members.
  - c. To enhance the faculty member's scholarly efforts and/or research program.
  - d. In such cases, the position, not the specific person, is supported by the endowment.
3. **Endowed Graduate Fellowship:**
- a. \$32,000 minimum threshold required.
  - b. To support a student working toward an advanced degree in any of the graduate fields.
  - c. Academic merit and/or financial need may be a consideration.
  - d. A donor may suggest other preferential criteria.
4. **Endowed Lectureship:**
- a. \$125,000 minimum threshold required.
  - b. To support expenses associated with planning and implementing a lecture or lecture series in specific areas/or on specific topics.
5. **Endowed Scholarship:**
- a. \$25,000 minimum threshold required.
  - b. To support an undergraduate or graduate student.
  - c. Academic merit and/or financial need may be a consideration.
  - d. A donor may suggest other preferential criteria.
6. **Endowed Library Collections:**
- a. \$25,000 minimum threshold required.
  - b. To purchase library materials.
  - c. To support preservation of library collections in all formats.
  - d. To support digitization or processing of collections.
  - e. To support increasing access to collections.

## PART 9: PAYMENT TIME LIMITS

Donor(s) will have a maximum time limit of five (5) years from the date of execution of the gift agreement to meet the minimum funding level requirement. In the event of extenuating circumstances beyond the control of the donor, an exception may be granted at the discretion of the Vice President of Advancement.

Rule Administrator:	Office of University Advancement
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	July 12, 2016
Revision History:	07.12.16 major revision rewriting rule recommended by University Administrative Council; 07.12.16 major revision approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15: BOR approved replication of Policy 2.50 as initial Rule 2.50 <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 2.50:</b> 12.13.11 <i>Administrative Council recommended amendment; 01.30.12 Board of Regents approved amendment.</i>

## 2.53 - Police (University)

- A. **Authority:** The University Police Department has the authority in all emergency situations to act as is lawful and necessary to protect lives and property. This includes the evacuation of buildings, closing of streets, and implementation of emergency procedures. The decisions of the chief of police shall be final in all emergency situations until such time as the emergency is resolved. The university police have the duty to enforce all laws and certain regulations, to issue citations, to investigate and make referrals or complaints for criminal prosecution, and to notify appropriate university officials of significant crimes/incidents. Rules and regulations governing the police department are set forth in the *New Mexico State University Police Manual of Policies and Procedures*.
- B. **Private Security:** The university police may establish and maintain requirements for any private security, private investigators, bodyguards, and similar personnel who work or are allowed to work on lands under the control of the Board of Regents. No department, office, or individual may hire/contract with said private security, private investigators, bodyguards, or similar personnel to perform services on the grounds of the university unless such is done in compliance with requirements established by the university police. In addition, no person or group hosting an event or function on the grounds of the university may employ or utilize security personnel described



above unless they are in compliance with the established requirements as described in the university police manual.

- C. Alarm Systems: The university police, in conjunction with information and technological services, will establish and maintain requirements for any intrusion alarms, panic alarms, or personal safety alarms on the campus. This includes (1) the requirements that all alarms utilize a standardized system and that all alarms report to the police department, and (2) the charging of reasonable fees for monitoring alarms and for responding to false alarms. No alarms shall be installed on the NMSU campus after July 1, 1999, that are not in compliance with the requirements.

**2.56 - Purchasing** (See also [Chapter 9 Facilities and Services](#) relating to capital projects and performance bond requirements for contracts on jobs under \$20,000.)

- A. Purchasing Rules: The university shall take all steps to assure compliance with the State Purchasing Act of New Mexico and with all federal regulations dealing with the procurement of equipment, supplies, and services. In addition, every attempt will be made to be fair in obtaining bids and information for preparation of bid requirements and bid specifications. The university will attempt not to favor one private firm or individual or person or company over another in obtaining information for preparation of bid specifications. Bids will be awarded to the lowest responsible bidder, giving due consideration to price, quality of product, and time of delivery. The Chancellor is authorized to promulgate and implement regulations pertaining to procurement consistent with the *Procurement Code of the State of New Mexico* which became effective November 1, 1984. In the event of a tie bid between two firms each domiciled and residents of New Mexico, the firm awarded the bid will be determined by the toss of a coin. Each firm will be notified there is a tie bid and of the date and time when there will be a toss of the coin, so that either party, or both parties may be present.

**2.56.05 Professional Services Contracts**

- A. Application: This Rule provides for the procurement of professional services. Professional services covered by the statute are the services of architects, archeologists, engineers, land surveyors, landscape architects, medical arts practitioners, scientists, management and system analysts, certified public accountants, registered public accountants, lawyers, psychologists, planners, researchers, and persons or businesses providing similar services.
- B. Purchases of Professional Services: The university may procure professional services in accordance with professional services procurement regulations promulgated by the Procurement Services Office and approved by the board, or when procuring professional design services, in accordance with the selection procedures approved by the board for certain contracting with or procuring the services of accountants, attorneys, and medical practitioners, and for which there must be prior approval by the executive vice president and provost.
- C. Procurement of Professional Services, Excluding Professional Design Services, Not Exceeding \$20,000: Before contracting with any person or firm to provide required professional services, the Procurement Services Office must process a professional service contract or agreement in advance of the services being performed. The process will include confirmation of independent contract status, inquiries for conflict of interest, adherence to employment regulations, and will require the appropriate authorization signatures. The Procurement Services Office shall examine the qualifications of the firm or individual and shall determine if the required services are at a fair and reasonable price. If a fair and reasonable price cannot be reached, negotiations will be terminated with that source and negotiations begun with the next most qualified source. Procurement requirements shall not be artificially divided so as to constitute a small purchase under this section.
- D. Procurement of Certain Professional Services, Excluding Professional Design Services, in Excess of \$20,000: When the Procurement Services Office is procuring professional services whose estimated costs will exceed \$20,000 such procurement shall be made using competitive sealed proposals. Such competitive sealed proposals shall be solicited through a Request for Proposals which shall include the specifications for the services to be procured; all contractual terms and conditions applicable to the procurement; and the date, time, and place where such proposals are to be received and reviewed. The Request for Proposals shall state the evaluating factors and the relative weight to be given the factors in evaluating the proposals. Notice of the Request for Proposals shall be published not less than 10 calendar days prior to the date set for receipt of proposals. The notice shall be published at least once in a newspaper of general circulation in the Las Cruces, New Mexico area. Other methods adopted by the Procurement Services Office shall be used to notify prospective offerors that proposals are being solicited, including publication in a trade journal, if available. Request for Proposals shall be sent to those businesses which have indicated an interest in submitting proposals for particular categories of services. Offerors submitting proposals may be afforded an opportunity for discussion and revisions of proposals. Revisions may be permitted after submissions of proposals and prior to award for the purpose of obtaining the best and final

offer. Negotiations may be conducted with responsible offerors who submit proposals found to be reasonable and likely to be selected for award. Taking into consideration the evaluation factors, the award shall be made to the responsible offeror whose proposal is determined most advantageous. The award of a professional service contract may be based upon criteria which does not include price.

- E. Procurement of Accountants, Attorneys, and Medical Arts Practitioners: Inasmuch as the selection of accountants, attorneys, and medical arts practitioners involves decisions other than price, including but not limited to knowledge of the university, its staff, faculty, employees, students, personal reputation, rapport with the Board of Regents and administration, and approval by state agencies (such as the state auditor), the selection of such individuals shall be approved by the executive vice president and provost. This approval must be given before the selection is presented to the business office for processing. Neither proposals nor competitive bids are required for such procurement. The executive vice president and provost shall determine the method of selecting these professionals on a case by case basis. All such individuals so employed shall be subject to termination without cause upon such notice as the executive vice president and provost determines appropriate under the circumstances. A request for proposals shall be required for the selection of an outside auditor if the same auditor is used consecutively for 3 years.
- F. Sole Source Procurements of Professional Service, Excluding Professional Design Services: A professional service contract may be awarded without competitive sealed proposals, regardless of the estimated cost if the Procurement Services Office makes a determination, after conducting a good faith review of available sources and reviewing a written justification submitted by the requiring department, that because of its unique capabilities there is only one source for the required services. Negotiations shall be conducted with the selected source for price and terms in order to obtain the price most advantageous to the university. Research consultants may be considered sole source.

### **2.56.10 Procurement of Professional Design Services**

Professional design services means those professional architectural and engineering services required for the design and construction of a construction project including, but not limited to consultation, investigation, reconnaissance, research, preparation of drawings and specifications, furnishing of cost estimates, general administration of contracts and issuance of a certificate of completion. All procurements of professional design services shall utilize the professional design services selection process which has been approved by the Board of Regents. The Procurement Services Office when preparing the agreement between the university, the board, and the selected design architect, shall include a provision to the effect that all designs, drawings, specifications, notes, and other work developed in the performance of that contract become the sole property of the university.

### **2.57 Reserves**

Reasonable budget balances shall be maintained for the efficient operation of the university.

### **2.60 through 2.60.10 - Environmental Health and Safety** (*See also* Rule [7.45 Workers' Compensation Benefits and Other Assistance](#))

#### **2.60 – Environmental Health and Safety**

It is the policy of the university to promote good health, wellbeing, and occupational safety for its faculty, employees, students, and visitors. The Office of Environmental Health and Safety develops and executes comprehensive health and safety programs for the university. These programs comply with all federal, state, and municipal laws, codes, acts, regulations and standards relating to health, safety and the environment. These environmental health and safety rules and procedures, along with current details of responsibility and accountability for various issues, can be found on the Office of Environmental Health and Safety web page [NMSU: Environmental Health and Safety](#).

These administrative rules and procedures endorse programs which:

- A. Provide safe and healthful conditions and reduce injuries and illnesses to the lowest possible level. No task is so important and no service so urgent that it cannot be done safely.
- B. Assure compliance with federal, state, and local regulations providing for environmental health and occupational safety.
- C. Provide information, training, and safeguards to faculty, staff, and students regarding health and safety hazards, and to the surrounding community regarding environmental health hazards arising from operations and events at

the university.

- D. Install and maintain facilities and equipment in accordance with recognized and accepted standards essential to reduce or prevent exposure to hazards by faculty, staff, students, and visitors.
- E. Provide appropriate personal protective equipment to all employees at university expense when engineering controls are not adequate to minimize exposure.
- F. Provide medical services as required by law and as may be dictated by existing circumstances or programs.

#### **2.60.10 Safety and Health - Environmental Health and Safety Office**

- A. Regulatory and occupational safety classes are provided on a regular basis by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety (For information and schedule visit [NMSU: Environmental Health and Safety](#)).
- B. The environmental health and safety officer monitors all accidents and may conduct an investigation.
- C. Copies of all Employer's First Report of Accident Forms and Supervisor's Accident Investigation Report Forms are sent to the environmental health and safety officer by the human resource services office.

#### **2.64 - Security Cameras on University Premises** (See Also Rule [2.53 - Police \(University\)](#))

*[Policy Recommended by the Administrative Council on 04.09.13; policy adopted by the Board of Regents 05.10.13]*

##### **A. Purpose:**

- 1. To enhance and protect public safety and property, while also respecting the privacy and other rights of those within the university community;
- 2. To manage the use of security cameras and related issues, throughout the NMSU System.

##### **B. Scope:**

- 1. Unless indicated in the following subsection on exceptions, this Rule applies to the installation and use of security camera systems on university premises throughout the NMSU System, whether installed by third party vendors or by authorized NMSU personnel.
- 2. Exceptions - This Rule does not apply to:
  - a. The use of cameras or other electronic recording equipment to conduct academic research;
  - b. The overt use of video and/or audio recording equipment utilized for video conferencing for academic or administrative purposes and/or to facilitate real time communication for the purpose of admitting personnel to secured facilities;
  - c. The creation or use of class lecture recordings and/or archiving utilized not for security, but for the purpose of content sharing;
  - d. The use of recording systems by the NMSU Police Department law enforcement personnel for specific criminal investigations or for recording individual Police Officer interaction.
  - e. Cameras placed on a temporary basis for operational/administrative investigation into alleged misconduct, with the consent of one party to the communication, as approved by the Office of General Counsel.
  - f. The overt use of video audio recording equipment placed to enhance safety and security of NMSU employees in the workplace.
  - g. Personal recording equipment, including but not limited to cell phone cameras, used by private individuals for purposes not associated with student or employee status.
  - h. The use of a computer attached camera (webcam) in a private office.
- C. Rule Administrator: This Rule shall be administered by the university's chief information officer (CIO) in consultation with the Police Chief and other University Administrators as needed.
- D. General Principles:
  - 1. Security cameras shall only be installed in compliance with this Rule.

2. Signage will be conspicuously posted in any area where security cameras are recording images.
3. Audio recording is only permissible for short duration, with the consent of one of the parties, consistent with applicable law; or as may be permitted by court order. The audio function (both monitoring and recording) of the security camera microphone must be disabled. *See Also* Exceptions in Section B. 2.
4. This Rule does not require the university to provide security cameras in all public locations, and/or to ensure that a camera is recording or monitoring at all times. Images may be monitored in real time, or may be preserved for review at a later date as part of an incident investigation. Any images retained will be disposed of in accordance with E-8 below: Storage and Retention of Recordings.
5. Security cameras will be installed, operated and monitored in compliance with all university policies and the law, including but not limited to those covering FERPA, HIPAA, discrimination, harassment and stalking. The use of security cameras authorized by this Rule will be limited to uses that do not violate a reasonable expectation of privacy, nor disclose confidential or classified information.

E. Rule Guidelines:

1. The installation and use of security cameras addressed in this Rule is for the general purpose of campus safety and security, including the deterrence of vandalism and theft.
  - a. Examples of areas which may be subject to monitoring by security cameras include but are not limited to:
    - i. outdoor parking lots;
    - ii. areas within buildings open to the public such as libraries, museum, Pan Am Center and Corbett Center;
    - iii. common areas inside residence halls;
    - iv. areas proximate to the handling of cash or other valuable property.
  - b. Examples of areas that will not be subject to security camera monitoring include, but are not limited to:
    - i. individually licensed living areas within residence halls or other NMSU housing, absent express consent from the affected license holder;
    - ii. restrooms;
    - iii. locker rooms;
    - iv. dressing rooms and similar space;
    - v. areas where restricted Department of Defense classified information is discussed, stored or otherwise processed.
2. Any interception, duplication, transmission, alteration, tampering, or other improper diversion of the security camera or recorded images or related instrumentation, software or documentation for purposes other than official university business is prohibited.
3. Personnel authorized to access security camera information, including the images they produce, will perform their duties in accordance with this Rule, in addition to any supplemental procedures which may be issued by the operating department.
4. All existing uses of security cameras will be brought into compliance with this Rule as soon as feasibly possible, and no later than June 30, 2015, unless otherwise determined by the CIO.
5. The NMSU entities utilizing security cameras governed by this Rule will notify the CIO annually to ensure compliance and will provide a list of security cameras currently in operation.
6. The use of security cameras by university contractors operating on university premises pursuant to a contract will be governed by the terms of the contract, consistent with NMSU policies, rules and procedures.
7. In the event of a criminal investigation, civil litigation or other administrative action, the recorded data will be maintained in accordance with guidance provided by the prosecutor and/or the Office of NMSU General Counsel.

8. **Storage and Retention of Recordings:** Recordings shall be retained for a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days. See also #3.
- F. **Supplemental Procedural Guidelines:** As authorized by Regents Policy 1.10 and former NMSU Policy 2.64, Section F., the following Procedural Guidelines, issued on April 9, 2013, supplement the above Rule 2.64:
1. **Justification and Approval:** Individual NMSU Entities desiring to install security camera equipment shall submit a written request to their appropriate unit administrator, dean or vice president describing the proposed location of security camera (s), justifying the proposed installation, as well as identifying the funding source for purchase and ongoing maintenance. (*See* ARP Appendix 2-A - Security Camera Proposal and Justification Form).
    - a. Upon approval by appropriate administrator, dean or vice president, the Security Camera Proposal and Justification Form will be submitted to the CIO for information purposes and maintain a copy on-site.
    - b. The University's Chief Information Officer or designee is responsible to assure compliance with this rule.
  2. **Installation:** Installation of all networked security cameras should be coordinated through Networking Services to ensure they are on a secure network and access is restricted.
    - a. All networked security cameras and related equipment should be configured to require two factor authentication (user IDs and passwords) and not use default or common logins.
    - b. Networking Services, Security Camera Coordinator and Facilities Services will collaborate to install network infrastructure to ensure all relating building codes are followed.
    - c. When appropriate, installing department is encouraged to seek the assistance of the ICT Computer Systems function to ensure proper system setup, configuration and to clearly identify location of software i.e. PC or Server.
  3. **Signage:** Signage for security cameras shall be placed conspicuously in areas with cameras, as determined by the Chief Information Officer and consistent with requirements of Rule 9.60, Wayfinding and Signage.
  4. **Training:**
    - a. Authorized personnel responsible for security cameras shall receive a copy of this rule governing security cameras and provide written acknowledgement that they have read and understood the contents. (*See* ARP Appendix 2-B, Security Camera Training Acknowledgment Form)
    - b. Authorized personnel shall attend any meetings or trainings convened by the CIO.
  5. **Transitioning Security Cameras in Use Prior to Policy Effective Date:** The use of existing security cameras shall comply with this rule's requirements for professional, legal and ethical use. To the extent that existing equipment or software make it infeasible to comply with technical requirements, the NMSU Entities shall proposed a transition plan to the CIO explaining the steps needed for compliance and a proposed timeline.
  6. **Unit Level Camera Security Operations:**
    - a. **Unit Level Protocols Required:** NMSU Entities will need to Develop Security Camera Protocols: All NMSU Entities responsible for security cameras governed by this rule shall develop and maintain written departmental policies and processes detailing operation of cameras and how tampering with, intercepting, or duplicating of recorded information will be prevented. Written protocols shall be no less stringent than those outlined in this rule.
    - b. **Inventory and Documentation:** Each NMSU Entity shall maintain a master inventory and associated documentation of all existing and approved components to their security camera, including but not limited to equipment, software and authorizations received. Inventories must include but may not be limited to:
      - i. Name of responsible person for security cameras and review/approval date;

- ii. Name and contact information of the person requesting the installation and/or approval of the security camera;
  - iii. List of authorized personnel and other members of management, by position and by name, who may be permitted access to the recorded images/information;
  - iv. Purpose and justification for the proposed security camera, consistent with the permitted uses of this rule;
  - v. Explanation of how the recorded information may be reviewed and/or used;
  - vi. Measures that have been taken to minimize the impact on personal privacy;
  - vii. Assertion that the planned installation and operation of the security camera system shall comply with applicable law and this rule;
  - viii. Nature of the physical space in which the security camera will be placed, and a description of the types of activities reasonably likely to be captured on the recordings by the security camera;
  - ix. Implementation details, including:
    - physical location of installation,
    - field of view of the camera(s),
    - capabilities of the camera(s) (video, audio, pan, tilt, zoom, etc.) or microphone(s) that have been disabled, and
    - the make and model of equipment and software;
    - the location and the timing relating to storage and retention of the recorded information.
- c. **Acknowledgement of Training and Compliance Requirements:** All authorized personnel, and supervisors involved in security camera operations, including the review of recorded images, will perform their duties in accordance with this rule and any supplemental procedures which may be issued by the University's Chief Information Officer. They shall each indicate acceptance of this responsibility by signing the Security Camera Training Acknowledgment Form (*See* ARP Appendix 2-B).
- d. **Maintenance of Log for Security Camera Recordings Access or Use:** A log shall be maintained of all instances of access to or use of security camera recordings. At a minimum, the log shall include the date and identification of the person or persons to whom access was granted. (*See* ARP Appendix 2-C, Sample Access Log Form)
- e. **Prohibition of Tampering with Security Cameras:** Security cameras shall be configured to prevent authorized personnel from altering or otherwise tampering with recorded information. Allegation of tampering with a security camera, software, or other instrument or documentation related to the administration of this rule will be treated seriously, investigated thoroughly and appropriate criminal, civil, or administration action taken.
7. **Storage and Retention of Recordings:** Recordings from all security cameras governed by this rule shall be stored by the individual NMSU Entities in accordance with the document retention requirements of the State of New Mexico, codified at NMAC 1.15.5 et seq, and also as directed by the NMSU Records Management and Retention Office, summarized below:
- a. All administrative records relating to the Security Cameras program initiative, including training materials generated or utilized by it, shall be retained until the information value ceases, and then shall be transferred to Library Archives and Special Collections for review for further disposition;
  - b. Routinely recorded images shall be retained for a minimum of thirty (30) calendar days from the date of recording or creation.
  - c. Excepted from this retention rule are security camera images and any other program maintenance information when related to a criminal investigation or civil administrative or legal proceeding, or other *bona fide* use approved by the NMSU Police Chief and University General Counsel.

Rule Administrator:	NMSU Chief Information Officer
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	May 10, 2013
Revision History:	10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 2.64 as initial Rule 2.64, and authorized incorporation of supplemental guidelines into Rule 2.64. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 2.64:</b> 04.09.13 adoption of new Policy 2.64 recommended by Administrative Council; 05.10.13 policy adopted by Board of Regents.

## **2.65 - Social Security Numbers, Use of**

Each applicant must possess a social security card in order to be employed. If an applicant does not have a social security card or requests the use of a name that is different in any way from the name on the card, it is the responsibility of the applicant to have the matter corrected at the nearest Social Security Administration Office. Social security numbers are collected and legally required for federal and state reporting, including financial aid, tuition and fee payment and employment tax reporting. In the event that the university does not have the social security number for a student, a reasonable effort will be made to obtain this information. The social security number is a confidential record and is maintained as such by the university in accordance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act.

## **2.68 - Arrowhead Center Inc., f/k/a NMSU Technology Transfer Corporation, Inc.**

In order to properly focus the development of research technology, the Board of Regents authorized the establishment of the Arrowhead Center, Inc., under the Research Park Act, as a not-for-profit corporation to assist and foster the development and marketing of selected university technology and intellectual properties. Members of the corporation include two regents, the Chancellor, the executive vice president and provost, the vice president for research, and the senior vice president for administration and finance. The chief operating officer will be the vice president for research.

## **2.69 - Travel**

*[SUPERSEDED by Rule 14.69 - University Related Travel Guidelines]*

### **2.69.1 - International Travel, Generally (See Also Rule 16.70 - Education Abroad)**

*[SUPERSEDED by Rule 16.69 - University Related International Travel]*

### **2.69.2 - International Travel - in Countries Subject to U.S. Travel Warnings**

*[SUPERSEDED by Rule 16.69 - University Related International Travel]*

## **2.70 - United Way**

The university participates in the annual community United Way Fund drive. Personnel are appointed by the Chancellor to contact university employees to support this endeavor. The purpose of this program is to afford the university's employees (regular employees only) an opportunity to participate, either by cash contribution or payroll deduction, at one time and not be subjected to multiple solicitations throughout the year.

## **2.75- University Advancement – Gift Income, NMSU Endowment, NMSU Foundation, Inc.**

All gifts of money, securities, and other funds can be invested to the greatest advantage of the university if said gifts are made to the NMSU Foundation, Inc. for the sole use and benefit of the university. Therefore, to the fullest extent permitted by law and by any controlling documents, all gifts and donations to the university should be managed, invested, reinvested, and distributed by and through the NMSU Foundation. The Board of Regents recommends to all persons or corporations desiring to make gifts or donations for the benefit of the university and its respective campuses that such gifts or donations are made to NMSU Foundation, Inc. The return address furnished to donors and on all printed materials must be that of the NMSU Foundation, Inc., the Development Office, or the Office of the Vice President for University Advancement. All gifts received by the university, including gifts to any college, department or division, should be reported directly and immediately to the Office of the Vice President for University Advancement. Gifts in kind (noncash contributions) may be reported by memorandum or letter; gifts of cash or securities should be delivered promptly to the Development Office for receipting and deposit. The Office of the Vice President for University Advancement will be responsible for providing an official receipt to the donor, for appropriate acknowledgment, and for informing the appropriate campus personnel. However, departments awarding restricted gifts for student aid are entirely responsible for ensuring that all donor criteria, financial and otherwise, have been met. The board prefers that real estate and gifts-in-kind be given free of restrictions which would reduce the full range of educational benefits which could be realized from the gift. If restrictions are imposed upon the gift, or if the gift is such as to require costs of care, maintenance or upkeep, such gift must be first approved by the board or its designees before acceptance by the board. Gifts of real estate may be given through the NMSU Foundation, but are subject to the policies and the procedures of the NMSU Foundation.

- A. Gift Income Spending Rules: The university recognizes the importance of private gift income in providing its colleges and departments the flexibility needed to achieve its goals and objectives. The university also recognizes that different colleges and departments will have varying needs and priorities for the use of the private gift income as they continue to develop and maintain quality programs. This rule is designed to provide those areas receiving private gifts the maximum amount of latitude to address these differing goals and objectives while at the same

time maintaining the fiduciary responsibility inherent in the acceptance of these funds. Gift income received by the university from any external source, including the NMSU Foundation, will be expended in compliance with these rules and procedures. In all cases, exceptions may be made if these types of expenditures are sanctioned by the Offices of the President or Executive Vice President and Provost for college or university-wide functions. All expenditures must be for the enhancement or benefit of the university, in recognition of the university's official mission statement. In general, gift funds will be recorded in the current restricted fund, as they are externally restricted to purpose, even if internally unrestricted as to nature of expenditure. Only those gift funds which are received by the university for any related university purpose, without restriction of any type, are to be recorded in the current unrestricted fund. Within this rule, restricted fund income will be subdivided into restricted and unrestricted gifts based only on the level of donor specification attached to the gift, as explained below.

- B. Restricted Gift Income: For the purpose of this rule, restricted gift income is defined as all gift income on which the donor has placed specific restrictions beyond the general purpose for which the income is to be used. Thus, income designated for a specific college or department's general use will be classified as unrestricted gift income, as long as that college or department is given full authority to decide how the funds are to be best spent in compliance with the general guidelines detailed above. Any gift income which must be spent for a specific purpose, such as scholarships or travel reimbursement, or under any specific conditions, such as following a certain event or date, will be classified as restricted. All restricted gift income, if accepted and expended, will be expended according to the written restrictions of the donor, without exception. The Office of the Vice President for University Advancement will be responsible for accepting these restrictions before the gift is accepted on behalf of the university. Following this approval, the documented restrictions will take precedence over the guidelines for disbursement of funds outlined below.
- C. Unrestricted Gift Income: For the purpose of this rule, unrestricted gift income is defined as all gift income received by the university and not classified as restricted gift income. Expenditures allowable from this category of gift income will be limited by applicable laws, statutes, and regulations, and by these administrative rules and procedures. It will be the responsibility of the Business Office to identify gifts as unrestricted, and to verify that donor's intent related to the department within the university in which the funds are to be spent is honored.
- D. Authorization Structure: The standard approval structure in place for expenditure of non-gift funds will be followed for gift funds. All non-payroll expenditures are to be approved by the department head (where applicable), dean or director, and Office of the Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance. All expenditures involving a payment for services rendered by a university employee will be processed through the Office of Human Resource Services, following all existing authorization requirements for the given transaction. All requests for exception to these rules and procedures will be directed initially to the Office of the Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance.
- E. Cash Disbursement Controls: All existing university internal controls will apply to disbursements made from gift funds. All requests for expenditure will be submitted on the appropriate form; separate vouchers exist for requesting disbursements directly from the university and the NMSU Foundation. All vouchers will be accompanied by invoice or receipt support, or the attestation of the individual claiming reimbursement if other documentation is not applicable.
- F. Guidelines for Disbursements of Funds: All gift income funds will be used by or for the benefit of the university in fulfilling its mission of teaching, research, and public service, including expenses sanctioned for the improvement of employee morale. All types of expenditures falling under these guidelines will be allowable, with the following exceptions:
  - 1. Any payment in conflict with existing law, statute, or regulation applicable to private gift funds.
  - 2. Charitable contributions made to entities or individuals external to the university. Where appropriate, expenses incurred by separate nonprofit organizations which could have legitimately been considered university expenses, such as those incurred by a separate student organization engaged in a university-related function, may be transferred with the approval of the Office of Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance to the university.
  - 3. Any duplicate payment for goods and services, or reimbursement of employee expense. Duplicate payments include the reimbursement of actual travel expense to employees who have already received per diem payment through other sources.
  - 4. Payment for university employee services outside the payroll system.



5. Gifts made to university personnel except as recognition of service to the university.
  6. Loans to any individual, unless the gift was made for the specific purpose of establishing a loan fund.
  7. Payment of fines imposed for violations of local, state, or federal law, unless resulting from university negligence.
  8. Memberships in organizations, country clubs, or other expenditures for any individual, where it cannot be demonstrated that the expenditure is for the enhancement or benefit of the university.
- G. Endowment Trust: The Board of Regents approved the revocable Endowment Trust Agreement to cover the establishment of endowments, making it possible to take money that has been privately contributed to the NMSU Foundation for endowed chairs, professorships, or lectureships and match it with monies from the State of New Mexico. The monies may be placed together into a trust, managed by the NMSU Foundation in such a way that the NMSU Foundation retains title to the private money and the board retains title to the state money in a revocable trust. The board may designate a change in trustee at its discretion at any time or may dissolve the agreement if it desires. The assignment may allow the NMSU Foundation its usual management fee as trustee. It must, however, contain provisions (1) for termination of the placement of all or part of these endowments in the trust at any time at the board's sole discretion; (2) for annual accountings; and (3) for absolute authority on the part of the board for the disposition of each of the endowments (consistent with the terms of each particular endowment).
- H. NMSU Endowment Fund: This fund, managed by the NMSU Foundation, was established to enable faculty and friends to contribute to a permanent fund to strengthen the university's academic programs. Endowment funds are permanently invested and a portion of the annual earnings are made available to support the programs selected by donors as the beneficiaries. Earnings over and above the amount available for expenditure are added to the principal. Many contributions are received as memorials from those who wish to convey their sympathy upon the death of a relative, friend, or colleague. The university provides an official receipt for all gifts, and, when contributions are made in memoriam, informs the family that a memorial gift has been made. Amounts of the contributions are not disclosed. Faculty and staff may contribute through the Foundation via payroll deduction arranged through the Office of Human Resource Services.
- I. NMSU Foundation, Inc.: The NMSU Foundation, Incorporated, is a private, nonprofit corporation whose only purpose is to accept and administer gifts in support of the university. The NMSU Foundation is a tax-exempt corporation, registered with the appropriate state and federal agencies. Contributions to the Foundation are exempt for federal income tax purposes. The NMSU Foundation works closely with the university. Its directors, who are committed to attracting private resources for the benefit of the university, serve without compensation. Contributions may be made for annual operating expenses or for the endowment.
- J. University-Affiliated Organizations: Numerous organizations have been established to support the Board of Regents in a variety of ways and are separate, not-for-profit entities. The focus of the following policy statement is on those organizations whose primary functions are to solicit, manage, and distribute funds and other assets that are given to these organizations for the support of the university in general or specific colleges or other program areas of the university. The university recognizes advantages of these organizations, such as:
1. Creating an opportunity for private individuals and organizations to invest in the enrichment of the programs with greater assurance that the benefits of their gifts supplement, not supplant, state appropriations to the institution.
  2. Providing a corporate structure for managing private gifts, including endowments and income-producing real property, that does not jeopardize the university's tax-exempt status, create unnecessary unrelated business tax obligations, or create additional liabilities for the university.
  3. Creating an effective forum for alumni and community leaders to participate in and contribute to strengthening the university through their participation in the solicitation, management, and distribution of private gifts and donations to the university.

(Other separate entities have been established for purposes unrelated to soliciting or managing gifts and donations on behalf of the university; i.e., the NMSU Research Park Corporation and Arrowhead Center, Inc., which engage in the commercialization of research productivity. However, these rules and procedures focus on those organizations created to actively engage in raising funds for the university.)

- K. Recognition: Any organization formed to represent the university or any college, department, or program area of the institution will receive approval by the university to represent it to prospective donors. A condition of any recognition of an organization will be that the organization agrees to conduct its business in concert with university policy, rules and procedures applicable to such organizations. A written agreement will be executed between the university and each organization, consistent with these policies but recognizing the specific significantly performing fund-raising functions until after the date of adoption of this rule (former policy adopted 10/90) will be established as an arm of the NMSU Foundation, unless otherwise approved by the Board of Regents upon the recommendation of the Chancellor (or designee).
- L. Statement of Purpose: The purpose of the organization will be clearly defined as being for the sole benefit of the university, or one or more of its specific programs. In order for the university to be able to support the organizations and not be in conflict with the state's anti-donation laws, the benefits to the university from the organization will be spelled out in the agreement.
- M. Structure of the Organization: Organizations may structure themselves in any manner they deem appropriate to fulfill their role and responsibilities to the university, with the following understandings:
1. The Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws and any amendments should have the approval of the university.
  2. A regent, the Chancellor (or designee) may be included as a voting member of the governing board of the organization.
  3. Unless specifically agreed otherwise by the university and the organization, the composition of the organization's governing board will be such as to assure continuation of the organization as an independent, legal entity separate from the university. Normally, more than 50 percent of the governing board membership of the organization must be non-university employees to assure continuation of the organization as an independent, legal entity separate from the university.
  4. When an organization has a beneficial affiliation with an organizational unit, the university organizational unit should be expected to provide the staff support for the organization. No such organization will use funds received by the organization for the benefit of the university to employ staff independently of the university. The university and the organization may agree to allocate some of the income the organization earns to the university for the specific purpose of supplementing institutional staff support. This provision does not preclude the affiliated organization from directly retaining professional services as is deemed necessary for the organization to fulfill its responsibilities to the donors and to the university, with the understanding that the retention of fund-raising and/or public relations consultants must be approved by the vice president for university advancement.
  5. The affiliated organization's Articles of Incorporation and Bylaws should assure the retention of the organization's legal status as a tax-exempt non-profit organization pursuant to Section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, or any successor statute, if applicable.
- N. Solicitation of Gifts and Donations: Recognized affiliated organizations may organize and conduct fund-raising campaigns as they deem appropriate, except that major multi-year campaign solicitation of gifts and donations to support new academic programs or services, the major renovation of existing buildings, or the construction of new facilities may not be initiated without the prior approval of the NMSU system Chancellor. The initiation of any fund-raising campaign by any organization must be coordinated with the overall fund-raising activities of the Office of the Vice President for University Advancement to assure proper contact with potential donors. Each organization will, in concert with the Office of the Vice President for University Advancement, establish procedures for the review and acceptance of gifts and donations and for the coordination of solicitations and prospect contacts. The acceptance of any gift or donation that contains restrictions as to its use requires a matching fiscal obligation of the university, creates a future obligation of the university, or involves real property must be approved by the Chancellor (or designee). Although each organization would be expected to maintain records of gifts and donations received and to properly acknowledge such gifts, the university has designated the Office of the Vice President for University Advancement as the central record-keeping agency for all gifts and donations received on behalf of the university. The receipt of all gifts and donations must be reported to the Office of the Vice President for University Advancement. The Office of the Vice President for University Advancement is available to advise and/or assist any affiliated organization in designing and conducting fund-raising campaigns. No affiliated organizations will accept any funds intended for a university organizational unit which requires performance or service by the university. Income generated by a university program or service is revenue of the university and must be directly deposited into a university account.

- O. Management of Gifts and Donations: All gift monies, whether received directly by the university or indirectly through a university-affiliated organization, will be managed in accordance with investment policies approved by the Board of Regents. Affiliated organizations are encouraged to deposit their gift receipts with the university for the specific organization. Oversight of the funds deposited in these agency accounts is the responsibility of the organization. The university will provide all accounting services related to the funds for the organization. Short-term investment income earned by the university on funds in these accounts will be allocated to the accounts. Gifts received in the form of endowments by any recognized affiliated organization should be assigned to the NMSU Foundation, for investment management purposes. All endowments must be managed in accordance with investment policies approved by the board. The identity of individual endowments will be maintained by the NMSU Foundation; however, endowment funds may be co-invested in a pooled funds approach. Consolidation of the endowment investment management program provides the opportunity for cost-effective management of the endowments. Endowments retained by the organizations or transferred to the NMSU Foundation through revocable trust agreements will be maintained on the organization's books. Gifts received in the form of real property will be managed in accordance with the donor's request. If the donor specifies that the property be used by the university in its gift form, such as art work, library books, real estate, etc., the property will be transferred to the university. If the donor desires that the property be used to establish an endowment, or if the gift is real property or property interest, the gift will be assigned to the NMSU Foundation, for management purposes. The NMSU Foundation may retain the real property and use the income earned to accomplish the donor's gift objectives. If the donor permits, and it is a better investment management decision to dispose of the real property, the NMSU Foundation will use the proceeds from these sales to establish the endowment. The NMSU Foundation will obtain university approval before disposing of any real property. No individual member, director, or officer of an affiliated organization should accept any gift or gratuity that is offered because of the individual's position held with the organization.
- P. Distribution of Funds: Affiliated organizations will not disburse directly any funds in the form of compensation to a university employee without the express written approval of the Chancellor of the university and/or Board of Regents. Exceptions may be made for awards, recognition, etc. Any funds intended for employee compensation will be transferred to a university account and subsequently disbursed in accordance with university policies and procedures. The affiliated organizations will receive interest income earned on funds in agency bank accounts held by the university in the name of the organizations, and may use such income to cover operating expenses directly incurred by the organizations. Organizations should establish policies for the review of any business transactions involving its members and the organization. Members, directors, and officers of the organization should disqualify themselves from making, participating in, or in any way attempting to use their position to influence decisions in which they have or would have a financial interest. Organizations will establish policies which preclude the use of any funds received or earned by the organization to support any political candidate. Organization funds will be accounted for in the university agency's fund, unless the university expressly approves the organization's separate accounting system. All separate systems will follow all university internal control policies where applicable.
- Q. Reports: Each affiliated organization maintaining a separate accounting system will report monthly to the Office of the Vice President for University Advancement the receipt of all gifts and donations and expenditures related to these funds. Each affiliated organization will provide monthly a summary of cultivation and solicitation activities. Organizations should prepare annual reports for the university and board that include standard financial statements required of non-profit organizations and any supplemental schedules requested by the university. The organization's auditor's opinion of these statements and schedules should be included in these annual reports, if applicable. Organizations should furnish to the university copies of all forms required to be filed by law, such as Form 990 and annual reports to the State Corporation Commission.
- R. Audits: Organizations shall provide the university with the results of annual financial audits performed by an independent auditing firm selected by the organization. Any independent audit firm selected by an organization that is not the same firm selected by the university must provide the necessary audit confirmations and assistance to the university's external auditor upon request. Organizations not required to provide an independent audit report should furnish to the university an annual financial report signed by the organization's president and treasurer. The Office of Audit Services staff may review all items approved by the organization's board for release to the university, with the understanding that such items and any reports related to them will fall under the organization's internal audit policy. This information will not become a part of the university's public records. The organization will not be used to provide any instructional, research, or public service activity sponsored or participated in by a university department or individual university employee in the name of university unless allowed by the university for specific purposes. Under no circumstances should an affiliated organization offer an instructional program for university academic credit. Nothing herein is intended to make any affiliated organization subject to the New Mexico Open Meetings or Public Records Acts; nor is it intended to violate any confidentiality of donor information.

- S. **Institutional Support:** In recognition of the support and contributions that these university-affiliated organizations give to the university, the university may provide logistic support at no cost to these organizations, such as:
1. Space for meetings and other needs that an organization may have in the conduct of its business.
  2. Staff support as described previously. In those regulations where university staff have a responsibility of significant support to the affiliated organization, the organization's officers should be consulted in selection and evaluation of such staff.
  3. Use of university's financial accounting systems for their fiscal management needs.
  4. Utilization of computer-based information management systems, such as donor record-keeping, etc.
  5. Use of the Procurement Services Office's staff when assistance is required in arranging purchases. Under no circumstances will purchases be made for the organizations through the Procurement Services Office.
  6. Recognized affiliated organizations will be given a non-exclusive license to use the name New Mexico State University and any other appropriate trademarks or trade names of the university in connection with their fund-raising activities. The university may, from time to time, deem it appropriate to provide financial support to an organization's major fund-raising campaign.
- T. **Termination/Dissolution of Organizations:** Upon termination of any agreement between the university and an affiliated organization, or upon the dissolution of any such organization, all assets held by the affiliated organization on behalf of the university shall become the property of the university, or such other affiliated organization as the university shall designate. This condition shall be included in the bylaws of any affiliated organization.

## 2.80 – University Communications; Use of NMSU Logo; Website(s) Guidelines

### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

The office of University Communications and Marketing Services (UCOMM) is responsible for NMSU's news, media relations, publicity, institutional marketing, top-level websites as well as branding including the use of the NMSU Logo and other protected trademarks. Additionally, UCOMM functions as the primary liaison between NMSU and the mass media, as well as builds direct connections to important audiences via social media. Faculty and staff are encouraged to respond to media inquiries directly when acting in their area of expertise. Faculty and staff who respond to media inquiries are requested to inform UCOMM so the media contact can be recorded. UCOMM is also available to provide advice to NMSU departments regarding matters involving the media. Adoption of this revised Rule will supersede Rule 2.85, "University Logo".

### PART 2: USE OF NMSU LOGO AND OTHER PROTECTED NMSU TRADEMARKS

- A. **Use of NMSU Logo by NMSU Entities:** NMSU encourages its departments, laboratories and other units to use the NMSU Logo to identify and promote themselves. Their use must be reproduced from an authorized version, available from UCOMM. A license agreement is not required for academic or educational use(s) of the official NMSU Logo by NMSU entities, as long as the rules below are followed and items marked with the logo are not commercially marketed. The following rules apply to use of the NMSU Logo by NMSU entities:

1. The NMSU Logo may not be redrawn or modified in any way. This is the NMSU Logo:



2. Specific rules for reproducing the symbol are located in the NMSU brand website at <https://brand.nmsu.edu/logo>.
3. For posters, presentations or conference materials, the NMSU Logo can be downloaded at <https://brand.nmsu.edu/logo>

4. When partnerships with external funding agencies, other universities or government labs require using both the NMSU Logo and the partner logo, the logo set up will be reviewed by UCOMM to ensure proper use. When the NMSU Logo will be displayed as a partner logo (not combined or altered in any way), it can be downloaded at <https://brand.nmsu.edu/logo>
  5. When planning an NMSU special event (e.g. Homecoming) which may involve the use of a theme logo in addition to the NMSU Logo, the planning group should coordinate with UCOMM and obtain approval for the limited use of the NMSU Logo with the special event logo.
- B. Third Party Use of NMSU Logo or Other Protected Trademarks: Third parties may only be permitted to use NMSU's protected trademarks, including the official NMSU Logo, through a license agreement. The Chancellor has delegated authority to approve such licenses to UCOMM. Third parties and NMSU entities seeking permission to use NMSU's protected trademarks for retail purposes or to promote non-educational special events shall coordinate such use with the Collegiate Licensing Company at [retail@clc.com](mailto:retail@clc.com). For assistance, please direct questions to [mktgserv@nmsu.edu](mailto:mktgserv@nmsu.edu)
- C. Advisory Logo Committee: At the discretion of the Associate Vice President for University Communications and Marketing Services, an advisory logo committee may be convened on an *ad hoc* basis to assist and advise concerning proposed uses for the NMSU Logo or other protected trademarks. The advisory committee shall consist of management representatives from UCOMM and the university system as deemed appropriate by the chair for the topic(s) to be discussed.

### **PART 3: GUIDELINES FOR OFFICIAL NMSU WEBSITES**

- A. Roles and Responsibilities: UCOMM is responsible, working in collaboration with ICT, for establishing consistent guidelines for official NMSU websites. Personal Websites are not subject to these guidelines, unless used by faculty for instructional purposes, which is discouraged. UCOMM will collaborate and coordinate with NMSU units throughout the system regarding the content and design of official NMSU web pages.
1. UCOMM will format and maintain and the "institution's home pages" and will provide templates to ensure the online identity for the university follows consistent branding and design standards. Official NMSU websites must use the approved web templates and themes provided by UCOMM. UCOMM will provide the documentation for the use of official NMSU templates and will issue periodic guidance to NMSU units regarding content and design specifications.
  2. The Associate Vice President of UCOMM, or designee, may convene an advisory web governance board, on an *ad hoc* basis, to assist with further development or amendment of web standards, resolution of complaints or other issues relating to the administration of this Rule. The web governance board shall consist of management representatives from UCOMM and ICT, and others from the university or local community as appropriate for the topic(s) to be discussed.
  3. Information and Communication Technologies (ICT) will provide standard web site space and grant access for NMSU entities upon request and maintain the servers and systems in which these sites are located. ICT will provide the technical support to the NMSU entities and web content managers to assist with the issues relating to creation, access and maintenance of their official NMSU websites. NMSU entities that operate their own web servers are subject to administrative rules relating to NMSU Server Administration and Operation.
  4. NMSU Entities that publish a Web page must designate a regular staff or faculty employee to serve as a steward and point of contact for the website. The staff or faculty member designated to steward for the website shall also serve as liaison to UCOMM and ICT and ensure that the website stays in compliance with these website guidelines and other applicable university policies and rules.
  5. NMSU Entities are responsible for preparing the content, maintaining their own web pages and ensuring the content remains accurate and current to the university community or to the public, as appropriate.
- B. Accessibility: All university web pages shall comply with the requirements of the Americans with Disabilities Act and Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973. NMSU entities may consult with the Office of Institutional Equity and ICT for assistance with compliance with this requirement.

- C. Use of Copyrighted Material: Web page publishers and content managers are responsible for ensuring that the legal right to use any non-original content is obtained from the copyright owner. Non-original work (photographs, artwork or written content) is generally protected by U.S. copyright law and should be included on web pages only with written permission from the copyright owner. For use of electronic materials found on the internet, please contact the owner of the web page that is the source of the desired material to obtain permission.
- D. Advertising and Sponsorship: NMSU official and instructional websites shall not contain an endorsement of, nor solicitation for, any commercial enterprise, product or political affiliation. NMSU Entities may acknowledge contributors, donors or sponsors on web pages, including specially designated sponsors' pages. Recognition of sponsors may include names, a brief phrase describing the business, and a link to sponsor's Web sites. Sponsor's logos or trademarks may only be included with the written permission of the sponsor.

#### **PART 4: GUIDELINES FOR PERSONAL AND STUDENT ORGANIZATION WEBSITES**

NMSU grants individual students, faculty, staff, and recognized student organizations and clubs the privilege and opportunity to maintain a personal website, for personal enrichment and use. These websites will be referred to as "Personal Websites". Personal websites, although hosted by NMSU, are not official NMSU sponsored websites and therefore shall not be entitled to web support from NMSU Information and Communication Technologies. Personal websites are considered "limited public forums" (*See Regents Policy 3.63 – Freedom of Expression*) and are subject to the following rules:

- A. Link to Author Contact Information: Each page of a personal website must contain a link to the current contact information of the website author.
- B. Account Maintenance: Personal websites will be provided 5 GB of space. Accounts that have not been active for more than 180 days will be deactivated. Accounts inactive for more than 365 days will be purged. Website owners will be notified in advance of deactivation.
- C. Required Disclaimer: In a conspicuous location on each personal website homepage, either the university or the author, or both, shall post the following disclaimer: "This website is created and maintained by [the website author](#) and does not represent the views of NMSU."
- D. Use as an Instructional Tool: Faculty members should not use a personal website for supplemental instructional purposes; rather, they should use NMSU's course management software or the instructional web space provided by ICT. Faculty members who choose to use a personal website for instructional purposes will be subject to all NMSU policies and rules applicable in the workplace.
- E. Chartered Student Organizations and Clubs: Official chartered student organizations and clubs may use the student organization web space provided by ICT for their organization website upon approval through Campus Activities. Official student organization and clubs are permitted to use the NMSU templates and are not required to include the disclaimer.
- F. Complaints or Concerns Regarding Personal Websites: The university does not monitor or maintain the personal and student organization websites. Comments or concerns should be directed to the page authors, or may also be routed through the university's confidential reporting system, [EthicsPoint](#) (<https://auditservices.nmsu.edu/reporting-line/>). Concerns and complaints will be reviewed and addressed in accordance with Regents Policy 3.63 and in consultation with the Web Governance Board and other appropriate NMSU officials, including but not limited to the Director of Campus Activities.

#### **PART 5: GUIDELINES FOR WEBSITES USED FOR "INSTRUCTIONAL PURPOSES"**

NMSU encourages faculty to use NMSU's course management software for online instructional content or the web space provided for instructional use by ICT. NMSU will provide faculty the privilege and opportunity to maintain websites for supplemental instructional content or as an instructional tool. These websites will be referred to as "Instructional websites". Instructional websites are distinct from official NMSU websites, and are subject to the following rules:

- A. Use for Supplemental Instructional Content: ICT will provide faculty will web space on [teach.nmsu.edu](http://teach.nmsu.edu) for supplemental instructional content.
- B. Use as an Instructional Tool: ICT will provide faculty and students web space on [study.nmsu.edu](http://study.nmsu.edu) for instructional use. Websites on [study.nmsu.edu](http://study.nmsu.edu) will be reset on a semester basis.

- C. Account Maintenance: Web space provided for instructional purposes pursuant to this Part shall be provided 5 GB of space. Accounts that have not been active for more than 180 days will be deactivated. Accounts inactive for more than 365 days will be purged. Website owners will be notified in advance of deactivation.
- D. Security: Account maintenance should be in accordance with all university purge policies and procedures. Web pages that are used as supplemental instructional content or as an instructional tool shall:
1. Only be available to users with NMSU accounts;
  2. Be accessed on campus or by VPN only;
  3. Not be crawled or indexed by search engines; and
  4. With the exception of branding guidelines, stay in compliance with NMSU website guidelines and other applicable university policies and rules.
- E. Temporary Access: In cases when faculty need provide access to non NMSU entities, they can request assistance from ICT to provide guest accounts.

## PART 6: DEFINITIONS

- A. “NMSU Entity”: An NMSU entity, sometimes also referred to simply as a “unit”, is the term used to refer to a college, a department or any other individual administrative unit within the NMSU System. Private not-for-profit corporate entities recognized to be affiliated with NMSU for fundraising, research, public service, or student activity purposes, while subject to certain NMSU policies, rules and procedures are not considered “NMSU entities”.
- B. “Personal Website”: A Personal Website is a personal web page published and maintained by individual faculty, staff, student, or student club or organization hosted by NMSU.
- C. “Official NMSU Website”: An official NMSU website is one that represents the university, its offices, divisions and departments, for the benefit of the university’s various audiences: students, employees and visitors.
- D. “Instructional Website”: An instructional website is a web page that is published, maintained, and created by faculty to contain supplemental instructional content; or a website that is provided for students to use as instructional tool that is hosted by NMSU.
- E. “Institutional Homepages”: The following websites are NMSU’s institutional homepages: [www.nmsu.edu](http://www.nmsu.edu) and [inside.nmsu.edu](http://inside.nmsu.edu).

## PART 7: ADDITIONAL GUIDELINES AND TOOLS

Consistent with this Rule, the Rule Administrator may amend or issue supplemental design standards, or forms and checklists to facilitate the implementation, application, and enforcement of this Rule. Such supplemental information will be posted at: <http://brand.nmsu.edu>.

Rule Administrator:	University Communication and Marketing Services
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	June 21, 2016
Revision History:	06.14.16 major revision rewriting Rules 2.80 and 2.85 recommended by UAC; 06.21.16 major revision approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policies 2.80 and 2.85 to be replicated as initial Rules 2.80 and Rule 2.85. <b><i>Prior Revision History as Policies 2.80 and 2.85 not available.</i></b>
Cross References:	See Also Rule 2.35, General NMSU ICT Policies

## 2.89 - Use of Preferred Name

### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

New Mexico State University recognizes that for a variety of reasons, individuals may prefer to use a name that is different from their legal name to identify themselves. A preferred name reflects the manner in which an individual wishes to be addressed by faculty, staff, students, co-workers and the public. NMSU’s rule on preferred names covers first and middle names; surnames may only be changed with a legal name change.

Similarly, a preferred pronoun indicates how an individual would like to be referred to by others in lieu of their name; preferred pronouns may change over time. Some prefer gender-neutral or gender-inclusive pronouns when referring



to or speaking with an individual. The following list of possible pronouns is not all inclusive: 1. he, him, his; 2. she, her, hers; 3. they, them, their and 4. xe, xem, xir.

## **PART 2: CONDITIONS APPLICABLE TO USE OF PREFERRED NAME AND/OR PRONOUN**

- A. Individual Use: Commencing with the fall 2016 semester, a preferred first or middle name and/or use of a preferred pronoun may be utilized by anyone in the university community in combination with their legal surname. As long as the use of a preferred name is not for the purpose of misrepresentation, embarrassment or offense, or other misconduct, NMSU will honor an individual's use of a preferred name or pronoun in the course of university business and education, consistent with this Rule. NMSU reserves the right to deny use of, or to remove, a preferred name if not consistent with this Rule.
- B. Respect for Use and Privacy: Employees, students and other members of the university community will respect such use, in addition to respecting the privacy of individuals concerning such use.
- C. Procedure to Use Preferred Name: Students and employees or others authorized to be listed in the NMSU Directory may initiate, update or delete the use of a preferred name via Banner Self Service, Personal Information section accessible through NMSU's portal ([my.nmsu.edu](http://my.nmsu.edu))
- D. Limitations on Use of Preferred Name: Certain academic programs or internships and placements may be governed by New Mexico State law and may limit the use of a preferred name; before entering a preferred name in the system, it is recommended that you speak with your dean or ASNMSU legal services attorney regarding these potential regulatory limitations.

## **PART 3: INSTITUTIONAL USE OF PREFERRED NAME VS. LEGAL NAME**

- A. Preferred Name: The preferred name will be used in lieu of the legal name wherever the legal name is not required, such as:
  - 1. learning management system
  - 2. class rosters
  - 3. degree audit system
  - 4. advisee lists
  - 5. email system
  - 6. online directory, unless the student has opted out of the directory (following is the link to the FERPA page that references opting out of directory information: <http://registrar.nmsu.edu/ferpa/>).
- B. Legal Name: Use of the legal name (the name that appears on your passport, driver's license, birth certificate or U.S. Social Security card) is required for:
  - 1. admissions and registrar official records
  - 2. transfer credit
  - 3. federal, state, and institutional student financial aid
  - 4. housing contracts
  - 5. payroll
  - 6. benefit information
  - 7. student billing and the student account invoice (including e-bills)
  - 8. disciplinary action
  - 9. other legally binding requirements
- C. Frequently Asked Questions/Examples:
  - 1. **Who will have access to my Legal Name?** University employees with the appropriate access, the NMSU Police Department, and your supervisor (if you are employed in a campus job).
  - 2. **May an individual obtain an NMSU ID card with the preferred name?** Yes. If the individual records a preferred name in Banner Self Service ([my.nmsu.edu](http://my.nmsu.edu)), a replacement ID card may be obtained, but is not required. In order to obtain a new card, the old card with the legal name must be turned in to the ID Card Services Office. The cost of a new card can be found at <http://idcard.nmsu.edu/id-frequently-asked-questions/>.



3. **Is the NMSU ID card a form of identification accepted off campus?** It is advisable to carry a government issued form of ID such as a driver's license or passport with you in order to access resources that are not on the NMSU campus.
4. **May an individual change their NMSU username to reflect their preferred name?** Under some circumstances an individual may be able to change their NMSU username. Contact the ICT Help Desk at <http://help.nmsu.edu> for more information.
5. **Does a Preferred Name Affect my Legal Name?** No. Use of a preferred name does not change your legal name.
6. **What name will appear on a student's diploma?** Generally, the student's legal name will appear on the student's diploma. However, students may provide abbreviated variations of their legal name when they apply for graduation. The legal name of a student which appears on a student's diploma may be modified slightly as follows:
  1. option to display first name or first name initial
  2. option to include or exclude middle name or middle initial
  3. option to modify legal name for proper capitalization
  4. option to modify legal name for proper accentuation of the name
  5. option to include or exclude suffixes (Jr., Sr., and II)
  6. the first and middle names may not be lengthened (i.e. expanding an initial to a full name) or shortened to anything other than an initial
7. **Is it possible for a student to get a new diploma if the student's legal name has changed?** Yes. The original diploma must be returned and a replacement diploma will be issued after obtaining the appropriate documentation to update the student's legal name. The cost of a new diploma can be found at [commencement.nmsu.edu](http://commencement.nmsu.edu). The current University officials' signatures will appear on the replacement diploma.
8. **Why is a certain office or system not using an individual's preferred name?** There are a few reasons an office or system might not be using an individual's preferred name in some or all communications. As indicated above, some offices or processes require use of an individual's legal name. Even though some processes require the use of the legal name, it is the intent that all offices use the preferred name as much as possible in general communications. It is possible that an online system may not display an individual's preferred name. A preferred name may not be used in an online system because the system must use the legal name or because the system has not yet been updated to use the preferred name. If you have a concern that a legal name is being used instead of the preferred name, please contact the Chief Information Officer at [cio@nmsu.edu](mailto:cio@nmsu.edu).
9. **More Information about Preferred Name:** For questions regarding a preferred name, please contact the ICT Help Desk at [help@nmsu.edu](mailto:help@nmsu.edu).
10. **Information about Changing Legal Name:** For information regarding change of one's legal name, please contact your local state district court with jurisdiction.

Rule Administrator:	Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	July 12, 2016
Revision History:	07.12.16 UAC recommended adoption of new rule; 07.12.16 Chancellor approved.

## 2.90 - University Records

### 2.90.10 - Records Integrity and Retention

- A. **Records Integrity:** Because the university business records and reports are of critical importance in meeting financial, legal, and management obligations, they must always be prepared promptly, accurately and truthfully. Those who rely on these records and reports have a right to timely and accurate information. The integrity of university records is based on validity, accuracy, and completeness. All employees involved in creating, processing, recording, and reviewing such information are responsible for ensuring such integrity. Supporting documentation and records for transactions, such as agreements, invoices, request for reimbursement, and time

and effort reporting must fairly and fully support the actual purposes and amounts of the transactions. Transactions must be recorded in the proper account. All university assets, liabilities, and components of fund balances will be recorded on the university books, and all accounts will be appropriately approved and maintained according to university policies and procedures.

- B. Records Retention: Statutory or other legal requirements provide that certain records be retained for specific periods of time. Some records and documents may have to be held in connection with regulatory directives or other business purposes; therefore, no records may be destroyed, except in accordance with applicable laws and NMSU policy, rules and procedures. Email communications relating to university business are part of the university's records and shall be retained depending upon the nature of the document, consistent with the retention requirements for that type of document.
- C. Duty to Report Records Integrity Violations: Employees who become aware of the possible omission, falsification, or inaccuracy of information entered into university records, the basic data supporting such entries or any other university record, or who become aware of the improper destruction of records, shall report this knowledge to the Office of Audit Services.

## **2.90.20 - Access to Student Educational Records – FERPA Compliance**

### **PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND PURPOSE**

The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), codified at 20 U.S.C. §1232 (g), protects the privacy of NMSU students' educational records, absent (1) the student giving proper written consent for disclosure or (2) circumstances which meet one of the exceptions in the law warranting disclosure without prior consent. This Rule is intended to provide guidance to the various NMSU entities to assist them in protecting students' right of privacy consistent with FERPA and corresponding regulations published in 34 CFR Part 99.

FERPA also provides students and eligible parents the right to access and review educational records, as well as the right to seek amendment and/or supplement the student's education records in the event they are alleged to be inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's rights. This Rule provides the rules and procedures by which NMSU System students and eligible parents may invoke these rights, and notice of how to file a complaint should they believe their right under FERPA are not being honored.

### **PART 2: DEFINITIONS**

- A. Directory Information: Directory information is defined for purposes of this Rule as the student's name; NMSU Aggie ID number; class; college and major; dates of attendance; degree(s) earned; honors and awards received, including selection to the dean's or chancellor's list, honorary organization, or the GPA range for the selection; address; local or contact telephone number; NMSU electronic mail address; most recent previous educational institution attended; participation in officially recognized activities and sports; and the weight and height and age of members of athletic teams.
- B. Education records: Education records are records that are maintained by NMSU in any form or format (e.g. paper, electronic, digital image, film, video, audio tape) which contain information directly related to a student and are personally identifiable to a student. Education records do **not** include:
  - 1. Personal records of university employees that are in the sole possession of the maker (i.e. notes of conversations), are used as a personal memory aid, and are not accessible or revealed to any individual except to a successor in the position held;
  - 2. Records of the NMSU police department used for law enforcement purposes;
  - 3. Student medical and counseling records maintained and used only in connection with provision of medical treatment or counseling of the student and are made available only to the individuals providing the treatment;
  - 4. Employment records unrelated to the student's status as a student;
  - 5. Records created or received after an individual is no longer a student in attendance and that are not directly related to the individual's attendance as a student (i.e. alumni records); or
  - 6. Grades on peer-graded papers before they are collected and recorded by a faculty member.
- C. Legitimate Educational Interest: In the context of this Rule, refers to the work related and authorized need for access to an educational record (by a designated school official) within the course and scope of the individual official's employment or contract.

D. School Official: School Official means:

1. An employee, agent or officer of the university acting in the employee's official capacity;
2. A person serving on university committees, boards, and/or councils, including an individual serving on a disciplinary or grievance committee;
3. Another educational institution that requests records for a particular student who seeks or intends to enroll or where the student is already enrolled provided the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer; and
4. A person or company with whom the university has contracted (e.g. internship and clinical facilities, attorney, auditor, or collection agent) but limited to only the specific student information needed to fulfill the contract. The contracting entity, as the agent for NMSU, is required to protect the student's educational records in compliance with FERPA's regulations on the control, maintenance, use and re-disclosure of the information provided to it.

E. Student: means an individual who is or has been in attendance at NMSU for degree seeking courses, non-credit courses, life-long learning courses, and/or certificate courses. It does not include persons who have been admitted but did not attend the university. For the purposes of this policy, "attendance" starts with orientation or course registration and includes in person or by paper correspondence, videoconference, satellite, Internet, or other electronic information and telecommunications technologies for students who are not physically present in the classroom and the period during which an individual is working under a NMSU work-study program.

### **PART 3: PROCEDURES FOR INSPECTION OF STUDENT EDUCATIONAL RECORDS**

- A. The Office of the Registrar has been designated by the university as the records custodian for student educational records. The Office of the Registrar responds on behalf of the NMSU System to requests from students, eligible parents and others for access to and inspection of student education records. When the requested records are housed at other campuses or offices the institution, the Office of the Registrar will coordinate with the other NMSU entities to provide or respond to the request.
- B. To ensure that the Registrar receives the request, students are encouraged to submit their requests to view their educational records in writing.
- C. Inspection shall be permitted within 45 calendar days from the date of the written request.
- D. If the student is not able to review the records at the university, the records will be mailed or emailed to the student.
- E. Students may be charged a reasonable copying fee, unless the fee would prevent the student from obtaining the copy, in which case, there shall be no charge.
- F. As provided by FERPA, students shall not be permitted to inspect the following records:
  1. Financial information submitted by their parents;
  2. Confidential letters and recommendations associated with admissions, employment or job placement, or honors to which they have waived their rights of inspection and review;
  3. Education records containing information about other students, in which case the institution will permit access only to that part of the record which pertains to the inquiring student; or
  4. Confidential letters and recommendations placed in their files prior to January 1, 1975, providing those letters were collected under established policies of confidentiality and were used only for the purposes for which they were collected.

### **PART 4: PROCEDURES TO AMEND OR SUPPLEMENT STUDENT EDUCATIONAL RECORDS**

- A. If a student or eligible parent believes that the educational record is inaccurate, misleading or otherwise in violation of the student's rights, they may request an amendment of the record. If the proposed amendment is denied, the student or eligible parent may request a hearing by submitting to the Office of the Registrar a [REQUEST FOR HEARING TO AMEND OR SUPPLEMENT EDUCATIONAL RECORD](#).
- B. The Office of the Registrar will schedule a hearing within twenty business days from receipt of a request for hearing, absent extenuating circumstances.

- C. The Office of the Registrar will give the student or eligible parent five business days advance notice of the date, time and place in of the hearing.
- D. The hearing officer will be a representative of the Office of the Provost, or other member of senior management who does not have a direct interest in the outcome of the hearing.
- E. The student or eligible parent shall receive a fair hearing, meaning that they will be given the opportunity to present evidence relevant to the issues raised.
- F. The student or eligible parent may, at their own expense, be assisted or represented by one or more individuals of the student or eligible parent's choice, including an attorney.
- G. The hearing officer shall consider solely the evidence the evidence presented at the hearing, including any evidence which may be offered by university representatives, and deliver a written decision within fifteen business days from the date of the hearing. The written decision shall include a summary of the evidence and the reasons supporting the decision.

#### **PART 5: STUDENT CONSENT REQUIRED TO DISCLOSE EDUCATIONAL RECORDS**

The general rule is that student consent is required before a student's educational records may be accessed or disclosed to a third party. This Part describes how a student may provide that consent; Part 6 addresses exceptions from this general rule.

- A. NMSU officials, through the Office of the Registrar, may disclose student educational records with the student's consent.
- B. A student is deemed to have consented to disclosure of limited information, referred to as directory information, unless the student opts out of the university's Directory- *See Part 6. A.*
- C. Additionally, a student may wish to allow third parties access to student educational records, for a variety of reasons. A form to facilitate documentation of the student's consent and waiver of privacy rights under FERPA is located at the [mynmsu portal](#). Any signed FERPA consent, release or waiver will be honored by the Office of the Registrar upon receipt and verification that it was signed by the student.

#### **PART 6: EXCEPTIONS TO REQUIREMENT FOR STUDENT CONSENT**

FERPA permits the disclosure of educational records without the student's consent when certain exceptions apply. These exceptions are described here:

- A. The university may release student educational records without the student's consent provided it is directory information (**See Definitions, Part 2**), and the student has not opted out of the directory. To opt out of the Directory, students must notify the Office of the NMSU Registrar in writing. A **NON-RELEASE OF DIRECTORY INFORMATION** form may be used to document the student's intent to opt out of the Directory. This form is available at the [mynmsu portal](#) and also at <http://registrar.nmsu.edu/forms/>. NMSU will not disclose Directory information without consent for students who have provided such written notice to the Office of the Registrar.
- B. The university may release student educational records without the student's consent to university officials who have a legitimate educational interest (**See Definitions, Part 2**) to access the records. If releasing educational records to a university contractor, NMSU shall ensure:
  1. that the contractor performs an institutional service or function for which NMSU would otherwise use employees;
  2. that the contractor is under the direct control of NMSU with respect to the use and maintenance of education records; and
  3. that the contractor shall be subject to FERPA's use and re-disclosure requirements relating to personal identifiable information from student education records.
- C. The university may also release student educational records without the student's consent if one of the additional exceptions set forth in the FERPA regulations (**See 34 C.F.R §§99.31**) applies. Depending upon the exception, briefly described below, the university may be required to make a reasonable attempt to notify the student in advance or to notate in the student's educational record the details relating to a nonconsensual disclosure. (*See Part 7 below*)

1. To another university or school in which the student seeks or intends to enroll, provided the disclosure is for purposes related to the student's enrollment or transfer;
2. In connection with financial aid for which the student has applied or which the student has received, as necessary and for certain purposes provided for in the Act;
3. To parents of dependent students as defined in section 152 of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986;
4. To protect the health and safety of any student or others in a health or safety emergency;
5. To accreditation organizations or agencies;
6. To authorized representatives of the US Comptroller General or the US Attorney General, the US Secretary of Education, state and local educational authorities for audit or evaluation of federal or state supported educational programs, or for the enforcement of or compliance with federal legal requirements that relate to those programs;
7. To comply with a lawful judicial order or lawfully issued subpoena, *provided* that the university first makes a reasonable effort to notify the student or eligible parent of the order or subpoena, in advance of compliance, so that the student or parent as applicable may seek protective action, *unless pursuant to 34 C.F.R. 99.31(a)(9)(ii) (A)-(C), the subpoena orders **non-disclosure** of the existence or contents of the subpoena, or information furnished in response*;
8. To support legal action in court as may be relevant to the issues being litigated;
9. To organizations conducting studies for, or on behalf of, educational agencies or institution for the purpose of 1) developing, validating, or administering predictive tests; 2) administering student aid programs; or 3) improving instruction; provided the study is conducted pursuant to a written data sharing, use and destruction agreement as required by 34 C.F.R. §§ 99.31 (6) (iii) (C) (1)-(4);
10. Disclosure of events involving drugs or alcohol to parents of students under age of 21:
  - a. Unless there are extenuating circumstances, the university will not generally notify parents or legal guardians of students under the age of 21 of a first time alcohol violation. Parents and guardians will be notified if the student is determined by the university to be a danger to himself or herself, to others, or to property.
  - b. The university may notify parents and legal guardians of students under the age of 21 of all second and subsequent alcohol violations. For purposes of determining what constitutes a second or subsequent violation, multiple related violations during a single incident will be treated as one offense.
  - c. The university may notify parents or legal guardians of students under the age of 21 of any drug violations.
11. To disclose the final result of a student judicial proceeding to the alleged victim in which the alleged perpetrator/student was charged with violating university policies or rules relating to a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense;
12. To disclose the final result of a student judicial proceeding to a third party related to university charges filed associated with a crime of violence or non-forcible sex offense, if the student was found to be responsible for violating the university's rules or policies. Disclosure is limited to the name of the violator, the type of violation found to have occurred, and the sanction imposed by the university; and
13. To disclose information about sex offenders and other individuals required to register under section 170101 of the Violent Crime Control and Law Enforcement Act of 1994, 42 U.S.C. 14071, and the information was provided to the university under 42 U.S.C. 14071 and applicable federal guidelines.

## **PART 7: REPORTING REQUIREMENTS FOR DISCLOSURES WITHOUT PRIOR CONSENT**

- A. FERPA require schools to record all requests for access to, and all disclosures of personal identifiable information (PII) from student educational records, **EXCEPT FOR** 1) disclosures to school officials with legitimate educational interest; 2) disclosures in response to certain judicial orders or lawfully issued subpoenas (*See Part 6. C. 7. above*); 3) disclosures of directory information for students who have not opted out of the directory; and 4) disclosures directly to the student or eligible parent.
- B. NMSU shall maintain these records with the student's education records for as long as the student's records are maintained.

- C. The recorded information shall include the parties who have requested or received PII from student educational records and their legitimate interests in requesting or obtaining the information.
- D. Students and eligible parents have a right to inspect and review the record of disclosures.
- E. See 34 CFR § 99.32 for the full list of recordation requirements.

## **PART 8: PREVENTION OF FERPA PROTECTED DATA BREACHES; PROTOCOLS IN EVENT OF BREACH**

- A. Data Security: NMSU shall establish and maintain information security policies and procedures to protect the privacy of student educational data, including data located on personally owned equipment which connects to the NMSU enterprise and data moved to personal devices. NMSU will refer to the recommended practices by the Privacy Technical Assistance Center (PTAC) from The U.S. Department of Education for guidance in its administration of FERPA and corresponding regulations.
- B. Training: The Office of the Registrar in coordination with the NMSU Department of Information and Communication Technologies, shall ensure that NMSU administration, faculty, staff and contractors as appropriate, receive FERPA and data security training at least biennially in order to raise awareness of this Rule and the university's obligation to meet the requirements of FERPA and its regulations.
- C. Data Breach or Compromise:
  1. NMSU employees and contractors who access student educational records and data in the course and scope of their employment shall report any suspected, minor, accidental or other data compromise that they know or should know about to the Office of the Registrar or IT Compliance Officer for proper review and resolution.
  2. Reports of possible or actual data security breaches, no matter what size, shall be made to [itcompliance@nmsu.edu](mailto:itcompliance@nmsu.edu) and [ciso@nmsu.edu](mailto:ciso@nmsu.edu).
  3. Upon receipt of a report of a possible or actual data security breach, preliminary review and analysis will be conducted by ICT, and appropriate action will follow. Depending upon the nature of the breach, such action may involve a formal investigation, which shall be conducted in an objective, prompt and thorough manner. The factual findings of the preliminary review and the formal investigation, if any, shall be documented, and proper notifications made to affected individuals and internal and/or external entities, as appropriate, including but not limited to the Family Policy Compliance Office (FPCO) of the U. S. Department of Education.

## **PART 9: COMPLAINT PROCESS FOR ALLEGED VIOLATION(S) OF FERPA**

If a student or eligible parent is denied access to inspect student educational information; information is wrongly released or disclosed without consent or exception from the requirement for consent; a request to supplement or amend the student's educational record is denied; or any other violation of FERPA is alleged, the student or eligible parent may file a complaint with: 1) The university's chief academic officer, the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, or 2) The federal Office of Family Policy Compliance Office, U.S. Department of Education, 400 Maryland Ave. SW; Washington D.C. 20202-5901 (202) 260-3887.

Rule Administrator:	NMSU Registrar
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	04.12.16 UAC recommended amendment; 04.12.16 Chancellor approved. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 2.90.20 as initial Rule 2.90.20. <i>Prior Revision History as Policy 2.90.20 not available.</i>
Cross References:	See Also Regents Policy 2.90.20, Student Educational Records- FERPA Compliance

### **2.90.30 - Protection of Non-public, Personal Information**

- A. Protection of Private, Non-Public Information: NMSU maintains the security and confidentiality of private, non-public records and information, and protects it from anticipated threats or hazards, as well from unauthorized access to or use of such records, in accordance with the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA Act), 15 U.S.C. Subchapter 1, §§ 6801-6809.

B. Examples of Private Information: New Mexico State University collects information such as:

1. Name (in combination with)
2. Social Security Number
3. Date and location of birth
4. Gender
5. Financial status
6. Salary history
7. Personal check information
8. Bank information - check routing numbers
9. Credit card numbers
10. Drivers license information

C. Compliance with Applicable Laws: NMSU's policy is to identify and safeguard this information, when required, with the appropriate procedures, consistent with the GLB Act. The university will manage private, non-public information in accordance with all applicable state and federal guidelines relating to the use, disclosure and retention of private, non-public information. Appropriate administrative, technical and physical security of this information is identified in the Plan for Creation and Implementation of Privacy and Safeguarding Guidelines. A copy of this plan is available at [NMSU Privacy](#).

## 2.90.40 - Inspection of Public Records

- A. Purpose: To facilitate compliance with the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act (NMSA 1978, §14-2-1 et seq).
- B. Scope: This policy applies throughout the NMSU system.
- C. Policy Administrator: The Office of General Counsel administers this policy, and provides guidance as needed to the various custodians of public records as they respond to requests for inspection of public documents.
- D. Definitions: *See* the definitions contained within the NM Inspection of Public Records Act, NMSA 1978, § 14-2-6.
- E. Policy Statement: The designated custodians of public records shall respond to requests for inspection in a timely and professional manner, in compliance with the NM Inspection of Public Records Act (NMIPRA). If the Procedural Guidelines do not clearly identify a records custodian for a particular record sought, university general counsel is authorized to designate an appropriate university official to serve as records custodian for the request. Requests for inspection of university records will be considered and permitted consistent with the applicable law and the rights of the parties.
- F. Procedural Guidelines: With approval from the Chancellor, the policy administrator may issue and amend [Procedural Guidelines](#), provided they are consistent with this policy and the NMIPRA. The Procedural Guidelines shall be posted on the appropriate website for NMSU System policies and procedures.

### REVISION HISTORY:

Amendment recommended by Administrative Council 09.13.11; approved by Board of Regents 10.10.11.

Amendment recommended by Administrative Council 11.08.11; approved by Board of Regents 12.09.11.

Amendment recommended by University Administrative Council 07.14.15; approved by Board of Regents 07.21.15.

## 2.91 - Identity Theft Prevention Program

*[Policy approved by the Administrative Council 07.14.09; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09]*

- A. Introduction: The Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003, an amendment to the Fair Credit Reporting Act, requires rules regarding identity theft protection to be promulgated and adopted jointly by the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, Treasury; the Board of Governors of the Federal Reserve System; the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation; the Office of Thrift Supervision, Treasury; the National Credit Union Administration; and the Federal Trade Commission. The risk to New Mexico State University (the "university"), and its students, faculty, staff, and other constituents from data loss and Identity Theft is of significant concern to the university.



B. Purpose: The university adopts this Identity Theft Prevention Program (the “Program”) in an effort to detect, prevent, and mitigate Identify Theft in connection with the opening of a Covered Account or any existing Covered Account. The Program is further intended to help protect students, faculty, staff, and other constituents and the university from damages related to the fraudulent activity of Identity Theft.

1. This Program will:

- a. Identify patterns, practices, or specific activities that indicate the possible existence of Identity Theft with regard to new or existing Covered Accounts;
- b. Detect Red Flags that have been incorporated into the Program;
- c. Respond appropriately to any Red Flags that are detected under the Program;
- d. Ensure periodic updating of the Program, including reviewing the accounts that are covered and the identified Red Flags that are part of the Program; and
- e. Promote compliance with state and federal laws and regulations regarding Identity Theft protection.

C. Scope: The Program applies to all units of the university’s Las Cruces campus, community college campuses and satellite operations having interaction with students, faculty, staff, and other constituents.

D. Definitions:

1. Covered Account: An account the university offers or maintains that involves or is designed to permit multiple payments or transactions; and every new and existing account maintained by the university for its students, faculty, staff, and other constituents that meets the following criteria:
  - a. Accounts for which there is a reasonably foreseeable risk of Identity Theft; or
  - b. Accounts for which there is a reasonably foreseeable risk to the safety or soundness of the university from Identity Theft, including financial, operational, compliance, reputation, or litigation risk.
2. Identity Theft: Fraud committed or attempted using the identifying information of another person without authority.
3. Personally Identifying Information: Any information that may be used to identify a specific person in conjunction with the name of the person, including: name, address, telephone number, social security number, date of birth, government issued driver’s license or identification number, alien registration number, government passport number, employer or taxpayer identification number, student identification number, computer’s Internet Protocol address, banking account information and credit card information.
4. Red Flag: A pattern, practice, alert, or specific activity that indicates the possible existence of Identity Theft.
5. Program Administrator: The individual assigned with primary responsibility for oversight of the Program.

E. Procedures for Theft Prevention:

1. Identification of Red Flags. Any time a Red Flag, or a situation closely resembling a Red Flag, is apparent, it should be investigated for verification by the highest authority within the operation or department of the university where it has or is occurring. The following list is not intended to be complete or comprehensive, but rather only provide examples of the most common red flags.
  - a. Alerts, notifications, or warnings from a consumer reporting agency. Examples of these Red Flags include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - i. A fraud or active duty alert included with a consumer report;
    - ii. A notice of credit freeze from a consumer reporting agency in response to a request for a consumer report;
    - iii. A notice of address discrepancy from a consumer reporting agency as defined in § 334.82(b) of the Fairness and Accuracy in Credit Transactions Act; and
    - iv. A consumer report that indicates a pattern of activity inconsistent with the history and usual pattern of activity of an applicant or customer, such as:
      - A recent and significant increase in the volume of inquiries;
      - An unusual number of recently established credit relationships;
      - A material change in the use of credit, especially with respect to recently established credit



- relationships; or
    - An account that was closed for cause or identified for abuse of account privileges by a financial institution or creditor.
  - b. Suspicious documents. Examples of these Red Flags include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - i. Documents provided for identification that appears to have been altered or forged;
    - ii. The photograph or physical description on the identification is not consistent with the appearance of the student, faculty, staff, and other constituent presenting the identification;
    - iii. Other information on the identification is not consistent with information provided by the person opening a new Covered Account or student, faculty, staff, and other constituent presenting the identification;
    - iv. Other information on the identification is not consistent with readily accessible information that is on file with the university; and
    - v. An application appears to have been altered or forged, or gives the appearance of having been destroyed and reassembled.
  - c. Suspicious personally identifying information. Examples of these Red Flags include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - i. Personally Identifying Information provided is inconsistent when compared against external information sources used by the university;
    - ii. Personally Identifying Information provided is associated with known fraudulent activity as indicated by internal or third-party sources used by the university;
    - iii. Personally Identifying Information provided is of a type commonly associated with fraudulent activity as indicated by internal or third-party sources used by the university;
    - iv. The SSN provided is the same as that submitted by another student, faculty, staff, or constituent;
    - v. The person opening the Covered Account fails to provide all required Personally Identifying Information on an application or in response to notification that the application is incomplete;
    - vi. Personally Identifying Information provided is not consistent with Personally Identifying Information that is on file with the university ; and
    - vii. When using security questions (mother's maiden name, pet's name, etc.), the person opening the Covered Account cannot provide authenticating information beyond that which generally would be available from a wallet or consumer report.
  - d. Unusual use of, or suspicious activity related to, the Covered Account. Examples of these Red Flags include, but are not limited to, the following:
    - i. Shortly following the notice of a change of address for a Covered Account, the university receives a request for new, additional, or replacement goods or services, or for the addition of authorized users on the account;
    - ii. A Covered Account is used in a manner that is not consistent with established patterns of activity on the account;
    - iii. A Covered Account that has been inactive for a reasonably lengthy period of time is used (taking into consideration the type of account, the expected pattern of usage and other relevant factors);
    - iv. Mail sent to the student, faculty, staff, or other constituent is returned repeatedly as undeliverable although transactions continue to be conducted in connection with the Covered Account;
    - v. The university is notified that the student, faculty, staff, or other constituent is not receiving account statements;
    - vi. The university is notified of unauthorized charges or transactions in connection with a Covered Account;
    - vii. The university receives notice from students, faculty, staff, or other constituents, victims of Identity Theft, law enforcement authorities, or other persons regarding possible Identity Theft in connection with Covered Accounts held by the university ; and
    - viii. The university is notified by a student, faculty, staff, or other constituent, a victim of Identity Theft, a law enforcement authority, or any other person that it has opened a fraudulent account for a person engaged in Identity Theft.
2. Responding to Red Flags.
- a. Once a Red Flag, or potential Red Flag, is detected, the university will endeavor to act quickly as a rapid appropriate response can protect students, faculty, staff, and other constituents and the university from

damages and loss.

- b. The university will quickly gather all related documentation, write a description of the situation, and present this information to the Program Administrator for determination.
  - c. The Program Administrator will complete additional authentication to determine whether the attempted transaction was fraudulent or authentic.
3. Responsive Action. If a transaction is determined to be fraudulent, appropriate actions will be taken immediately. Actions may include:
- a. Canceling the transaction;
  - b. Notifying and cooperating with appropriate law enforcement;
  - c. Determining the extent of liability of the university; and
  - d. Notifying the student, faculty, staff, or other constituent that fraud has been attempted.

F. Policies and Procedures to Protect Personally Identifying and Confidential Information.

1. The following information, even though it may otherwise be considered public or proprietary, is often used in conjunction with confidential information to commit fraudulent activity such as Identity Theft:
  - a. Payroll information, such as paychecks and pay stubs.
  - b. Benefit enrollment forms and associated supporting documentation.
  - c. Medical information for any employee or customer, including but not limited to doctor names and claims, insurance claims, prescriptions and related personal medical information.
2. Distribution of Information.
  - a. Hard Copy. In accordance with NMSU Institutional Data Security policy and rules, all university personnel should make efforts to secure data.
  - b. Electronic. The university regulates electronic distribution of confidential information under the following guidelines:
    - i. NMSU Institutional Data Security Policy
    - ii. Information Stored on Computing Devices Policy
    - iii. Acceptable Use Rule
3. All university employees should comply with the following policies:
  - a. Confidential and other information commonly used in Identity Theft may only be transmitted using approved methods as defined by the Information and Communication Technology department.
  - b. Confidential and other information commonly used in Identity Theft in an electronic format must be protected from unauthorized access or disclosure at all times.
  - c. All e-mails containing confidential and other information commonly used in Identity Theft should include the following statement: "This message may contain confidential and/or proprietary information and is intended for the person/entity to which it was originally addressed. Any use by others is strictly prohibited."

G. Application of Other Laws and University Policies: University personnel must make reasonable efforts to secure confidential and other information commonly used in Identity Theft to the proper extent. Furthermore, this section should be read and applied in conjunction with the Family Education Rights and Privacy Act ("FERPA") and other applicable laws and university policies. If an employee is uncertain of the confidentiality of a particular piece of information, he/she should contact the Program Administrator or the Office of General Counsel.

H. Program Administration:

1. Involvement of Management.
  - a. Establishment of the Program is the responsibility of the university's Board of Regents. The board's approval of the initial plan must be appropriately documented and maintained.
  - b. Operational responsibility of the Program, including but not limited to the oversight, development, implementation, and administration of the Program, approval of needed changes to the Program, as well as periodic evaluation of the Program and implementation of needed changes to the Program, is delegated to the university's associate vice president for information technology as the Program Administrator. If deemed

appropriate and necessary by the Program Administrator, an Identity Theft Committee will be established to assist with implementing, maintaining and updating the Program.

2. Employee Training.

- a. Training will be conducted for all employees for whom it is reasonably foreseeable, as determined by the Program Administrator, that the employee may come into contact with accounts or Personally Identifiable Information that may constitute a risk to the university or its students, faculty, staff, and other constituents.
- b. The university's Office of Human Resources Services offices are responsible for ensuring that Identity Theft training is conducted for all employees for whom it is required.
- c. Employees shall receive annual training in all elements of the Program.
- d. To ensure maximum effectiveness, employees will continue to receive additional training as changes to the Program are made.

3. Oversight of Service Provider Arrangements.

- a. The university will endeavor to ensure that the activities of all service providers are conducted in accordance with reasonable policies and procedures designed to detect, prevent, and mitigate the risk of Identity Theft.
- b. A service provider that maintains its own Identity Theft prevention program, consistent with the guidance of the Red Flag rules and validated by appropriate due diligence, may be considered to be meeting these requirements.
- c. Any specific requirements will be specifically addressed in the appropriate contract arrangements.

I. Updates: The Program Administrator will require a periodic review of the Program to reflect changes in risks to students, faculty, staff and other constituents, and the soundness of the university from Identity Theft. This review will consider the university's experiences with Identity Theft situations, changes in Identity Theft methods, changes in Identity Theft detection and prevention methods, and changes in the university's business arrangements with other entities. The review will also include an assessment of which accounts are covered by the Program, accuracy and completeness of Red Flags and actions taken when fraudulent activity is discovered. After considering these factors, the Program Administrator will determine whether changes to the Program are warranted. If warranted, the Program will be updated.

J. Non Disclosure: For the effectiveness of this Program, knowledge about specific Red Flag identification, detection, mitigation and prevention practices may need to be limited to the Program Administrator and to those employees with a need to know them. Any documents that may have been produced or are produced in order to develop or implement this program that list or describe such specific practices and the information those documents contain are considered "confidential" and should not be shared with other university employees or the public. The Program Administrator shall inform those employees with a need to know the information of those documents or specific practices which should be maintained in a confidential manner.

## **2.92 - New Mexico State University Research Park Corporation, Inc.**

The purpose of the Research Park is to serve as an important adjunct to the university and its programs of instruction, research, and service and to provide resources for the overall benefit of the institution and its constituencies. Any leasing or management arrangements must be under conditions which protect the interests of the university and are approved by the Board of Regents. The board authorized the president to establish, on behalf of the board, the NMSU Research Park Corporation, Inc., as a not-for-profit corporation under the University Research Park Act. The initial board of directors of the NMSU Research Park Corporation, Inc., shall be two regents determined by the board, the Chancellor, the executive vice president and provost, the vice president for research, and the senior vice president for administration and finance. The purpose of the corporation is to develop the Arrowhead Research Park. The board has approved the Operating Policy Agreement between the Board of Regents and the Board of Directors of the NMSU Research Park Corporation.

## **2.94 - Weather, Inclement (Closings)**

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 08.24.10; approved by the Board of Regents 09.17.10]*

New Mexico State University is a 24/7 system of campuses, facilities and services. Consequently, while certain services or facilities may be affected by inclement weather, NMSU remains open. When weather conditions are such that the safety of NMSU students, faculty, and staff are compromised or normal operations are adversely impacted, the university may close.

- A. **Rule Statement:** When inclement weather affects a campus or large facility, the appropriate campus president or provost/campus academic officer will determine, based on input from police, facility directors and other support staff, if the facility/campus will be closed.
1. **Closure Notification:** Whenever a facility or campus is closed due to inclement weather, closure information shall be communicated to affected university personnel and local news agencies. Whenever a local school system closes due to inclement weather while the university campus associated with the school district remains open, university officials shall communicate to university personnel that the campus is remaining open.
  2. **Open Notification:** When inclement weather conditions have subsided and the university can return to normal operations, university officials shall communicate to affected university personnel and local news agencies the date and time of the reopening of the university.
- B. **Employee Leave:** When a facility/campus is closed due to inclement weather, regular exempt and non-exempt employees who are scheduled to work during the closure period shall be placed on leave with pay, while temporary and student employees will receive leave without pay. Temporary and student employees may work to make up lost hours with the concurrence of their supervisor.  
Employees affected by inclement weather who cannot come to work, when the university remains open, may request annual leave from their immediate supervisor (*see* Rule [7.20 Leaves](#)). In these instances, employees in non-leave earning positions will be placed on a leave without pay status.
- C. **Closure Planning:** Administrators of services and facilities that provide essential services, such as university police, fire and emergency services, information and technological services, physical resources, and housing, will independently develop Continuity of Operations plans to maintain these services. (Refer to Rule [2.25 Emergency Preparedness and Response](#): Continuity of Operations and designation of essential positions).

### **2.95.1 through 2.95.15: Parking and Traffic Regulations**

*[Amendments restructuring prior regulations as Policy 2.95 approved by the Administrative Council 02.12.08 and updating the Fee Schedule as approved by the Board of Regents on 03.10.08; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08] [Amendments approved by the Administrative Council 07.14.09; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09] [Amendment to parking permit rates approved by the Board of Regents 04.01.10][Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.08.10; approved by the Board of Regents 07.20.10] [Amendment to parking permit rates approved by the Board of Regents 04.08.11][Amendments recommended by the Administrative Council 04.12.11; approved by the Board of Regents 05.06.11][Amendments recommended by the Administrative Council 09.10.13; approved by the Board of Regents 10.21.13]*

#### **2.95.1 - Statutory Grant of Authority**

These regulations are established to allow for the consistent and fair treatment of all people (students, faculty, staff, vendors, and visitors) who use the campus, optimal use of available parking, and assist with the safe movement of traffic. Pursuant to the authority granted to the New Mexico State University Board of Regents (NMSU) by NMSA 1978, § 29-5-1.1 to promulgate regulations governing the operation and parking of vehicles in any area within the exterior boundaries of lands under its control which is not a municipal street or highway.

#### **2.95.2 - Delegation of Board's Authority**

The Office of Transportation and Parking Services and the NMSU Police Department are assigned the responsibility and legal authority for the implementation, application and enforcement of these regulations.

#### **2.95.3 - Jurisdiction/Scope of Application**

These regulations apply at the NMSU-Las Cruces campus and Doña Ana Community College central campus located on Espina Street. The other NMSU components may request the implementation and enforcement of parking and traffic regulations at their respective locations, including a request for distinct permit fees. Fees distinct from those set forth in these rules and regulations are subject to approval by the Board of Regents.

#### **2.95.4 - General Guidelines**

A copy of the current Traffic and Parking Regulations shall be made available at the Office of Transportation and Parking Services to anyone requesting a copy. Parking Regulations are also available online at [www.nmsuparking.com](http://www.nmsuparking.com).

- A. **Definitions:** For purposes of this Rule, the following definitions shall apply:

1. **Bus:** Bus shall refer to every motor vehicle designed for the transportation of more than 16 persons or other oversize vehicle designed for the transportation of persons for compensation.
  2. **Commercial Vendor:** Any person, excluding faculty, staff and students, representing a private business or service that requires parking privileges at NMSU in order to conduct that business.
  3. **Commuter Student:** A student residing off of the NMSU-Las Cruces campus during the academic year and who drives to campus.
  4. **Faculty:** Any employee classified as faculty or affiliate by the Office of Human Resource Services, who works at, or is affiliated with, either the Las Cruces campus or the Doña Ana Community College central campus on Espina.
  5. **Family Housing:** The areas including Cole Village, Sutherland Village, Tom Fort Village and Cervantes Village B, C, D, E, and G.
  6. **Graduate Assistant:** Graduate Assistants are considered to be students for purposes of this Rule.
  7. **Low Emission or Fuel Efficient Vehicle:** A vehicle listed in the most current published "My LEED List of Fuel Efficient Vehicles" as compiled by the American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy.
  8. **NMSU-Las Cruces Campus:** The lands belonging to, or controlled by NMSU that are roughly described as the approximately five square miles of land in the vicinity of the junction of Interstate 10 and Interstate 25, and that are routinely patrolled by the NMSU Police Department. This area is depicted on the campus parking map.
  9. **Official Government License Plate:** Any vehicle displaying an official government license plate. Official Government License Plates include those readily identifiable as U.S. government, diplomat, any U.S. state, city or county government agency and state legislative license plates.
  10. **Parking Stall or Space:** A parking stall or space is that which accommodates a single vehicle and is clearly defined by painted lines on adjacent sides of the vehicle.
  11. **Resident:** Any person who resides on the NMSU Las Cruces campus during the academic year.
  12. **Restricted:** (red) Fire/Emergency zones, (yellow) "no parking" zones, (blue) disabled zones, (green) service zones, parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved, or any other restricted area indicated by signage.
  13. **Staff:** Any employee classified as staff or affiliate by the Office of Human Resources Services, who works at, or is affiliated with, the Las Cruces campus or the Doña Ana Community College central campus on Espina.
  14. **Student:** Any person on either the Las Cruces campus or Doña Ana Community College central campus on Espina who attends classes at any time during the year.
  15. **Tow-Away Zone:** Any area designated by signage which provides notice that vehicles may be towed, as well as any roadway or driving lane on campus when the violating vehicle is parked in the traveled portion of the roadway or driving lane and is obstructing the safe flow of traffic.
  16. **Vehicle:** Vehicle refers to any vehicle or device that is propelled by an internal combustion engine, electric or other power that is used or may be used on the roadway for purpose of transporting persons or property, including connected trailers. A vehicle must fit within a single parking stall.
  17. **Visitor:** Any person not in the other categories defined under definitions.
  18. **Windshield:** The window that is located in front of the driver when facing forward.
- B. **Designated Parking Areas:** The Board of Regents has authorized the designation of parking areas for the NMSU-Las Cruces campus. Parking areas are designated according to the following classifications, which may be modified by the Transportation and Parking Services to meet the needs of the university:

1. “All Permits” parking areas
  2. Commuter Student
  3. Designated Parking Spaces for Individuals with Disabilities
  4. Emergency/Fire Zones
  5. Faculty/Staff
  6. Free Parking areas
  7. Low Emission and Fuel Efficient Vehicle Parking
  8. Metered
  9. Motorcycle
  10. North Campus Resident
  1. Reserved Parking Spaces
  12. Restricted/Service/Delivery Zones
  13. South Campus Resident
- C. Signage: Areas subject to campus traffic and parking regulations shall be marked with appropriate signage, and drivers shall adhere to all signage, including temporary signage. Street or curbside parking spaces not marked with signs, curb color or other parking designation restriction, shall be designated and defined as “All Permits” parking area.
1. Where there are multiple restricted spaces together, these may be depicted by signs at the beginning and end of the restricted area.
  2. Signage may be either temporary or permanent, including but not limited to signage displaying parking instructions and/or meter bags or covers.
- D. Conflict between Regulations, Designation on Map and Signage: In the event of a conflict between these regulations, map designations or on-site signage that specifies parking instructions, the on-site signage shall control.
- E. Penalties and Fees: Consistent with state law, these regulations set specific penalties for each type of violation, as well as impose an additional fee per citation for costs associated with the administration of NMSU’s traffic program.
- F. Abuse of Permit or Placard and Authority to Cancel: Vendor permits, departmental placards and visitor placards, shall only be used for official NMSU business, and shall not be misused to attend a class or for other personal use. Transportation and Parking Services is authorized to cancel a permit or placard that has been misused, regardless of the entity or person that provided the permit (*i.e.* use of a permit or placard to park to attend class instead of for authorized purpose). Permits or placards will be cancelled after notice by Transportation and Parking Services, and an opportunity to rebut the charge of misuse. No refund is available for permits or placards cancelled in accordance with this subsection.
- G. NMSU Authority to Place Barrier: Barriers, fences, signs, posts or other traffic or control devices may be placed by NMSU and/or its authorized agents at any location necessary for the safety of the public and/or work crews. Removal or moving any such safety or warning device is prohibited. Violators will be cited.
- H. NMSU Authority to Block or Restrict Parking Areas and Roadways: The university reserves the right to block or otherwise restrict parking areas and roadways for maintenance, special events, or other functions deemed appropriate. All such closures must be approved by Transportation and Parking Services, Police Department and/or the assistant vice president for auxiliary services, as deemed appropriate.

- I. Individual Responsibility: The university does not provide security specific to parking areas, and assumes no responsibility for the care or protection of vehicles, including their contents, parked on its property; individual owners are encouraged to follow safety guidelines relating to parked vehicles.
- J. Amendment to Parking/Traffic Regulations: These regulations may be modified in accordance with the policy and rule adoption protocol outlined in Chapter 1.

### **2.95.5 - NMSU Permit or Placard Issuance Requirements**

- A. Proof of Identification Required: In order to obtain an NMSU parking permit, the individual must provide proof of identification, and for permits other than visitor permits, proof of eligibility for the type of permit being sought. Adequate forms of identification include but are not limited to: NMSU identification card, Aggie identification number, a state-issued photo ID card, other official identification containing a photograph and/or verifiable identification.
- B. Purchase of Additional Permits:
  - 1. An individual may purchase one parking permit at the price indicated in the fee table at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#), and an additional permit at the price applicable under “additional permits” in the fee table at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#).
  - 2. An individual may purchase one regular permit and one motorcycle permit at regular prices without having them count as “additional” permits under this section.
  - 3. Residents of Family Housing may purchase up to two (2) permits at the regular price.
- C. Responsibility for Violations: The person on record for having purchased the permit will be the party held responsible by NMSU for any and all violations by any individual displaying that permit in any vehicle.
- D. Types of Permits Available/Issuance Procedures:
  - 1. Campus Resident Parking Permit. To obtain this type of permit, the person must be an NMSU student and reside on campus during the academic year.
  - 2. Faculty/Staff Permit. To obtain this type of permit, the person must be NMSU faculty or staff.
  - 3. Commuter Student Permit: To obtain this type of permit, the person must be a commuter student.
  - 4. Outer Lot Employee Permit. To obtain this type of permit, the person must be NMSU faculty or staff.
  - 5. Commercial Vendor’s Parking Permit: Faculty, staff, and students are not eligible for commercial vendor permits. A commercial vendor may purchase either a single or an umbrella permit. Umbrella permits are issued to commercial vendors with multiple vehicles making deliveries, and will be valid for all company vehicles clearly marked with the company logo, as long as there are no more than two (2) such vehicles on campus at any given time. The umbrella delivery permit does not need to be displayed, but must be available at the vendor’s office for inspection and auditing.
  - 6. Disabled Parking Placard: Based on a valid state-issued placard or license plate, and in accordance with the procedures of Transportation and Parking Services, NMSU will honor such disabled parking placard in the event of a temporarily disabled faculty, staff or student, the Transportation and Parking Services will issue a temporary NMSU Disabled parking permit. Temporary disabled parking permits require the individual to produce a doctor’s note.
  - 7. Departmental Placard: Transportation and Parking Services issues loading/unloading departmental placards to the departments needing such access. The placard is only valid when displayed in conjunction with another valid NMSU Parking Permit. The departmental placard is to be used for authorized NMSU business purposes only.
  - 8. Special Event/Visitor Parking Placard: NMSU entities hosting an event requiring visitor parking for guests are required to obtain visitor permits or parking placards for each vehicle, and to advise their guests regarding

the campus parking regulations. Pre-purchased parking spaces are available from Transportation and Parking Services by submitting a "Request for Special Event Parking Permits" form five (5) days, before the date of the event.

9. **VIP Parking Permits:** These permits are authorized solely by the assistant vice president for auxiliary services.
10. **Special Parking Permits:** These permits are authorized solely by the Chancellor and generally are reserved for members of the Board of Regents, the Chancellor, the provost, vice presidents, deans, general counsel, campus executive officers, chairs of faculty senate and employee council and certain directors who report directly to deans, vice presidents, or the provost. Upon the approval of the Chancellor, the ASNMSU president and vice president may purchase special permits at the same price as commuter student permits.
11. **Reserved Parking Spaces:** Departments may lease parking spaces each year from Transportation and Parking Services at the rate listed in the fee table at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#) by completing and submitting a "Reserved Parking Space Application" to Transportation and Parking Services. These parking spaces will be identified with signage as being specially reserved. (*See also* 2.95.8 A.14)
12. **Temporary Parking Permit:** A temporary permit may be issued by Transportation and Parking Services for up to fourteen (14) business days to students, faculty, staff, and persons with official business on campus.
13. **Visitor Parking Permit:** Visitors may obtain a free daily/weekly parking permit at Transportation and Parking Services or via the internet at [www.nmsuparking.com](http://www.nmsuparking.com) (limit five daily permits per year), or purchase an annual "outer lot visitor" or "all access visitor" parking permit.
- E. **Lost Permits:** Lost permits shall be reported to Transportation and Parking Services. The individual who purchased the original permit may purchase a replacement permit upon completion of a lost affidavit form and cancellation of the original permit. Refer to [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#) for replacement permit fee. A refund may be provided if the original lost permit is returned to Transportation and Parking Services by the individual who purchased the permit.
- F. **Stolen Permits:** Stolen permits should be reported to Transportation and Parking Services. The individual who purchased the original permit may purchase a replacement permit upon completion of stolen affidavit form and police report. Refer to [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#) for replacement permit fee. The permit originally issued shall be cancelled.
- G. **Mandatory Replacement of Permit:** A replacement parking permit shall be obtained, which shall cause the cancellation of the original permit, from Transportation and Parking Services when:
  1. The holder's status changes (example: resident moves off campus)
  2. The holder's classification changes (example: student becomes staff)
  3. The permit expires
  4. The owner/driver has a permanent permit and needs to change it to another vehicle.
- H. **Cancellation of Permit:** A parking permit shall be returned to Transportation and Parking Services to be officially cancelled when:
  1. Employment with NMSU is terminated (excludes retirees)
  2. A student is suspended or expelled from NMSU
  3. A refund is obtained for the parking permit
- I. **Cancelled Permits:** All permits that have been cancelled for any reason shall be placed on the "tow or boot" list and any vehicle found to be parked anywhere on campus using a permit that has been cancelled shall be cited and towed or booted.



## 2.95.6 - Parking Fees

- A. Annual Permit Fee Assessment: Every September 1, parking permit fees will be assessed. For purposes of this Rule, the year is from September 1 through August 31.
- B. Parking Fees: Permits purchased after December 1 will be priced at one half of the annual price, plus an administrative fee. Permits purchased after May 1 will be priced at one quarter of the annual price, plus an administrative fee. Permit prices are included at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#).
- C. Free Parking: There is no fee to park in the areas designated for free parking. NMSU personnel retired prior to September 1, 1992, may receive a free faculty/staff parking permit. Persons displaying a valid state issued disabled license plate or placard may park on campus for free in accordance with other provisions of this Rule. There is no fee for Visitor and Temporary permits.
- D. Parking Meter Rate: The rate charged to park in a metered parking space is included at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#).
- E. Refund of Paid Parking Permit Fee: Partial refunds for parking permits are available in some cases.
  - 1. Permits purchased during the Fall semester may be returned prior to January 15 for a refund of the difference between the purchase price and the spring semester price.
  - 2. Faculty and staff terminating employment with NMSU are eligible for a refund which will be determined based on the date the permit is returned.
  - 3. Any payroll deduction unpaid balances due to sabbatical leave, LWOP, workman's comp, etc., will be collected.
  - 4. If faculty or staff terminate employment with NMSU and fail to return their permit, they will be responsible for any unpaid balance owed.
  - 5. Requests for refunds are handled on a case-by-case basis by Transportation and Parking Services.

## 2.95.7 - Requirements for Display of Permit

- A. Location of Moveable Permits: Moveable parking permits are the standard-issued permits. The parking permit shall be affixed to the inside, lower corner of the windshield on the driver's side in such a manner that it does not obstruct the driver's vision when operating the vehicle.
- B. Location of Permanently Affixed Permits: Permanent adhesive permits are issued for motorcycles and to those individuals requesting them. For motorcycles, the parking permit shall be affixed in a manner that is clearly visible. For vehicles, the parking permit shall be affixed to the inside, lower corner of the windshield on the driver's side in such a manner that they do not obstruct the driver's vision when operating the vehicle.
- C. Location of Placards: All placards must be hung on rearview mirror.
- D. Visibility of Permit: Permits shall not be obstructed from view any time the vehicle is parked on the NMSU campus. Permits should not be laminated, taped, or altered in any way. If permit does not adhere to windshield, notify Transportation and Parking Services.
- E. One Permit: Only one current permit shall be displayed in a vehicle, unless it is a departmental loading/unloading placard. All departmental loading/unloading placards must be used in conjunction with a valid NMSU parking permit displayed on the vehicle.
- F. Visibility of Permit/Car Covers: Car owners are required to cut a small opening in the car cover so the parking enforcement officer can see the valid parking permit displayed on the driver's side windshield. The license plate number shall also be written on the windshield portion of the car cover using permanent marker.

## 2.95.8 - Parking Requirements

- A. Designated Parking Areas/Parking Permits: All students, faculty, staff, NMSU retirees, commercial vendors and other visitors to campus who park in designated areas on campus, or who park on campus streets, must display a valid NMSU Parking Permit, including but not limited to those listed in 2.95.5 above, for that area and/or in the manner prescribed in these regulations. Signs or permits made by others, handwritten notes left on a vehicle, or other such purported permits not issued by Transportation and Parking Services are prohibited and will not be honored. The permits issued by Transportation and Parking Services with corresponding designated parking area are listed below:
1. “All Permits” Parking Areas: (Indicated by orange color signage) Vehicles displaying any valid NMSU parking permit may be parked in this parking area. Vehicles displaying any valid NMSU parking permit may park in on street or curbside parking where there is no signage or curb color displayed to otherwise restrict parking.
  2. Annual All Access Visitor Permit: Displaying an Annual All Access Visitor permit allows the holder to park in any legal parking space in any lot designation (including faculty/staff, student, and visitor areas), any free lot or along any street where parking is permitted and not otherwise restricted with the exception of emergency/fire zones, restricted service/delivery zones, disabled and other parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved.
  3. Annual Outer Lot Visitor Permit: (Indicated by orange color signage) Displaying an Annual Outer Lot Visitor permit allows the holder to park in the “all permits” parking areas any free lot or along any street where parking is permitted and not otherwise restricted with the exception of emergency/fire zones, restricted service/delivery zones, disabled and other parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved.
  4. North Campus Resident Parking: (Indicated by yellow color signage) Vehicles displaying a North Campus Resident permit may be parked in North Campus Resident parking areas, which are restricted 24 hours daily, seven days a week, throughout the calendar year. Vehicles displaying this permit may also be parked in any “all permits” lot and in any free lot, as well as along any street where parking is permitted and not otherwise restricted.
  5. South Campus Resident Parking: (Indicated by purple color signage) Vehicles displaying a South Campus Resident permit may be parked in South Campus Housing parking areas, which are restricted 24 hours daily, seven days a week, throughout the calendar year. Vehicles displaying this permit may also be parked in any “all permits” lot and in any free lot, as well as along any street where parking is permitted and not otherwise restricted. A campus resident permit is not required to park on the driveway; only one vehicle may be parked on a driveway at any given time. Parking on the lawn (yard area) is strictly prohibited.
  6. Commuter Student Parking: (Indicated by green color signage) Vehicles displaying a Commuter Student permit may be parked in lots so indicated, as well as in all-permits, free lots and along any street where parking is permitted and not otherwise restricted.
  7. Disabled Parking: (Indicated by blue color signage) NMSU honors any valid state-issued parking license plate or placard issued to a disabled individual. If a parking space designated for the disabled is not available, those displaying the disabled placard/plate may park in any other legal parking space in any lot designation (including faculty/staff, student, and visitor areas AND parking meters without having to pay), with the exception of emergency/fire zones, restricted service/delivery zones and other parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved. Note: A disabled veteran (DV) license plate does not authorize recipient to park in a disabled parking zone without a valid state-issued disabled placard.
  8. Emergency/Fire Zone: (Indicated by red curbs and/or signage) These parking zones are restricted to authorized emergency response vehicles at all times (24 hours a day, seven days a week throughout the calendar year).
  9. Faculty/Staff Parking Permit: (Indicated by crimson color signage) In addition to the parking areas designated for Faculty/Staff, vehicles displaying this permit type may also be parked in any “all permits” lot and in any free lot, as well as along any street where parking is permitted and not otherwise restricted. Faculty/Staff members residing in a Family Housing area shall display their Housing Resident decal in addition to their Faculty/Staff parking permit while parked in the Family Housing streets or parking lots.
  10. Free Parking Areas: (Indicated by brown color signage) Any vehicle may be parked in a lot designated as a

free lot. No permits are required to park in these areas.

11. **Motorcycle Permit:** A valid NMSU Motorcycle Permit is required for motorcycles, motor scooters, and mopeds to park on campus. All individuals operating a motorcycle, motor scooter, or moped must abide by NMSU Parking Rules and Regulations and must park in a motorcycle parking area Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Motorcycles may not use automobile spaces except at paid meters. Exception: Between 4:30 p.m. and 7:30 a.m. Monday through Friday and weekends (Saturday and Sunday) motorcycles, motor scooters and mopeds may park in any legal parking space in any parking lot.
12. **Outer-Lot Employee Permits:** (Indicated by orange color signage) This type of permit is offered to faculty and staff at a lower cost than the Faculty/Staff permit and allows parking in the “All Permit Lots”, or in any on-street parking area, with the exception of emergency/fire zones, restricted service/delivery, disabled zones and other parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved zones.
13. **Service/Delivery Zones:** Unless otherwise posted, the maximum time period for parking in this zone is two (2) hours. These are marked either with signage and/or with green curbing. Restrictions apply 24 hours a day, seven days a week, throughout the entire calendar year. To be authorized to park in this zone, the vehicle must display any one of the following:
  - a. University Service Vehicle with university logo seal painted on the vehicle door actively being used for the service or maintenance of university facilities;
  - b. Departmental loading/unloading placard together with a valid student, faculty/staff or other university parking permit;
  - c. Commercial vendors permit;
  - d. Special or VIP permit.
14. **Reserved Parking Spaces:** There are a number of parking spaces reserved for exclusive use by certain constituencies on campus. These parking spaces are identifiable by signage in these areas indicating the restrictions. Examples include but are not limited to: “Dove Hall Parking Only”, “ROTC Vehicles Only” etc.
15. **Special Events/Visitor:** (Indicated by hanging green placard) Visitors displaying a Special Events Visitor placard may park in any legal parking space in any lot designation (including faculty/staff, student, and visitor areas), as well as along any street where parking is permitted with the exception of emergency/fire zones, service/delivery zones and other parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved.
16. **Temporary Parking Permit:** (Indicated by bright pink color hanging placard) Persons displaying a temporary parking placard may park in any legal parking space in any lot designation (including faculty/staff, student, and visitor areas), as well as along any street where parking is permitted with the exception of emergency/fire zones, service/delivery zones and other reserved zones.
17. **VIP Permit Parking:** (Indicated by white color) Persons displaying a VIP permit may park in any legal parking space in any lot designation, including faculty/staff, student, visitor areas, green curbed service/delivery zones and along any street where parking is permitted, in accordance with time limitations as indicated by the signage. Additionally, VIP permit holders may park in the “Visitors to the Chancellor’s Office” area if they are attending a meeting with the executive administration in Hadley Hall. VIP permits are not valid in blue, red or yellow curbed areas. VIP permits are not valid in parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved. The charge to park at a meter is not waived for VIP permits. The parking meter rate is included at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#).
18. **Special Permit Parking:** (Indicated by black color signage) Persons displaying a Special permit may park in any legal parking space in any lot designation, including faculty/staff, student, visitor areas, green curbed service/delivery zones and parking spaces marked “special permit only”, in accordance with time limitations as indicated by the signage. Additionally, Special permit holders may park in the “Visitors to the Chancellor’s Office” area if they are attending a meeting with the executive administration in Hadley Hall. Special permits are not valid in blue, red or yellow curbed areas. Special permits are not valid in parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved. The charge to park at a meter is not waived for Special permits. The parking meter rate is included at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#).
19. **Visitor Placard or E-Permit:** (Indicated by white hanging placard or a printed E-Permit) Daily and weekly visitors displaying either a visitor placard or E-Permit may park in any legal parking space and along any

street where parking is permitted, with the exception of emergency/fire zones, service/delivery zones and other reserved parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved.

B. Exceptions to Requirement for Permit: The following are exempt from the requirement for a valid NMSU permit to be able to park in the designated parking areas:

1. **Official Governmental Vehicles:** Vehicles displaying official government license plates not affiliated with NMSU are allowed to park in any legal parking space in any campus parking lot, but are restricted from parking in any service zone, loading and unloading zone or visitor area. Any time limits indicated on official signs must be followed to avoid receiving a citation. Vehicles displaying official government license plates may park at a parking meter at no charge. Parking at a space designated for disabled person requires display of a valid disabled placard. Under no circumstances, shall these vehicles park in an emergency/fire zone, unless they are authorized emergency vehicles being used in the direct support of emergency services.
2. **NMSU Vehicles:** NMSU vehicles displaying official government license plates may park in any legal parking area. NMSU vehicles shall not park in spaces designated for disabled persons, unless a valid disabled permit/placard is displayed; in designated visitor parking spaces; in metered parking spaces; or in reserved parking spaces marked with signage as specially reserved. Under no circumstances shall these vehicles park in an emergency/fire zone, unless they are authorized emergency vehicles being used in the direct support of emergency services. NMSU vehicles may park in service/delivery/loading zones (green curbs) in accordance with these regulations.
3. **Vehicles with Disabled Placard/Plate:** If a parking space designated for Disabled Parking is not available, a vehicle displaying a valid disabled placard/plate may park in other legal parking spaces, except where painted curbs or signs restrict or otherwise regulate such parking. Additionally, a vehicle displaying a valid disabled placard/plate is authorized to park in a metered parking space, free of charge.
4. **Construction Contractors:** Contractors and vehicles of their construction workers are exempt from these regulations when parked within a clearly defined construction site that has been approved for parking by the appropriate Facilities and Services Project Manager, as well as by Transportation and Parking Services;

C. Effective Hours of Parking Restrictions:

1. All designated parking areas are restricted to holders of the appropriate permits Monday through Friday from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. Anyone may park in any faculty/staff, commuter student, "all permits" or visitor parking space, without a permit, after 4:30 p.m. and before 7:30 a.m., as well as on weekends.
2. Campus resident parking is restricted 24-hours a day.
3. Service/delivery and reserved parking areas, include but are not limited to disabled zones, emergency/fire zones, Post Office patron parking, "no parking" zones are restricted 24 hours a day unless signage indicates otherwise.
4. Parking meters are in effect from 7:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday.

D. Metered Parking: No permit is required to park in a metered parking space. Except as provided above for individuals with disabilities displaying a valid disabled placard or plate, any person who parks in a metered parking space shall deposit the required amount in the meter to pay for the right to park there, regardless of the display of valid NMSU Parking Permit or placard, government license plate or other visitor status, or other circumstance. All failures to pay at metered parking spaces will be subject to citation. If a meter is malfunctioning, it should be reported immediately to Transportation and Parking Services at (575) 646-1839 in order to avoid receiving a citation.

E. Parking on Street: Vehicles displaying any type of valid NMSU parking permit may be parked on the streets on campus, including "outer-lot employee". On-street parking is restricted or prohibited where colored curbs and/or signage so indicate, or where such parking obstructs the movement or safety of traffic.

F. Bus Parking: All buses shall park in parking lot #30 east of the Pan Am Center.

G. Prohibited Parking: Except in compliance with the lawful directions of a traffic control device or officer, or as otherwise provided in these regulations, it is unlawful to park or stop a motor vehicle as follows:

1. On any sidewalk;
  2. In front of a public or private driveway;
  3. Within 15 feet of a fire hydrant;
  4. On a crosswalk;
  5. Within an intersection;
  6. Double parked (meaning parked behind or beside another legally parked vehicle in such a way as to block the second vehicle or to impede the flow of traffic);
  7. Any place where official signs prohibit or restrict parking, stopping, or loading/unloading (including any areas marked by red, yellow, green, or blue curbs);
  8. On any grassed area or dirt area not designated as a parking area, including within the NMSU residential housing areas;
  9. On the traveled portion of any roadway (including while loading or unloading passengers);
  10. In those areas bordered or outlined by curbs, unless outlined as an authorized parking area;
  11. Outside a marked stall or outlined parking area;
  12. On the driver's left-hand side of the roadway, facing the wrong lane of traffic (except on one-way streets where on-street parking is permitted);
  13. Over 18 inches from any curb;
  14. In any timed area over the designated time;
  15. In front of areas allowing disabled (accessible) vehicle loading and unloading areas and access ramps (blue curbs, blue pavement, and blue ramps);
  16. Within 20 feet of a crosswalk at an intersection;
  17. Within 30 feet upon the approach to any stop sign or traffic control signal at the side of a roadway;
  18. Within 20 feet of the driveway entrance to any fire or police station and within 75 feet on the side of a street opposite the entrance to any fire or police station (when appropriately signed);
  19. In any designated bicycle path;
  20. In a parking lot driving lane; or
  21. Any vehicle overnight in any location on campus without permission.
- H. Test Parking Programs: Test parking programs may be initiated at the discretion of Transportation and Parking Services for the purpose of studying parking alternatives. Thirty days advance notice shall be given to the university community regarding any proposed test program, and the test program shall not be operated for more than one (1) year without the approval of the Board of Regents.
- I. Parking for Special Events: The university may assess special rates for parking in certain areas during special events (including athletic events). Permission for a department, group, or event sponsor to charge for such parking must be obtained from Transportation and Parking Services prior to the special event.

### **2.95.9 - Vehicle Operation Requirements**

In addition to the parking policies set forth herein and enforced by Transportation and Parking Services, the following rules and regulations apply regarding the operation of vehicles on NMSU premises. The NMSU Police Department shall enforce the vehicle operation policies in this Section, consistent with state traffic laws. On the public rights of way located on campus, the traffic laws of state of New Mexico shall apply and be enforced by the NMSU Police

Department in accordance with state law.

- A. Vehicles Abandoned or Unlicensed on Campus: No abandoned or unlicensed motor vehicle(s) including motorcycles, motor scooters or mopeds shall be allowed to remain on NMSU property.
1. A vehicle is considered abandoned if it is left unattended and not moved from its current location for more than two (2) weeks. Any vehicle which is partially dismantled or wrecked and/or that does not display a current license plate and which is left in such condition for more than two (2) weeks shall also be considered abandoned.
  2. A vehicle is considered unlicensed if it does not have a current and valid state-issued registration plate and/or sticker.
  3. After the vehicle has been reported to or discovered by Transportation and Parking Services, and the vehicle is found to be: (a) not stolen; (b) the legal ownership cannot be established by normal record-checking procedures; and (c) legal or equitable ownership not claimed or asserted by any person; the vehicle shall be towed and impounded.
  4. All abandoned or unlicensed vehicles will be towed after 30 days of being reported, identified and/or cited.

### **2.95.10 - Establishment of Controlled Access Areas for Motorized Vehicles**

*[Policy approved by the Administrative Council 12.11.07 with an Effective Date of 01.08.08; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08]*

- A. Background: The operation of motorized vehicles (electric or combustion engine) in a university setting is always a challenge between providing adequate access to enable the operational needs of the campus to be met versus the pedestrian nature and desired feel of a campus setting. If the rules established are too restrictive then day to day operations of a campus are harmed. If no restrictions are in place then vehicles are daily operated in a manner that is not in the best overall interest of the institution.
- B. Legal Basis: State law establishes the ability for local jurisdictions to place restrictions on the operation of motorized vehicles on controlled access areas. The enforcement of these restrictions, once established, falls to the police department. Violations of these controlled access restrictions will be cited in accordance with state law.
- C. Need for Controlled Access: Operation of motorized vehicles on sidewalks is a direct conflict with their primary intended use for pedestrian traffic. Furthermore it damages the sidewalks resulting in increased cost to maintain this infrastructure in a reasonable condition. Operation of motorized vehicles on turf areas damages turf and trees, thereby harming the investment made in the establishment and maintenance of our landscaped areas of the campus.
- D. Valid Reasons for Access: There are valid reasons for operating motorized vehicles within controlled access areas:
1. Motorized wheelchairs, personal assistive mobility devices (Segway Human Transporters), or other motorized equipment used to provide disabled access.
  2. Response to emergencies. Emergencies include any action to protect human life; well-being and to prevent potential damage to property or to respond to utility outages.
  3. Deliveries to or transport from specified buildings otherwise inaccessible. It is recognized that several facilities have no delivery access without travel through a controlled access area. These buildings are listed below. Access routes and access parking zones shall be established for these buildings, which shall be available for viewing at [NMSU Controlled Access Area](#).
    - a. Aggie Memorial Stadium
    - b. Foreman Hall
    - c. Academic Research C
    - d. Guthrie Hall
    - e. Branson Library
    - f. Hadley Hall
    - g. Chamisa Village

- h. Health and Social Services
  - i. Computer Center
  - j. Jett Hall
  - k. Engineering Complex I
- E. Defined project specific access: Certain activities such as movement of heavy loads, athletic events, special events, projects involving the remodel or construction of campus facilities and infrastructure require, by their very nature, limited entry to controlled access areas of the campus. This access route will be established by the project manager as best possible and signed accordingly during the course of the event/project life.
- F. Use of Turf Vehicles: Maintenance of the campus turf areas requires access by specialized turf vehicles. Nothing in this rule is intended to restrict access to turf areas by these vehicles.
- G. Non-emergency Access by Police, Fire and Shuttle Vehicles: Access rights are given to Police and Fire response vehicles for training activities and patrol activities when access will increase the safety of campus population and its real property assets. Limited access on approved routes is granted to vehicles providing shuttle service to the NMSU campus.

### **2.95.11 - Establishment of Utility Cart Safety Program**

*[Policy approved by the Administrative Council 12.11.07 and 01.16.08, with an Effective Date of 03.08.08; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08]*

Utility Carts. Small utility service vehicles, herein referred to as 'Utility Carts', include golf carts, turf vehicles and small rough terrain vehicles that are allowed on controlled access areas and/or streets of the campus.

These small utility carts are used to move people, deliver supplies, and carry tools or small equipment throughout the workplace. Operation of utility carts on sidewalks poses risks to pedestrians and therefore requires special training and responsibility to prevent incidents and potential injury. All individuals operating utility carts must be trained before using the vehicles.

Reading and understanding the Utility Cart Safety Program and responsibilities of cart operation plus additional machine specific use instruction will serve as the required training to be administered by each department or area utilizing utility carts.

Other low speed vehicles capable of exceeding 20 mph must be primarily operating over roadways, not controlled access areas. Individuals operating low speed roadway use vehicles will be required to attend Defensive Driving and be permitted according to the NMSU Vehicle Use Procedures.

Rule: The Utility Cart Safety Program (UCSP) is in accordance with 49 CFR 571.500, Standard 500; Low-speed vehicles, NMSU Vehicle Use Procedures, NMSU Controlled Access Areas Rule and Sections 66-3-802, 66-3-804, 66-3-805, 66-3-828, 66-3-840, 66-3-843, 66-3-845, 66-3-852, 66-3-854, 66-3-887, 66-3-1103, 66-7-9, 66-7-305, 66-7-308, 66-7-325, 66-7-326, 66-7-351, 66-7-372, and 66-7-405 (1978, et seq.) of the New Mexico Statutes Annotated.

A. Authority and Responsibility. Below mentioned attachments can be found at NMSU Utility Cart Safety.

B. Environmental Health and Safety is responsible for:

1. Developing and administering the UCSP.
2. Performing validation of driver license for cart operators.
3. Providing a cart operators permit to authorized drivers which is valid for 3 years.
4. Reviewing and updating the UCSP and training material when necessary.

C. NMSU Police Department is responsible for:

1. Enforcing all applicable motor vehicle statutes.
2. Shall impound, if necessary, utility vehicles observed to be carelessly driven.

D. NMSU Office of Transportation and Parking Services is responsible for:

1. Enforcing parking restrictions.

E. Deans, Directors, Department Heads and Supervisors are responsible for:

1. Perform Utility Cart Safety Inspection and submit checklist - Attachment B- to EH&S.
2. Affixing identification decal issued by EH&S.
3. Assuring that UCSP Policy Acknowledgement Form (Attachment C) is completed by each operator and sent to EH&S (MSC 3578) with a copy of operator's driver's license.
4. Assuring that prior to operating a utility cart, each individual:
  - a. Receives machine specific operational instruction
  - b. Receives periodic evaluation, counseling and training as may be appropriate to correct non-compliance with the safety program
5. Assuring that each utility cart owned, leased, or operated by their department receives annual preventative maintenance and repair services.
6. Assuring that utility cart(s) and operators, within their department, comply with the UCSP.
7. Assuring that utility carts are operated in accordance with manufacturer's recommendations. Utility vehicles shall not be modified in any manner that affects the recommended mode of operation, speed or safety of the vehicle. If applicable, utility carts must be tagged with the maximum load capacity recommended by the manufacturer.

F. Operators of utility carts are responsible for:

1. Following the Utility Cart Safe Operating Procedures outlined in Attachment 'A'.
2. Acknowledging responsibility and accountability for compliance by completing the UCSP Policy Acknowledgment Form as shown in Attachment 'C'.
3. Having a valid driver's license.
4. Having obtained a utility cart operators permit (from EH&S).
5. Having received cart specific operational instruction prior to operating the cart.
6. Understanding their responsibilities and requirements under the UCSP.
7. Providing timely notification of safety and maintenance concerns regarding utility cart to the supervisor of the department to which the vehicle is registered.

G. Utility Cart Required Equipment. The following equipment must be present and operational on all utility carts:

1. Unique identifying number prominently displayed on vehicle in 3 inch minimum letters.
2. Brakes.
3. Ignition or power shutoff or security systems.
4. Vehicle seat belt, if offered by manufacturer.
5. Horn or audible warning device.
6. Rear view mirrors.
7. Slow moving vehicle safety triangle on rear of vehicle OR warning lights on front and rear of vehicle or top mounted strobe light if vehicle is unable to travel at the same speed as normal traffic.



8. Equipment tie downs for service vehicles.
  9. Lights (head, tail, brake) for all night use vehicles.
  10. Any utility cart capable of being operated in excess of 15 miles per hour shall be equipped with seat belts and lights regardless of time of day or night use.
- H. Vehicle Fueling and Storage: All operators must receive department specific fueling instructions when applicable and all vehicles must be charged and stored in approved sites. Each of these sites will take into account machine specific hazards (e.g. flammability of fuel, off gassing of hydrogen from battery charging). Chargers for low speed electric vehicles must be plugged directly into a ground fault interrupter receptacle. Extension cords shall not be utilized unless the vehicle is specifically approved for such and this use is noted during the Inspection and Registration process.

### **2.95.12 - Fraudulent Practices Prohibited**

It is unlawful and a violation of these regulations to intentionally falsify information in order to obtain a NMSU Parking Permit, to use a NMSU Parking Permit issued to another person without their knowledge and authority, or to alter, forge, reproduce, counterfeit, or steal any NMSU Parking Permit.

Anyone found to have engaged in fraudulent practices shall have their parking privileges at NMSU permanently revoked, and may be subject to other administrative (*i.e.* employee discipline up to and including termination), civil and/or criminal sanctions.

Vehicles found to be displaying NMSU parking permits that have been reported as stolen may be seized as evidence for the purposes of criminal prosecution.

### **2.95.13 - Methods for Enforcement of Parking and Vehicle Operation Regulations**

To enforce these regulations, Transportation and Parking Services may:

- A. Issue citations, collect fines and fees;
- B. Place vehicle on the "Tow or Boot" list;
- C. Immobilize a vehicle by "booting" the vehicle's wheel;
- D. Have the vehicle towed and impounded;
- E. Cancel parking permits and revoke parking privileges for excessive violation of these regulations or the failure to pay outstanding fines and fees;
- F. Prohibit (or cancel at any time during the year) the pre-registration or registration for classes;
- G. Refer the faculty, staff or student to the Student Discipline Office or NMSU Office of Human Resource Services, as appropriate for administrative action;
- H. Withhold NMSU records, including academic credits, transcripts, and diplomas until all fines and other fees are paid; or
- I. Employ private collection agencies to collect outstanding unpaid fines and fees.

### **2.95.14 - Booting and/or Towing of Vehicles**

The following policies apply when Transportation and Parking Services has determined that the appropriate remedy for a violation of a parking or traffic regulation is to immobilize or tow and impound a vehicle:

- A. Definition of "Boot": A device which mounts on/around a vehicle's tire or wheel to prevent or discourage vehicular movement. These may be legally attached and released only by Transportation and Parking Services.
- B. Placement on "Tow or Boot" List: A vehicle may be placed on the tow or boot list for:

1. Two or more outstanding citations;
2. Non-payment of fines or fees imposed under this Rule;
3. Returned checks written to Transportation and Parking Services;
4. Breach of citation payment agreement;
5. Display of a cancelled permit;
6. Display of an altered permit;
7. Display of a stolen permit; or
8. Violation of previous revocation of parking privileges.

C. Reasons for Tow or Boot: A vehicle may be towed or booted when:

1. It is parked in a tow-away zone;
2. It is parked in such a manner as to obstruct traffic or present a hazard;
3. It is on the “tow or boot” list. Vehicles on the “tow or boot” list are subject to enforcement action when otherwise legally parked on campus (including in free lots);
4. Otherwise interfering with the safe movement of pedestrian or motor vehicle traffic;
5. Any visible indication that the boot has been tampered with while affixed to the vehicle; or
6. As otherwise provided by law.

D. Removal of Boot/Release from Tow: To have the boot removed requires payment of a fee, in addition to full payment of accrued fines. The fee for boot removal is included at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#).

1. Immobilized vehicles will remain “wheel-locked” until the outstanding fines and fees are paid in full. The vehicle’s registered owner or operator must pay for the boot removal and applicable fines at Transportation and Parking Services located at 1400 E. University Avenue, Las Cruces, NM from 8:00 a.m. to 4:30 p.m. or at the Corbett Center Student Union Information Desk from 4:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m., Monday through Friday. Note: There are no boot releases on holidays or weekends.
2. Vehicles immobilized for longer than 96 hours shall be towed from NMSU property to a designated storage facility of the towing company. The vehicle registered owner or operator will be responsible for all applicable towing and storage charges.
3. Charges in addition to the boot removal, and/or towing and/or storage fees may be assessed against the vehicle owner or operator, depending upon the circumstances (*i.e.* rental car or dealership agencies). If a permit was displayed in the vehicle that was booted or towed, the permit holder may also be held responsible.

### **2.95.15 Citations - Fines and Fees; Citation Appeal Process**

- A. Issuance: The NMSU Office of Transportation and Parking Services is hereby granted the authority to issue parking citations on any lands under the control of the NMSU Board of Regents. All such citations shall be issued in accordance with policies and procedures set forth by the Office of Transportation and Parking Services.
- B. Fines and Fees: Pursuant to Section 29-5-1.1, NMSA 1978, *et seq.*, a parking citation must be paid or contested within five (5) business days from the date it was issued. Fines and fees are included at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#).
- C. Payment of Citation Fines and Fees: Instructions on how to pay the fines and fees are included with each citation

issued. Payment may be made at Transportation and Parking Services during posted hours, via mail at P.O. Box 30001/MSU 3PAR, Las Cruces, NM 88003-8001 (when paying by check or money order), via telephone at 575-646-1839 (when paying using a Visa, Master Card, or Discover credit card).

- D. Fees Related to Towing and Impound: Authorized fees charged for vehicles that are towed and/or booted by the Transportation and Parking Services are included at [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#).

E. Dismissal of Citations:

1. Any individual receiving a citation presenting such citation to Transportation and Parking Services within five (5) business days from the date of issuance, may elect to have the citation reduced to a warning if the recipient has not had a citation dismissed or reduced to a warning within the prior two (2) years.
2. If the citation was issued for “no permit displayed”, the recipient may elect to have the citation reduced to a warning if the recipient purchases a permit and is eligible to purchase such permit.
3. This section does not apply to citations issued for illegally parking in a parking space designated for the disabled, in an emergency/fire zone, or yellow zone.

- F. Citation Appeals Hearing Process: A fair and impartial appeal hearing is provided for each individual’s case.

1. Citations must be contested by submitting a Citation Appeal Form within five (5) business days of issuance. Forms may be submitted online at [www.nmsuparking.com](http://www.nmsuparking.com) or at Transportation and Parking Services located at .The elapse of five (5) business days results in the violator’s forfeiture of their right to appeal the citation. If after an internal review the appeal is not granted, the appeal will automatically be scheduled for the Parking Citation Appeal Hearing Officer at the next available scheduled hearing.
2. Transportation and Parking Services shall schedule the hearing dates and times on behalf of the NMSU Parking Citation Appeal Hearing Officer. Notice of the date, time and place of the hearing shall be provided to the appellant seven (7) business days in advance of the hearing date. If the appellant fails to appear at the hearing or seek a continuance, the hearing officer may uphold the citation, and add the administrative fee to the amount of the fine.
3. Transportation and Parking Services will maintain on file the hearing docket and decisions of each session at which the Citation Hearing Appeal Officer hears cases under its jurisdiction.
4. Arguments by appellants before the Citation Appeal Hearing Officer shall be limited to those issues raised in the written appeal. Mitigating circumstances are limited to a determination that there was a failure on the part of the university to clearly mark or otherwise designate parking areas.
5. The Citation Appeal Hearing Officers are empowered to take the following action on a citation brought before them:
  - a. Uphold the citation
  - b. Reduce the citation to warning
  - c. Reduce the citation fine by one-half if mitigating circumstances are found
6. The decision of the Citation Appeal Hearing Officer is final.
7. An administrative fee, as authorized by law, shall be added to all citations upheld by the Citation Appeal Hearing Officer. Said amount shall be paid to Transportation and Parking Services, along with the citation amount at the time of judgment. If appellant does not pay/fulfill any judgment, fines, and/or hearing costs assessed within five business days, the cited vehicle will be added to the “tow or boot” list, and subject to other sanctions under this Rule. Citations upheld due to appellant failing to appear at the appeal hearing will have five (5) business days to pay the citation and administrative fee; failure to pay fees within the five business days will automatically put vehicle on the “tow or boot” list.

**2.95.16 Fee Schedule - See [NMSU Parking Fee Schedule](#)**

## **Chapter 3**

### **Employee, Student and Visitor Codes of Conduct**

- 3.05 Alcohol at NMSU Including Sanctioned Events \*
- 3.06 Assistive, Service, and Companion Animals on University Premises
- 3.07 Awareness, Assessment and Response to Behaviors of Concern
- 3.10 Campus Access-Prohibited, Restricted
- 3.15 Children in the Workplace
- 3.19 Conflicts of Interest - Ethical Conduct \*
  - 3.19.10 General Statement
  - 1.19.20 Principles of Ethical Conduct
  - 3.19.25 Mandatory Employee Training and Other Professional Development Opportunities
  - 3.19.30 Addressing Concerns Relating to Ethical Conduct
- 3.20 Conflicts of Interest and Conflicts of Commitment in General
  - 3.20.10 Principles
  - 3.20.15 Procedures and Remedies in Case of Conflicts of Interest and/or Commitment
  - 3.20.20 Definition of Terms
  - 3.20.22 Member of the University Community
  - 3.20.23 Relationships
  - 3.20.24 Investigator
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  - 3.20.26 Significant Financial Interest
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  - 3.20.32 Nepotism
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- 3.21 Conflicts of Interest and Commitment in Sponsored Activities, Generally
  - 3.21.05 Conflicts in Sponsored Activities that Arise from Financial Interests
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- 3.22 Conflicts of Interest Arising from Consensual Relationships
- 3.25 Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus
- 3.30 Disability Accommodation
- 3.31 Distribution of Effort

- 3.40 Drug-Free Workplace \*
- 3.50 Firearms \*
- 3.55 Fires, Fireworks
- 3.60 Flags-National, State
- 3.63 Freedom of Expression \*
- 3.65 Protection of Sensitive Information
- 3.70 Office Hours - Administrative
- 3.75 Non-Work Related Use of University Resources
- 3.82 Picnics
- 3.86 Political Activity [*See Revised Policy 3.63, Freedom of Expression, superseding Policy 3.86*]
- 3.90 Religious Denominations
- 3.92 Sales and Solicitation
- 3.98 Smoking Policy
- 3.99 Prohibition of Hazing and Hostile Misconduct \*
- 3.100 Protocols in the Event of a Missing Residential Student
- 3.101 Student Social Code of Conduct \*

**\* NMSU Policy System in Transition:**

*These provisions appear in both the Regents Policy Manual (RPM) and the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) as a result of the replication of the NMSU Policy Manual authorized by the Board of Regents on October 21, 2015. That replication was the first step in a project to restructure and update NMSU system policies and procedures into a Regents Policy Manual and a distinct set of administrative rules and procedures, to provide operational guidelines for management. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion caused by this duplication.*

### 3.05 Alcohol at NMSU Including Sanctioned Events

*[Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 10.11.05; ratified by the Board of Regents 09.08.06]  
[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.13.10; approved by the Board of Regents 07.20.10]  
[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 12.13.11; approved by the Board of Regents 01.30.12]*

- A. Statement of Purpose: The Board of Regents of New Mexico State University recognizes that diversity of opinion and freedom of choice are concepts upon which higher education has been established. Inherent within these two basic concepts are the exercise of individual responsibility and making informed decisions on matters related to personal behavior.

Within the university setting, faculty, staff and students must demonstrate a mutual respect and commitment to the institution's educational mission while at the same time fostering diversity of opinion, freedom of choice, and responsibility. In this regard, the university respects the right of those of legal age to consume alcohol if they so choose, providing they do so in accordance with this policy and all applicable laws.

This policy shall apply to every function or event, including but not limited to receptions, banquets, dinners, picnics, or any outdoor event, social event, and campus-wide activity sponsored by organizations or individuals associated with NMSU. Off-campus events conducted by university approved organizations are bound by this policy.

NMSU recognizes it cannot protect its employees, and students from making decisions that could potentially cause harm to themselves or others. NMSU disclaims any intention to assume duties to protect its employees and students from their own abuse of drugs or alcohol or to protect third party persons from conduct of the employees or students.

- B. Scope: This policy applies at those NMSU campuses or facilities that have applied for and received a waiver from their respective county jurisdictions.
- C. Policy Administrator: This policy is administered by the Office of the Chancellor. The Chancellor may delegate review and/or approval authority to a designee.
- D. Permissible Use of Alcohol: As allowed pursuant to this policy, the use of alcohol shall be considered a privilege and may be allowed only if consistent with local, state and federal laws and university policy, and only when it does not interfere with the academic atmosphere of the university.
1. Students of legal age are allowed to use alcohol only in a manner consistent with this policy and the Student Code of Conduct.
  2. Students who reside on campus and are 21 years of age or older may possess and consume alcohol consistent with the law and in areas designated by the director of housing and residential life. See [Housing Terms and Conditions](#) for those areas designated as "alcohol free", if any.
  3. Selling, either directly or indirectly, of alcoholic beverages on campus is prohibited, except in those university facilities possessing a state alcohol license granted under the authority of the Board of Regents or where pre-approved by the Office of the NMSU Chancellor by event type. The Office of the NMSU Chancellor is authorized, in its discretion, to approve the serving or sale of alcohol at any other on-campus events. All venues approved for the routine sale of alcoholic beverages must have in place an approved policy for the sale and service of alcoholic beverages.
  4. Members of the university community and/or the public wishing to host or otherwise conduct an event involving alcohol on campus or other NMSU property must first obtain the proper approval from the Office of the NMSU Chancellor.
    - a. Some functions may also require the party to have separately and previously obtained an appropriate permit in accordance with the state's liquor licensing laws; the Office of the Chancellor will not approve a function if the proper state permit has not been obtained.
    - b. Student groups, campus organizations and Greek affiliates who wish to host events involving alcohol must have proper policies in place, consistent with university policies and local, state and federal laws, before the Office of the NMSU Chancellor will approve the event for alcohol.

- c. Student fees may not be used directly to purchase alcohol. However, in certain cases, student fees may be used to fund events where alcohol may be served, provided the appropriate approvals and/or state issued permits are obtained, in accordance with this policy.
  - d. State law requires that anyone serving alcohol must complete a class and receive a Server's Permit.
  - e. If the consumption of alcohol is a normal part of an academic class, written approval for use must be obtained from the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, with a positive recommendation from the Alcohol Review Committee.
  - f. Approval for alcohol at an event is to be requested from the Office of the NMSU Chancellor. For and Application and Instructions, please contact the chair of the Alcohol Review Committee at 575-646-5752. The Alcohol Review Committee will review the application and make its recommendation to the Office of the NMSU Chancellor.
  - g. The decision by the Office of the NMSU Chancellor is final.
- E. Unacceptable Use of Alcohol: NMSU recognizes that the illegal use of alcohol interferes with the academic environment of this institution and the personal growth of its students.
1. NMSU explicitly prohibits the unlawful use, possession, sale, or distribution of alcohol or controlled substances by all students and employees. Any violation of applicable local, state, and/or federal law is considered to be a violation of this institution's policies.
  2. Corrective and/or disciplinary action will be taken if it is determined that the use of alcohol by an employee or student threatens to create disorder, public disturbances, danger to themselves or others, or property damage.
  3. Students who have not yet reached legal age are prohibited from purchasing, using, and/or possessing alcohol.
  4. Except as outlined by this policy, consumption or possession of alcohol intended for consumption is prohibited on the university campus. Possession of alcohol on NMSU property intended for consumption is allowed for the sole purpose of prompt delivery to the location approved for such consumption.
  5. Open containers of alcohol are prohibited outside of designated areas.
  6. Kegs or other common containers are not allowed, unless in conjunction with an event approved by the Office of the NMSU Chancellor.
- F. Alcohol-Related Misconduct:
1. Possession of false identification. Students found in possession of or attempting to use false identification in order to procure alcohol will be subject to the fullest force and effect of the consequences outlined in this policy and/or the [\*NMSU Student Code of Conduct\*](#).
  2. Alcohol as an aggravating factor to other violations. If alcohol is found to be an aggravating factor in other violations of the [\*NMSU Student Code of Conduct\*](#) and/or local, state and federal laws, the student may be subject to more severe punitive sanctioning.
  3. Off-campus violations of [\*NMSU Student Code of Conduct\*](#). The university reserves the right to impose sanctions upon students and student organizations that violate this policy and/or the [\*NMSU Student Code of Conduct\*](#), even if such actions occurs off-campus.
- G. Consequences for Violations:
1. Students or employees found to be in violation of this policy may be subject to corrective and/or disciplinary action appropriate to the severity of the violation, in accordance with the appropriate administrative process.
  2. Employees or students found to be in violation are also be subject to all local, state and federal laws and nothing in this policy shall be construed to protect employees or students from such actions as local, state and/or federal law enforcement deem appropriate. Similarly, if local, state and/or federal law enforcement entities decide not to pursue action against violators, the university reserves the right to process violations through the appropriate administrative office.

3. Employees or students who have not been found to be in violation of any of the policies herein who wish to self-identify and seek confidential help through the Employee Assistance Program, Counseling Center and/or the Wellness, Alcohol and Violence Education Program, will not jeopardize their employment or academic status. This benefit will continue as long as the employee or student refrains from further alcohol misuse and/or abuse.
- H. Tailgating Exception: (See [Tailgating Procedures](#) for general Tailgating Procedural Guidelines) No independent administrative pre-approval shall be required for the consumption of alcohol within a tailgating station, within a designated tailgating lot, before or after an NMSU sporting event, if all participants are in compliance with the restrictions of this policy and the corresponding Tailgating Procedural Guidelines. For purposes of this policy, a tailgating station is defined as a gathering of fewer than 200 people, assigned to particular parking spaces assigned in accordance with the Tailgating Procedural Guidelines. A tailgate station attended by more than 200 people does not fall under this exception; tailgate stations anticipating 200 or more people will be considered to be a “special event” subject to the administrative pre-approval process described above, which in turn will also require a Special Dispenser’s License, as required by state law. For and Application and Instructions, please contact the chair of the Alcohol Review Committee at 575-646-5752.
1. Policy Administration/Implementation:
    - a. Consumption of Alcohol during authorized tailgating activities will be allowed on a limited basis, and only during the dates, times, and locations designated by a consensus of the following officials: NMSU athletics director, the assistant vice president for facilities, the director of special events, and the NMSU chief of police, or their respective designees.
    - b. By consensus, these officials shall administer this section of the Alcohol at NMSU Events Policy, as well as issue supplemental procedural guidelines that will apply to all tailgating activities, irrespective of the consumption of alcohol.
    - c. A map reflecting the areas designated for such tailgating, and the general Tailgating Procedural Guidelines, shall be made available to the public on request, as well as posted on line at appropriate websites, including but not limited to the NMSU Athletics Department’s website.
    - d. The above named officials and their respective departments may coordinate with employees and/or volunteers to serve as lot monitors in each tailgate lots designated for the consumption of alcohol.
  2. Responsible Use of Alcohol During Tailgating Activities: In addition to the restrictions listed above in Sections D through G above:
    - a. Glass containers shall not be used for the activities allowed by this section. Persons with glass container(s) in locations designated for tailgating will be asked to leave with the container, or to discard the glass container(s); other administrative or criminal action may also be taken, as appropriate under the circumstances.
    - b. Alcoholic beverages shall not be taken into the Aggie Memorial Stadium, except by approval of an exception from the Office of the NMSU Chancellor, with notification to the chair of the Board of Regents. For purposes of this section, Aggie Memorial Stadium consists of the seating areas, concessions, restrooms, concourses, press box and all other space within the bleachers and fields inside the fence requiring admission by ticket holding patrons, as well as the football locker/office and weight training facilities.

### **3.06 - Assistive, Service, and Companion Animals on University Premises**

*[Policy recommended by the Administrative Council 12.10.13; policy adopted by the Board of Regents 12.13.13, superseding Policy 3.80- Pets.]*

- A. Purpose: To assist the university in complying with federal and state law and regulations relating to public access; to provide guidance for students, faculty, staff and visitors regarding service, assistive and companion animals permitted on university premises; and to provide for the public's health, safety and welfare by requiring owners and handlers to care for and to control their animals responsibly, in accordance with these rules and procedures and applicable local laws.
- B. Scope: This Rule applies to students, employees and visitors throughout the NMSU system.



1. The regulation of wildlife and exotic animals is outside the scope of this Rule; a person or entity desiring to bring such animals on university premises shall coordinate with the appropriate university office, and will be subject to applicable federal, state and local laws and regulations relating to animal welfare and public safety.
  2. The regulation of animals used in teaching and research, including but not limited to the therapeutic riding program, is governed by the Animal Welfare Act and the Office of Laboratory Animal Welfare, and is therefore outside the scope of this Rule. The university has established the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee to administer these federal laws and corresponding regulations in the care and use of vertebrate animals in academic and research settings. (See Rule [5.94.30 E.](#)) Concerns or complaints relating to these issues should be directed to the chair of the NMSU Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee. Additional information may be found at: [NMSU Research Compliance IACUC](#)
- C. **Rule Administrators:** The following positions have authority relative to the administration of this Rule; each also serves as a member of the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee, described in Section E. 6, below.
1. NMSU Police Chief or Designee;
  2. Director of Housing and Campus Life or Designee;
  3. Director of Office of Institutional Equity or Designee;
  4. Director of Student Accessibility Services or Designee;
  5. NMSU-Alamogordo Community College Vice President of Student Success or Designee;
  6. NMSU-Carlsbad Community College Vice President for Student Services or Designee;
  7. NMSU-Doña Ana Community College Vice President for Student Services or Designee;
  8. NMSU-Grants Community College Vice President for Student Services or Designee;
  9. Department Head, Director or Equivalent of Affected Program.
- D. **Definitions:** The definitions provided in this section will be used in the application and enforcement of this Rule.
1. **Animals Permitted on University Premises:** Subject to the provisions of this Rule and applicable federal, state or local laws, the following types of animals are permitted on university premises.
    - a. “Companion Animal”: A companion animal is a domesticated animal privately owned for companionship and enjoyment. The term “companion animal” in recent years has been adopted as a more respectful term for “pet”. See Section E. 1. below
    - b. “Emotional Support Animal” (ESA): An emotional support animal is a companion animal that may be permitted, if deemed to be a reasonable accommodation, for a person with a psychological disability, by either the Office of Institutional Equity or the NMSU Office of Student Accessibility Services (in coordination with the VPSS or designee of the community college, if applicable. See Section E. 3. below.
    - c. “Law Enforcement Animal”: A law enforcement animal is usually a dog, specially trained to assist law enforcement personnel with police work. See Section E. 4. below.
    - d. “Pet”: See Companion Animal.
    - e. “Service Animal”: A service animal is either a dog or a miniature horse that is individually trained to do work or perform specific tasks to assist a person with a psychological or physical disability. Service animals are distinct from companion animals, emotional support animals, or other assistive animals. See E. 2. below regarding a service animal's right to public access.
    - f. “Service Animal in Training”: A service animal in training is defined as either a dog or miniature horse in the process of being trained as a service animal. (See Section E.2. d. below)
    - g. “Therapy Animals”: Therapy Animals are animals involved in Animal Assisted Interventions. These definitions were derived from [Pet Partners](#).
    - i. “Animal Assisted Activity (AAA) Animals”: AAA animals are domesticated companion animals that may visit the university, with prior approval, to provide recipients an opportunity for social interaction, recreation, or educational or motivational benefits. Examples would include visits by a

group of dogs and their handlers to a university residence hall during exam week. The AAA animals and their handlers receive specialized training by an appropriate organization (e.g. Pet Partners, Therapy Dogs International, Therapaws.)

- ii. “Animal Assisted Therapy (AAT) Animals”: AAT animals are domesticated companion animals that assist professionals with goal-directed interventions involving treatment of clients. An example of this would be a handler and the AAT dog being present in a room to assist a speech language pathologist, who is treating a client. The professional sets goals for the session, leads the session, incorporates the animal into the treatment session, evaluates the effectiveness of the session, and documents the progress of the client being treated. Sometimes the professional will also be the handler, and utilize their own companion animal, which has been trained as an AAT animal.

*See* Section E. 4. below.

2. “Exotic Animal”: Exotic animals are wild, non-domesticated animals, not native to the United States of America, including but not limited to monkeys, tropical birds and certain species of tarantulas and snakes.
3. “Handler”: A “handler” is the person in control of, and a person the university may hold responsible for the acts of a service animal, a service animal in training, or other assistive animal. The handler may or may not also be the owner of the animal.
4. “NMSU Entity”, sometimes also referred to as “unit”, is a general term which may refer to a college, a department or any other individual administrative unit within the NMSU system.
5. “Owner”: A person who has legal custody of an animal covered by this Rule. The university will hold owners responsible for the acts of their animal. The owner may or may not also be the animal’s handler.
6. “University Housing”: University Housing refers to all housing units and attached yards, as well as to indoor and outdoor common areas under the authority of NMSU Housing and Residential Life. University Housing consists of Single Student Housing and Student Family Housing.
7. “University Premises”: University premises refers to all land, buildings, or other indoor or outside space owned, leased by NMSU, or otherwise under the control of New Mexico State University. University owned property leased to other entities and not under the operational control of NMSU are not considered university premises for purposes of this Rule.
8. “Wildlife”: Wildlife refers to non-domesticated animals native to the United States of America, including but not limited to coyotes, wolves, skunks, and certain species of tarantulas and snakes (i.e. rattlesnakes).

#### E. Rule Statements:

1. **Animals Visiting Campus and/or Residing in University Housing:** NMSU maintains an environment designed primarily for the support of the university’s education, research, and public service missions. Animals are permitted on university premises, in accordance with applicable law and this Rule which requires the owner and the handler to be fully responsible for the animal’s control, care and maintenance. Students and employees may be subject to disciplinary action for failure to control or clean up after their animal, regardless of the damages caused, if any, and in accordance with applicable university policy, rules and procedures. If any provision in this section conflicts with legal requirements or policies in Sections E. 2. or E. 3. below relating to service animals and/or emotional support animals, those provisions shall govern.
  - a. **Owner/Handler Responsibilities:** The owner/handler or other person in custody of a companion or other assistive animal on university premises shall:
    - i. Comply with this Rule and all applicable federal, state, or local laws and regulations pertaining to animal control, including current vaccination and licensure;
    - ii. Ensure that dogs and cats, and other animals to the extent feasible, wear a legible identification tag and a current rabies tag at all times;
    - iii. Control and supervise their animal at all times, including but not limited to ensuring that the animal does not cause disruption, and/or leashing the animal while on university property. (Note: service animals are not required to be leashed, if under control of their handler, and especially when a leash would interfere with the task the animals performs on behalf of its handler.);

- iv. Keep the animal clean. Daily grooming and/or occasional baths may be required to keep animal odor to a minimum. Adequate flea prevention and control is also required.
  - v. Clean up, or make arrangements for someone else to clean up, their animal's defecation, urination or vomit;
  - vi. Pay for, and otherwise hold the university harmless from, damages caused by the animal;
  - vii. Comply with the animal welfare provisions outlined in Section E. 5. below.
- b. University Facility Restrictions: Animals permitted on university premises shall not disrupt university activities or members of the university community, including visitors. Additionally, the following facility restrictions apply:
- i. Except as expressly provided otherwise in this Rule, owners/handlers shall not take their animals inside university buildings or facilities;
  - ii. Owners/handlers shall not tie or tether the animal to any university property;
  - iii. Except as expressly provided otherwise in this Rule, such as service animals' right to public access with their handler, owners/handlers shall comply with posted signage which may limit or prohibit access by companion animals.
- c. Exclusion from University Premises: Notwithstanding an animal's right to public access, there may be certain circumstances requiring the exclusion of animals, including but not limited to, the examples listed below. If an owner/handler will not cooperate with a request for immediate removal of the animal, the NMSU Police Department or local police jurisdiction may be called for assistance.
- i. Examples of Behavior Justifying Request for Immediate Removal of Animal:
    - if the animal urinates or defecates inside a university building;
    - if the animal causes significant property damage or injury to person or other animal;
    - if the animal poses a direct threat to health or safety of others or to the animal itself (examples may include, but are not limited to science laboratories that present hazardous conditions, require protective clothing, food preparation areas, livestock pens or horse stables);
    - if the animal's presence fundamentally alters the nature of a program or activity;
    - if an instructor or other person is not able to adequately manage the safety risk created by the presence of the animal;
    - if the animal is unsupervised or otherwise not being tended to by the owner/handler.
  - ii. Nature of Facility or Event: An animal that is neither a service animal, nor an approved therapy or emotional support animal, may be asked to leave a university facility or event that does not otherwise permit companion animals. *See Also* Section E. 9.
  - iii. Emergent Circumstances: Any companion animal, service animal, emotional support or other assistive animal may be asked to leave an area when emergent or security circumstances require use of a law enforcement animal, chemicals or other emergency deployment.
- d. Single Student Housing: Except as expressly provided elsewhere in this Rule, animals are not allowed to reside, nor to visit, single student housing residence facilities. This prohibition does not apply to fish; fish are permitted, subject to reasonable inspection(s) by Housing staff.
- e. Student Family Housing: In addition to any terms and conditions pertaining to companion animals contained in the housing license, the following applies to requests for animals to reside or to visit overnight within Family University Housing:
- i. No animals are allowed to reside, nor to visit overnight, in Family Housing without the express written approval from the Department of Housing and Residential Life;
  - ii. Only dogs, cats, birds, fish, rodents (only guinea pigs, hamsters or gerbils), amphibians and non-snake reptiles are permitted in Family Housing, absent an exception based upon extenuating circumstances granted by the Department of Housing and Residential Life;
  - iii. The total number of dogs and cats in a household shall not exceed a total of two (2) (e.g. 2 dogs; 2 cats; 1 cat, 1 dog).
  - iv. Fish, birds, rodents, amphibians and reptiles must be contained in an appropriately sized aquarium or cage at all times.

- v. Dogs and cats shall be spayed or neutered, unless granted an exception by the Housing Director or designee.
  - vi. Alleged violations may be unilaterally investigated by University Housing staff, and action taken pursuant to the terms of the license agreement.
  - vii. The signatory on a university housing license agreement, as the party responsible for the premises, may have sanctions or other administrative action levied against them for violations by an owner/handler who are their co-tenants or visitors. The owner/handler may also be sanctioned in accordance with applicable employee, student or visitor conduct policy, rule or procedures.
- f. Unsupervised Animals: From time to time unsupervised animals may be encountered on a campus or other university property. In these situations, administrative or police action may be taken, for the protection of the public's safety, as well as for the safety and welfare of the animal.

## 2. Service Animals; Service Animals in Training:

- a. Public Access: A person with a disability who uses a service animal shall be admitted to any university facility open to the public, including buildings and common carriers, subject to rare exception based on direct threat of significant harm to the health or safety of others. Service animals shall be at all times under the control of the owner, handler or trainer of the service animal.

Questions or concerns relating to public access by a service animal, and requests for reasonable accommodation in the workplace or academic setting not involving a service animal should be referred to either the Office of Institutional Equity (employees and visitors) (575-646-3635 or [equity@nmsu.edu](mailto:equity@nmsu.edu)), or the Office of Student Accessibility Services, 575-646-6840 or [sas@nmsu.edu](mailto:sas@nmsu.edu).

- i. The law does not require service animals to wear a vest; however, NMSU encourages the use of a vest or other service animal identification.
  - ii. Persons with disabilities who utilize a service animal are not required to register with any office, nor to request an accommodation, unless an additional accommodation is needed in the academic or work setting.
  - iii. Persons with disabilities who use a service animal on university property shall not be required to pay a fee that others (without animals) are not required to pay. (e.g. pet deposits);
  - iv. In an emergency requiring transportation or relocation of an owner, handler or trainer of a service animal or service animal in training, to the extent practicable, accommodations shall be made for the service animal or service animal in training to remain with or be reunited with the owner, handler or trainer. When accommodations cannot be made that would allow the animal to remain with the owner, handler or trainer, the service animal or service animal in training shall be placed pursuant to the instructions provided by the owner, handler or trainer.
  - v. Misrepresentation of an animal as an authorized service animal or service animal in training will be taken very seriously. *See* Section E. 9.
- b. Inquiries by University Representatives: When it is readily apparent that an animal is trained to do work or perform tasks for a person with a disability (e.g. a dog is observed guiding a person with a visual disability), university representatives should not inquire about the service animal, unless there is a separate concern about disruption or other issue. It is recommended that faculty, staff or students consult with either the Office of Student Accessibility Services or the Office of Institutional Equity regarding any perceived issues.
    - i. In the event that it is not readily apparent that an animal is a service animal, university representatives shall not ask about the nature or extent of the person's disability, but may make two inquiries, as permitted by guidance issued pertaining to the Americans with Disabilities Act: 1. Is the animal a service animal required because of a disability?, and/or 2. What work or task is the animal trained to perform?
    - ii. University representatives shall not ask for documentation, such as proof that the animal has been certified, trained or licensed as a Service Animal; nor shall they ask the handler to demonstrate the tasks.
    - iii. For university programs and/or classes held at non-NMSU facilities, the owner of the property may require notification or verification that the animal is a service animal.

- c. **Control, Care and Maintenance:** Subject to limited exceptions required due to a handler's particular disability, owners, handlers and trainers of service animals and service animals in training shall comply with the requirements of E. 1 and E. 5. relating to animal control, care and maintenance.
  - d. **Service Animals in Training:** Based on New Mexico law, service animals in training shall be admitted to facilities open to the public on the same basis that a service animal would be.
  - e. **Denial of Public Access:** Any decision to exclude a service animal from a particular area of the university shall be made on a case-by-case basis, in coordination with the person with the disability; and if possible, also in coordination with either the Office of Student Accessibility Services (for students) or the Office of Institutional Equity (for employees and visitors). *See Also* Section E. 1. c. above.
  - f. **ADA Complaint Resolution:** persons with disabilities who believe their rights under the ADA are not being honored may file either an internal complaint of disability discrimination with the Office of Institutional Equity (575-646-3635 or [equity@nmsu.edu](mailto:equity@nmsu.edu)), or may file an external complaint with appropriate state and/or federal agencies. Internal complaints received will be promptly investigated and resolved. Appropriate corrective action will be taken for violations of this Rule, in correlation with the severity of the offense.
3. **Emotional Support Animals Permitted in Restricted Areas:** Federal law recognizes that under certain circumstances, the presence of a companion animal which provides emotional support may be granted by the appropriate university office (e.g. [Office of Institutional Equity](#) for employees and visitors; [Office of Student Accessibility Services](#), for students) as a reasonable accommodation for a person with a disability. An example of an accommodation that might be found to be reasonable, depending upon the circumstances presented, would be waiver by university housing of its standard prohibition of companion animals, to permit an emotional support animal to reside with its owner with a disability. The university's standard procedures for assessing student requests for reasonable accommodation shall be applied, on a case by case basis, and result in an Accommodation Agreement that addresses the animal access issues.
- a. A request for an emotional support animal must be based upon medical documentation indicating that the animal's presence alleviates psychological symptoms or effects associated with the disability of its owner/handler.
  - b. While the law requires that there be a nexus between the person's disability and the comfort provided by an emotional support animal, it does not require the animal to be trained to perform specific task(s) directly for their handler. Emotional support animals may be permitted access only to the areas specifically identified in an Accommodation Agreement authorized by the appropriate university office or other entity.
  - c. Persons with disabilities authorized for an emotional support animal, by either the Office of Student Accessibility Services or by the Office of Institutional Equity, shall carry a copy of the Accommodation Agreement with them. The use of a vest or other identification as an emotional support animal is encouraged.
  - d. In the event that it is not readily apparent that an animal should be permitted access to a particular university venue, university representatives shall not seek disability related information, and if the animal is identified as an emotional support animal, may ask to see a copy of the Accommodation Agreement authorizing access, or name of the university official or other entity granting similar approval.
  - e. Misrepresentation of an animal as an authorized emotional support animal will be taken very seriously. *See* Section E. 9.
  - f. **Control, Care and Maintenance:** Owners and handlers of emotional support animals are subject to the requirements of E. 1 and E. 5. relating to animal control, care and maintenance.
  - g. **ADA Complaint Resolution:** persons with disabilities who believe their rights under the ADA are not being honored may file either an internal complaint of disability discrimination with the Office of Institutional Equity (575-646-3635 or [equity@nmsu.edu](mailto:equity@nmsu.edu)), or may file an external complaint with appropriate state and/or federal agencies. Internal complaints received will be promptly investigated and resolved. Appropriate corrective action will be taken for violations of this Rule, in correlation with the severity of the offense.
4. **Working Assistive Animals:**
- a. **Therapy Animals:** Therapy animals, also referred to as animals used in animal assisted interventions, (AAI) are distinct from emotional support animals and from service animals and do not have the same right to public access. Therapy animals are regulated by guidelines determined by specific associations.

- (e.g. Pet Partners, Therapy Dogs International, Therapaws). Visits by this type of animal to university campuses and within buildings are permitted, subject to approval from the appropriate department head, director or equivalent administrator. See [NMSU Counseling Center](#) for "Guidelines for Animal Assisted Interventions".
- b. **Law Enforcement Animals:** Animals under the authority of law enforcement personnel, while actively responding to an actual or perceived event, are not subject to the provisions of this Rule. Their control, care and maintenance is governed by state and/or federal case law and is incorporated into the [NMSU Police Department, Law Enforcement Canine Handbook](#), or other policies and procedures applicable to the specific law enforcement agency that owns the working animal.
5. **General Animal Welfare Requirements:** NMSU abides by guidelines associated with basic animal welfare and promotes quality of life for all companion and assistive animals on university premises. The following principles listed below apply to the animals within the scope of this Rule, in order to ensure their physical, mental and emotional well-being. Additionally, owners/handlers shall comply with applicable county ordinance and state law. See [Doña Ana County Ordinance](#). The five freedoms listed at 1-5 below, were adapted from the *Farm Animal Welfare Council's Five Freedoms* ([www.fawc.org.uk/freedoms.htm](http://www.fawc.org.uk/freedoms.htm)) originally developed to set standards for livestock welfare; however, they encapsulate the basic principles that are expected to be applied at NMSU to companion and assistive animals:
- a. **Freedom from hunger and thirst:** Companion and assistive animals shall be provided ready access to fresh water and be provided with a diet to maximize short and long term health.
  - b. **Freedom from discomfort:** Because service animals are at their handler's side for a large part of each day, it is anticipated that the basic care of providing adequate shelter will be maintained. All companion and assistive animals residing or otherwise permitted on university premises shall be provided adequate shelter.
  - c. **Freedom from pain, injury, or disease:** The owner/handler of the companion or assistive animal will ensure the physical health of the animal, including but not limited to avoidance of locations that may involve the use of hazardous materials (certain science labs) or interaction with NMSU livestock or horses; extended walking on asphalt or cement surfaces during summer months; as well as regular vet check-ups and vaccinations or titer testing for the following: rabies, distemper, parvovirus and bordetella. If the animal is unable to be vaccinated for health reasons, the owner/handler needs to have a document from the treating veterinarian stating that this is the case.
  - d. **Freedom to express normal behavior:** The life of a service animal is one of work. However, its owner/handler should ensure that the animal be provided with an appropriate level of "down-time" or "play-time" in order to maintain the service animal's mental well-being. The use of positive training techniques is encouraged.
  - e. **Freedom from fear and distress:** Service animals may be exposed to people, situations, or surroundings that companion and other assistive animals would not be exposed to. For example, very crowded noisy hallways in university buildings. It is the responsibility of the animal's owner/handler to ensure that the animal has received effective training so that the animal not only behaves appropriately in these settings, but that the animal has had positive experiences while being exposed to these settings so it does not become stressed. Leaving companion and other assistive animals confined in quarters alone for extended periods of time may be a violation of this Rule, depending upon the specific circumstances.
  - f. **Other special issues to consider when tending to the welfare of service animals include:**
    - i. Respect for the aging of the animal, including any signs of cognitive or physical impairment, must be shown, including consideration of the appropriate time to for retiring the animal from service duties;
    - ii. Related to the provisions of subsection E. 5. e. above, owners/handlers should be aware of the potential sources of chronic stress to the animal, and consider the impact that such stress may have on the animal. This necessitates that the owner/handler pay attention to the warning signs of chronic stress in their service or other animal and take appropriate action to lessen the impact of the stress. This is particularly true if the animal is expected to work for long periods of time in unpredictable settings doing stressful work (i.e., attending a football game where there are fireworks or cannon shots while being surrounded by many people, or having to perform physically or psychologically demanding duties).
    - iii. Additionally, owners/handlers are subject to the provisions of E. 1. c. i., regarding situations which pose potential health or safety risks to others or to their animal. Owners and handlers are encouraged to consider potential hazards carefully, and in advance, in order to decide whether or not an accommodation within an academic setting or workplace will be necessary or feasible. The owner



or handler should communicate as early as possible with the faculty member, employer or other person with authority if it appears a modification to protocols or to physical environments may be necessary for the protection of other persons or the animal.

6. **Establishment of Companion and Assistive Animals Committee:** The Board of Regents hereby establishes the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee as a standing “university board” as defined by Regents [Policy 1.05.90](#). Complaints and other matters of concern relating to the interpretation, application or enforcement of this Rule, or corresponding procedures, may be submitted to this committee for resolution. The committee's authority to review and resolve complaints concerning animals on campus is supplemental to other grievances which might be filed.
  - a. **Authority:** The Companion and Assistive Animals Committee shall serve both as an advisory resource to the individual Rule administrators regarding the application and enforcement of this Rule, as well as a body that will assist the university community with dispute resolution as needed for issues involving animals on campus. The committee shall have no authority relative to teaching or research animals under the authority of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, governed by distinct federal regulations. Other than its advisory function, the committee shall have no authority to take action in matters where another university department has jurisdiction to act, such as the NMSU Police Department (a criminal case involving an alleged vicious animal) or the Office of Institutional Equity (exclusion of a service animal resulting in a complaint of discrimination in violation of the ADA).
  - b. **Membership:** The Companion and Assistive Animals Committee shall be comprised of: each Rule administrator identified in Section C.; one or more faculty or staff invitees of the Rule administrators, who have knowledge or expertise regarding service, companion and other assistive animals; the chair of the IACUC Committee or designee (*ex officio*), and a representative from the Office of General Counsel (*ex officio*).
  - c. **Meetings:** The Companion and Assistive Animals Committee may be convened by any of its members, at any time necessary for the resolution of issues pursuant to this Rule. Representatives from the community colleges and or other faculty, staff or students in need of an advisory opinion or other assistance from the committee may submit their issue in writing or request to present in person to the committee.
7. **Dispute/Complaint Resolution:** Any person may bring an issue of a Rule violation or other problem with an animal on campus to the attention of any of the individual Rule administrators (*See* Section C. above), and/ or directly to the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee.
  - a. **Elements of Complaint or Other Concern:** To the extent possible, complaints and other letters of concern shall provide date, time, and location of any alleged violation or incident; the party or parties charged, if known; any witnesses, if known; any other relevant facts; as well as the relief sought by the complainant.
  - b. **Complaint Prioritization:** Complaints and other letters of concern will be processed in the order they are received, unless there is a health or safety risk involved, in which case, it will be expedited.
  - c. **Receipt and Routing for Initial Review:** The recipient of a complaint or other letter of concern shall coordinate with the chair of the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee, and route it for initial review by the appropriate Rule administrator. Initial review may involve:
    - i. Investigation of the facts by the chair of the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee, in coordination with the appropriate Rule administrator;
    - ii. Exploration of avenues for resolution of the issues raised, including discussion, community education, mediation or other methods.
    - iii. If the Rule administrator is able to resolve it in accordance with the Rule/procedures under their jurisdiction, the matter shall be closed.
    - iv. If an issue is not resolved within 7 business days, it may be forwarded by any of the involved parties (the complainant, the respondent, the Rule administrator, the chair of the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee) to the full Companion and Assistive Animals Committee for consideration and further action.
  - d. **Committee Review:** If the complaint or concern is not resolved by the Rule Administrator or by the chair of the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee through discussions with or between the parties, the chair may convene all the members of the committee to consider the matter.

- i. The committee shall hear from all parties. Contact shall be made through notice by personal delivery, email, other electronic means, or by US mail to the most current address on record with the university, if any. A copy of the complaint or other letter of concern shall be included with the communication, inviting comment or attendance at a meeting. Each party shall respond in writing indicating their preference.
  - ii. If they do not wish to attend the meeting/hearing at which the matter will be discussed, the involved parties may submit a written position statement in lieu of attendance to be considered by the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee.
  - iii. The Companion and Assistive Animals Committee or its individual members may be in a position to procure relevant evidence, and may contribute such to the hearing of the matter, in the interest of obtaining a fair result, provided that all parties are informed about the material being considered, and have the opportunity to review and/or rebut it.
  - iv. After consideration of the relevant facts, including submissions received from the involved parties, a majority of a quorum of the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee will issue a decision, either verbally to the parties at the close of the meeting/hearing, or by way of a written decision within 7 business days from the date the hearing was held.
  - v. The meeting/hearing shall be recorded.
  - vi. The decision of the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee shall be final.
8. **Education of University Community:** The Rule administrators, working in conjunction with the Office of Institutional Equity and/or the NMSU Office of Student Accessibility Services, will ensure that appropriate training is provided to faculty, staff and students regarding the law's requirements for non-discriminatory equal access, in order to increase mutual understanding and to reduce misunderstanding and/or conflict about where different types of animals are permitted to be on campus.
9. **Misrepresentation of Animal as an Authorized Animal:** The [New Mexico Service Animal Act](#), NMSA 1978, Section 28-11-6 et seq, makes it a crime to knowingly present an animal as a service animal or service animal in training when it does not meet the definition. Additionally, falsification of documentation or other misrepresentation of an animal as a service animal, service animal in training, emotional support animal or other animal permitted under these policies, in order to gain access to university facilities not otherwise open to companion animals, will be taken seriously. If reported or suspected, the appropriate university office will investigate. Administrative, disciplinary and/or criminal action will be pursued as warranted by the investigative findings.
10. **Conflicts Involving Assistive and Companion Animals:** It is recognized that presence of animals on campus may from time to time create problems for others. For example, the presence of a service animal, other assistive animal or companion animal may negatively affect others with allergies, respiratory impairments and other conditions.
  - a. The facts relevant to each conflict situation will be assessed in order to balance the rights of each affected party, and to the extent feasible, the rights of each party will be honored, with or without accommodation of policies, procedures, course schedules etc.
  - b. When a conflict involves two animals, the public access rights of a service animal or service animal in training will likely prevail. Note: The [New Mexico Service Animal Act](#) makes it a crime to intentionally fail or refuse to control an unrestrained animal, which animal interferes with or obstructs the owner, trainer, or handler of the service animal or service animal in training.
  - c. When a conflict involves any person and either the owner, handler or trainer of a service animal or service animal in training; or involves any person and the service animal or service animal in training; the rights of the owner, handler or trainer and/or the rights of the service animal or service animal in training will likely prevail. Note: The [New Mexico Service Animal Act](#) makes it a crime to intentionally interfere with (i.e. harassment or obstruction) with the use of a service animal or service animal in training.
  - d. Conflict resolution will be managed by the Office of Student Accessibility Services or the Office of Institutional Equity, as appropriate, for conflicts involving service animals and animals permitted as emotional support animals; those offices may utilize the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee in an advisory capacity.
  - e. Conflicts involving companion animals may be directed to the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee for resolution by that committee.



- F. Related Procedures and Forms: Consistent with Regents Policy and Rule 1.10, the policy administrators, in consultation with the Companion and Assistive Animals Committee, and approval from their respective vice president or equivalent administrator, may issue supplemental procedural guidelines and/or forms. Such procedures shall not conflict with this Rule, and are intended to facilitate the implementation, application, and enforcement. Such procedures and forms shall be posted at an appropriate NMSU website, and linked from this Section.

### **3.07 - Awareness, Assessment and Response to Behaviors of Concern**

- A. Purpose: The purpose(s) of this Rule, and corresponding procedural guidelines, as they may be subsequently issued by the Rule administrators, are as follows:
1. To heighten awareness and mutual concern for the welfare of all within the New Mexico State University (NMSU) system, which includes all campuses and work sites, and to encourage the reporting of observed behaviors of concern occurring in the classroom, on campus, in NMSU Housing, in the workplace, or at any other university location or sponsored event.
  2. To facilitate communication and coordination amongst university officials charged with maintaining a safe and secure environment for university students, employees, and others, specifically with a focus on the avoidance of critical incidents caused by individual or group misconduct, through early detection and reporting, risk assessment and responsive action.
  3. To formally recognize and authorize the Conduct Assessment/Response, and Education (CARE) Committee and its subcommittee, the Behavioral Intervention Team, and to clarify their respective roles and responsibilities relative to the process by which the behavior of concern will be assessed for risk and determination of appropriate precautionary and/or follow up action.
- B. Scope: This Rule applies throughout the NMSU system, at all university owned, controlled, or leased properties, as well as at off campus locations used for university sponsored events or activities. The Rule may also be applied, at the discretion of the Rule administrators on a case by case basis, in response to reported off-duty or off-campus conduct, depending upon the nature of the impact to university interests, including but not limited to, its students and personnel.
- C. Rule Administrator(s): The Dean of Students, NMSU Police Chief and Asst. VP for Human Resource Services, or their respective designees, shall administer this Rule as outlined herein; they may jointly approve any supplemental operational protocols to facilitate implementation of this Rule. The Rule administrators work closely with the Conduct Assessment/Response and Education (CARE) Committee, its subcommittee, the Behavioral Intervention Team and designated police personnel, as appropriate for each case. All NMSU supervisors shall assist, as may be requested by the primary Rule administrators, with university community education necessary to implement this Rule.
- D. Definitions: For purposes of the administration of this Rule and corresponding procedural guidelines, the following definitions apply:
1. "Behavior of Concern": Behavior of concern is any behavior, including verbal, physical, written or expressed via electronic media or other mode of communication, that reasonably causes someone to be concerned about:
    - a. the health, safety, or welfare of the individual exhibiting the behavior;
    - b. the health, safety or welfare of any other individual(s) or property, or
    - c. disruption in the classroom, program, or other academic or work environment.
  2. "Campus Resident": Any person who lives in university housing; such individual may or may not meet the definition of "student".
  3. "Student": Any person enrolled in any course or program at New Mexico State University, which includes all NMSU campuses and work sites.
  4. "University Community": The university community includes students, faculty, staff, campus residents, contractors and other vendors, volunteers, and visitors to campus.

5. “University Facility”: Any campus, college, center, building, open space or other facility or area owned by, or operated under the control of, New Mexico State University.
6. “Violence”: Violence includes, but is not limited to: murder, sexual assault, robbery assault; battery; harassing or intimidating behavior that creates a reasonable fear of harm; stalking; and/or, threats of violence made in any medium (verbal, electronic, telephonic, written, gestures, etc). It also includes all incidents of hate crimes, dating violence, and domestic violence.

E. General Principles:

1. Early Reporting and Intervention: While potential incidents of violence are at the forefront of concern, this Rule is intended to address individual behaviors that may be, or may become, a disruption to the environment, whether classroom, office, housing or other university facility. Outreach at an early stage is desirable to prevent violence in some instances, and to retain an employee or student in more instances. This Rule is therefore designed to encourage the reporting of behaviors of concern before they lead to violence or other serious harm. In the unfortunate event that a critical incident should occur, administrators are not relieved of their duties under other policies and protocols (e.g. emergency notification and response; support to victims of violence; internal and/or police investigation into alleged misconduct; and student/employee disciplinary action and/or punitive consequences, including arrest).
  - a. Any person, including university employees and students, who observes behavior of concern is encouraged to submit a report under this Rule.
  - b. Persons who in good faith submit a report or take other action authorized by this Rule shall not be subjected to adverse action for having done so.
  - c. It is acknowledged that some individuals may be both student and employee; in those situations, action will be taken in the best interest of the individual and the institution, and may include administrative action under either student policies/procedures or employee policies/procedures, or both.
  - d. As part of a larger and institution-wide commitment to a secure campus and workplace environment, the university is committed to the development of preventive measures. In addition to the work of the CARE Committee, the Behavioral Intervention Team and/or NMSU Police Chief and/or designee; other examples include: pre-employment screening, employee assistance program, student support services, and other outreach and educational initiatives.
  - e. The university’s Office of Human Resource Services-Employee Management Services provides collaborative problem-solving assistance to supervisors and employees in the area of conflict resolution in an attempt to address and diffuse tensions caused by interpersonal disputes or other reasons, before disputes in the workplace reach a level at which violence may erupt.
  - f. Individuals found to have intentionally and maliciously submitted a false report may be subject to appropriate administrative, civil or criminal action.
2. Retaliation Prohibited: Individuals who are found to have retaliated against any individual reporting or taking other action under this Rule, including encouraging or assisting another to report behavior of concern, may be subject to administrative, civil or criminal action as may be appropriate under the circumstances.
3. Establishment of the CARE Committee: To facilitate implementation and administration of this Rule, the Board of Regents formally recognizes and authorizes the Conduct Assessment/Response, and Education (CARE) Committee as a standing university board, along with its subcommittee, the Behavioral Intervention Team. See [Official List of University Boards](#).
4. Role of the CARE Committee and the Behavioral Intervention Team: The CARE Committee and Behavioral Intervention Team assess and coordinate response to reported behaviors of concern that do not pose an immediate threat of personal harm (to self or others), nor to property. These committees have been established in part to facilitate the assembly of information from the distinct NMSU entities that may be privy to relevant information, in order to assist with the assessment for risk of harm. The CARE Committee defers to the Behavioral Intervention Team and other qualified professionals the decision making regarding the nature and type of appropriate responsive action.
  - a. The CARE Committee and the Behavioral Intervention Team do not provide counseling or medical advice or services, but each may act to refer individuals to such internal or external resources, especially in situations involving victims of violence.
  - b. The CARE Committee and the Behavioral Intervention Team are not responsible for responding to

- campus emergencies. Emergency response is performed by the appropriate public safety entities (e.g. police or fire), with consequence management (continuity of operations and disaster recovery) addressed by the Central Administration Response Team (“CART”), consisting of university executive administrators (*See* Rule [2.25 Emergency Preparedness and Response](#)) However, the CART or other public safety professional may request information or assistance from either the CARE Committee or the Behavioral Intervention Team as needed when responding to or managing an emergency. This provision is not intended to affect or otherwise limit the authority of the individual members of the Behavioral Intervention Team to act in their professional capacity, or to take emergency medical action as permitted by state law.
- c. The CARE Committee and the Behavioral Intervention Team will work with other university offices and resources to publicize, throughout the NMSU system, the purpose and functions of the committee and the protocols in place for reporting behavior of concern, including new employee and new student orientation at all campuses.
  - d. The members of the CARE Committee and the Behavioral Intervention Team are authorized to obtain information pertaining to a matter pending review by the committee or team about individuals from supervisors of the NMSU entities and from students for relevant information; supervisors and students shall respond cooperatively and timely to such requests, for the benefit of the person involved as well as for that of the institution.
  - e. The Office of General Counsel provides legal counsel to the CARE Committee and the Behavioral Intervention Team, and is included in their meetings as an *ex officio* member.
  - f. All members of, as well as individuals involved with, proceedings of the CARE Committee or the Behavioral Intervention Team shall maintain confidentiality at all times as required by law, including professional licensing standards regulated by the State of New Mexico.
- F. **Procedural Guidelines and Flowchart:** As authorized by Regents Policy 1.10 and former NMSU Policy 3.07, Section F., the following guidelines issued on April 13, 2013 supplement this Rule. *See Also* [Dean of Students - Worried About Someone](#).
1. **Review Procedures for Reported Behavior of Concern:** The following are the essential procedures for the reporting, initial review of reports; fact gathering; assessment of risk by professionals; and action taken in response relating to reported behaviors of concern. *See Also* the corresponding Flowchart for an overview of the process.
    - a. **Report by Member of University Community:** Members of the university community report behaviors of concern that they may observe through the Office of the Dean of Students website, “Worried About Someone?” located at [deanofstudents.nmsu.edu](http://deanofstudents.nmsu.edu), or by phone to 575-646-1722, or at the on-line reporting at [concernreport@nmsu.edu](mailto:concernreport@nmsu.edu). If the behavior of concern also constitutes a crime, or more importantly, poses a potential for imminent harm to a person or property, the individual reporting the behavior should call 911 directly.
  2. **Receipt of Report/Initial Review:**
    - a. Reports of behavior of concern shall be reviewed daily by the appropriate rule administrator:
      - i. For student behavior of concern, the Dean of Students or designee;
      - ii. For employee behavior of concern, the Asst. VP for Human Resource Services or designee;
      - iii. For volunteer, vendor, visitor or other third party behavior of concern, the NMSU Police Chief and/or designee.
    - b. The appropriate rule administrator shall provide an abbreviated review based upon the limited facts in the report and:
      - i. If there appears to be imminent risk of harm to self or others, the matter shall be referred to the NMSU Emergency Dispatch, for appropriate medical or law enforcement response;
      - ii. If there appears to be an immediate need, but no risk of harm, the matter shall be referred to the Behavioral Intervention Team for expedited fact gathering, assessment for risk, and responsive action.
      - iii. If there appears to be no immediate need for either administrative, law enforcement or medical attention, the matter shall be referred to the next meeting of the CARE Committee.

- c. **Fact Gathering:** Absent an active emergency, it is the role of the CARE Committee, the Behavioral Intervention Team and the NMSU Police Chief and/or designee to seek additional information which may be known by other areas within the university and surrounding areas, and to share with all involved as appropriate, in order to best assess the behavior of concern and determine the level of risk of harm presented, if any. Additionally, they may, but are not obligated to, contact the individual's emergency contact listed in the NMSU Emergency Notification System to obtain additional information from family or friends that may be familiar with the individual whose behavior has been reported. The CARE Committee and the Behavioral Intervention Team members also will expedite the provision of available information to the designated NMSU Police personnel, as may be requested during emergent circumstances that arise from behavior of concern by a student or employee.
- d. **Risk Assessment and Case Assignment:** The following evaluation classifications, identified by *Deisinger and Randazzo*, as adapted in this rule are used to assess any risk of harm that a behavior of concern may present. Cases may be assessed and re-assessed dependent upon the circumstances of each case, and as each develops.
  - i. **EXTREME RISK** (Level 1): Appears to pose an immediate threat of violence or self-harm. ***REQUIRES immediate containment, law enforcement or emergency medication, target protection, and/or a Threat Management Plan.*** Matters assessed at Level 1 will be assigned to the NMSU Police Chief and/or designee to coordinate law enforcement action and/or emergency medical assistance. The NMSU Police Chief and/or designee will take the lead in coordinating all Risk Level 1 Threat Management Plans.
  - ii. **HIGH RISK** (Level 2): Appears to pose a threat of violence or self-harm but lacks immediacy or specific plan. ***REQUIRES a Responsive Action Plan.*** Matters assessed at Level 2 will be assigned to the Behavioral Intervention Team, for development of a Responsive Action Plan, which will be implemented and monitored by the Behavioral Intervention Team, in conjunction with the NMSU Police Chief and/or designee.
  - iii. **MODERATE RISK** (Level 3): Does not appear to pose a threat of violence or self-harm at this time, but exhibits behaviors or circumstances that are likely to be disruptive to the community. ***REQUIRES active monitoring and referrals.*** Matters assessed at Level 3 will be assigned to the Behavioral Intervention Team, for development of a Responsive Action Plan, which will be implemented and monitored by the Behavioral Intervention Team, with assistance from the CARE Committee or the NMSU Police Chief and/or designee, as may be requested.
  - iv. **LOW RISK** (Level 4): Does not appear to pose a threat of violence or self-harm at this time, nor is a significant disruption to the community expected. ***REQUIRES passive monitoring and referrals as appropriate.*** Matters assessed at Level 4 will be referred to the CARE Committee to develop a Responsive Action Plan.
  - v. **NO IDENTIFIED RISK** (Level 5): Does not appear to pose a threat of violence or self-harm at this time, nor is the person a significant disruption to the community expected. ***No monitoring is required.*** Matters assessed at Level 5 will be referred to the CARE Committee to open a file and store the information for future reference.
- e. **Case Worker Responsibilities:** For each Responsive Action Plan, a single case worker will be identified by the Behavioral Intervention Team or the CARE Committee as the primary contact for communications and documentation.
  - i. The case worker shall lead and/or coordinate implementation of the plan, which shall be reviewed on a regular basis to determine effectiveness, and whether or not plan modifications are necessary.
  - ii. In the event that an individual's behavior results in arrest for criminal misconduct or hospitalization for a condition that contributed to the behavior of concern, the role of the case worker is to monitor the status and to work as closely as the individual will permit regarding their release and the individual's plans to return to the work or academic environment.
  - iii. The case worker will be responsible for documenting and reporting progress implementing the responsive action plan, as well any new developments, to the NMSU Police Chief and/or designee, to the Behavioral Intervention Team or CARE Committee, or chair, as appropriate.
  - iv. The Chair of the CARE Committee or the Behavioral Intervention Team will coordinate with affected faculty, staff or students as needed, while also respecting the involved individual's wishes regarding privacy and confidentiality; when exigent circumstances exist, the law will be followed and proper documentation will be maintained.

- f. **Police Communication:** Upon successful execution of a Threat Management Plan, the matter will be appropriately referred by the NMSU Police Chief and/or designee to the CARE Committee or the Behavioral Intervention Team for re-assessment of the risk level.
- g. **File Closure:** A matter will be closed if evaluated as a level 5, and there is no further development changing that status for six months.
  - i. A Threat Management Plan, or a Responsive Action Plan, may be modified or continued for as long as the NMSU Police Chief and/or designee or Behavioral Intervention Team decides is appropriate, and during which time the matter will remain open and pending periodic review and reporting to CARE Committee by the case worker.
  - ii. If the risk assessment indicated no need for either a Threat Assessment Plan nor for a Responsive Action Plan, the matter will remain open for a period of six months; if there are no subsequent developments during that time, the file will be closed and stored in the office of the appropriate rule administrator.
  - iii. All matter assessed or re-assessed as Level 5 will remain open for six months and if there are no subsequent developments during that time, the file will be closed and stored in the office of the appropriate rule administrator.
- h. **Documentation and Custodian(s) of Records:** The chair of the CARE Committee and the chair of the Behavioral Intervention Team will work with the assigned case workers to ensure that proper documentation is prepared and maintained.
  - i. The official custodian of the CARE Committee's records, including meeting notes and Level 4 and 5 cases assigned to case workers, is the Dean of Students.
  - ii. The official custodian of the Behavioral Intervention Team records, including and limited to Level 2 and 3 cases assigned to case workers, is the appropriate rule administrator for the type of individual (e.g. student, employee or third party visitor).
  - iii. The official custodian of Level 1 Threat Management Plans and related records, and all other criminal records which might relate to cases assessed at any risk level pursuant to this rule, is the NMSU Chief of Police and/or designee.
- i. **Retention of Records:** The documentation related to reported cases, responsive action plans (if created), and/or any administrative action taken as a result of reported or observed behavior of concern will be maintained for ten years following file closure, in the office of the appropriate record custodian, unless New Mexico or federal law require retention for a longer period.

Rule Administrator:	Dean of Students (for students); Asst VP Human Resource Services (for employees); NMSU Police Chief (for visitors)
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	May 10, 2013
Revision History:	12.11.15 BOR repealed Policy 3.07 from RPM. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 3.07 as initial Rule 3.07 and authorized incorporation of supplemental procedural guidelines into Rule 3.07. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 3.07:</b> 04.09.13 adoption of new policy recommended by Administrative Council; 05.10.13 new policy adopted by Board of Regents.

### 3.10 - Campus Access-Prohibited, Restricted

- A. **Restrictive Access Rule:** In order to establish an appropriate environment and preserve university property for educational purposes, the university reserves the right to restrict access to some of its lands and facilities. Academic spaces are generally used for educational purposes only, and buildings which serve as residences for students are restricted to students, their guests, and appropriate university employees. While some other university facilities and grounds are available to the general public, activities must be scheduled and authorized, and facilities/grounds must be used according to university rules and regulations. No individual(s), except for those contracted to reside on campus, shall temporarily or permanently remain overnight on the property of the Board of Regents, or dwell on the property of the board, including but not limited to, in motor vehicles, or in temporary or permanent structures, without the specific prior approval of the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management (or designee). Members of the campus community, as well as visitors, are expected to behave in ways that do not interfere with the rights of others to pursue an education and/or do not disrupt community living on campus. Behaviors of any individuals that interfere with, disrupt, impair, or obstruct the

processes, procedures, or functions of the university are prohibited.

Failure to comply with this Rule could subject the individual to warning, probation, and removal from the campus, arrest, barring from the campus, or any other sanctions applicable under the Student Code of Conduct, university personnel policies, or state or federal laws. Actions taken under this Rule will be initiated by the appropriate dean or vice president (or designee). Contested administrative actions may be appealed in writing to the executive vice president and provost within 3 working days after receipt of the decision made by the appropriate dean or vice president. The decision of the executive vice president and provost is final.

- B. Prohibited Access Rule: The following individuals may be prohibited from entering upon land or buildings owned or used by the board, its colleges, departments, community colleges, experiment stations, ranches, and all property owned or occupied by agencies supervised by the board:
1. Persons charged with criminal acts against the board or students or employees during the pendency of such criminal charges.
  2. Persons found guilty by a court of competent jurisdiction of criminal acts against the board or students or employees.
  3. Any individual whose presence on the campus constitutes a clear and present danger to the persons, property, or peace of the board, or students, employees, or agents (contractors).
  4. Any individual whose presence on campus, given all attendant circumstances, could reasonably cause injury against the persons or property of the board or students or employees.
  5. Any student ordered withdrawn under the Medical/Psychiatric Withdrawal Rule (available in the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management).

In order to be prohibited from use of university lands and buildings, individuals must be notified in writing of the prohibition by the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management (or designee). Notice may be made personally or by certified mail. Individuals so notified shall be immediately barred subject to the right to request a hearing within 3 days of the service of the notification or within 6 days of the date of mailing the certified letter. Extension of time will be given to the next business day for any day that occurs on a weekend or a holiday as established by the university. Appeals shall be made by giving written notice to the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost of intent to appeal. Hearing on the appeal shall be within 7 days from the receipt of the notice of appeal. Neither the individual prohibited nor the university shall be represented at the hearing by legal counsel.

The hearing need not conform to the strict rules of legal evidence. In the event that the executive vice president and provost reverses the prohibition, the individual shall be immediately entitled to enter upon university land or property. In the event that the executive vice president and provost affirms the decision, the individual's prohibition shall continue. The decision of the executive vice president and provost is final. Under most circumstances, prohibitions under this Rule will be for one year or less. When the prohibition is indefinite, the affected individual may petition for the removal of the prohibition after one calendar year by submitting a written request to the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management. With respect to individuals convicted of criminal acts against the university, its students, or employees, the one year shall commence at the time the individual is released from incarceration resulting from the conviction. Any violation of such prohibition may result in legal action by the board against the individual, including such criminal charges as may be appropriate under the circumstances, including criminal trespass.

- C. Vacating University Buildings or Property: The university recognizes the importance of providing a venue where members of the community can freely and openly express their ideas. However, if an individual(s) and/or organization improperly or illegally occupies university buildings or property, the following statement will be read:

*You are violating university regulations and/or state laws concerning improper occupation of buildings or property. If you leave within the next 10 minutes, no further action will be taken. If you do not leave within 10 minutes, you may be arrested. If you are a student, you may also be subject to disciplinary action as outlined in the Student Code of Conduct.*

In the event a crime (other than the peaceful but illegal occupation of a building or property) has occurred, is occurring, or is about to occur, action may be taken without regard to the above statement by the appropriate university officials in order to protect the safety, lives, and property of the university community.

### **3.15 - Children in the Workplace**

Students, staff, faculty, and administrators can expect to attend and teach class, or complete work or research in laboratories, libraries, offices, and other workplaces with a minimum of distractions or interruptions. Consequently, the following regulations have been established, and will be enforced by the appropriate dean or administrative supervisor, to ensure that an appropriate academic and work environment is maintained.

- A. Children visiting campus must be closely supervised by an adult at all times.
- B. Children will be prohibited from entering dangerous settings such as labs and equipment rooms without the approval of the appropriate dean or administrative supervisor.
- C. Children may not attend a class in session without the prior approval of the class instructor. Children under the care of the instructor may not attend class without the prior approval of the immediate supervisor.
- D. Children may, on rare occasions and with the approval of the supervisor, accompany a parent to the workplace. However, the expectation is that parents will make alternate arrangements for the care of their children during normal working hours.
- E. Children taking part in programs and/or special events on campus are expected to abide by the rules and regulations established by the program or event sponsors.

### **3.19 - Conflict of Interest/Ethical Conduct**

#### **3.19.10 - General Statement**

Inherent within the responsibility for educating the future leaders of our society is the obligation to adhere to the highest ethical standards and principles. New Mexico State University is committed to maintaining the highest standards of ethics and integrity in all of its academic and administrative operations, by promoting such standards among its regents, administrators, faculty, staff, students and others acting on behalf of the university (including those acting on behalf of university controlled entities) and by striving to ensure a level of accountability appropriate for a public institution.

#### **3.19.20 - Principles of Ethical Conduct:**

- A. Members of the university community are expected to exercise and demonstrate personal and professional honesty and to respect the rights, values and contributions of others.
- B. Members of the university community are expected to be aware of and comply with relevant laws, regulations, contract requirements and university policies and procedures. An unethical practice should never be condoned on the grounds that it is "customary" or that it serves a worthy goal.
- C. Individuals with access to confidential, proprietary or private information must never use or disclose such information except where authorized or legally obligated to do so.
- D. All members of the university community are responsible for avoiding, where possible, real or potential conflicts of interest and commitment between personal and professional responsibilities, including relationships that have the appearance of a conflict.
- E. The university's interests should be foremost in all official decision making and employees and others acting on behalf of the university shall remove themselves from decision-making roles that involve them in any personal capacity or which involve their friends or family members.
- F. All individuals acting on behalf of the university have a responsibility to ensure that funds and other assets received are used in an ethical manner. Assets of the university (including personnel), whether tangible or intangible, may not be used for illegal purposes or personal gain.

- G. Members of the university community shall strive to present all information, including financial information and research data and results, completely and accurately.

### **3.19.25 - Mandatory Employee Training and Other Professional Development Opportunities**

- A. Purpose: To facilitate compliance with the various federal, state, or other applicable laws, regulations, standard grant/contract provisions and university policies and procedures.
- B. Scope: This policy applies to all employees throughout the NMSU System.
- C. Policy Administrator: This policy is administered by Human Resource Services' Center for Learning and Professional Development ("HRS-CLPD") and the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, in coordination with supervisory personnel.
- D. Definitions:
1. "Compliance-related training": Compliance-related training refers to those trainings facilitated or directly provided by the university concerning state or federal laws, regulations and university policies which may be relevant to an employee's organizational responsibility or to individual obligations as a university employee.
- E. Policy Statements:
1. As a condition of employment, all employees shall complete compliance-related training annually or as otherwise indicated by the Chancellor/President or the Executive Vice President and Provost. Employees shall also complete any additional training that the Chancellor/President or the Executive Vice President and Provost deem should be mandatory.
  2. NMSU regularly offers training sessions for the development of skills, knowledge, abilities, and individual growth in conformance with the institution's mission, vision and strategic plan. NMSU employees may request to attend such trainings; alternately, the supervisor may require employees to attend such trainings to enhance work performance.
- F. Procedural Guidelines: Human Resource Services, with the concurrence of the Executive Vice President and Provost, may issue Procedural Guidelines and training schedules in addition to those listed below, provided they are consistent with this policy and posted either in this subsection, or on an appropriate web page linked from this policy.
1. Training will be offered via computer, in person, or any other medium that HRS-CLPD or the EVP/Provost may deem to be appropriate.
  2. Maintenance and storage of NMSU employee training records will be performed by HRS-CLPD, with the exception of : 1. NMSU Research Compliance, 2. Police Department and 3. Fire Department personnel. Training records will be maintained accurately by the appropriate responsible department, in coordination with the offices of HRS-CLPD and the Executive Vice President and Provost.
  3. Messages relating to training will be issued by the Executive Vice President and Provost through HRS-CLPD and may be viewed at <http://training.nmsu.edu> and/or <http://trainingcentral.nmsu.edu>.

#### **REVISION HISTORY:**

Policy recommended by University Administrative Council 04.14.15; policy adopted by Board of Regents 05.08.15.

### **3.19.30 - Addressing Concerns Relating to Ethical Conduct**

Individuals who have concerns about the propriety of a situation or about the conduct of a university employee or someone acting on behalf of the university, are expected to consult with appropriate university officials (that is, the person to whom the individual whose conduct is in question directly reports or, in the case of someone acting on behalf of the university, the chair of the Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities, or when a regent is involved, the Chancellor). Confidentiality about individuals reporting violations of these standards will be maintained whenever possible and employees shall be free from retaliation for voicing concerns.



**3.20.10- 3.20.38: Conflicts of Interest and Conflicts of Commitment in General** (*See Rule [3.75 Non Work Related Use of University Resources](#), [3.92 Sales and Solicitation](#), [4.50 Outside Employment and/or Activities](#), [4.60 Public Affairs Participation](#), [5.32 Consulting - Faculty](#), [7.05 Educational Opportunities for Employees and Their Families](#), and [8.25 Professional Staff Consulting](#)*) (*3.20.11-3.20.14; 3.20.16-3.20.19; 3.20.21; and 3.20.29-3.20.31 intentionally omitted*)

### **3.20.10 – Principles**

Both individual members of the university and entities controlled by the university have a vital need to recognize and deal with conflicts of interest and/or commitment. Such conflicts may compromise or have the appearance of compromising the integrity of university-related activities and have unforeseen effects on those activities. Even if there is no perceptible effect on the activity, any apparent inability of the university to avoid and/or resolve conflicts of interest invites outside criticism and supervision. Such supervision could result in the loss of the university's ability to decide its own direction. Conflicts of interest may be primarily financial or may involve the use of one's position and powers for non-monetary self-interest. Such conflicts may be personal or relate primarily to the institution or its constituent organizations or involve an individual whose behavior is inextricably linked with her or his official position, such as an upper-level administrator or a member of the Board of Regents. In any of these situations, the general principles remain the same; 1) disclose always, 2) manage when possible; and 3) prohibit when necessary and where management is not possible.

- A. Disclose always: It is vitally important that individuals provide a clear picture of their activities and complete forms accurately and in a factually correct manner so that potential or actual conflicts of interest can be identified. Similarly, if situations change, disclosure needs to be made within 15 working days (*see* section 3.20.15 of this Rule). The university is under no obligation to manage, as opposed to prohibit, a conflict of interest disclosed by someone other than the individuals primarily involved.
- B. Manage when possible: The vast majority of conflicts can and are managed through removing at least one of the parties from the conflict situation. For example, an individual might recuse him or herself from the review process on a proposal, have another individual become principal investigator or abstain from participating in a particular promotion or tenure situation. The preference of the institution will be to provide management solutions to a conflict of interest that will remove or isolate the conflict. However, such management is not possible when disclosure is not made.
- C. Prohibit when necessary and where management is not possible: In some few cases, it will not be possible to manage a conflict and the individual or organization will have to withdraw from the activity. In some cases, university policy or rules and/or state or federal law allows no solution other than prohibition. For example, no member of the Board of Regents may act as a vendor of goods or services to the university (Board of Regents Bylaws and Section 21-1-35, NMSA 1978).

### **3.20.15 - Procedures and Remedies in Cases of Conflicts of Interest and/or Commitment** *[Amendment presented to the Administrative Council 04.13.10; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.20.10]*

It is the responsibility of all persons covered by this Rule to report any real, apparent or potential conflict of interest or commitment to their supervisors. The primary means of doing this is through the completion of the Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form upon hire and on an annual basis, with disclosure updates submitted on the basis of changes in circumstance. Additional policies, as set forth in Section 3.21.26 of this Rule, are applicable to conflicts arising from sponsored activities but are based upon the annual disclosure requirement.

- A. Procedure: Each person covered by this Rule is required to complete, sign and submit a Conflict of Interest Disclosure form upon hire with any NMSU entity; as new conflicts arise during employment by NMSU; and on an annual basis as requested by the Office of Human Resource Services. Completed forms will be reviewed and approved by the applicable supervisor (and only require next level supervisor review as defined below). Disclosure forms submitted containing no conflicts require only one level of review and approval. Disclosure forms submitted containing one or more (real or perceived) conflicts of interest require two levels of review and approval. In addition, a plan to manage or eliminate the conflict(s) must be submitted. If a conflict of interest or commitment exists for which no management plan is possible, the supervisor is required to recommend a plan of action. Conflicts of interest and commitment that have been submitted may be reviewed by the Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities as necessary. Maintenance of the form is the responsibility of the Office of Human Resource Services.

- B. Paths Towards Remedies: There are two basic conditions that influence the path taken to remedy a conflict of interest or commitment. These may be summed up in the questions: 1) did the conflict arise as part of a sponsored activity? and 2) who disclosed the conflict? These questions must be asked together, as a conflict may be self-disclosed or disclosed by others and may or may not arise as part of a sponsored activity.

The first question that determines disposition of conflicts of interest and/or commitment is whether or not the conflict arises from a sponsored activity. The treatment of conflicts in non-sponsored activities will follow normal personnel procedures as outlined in Rule [4.05 Appeals/Grievances](#) and Regents Policy [4.25 Due Process](#), drawing informally on the advice of the Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities as desired. Resolution of conflicts arising from sponsored activities shall be governed by the procedures set forth in Section 3.21.27 of this Rule. The second question is whether the individual(s) involved in the conflict made the disclosure prospectively or as part of a timely update, or whether someone else has brought the conflict to the university's attention. In cases disclosed by the individual(s) having the conflict, the university will generally try to manage the conflict in a manner agreeable to the parties involved and in agreement with applicable university policies and state and federal laws. The person(s) identified as having the conflict may elect to manage the conflict by participating in measures that will guard the integrity of the situation. Such measures require the approval of the relevant dean, vice president or vice provost or (in the case of sponsored activities, the Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities). The person(s) involved may choose or be told to withdraw from the activity or situation that creates the conflict. In some cases, the supervisor and appropriate dean, vice president or vice provost and, if applicable, the Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities, shall approve the action taken. When someone other than the individual(s) involved in the conflict brings an existing conflict to the attention of the university, the university is under no obligation to try to remedy the conflict and may require that the individual(s) withdraw from the activity or situation creating the conflict. In addition, the individual(s) may be required to repay monies that have been obtained in a situation involving a conflict of interest or commitment. Other sanctions up to and including termination of an individual's employment, may be imposed; subject to the appeals process outlined in Policies [4.05 Appeals/Grievances](#) and [4.25 Due Process](#).

### **3.20.20 - Definition of Terms**

The definitions and example listed below are intended to aid university employees and appropriate review bodies in identifying conflicts of interest. Identifying conflict situations and documenting steps taken to manage these conflicts serve to protect the employees and the institution, as well as ensure that the university will remain eligible for government sponsored research.

### **.20.22 - Member of the University Community**

Members of the university community includes regents, employees (administrators, faculty, staff, student employees) and others acting on behalf of the university (including those acting on behalf of university controlled entities such as the NMSU Foundation).

### **3.20.23 – Relationships**

For purposes of this Rule, the term “relationships” shall mean and include the following:

- A. Family, as defined by NMSU, *i.e.*, legal spouse, domestic partner, parent (including in-laws, adoptive, step or surrogate), child, brother (including half, step and in-law), sister (including half, step and in-law), grandparent, grandchild, legal guardian. The term “family” shall also include the legal spouses of any of the individuals named above.
- B. Close personal friends;
- C. Business partners and corporate professional associates

### **3.20.24 - Investigator**

Investigator means the principal investigator or co-investigator and any other person at the university who is responsible for the design, conduct or reporting of a sponsored activity which has been funded or proposed for funding. For purposes of this Rule and the disclosure requirements set forth herein, the term “investigator” includes the investigator's family members.

### **3.20.25 - Sponsored Activity**

A sponsored activity is a research, training, service or other type of project with identifiable objectives and/or deliverables for which external funding, material support or other compensation, in the form of a grant, gift, contract, cooperative agreement or other formal arrangement, is being requested or has been received.

### 3.20.26 - Significant Financial Interest

Significant financial interest means anything of monetary value owned or payable to a faculty or staff member, including but not limited to:

- A. Salary, royalties, commissions, consulting fees or honoraria and/or any other form of compensation for services which is:
  - 1. Directly or indirectly paid or payable to the faculty or staff member by an entity other than the university or an affiliate or instrumentality of the university; and
  - 2. In excess of \$10,000 per year when aggregated for the faculty or staff member and his or her family members.
- B. Equity interests such as stocks and stock options and other ownership interests which:
  - 1. Exceed \$10,000 in value or represent more than five percent ownership interest in any single entity, when aggregated for the faculty or staff member and his or her family members; and
  - 2. Do not comprise widely held, publicly available, diversified investment funds over which the faculty or staff member does not and has no ability to exercise control; and
  - 3. Are not held in a blind trust where the faculty or staff member has no knowledge of trust assets.
- C. Intellectual property rights, such as patents and copyrights and royalties from those rights.
- D. Student stipends, scholarships, fellowships, work/study grant monies and/or any other form of financial aid paid or payable by an entity other than the university to a faculty or staff member or a member of his or her family.
- E. Gifts or donations of goods or services to a faculty or staff member or a member of his or her family; provided, however, that gifts of a nominal value (\$100.00 or less aggregated in a year) do not comprise a significant financial interest.

### 3.20.27 - Conflicts of Interest

Conflicts of interest occur when there is a competition between a member of the university community's private interests and the member's professional obligations to the university such that an independent observer might reasonably question whether the member's professional actions or decisions are determined by any considerations other than the interests of the university. In this context, the term member of the university community also includes that member's family members, close personal friends and business partners and corporate professional associates, as listed in Section 3.20.23.

- D. Examples of conflicts of interest may include but are not limited to:
  - 1. The presence of a real or apparent incentive for the faculty or staff member to decide an issue in such a way as to have the opportunity for a financial interest in the result.
  - 2. A faculty or staff member having a significant financial interest in a concern that is in direct competition with the interests of NMSU.
  - 3. Procuring goods or services for NMSU from a concern in which an NMSU regent, administrator, faculty or staff member or member of their family has a significant financial interest.
  - 4. Using NMSU resources or staff for non-NMSU projects or granting external entities access to the same, in more than an incidental way, unless permission has been given and the activity benefits the university.
  - 5. Reviewing proposals or bids from family members, or those with whom the faculty or staff member has a close, professional relationship, or from an entity in which the faculty or staff member has a significant financial or management interest.
- E. Examples of permitted activities may include but are not limited to:

1. Serving as principal investigator or co-investigator on a multi-institutional project where NMSU is a participating member.
2. Permitting access to NMSU resources as part of licensing agreements or as part of statutory permitted activities.

### **3.20.28 - Conflicts of Commitment**

Full-time faculty and staff of New Mexico State University owe their primary professional allegiance and their primary commitment of time and intellectual efforts to the education, research and service programs of NMSU. Conflicts of commitment occur whenever the time devoted to external activities adversely affects a faculty or staff member's capacity to undertake NMSU responsibilities, including maintaining appropriate time and accessibility as defined by the requirements of the job.

A. Examples of conflicts of commitment may include but are not limited to:

1. Maintaining full-time paid employment at another institution/organization that interferes with work performance and/or attendance. (See Rule [4.50 Outside Employment and/or Activities](#))
2. Excessive (not more than one day per week, on average) private consulting or advisory committee service, even if it is in the public interest or pro bono.
3. Taking on a significant management role in a non-NMSU entity as part of consulting activities.
4. Holding an elective political office.

B. Examples of permitted activities may include but are not limited to:

1. Faculty consulting for private companies not in excess of one day per week during that portion of the year when drawing an academic or summer salary (See [5.32 Consulting - Faculty](#) and Rule [8.25 Consulting \(Exempt Staff\)](#)).
2. Serving on advisory committees of public or private concerns for the benefit of the university, even if an honorarium is paid for such activities, as long as it does not interfere with work performance and attendance.
3. Acting as an editor or reviewer for a professional society journal.
4. Preparing chapters, textbooks or monographs related to teaching, research or service activities, even if paid royalties as an author or editor.
5. Occasional lectures, colloquia or seminars to disseminate results of university -related teaching, research or service activities.
6. Holding an office in a professional society.

### **3.20.32 through 3.20.28 - Rules for Specific Situations** (3.20.29-31 intentionally omitted)

#### **3.20.32 - Nepotism**

Members of a family may be employed by the university except when one individual will directly supervise the work of the other. If one member of the family is to be employed in the same department as another, approval shall be obtained from the executive vice president and provost prior to any offer of employment. Under no circumstances will a supervisor evaluate a family member.

#### **3.20.33 - Faculty or Staff as Students**

When a university faculty or staff member enrolls in a program to earn a degree at the university, a potential for conflict of interest may arise as a result of the dual role as student and as a faculty or staff member. Persons in this status who are seeking degrees or certificates must demonstrate that the potential for conflict of interest will not compromise the quality of their program of study. Approval of cognizant department heads and deans will be required. In any case, supervisors should never have the responsibility of grading individuals whom they supervise.

In the case of graduate degrees or certificates, such programs must also be approved on a case-by-case basis by the dean of the Graduate School with the concurrence of the executive vice president and provost. When appropriate, the dean may confer with the Graduate Council about the potential for conflict of interest in such programs. The graduate dean may require a specific representative on such a graduate committee, possibly including off campus representatives, as a condition for approving programs.

### **3.20.34 - Relatives and Significant Others as Students**

Faculty of NMSU may not place themselves or be placed by others in situations in which they supervise, evaluate, teach or grade the work of members of their families enrolled in courses offered by the university main campus and/or its community college campuses unless the cognizant department head and dean or equivalent approves a plan to manage the conflict. The same regulation applies to individuals with whom the faculty member is in a consensual relationship (*See* Section 3.22). Supervisors of faculty need to adopt the same procedure to manage situations in which the faculty they supervise teach members of the supervisors' family.

### **3.20.35 - Participation in Committees**

A conflict of interest can exist during the execution of routine committee service activities when they involve family members of close professional associates or friends. Normally, recusal from the committee's decision is the preferred way to manage these conflicts.

Examples of conflicts of interest in committee service work might include but are not limited to:

- A. Serving on employment selection committees when a family member (as defined above), friend or close professional associate from outside the department concerned is applying for the position.
- B. Serving on selection committees or promotion and tenure committees when a person who is or has been involved in a grievance relating to the committee member is applying for promotion or tenure.
- C. Serving on the promotion and tenure committee when a family member is applying for promotion or tenure.
- D. Serving on the graduate committee for a family member of a close professional associate.

### **3.20.36 - Requests Made to Subordinates**

In order to prevent individuals from being placed in a position of conflict between the needs of the institution and those of supervisors, persons in a position of supervisory authority over another individual may not ask that individual to perform duties that benefit the supervisor or a family member in a way that does not directly relate to the official duties of the employee or supervisor. An example of such a request would be for a supervisor, including a faculty member, to ask that a subordinate nominate the supervisor or anyone else for an award. Another example might be suggesting that a subordinate purchase something to support a school activity of the supervisor's child.

### **3.20.37 - Sales and Solicitations**

Sales and solicitations by individuals or organizations on university property that result in personal financial gain are expressly prohibited except as noted in the Rule [3.92 Sales and Solicitation](#) .

### **3.20.38 -Procurement**

No member of the Board of Regents or any employee, either directly or indirectly, shall sell to the university any supplies, equipment, services or insurance or receive any commission or profit on account thereof, and all such persons are prohibited from being parties directly or indirectly to any such contract. The university shall strictly comply with all state statutes and federal regulations to include, but not limited to, NMSA 1978 Section 21-1-35 and NMSA 1978 Section 13-1-190. Further guidance may be found under Section 4 of the [NMSU Business Procedures Manual](#).

## **3.21 - Conflicts of Interest and Commitment in Sponsored Activities, Generally**

Actual or perceived conflicts of interest or commitment that arise from Sponsored Activities are of special concern because they almost always involve or implicate entities outside of the university community (and thus are more prone to public scrutiny), are frequently governed not only by university policies but also by governmental conflict-of-interest regulations and are subject to special disclosure requirements administered by the vice president for research. The principles, definitions and policy or rule statements set forth in Regents Policy [3.19 Conflict of Interest - Ethical Conduct](#) and Rule [3.20 Conflicts of Interest and Conflicts of Commitment in General](#) apply also to this Rule [3.21 Conflicts of Interest and Commitment in Sponsored Activities](#). Specific guidance on conflicts of interest in sponsored activities is set forth below.

### **3.21.05 through 3.21.40 - Conflicts of Interest and Commitment in Sponsored Activities**

#### **3.21.05 Conflicts in Sponsored Activities that Arise from Financial Interests**

Actual or perceived conflicts of interest or commitment in sponsored activities generally arise when an investigator or family member has a significant financial interest in, or a consulting arrangement with, a private business concern or other organization that is or may be affected by the sponsored activity. Some examples of this kind of conflict situation include, but are not limited to:

- A. Engaging for sponsored research a business firm in which the investigator or family member involved in the research project has a significant financial interest.
- B. Purchasing major equipment, instruments, materials or other items for sponsored research from a private firm in which the investigator involved in the research has a significant financial interest.
- C. Engaging a private consulting firm in connection with sponsored research where the investigator involved in such research has a consulting arrangement with or significant financial interest in a competing consulting firm.
- D. Acceptance by an investigator involved in a sponsored research project of gratuities or special favors from a firm or other organization with which the university does business in connection with the sponsored research.
- E. Utilization of privileged information acquired by an investigator in connection with sponsored research for personal gain, or to economically benefit a business concern in which the investigator or family member has a significant financial interest.
- F. Sponsorship of research by a business firm in which an investigator involved in the research has a significant financial interest.
- G. In the absence of disclosure and express sponsor approval, employment of, or an offer of employment to, a family member of an investigator involved in sponsored research by either the sponsor of, or an organization engaged in, the research project.
- H. Receipt by a family member of an investigator involved in a sponsored activity of a scholarship, fellowship, work/study benefit, or other financial aid, which is funded by or through the sponsored activity.

#### **3.21.10 - Conflicts in Sponsored Activities that Arise from Personal Interest**

An actual or perceived conflict of interest or commitment may also arise from situations that may have a significant impact on an investigator involved in sponsored research, even though the situation does not involve a significant financial interest. These non-financial conflict situations frequently involve personal interests or relationships that are or may be affected by sponsored activities. Some examples are:

- A. An investigator's involvement in a sponsored activity where the investigator or a family member of the investigator acts as a non-paid advisor to, or board member of, the sponsoring entity.
- B. An investigator's involvement in a sponsored activity in which a family member is engaged as a human subject, student researcher or other non-paid participant.
- C. An investigator's involvement in a sponsored activity that includes testing and validation of new technology developed by a family member of the investigator.

#### **3.21.15 - Other Conflict Situations in Sponsored Activities**

It is important to realize that any number of other kinds of conflict situations can arise in the context of sponsored projects, some of which may be undeterminable at the outset of the project. Investigators involved in sponsored activities must be cognizant of the need to monitor project developments in order to identify potential or perceived conflict situations as they arise and to disclose them or facilitate their disclosure as soon as possible. Examples of other kinds of conflict situations might include:

- A. An investigator's involvement in a sponsored research project becomes so extensive during the course of the project that other obligations to the university are neglected, thus creating a conflict of commitment.

- B. An investigator's responsibility for multi-disciplinary sponsored research project gives rise to nepotism issues when a family member employed in a different university department falls under the investigator's supervisory authority in the context of the project and no disclosure of and express sponsor approval for such arrangement is in place.
- C. An investigator's loyalty to a family member (*See Rule [3.20.23 Relationships](#)*), close personal friend or a professional associate employed elsewhere results in sponsored research being conducted elsewhere which could and ordinarily would be conducted within the university, to the disadvantage of the university and its legitimate interests.

### **3.21.20 - Governmental Conflict of Interest Regulations Concerning Sponsored Activities**

Any research or other project that is sponsored or funded by a governmental agency is likely to be subject to agency regulations or guidelines covering conflicts of interest as well as university policies. The federal Office of Management and Budget has promulgated rules, applicable to all federally funded grants and agreements with institutions of higher education, which define conflicts of interest and the financial thresholds applicable to them and which require grant recipients to maintain written standards of conduct governing real or apparent conflicts of interest. These rules are found in OMB Circular No. A-110, Sec. 42. Most federal departments and independent agencies have formally adopted these rules and codified them in various sections of the Code of Federal Regulations. A few agencies have adopted supplementary conflict of interest guidelines applicable to their own grant administration procedures. Two agencies, the National Science Foundation and the Public Health Service, have established specific financial disclosure requirements and disclosure review and conflict of interest management procedures applicable to grants from those agencies. The guidelines and requirements set forth in this Rule [3.21 Conflicts of Interest and Commitment in Sponsored Activities](#) are intended to implement and comply with these federal conflict of interest rules, so that compliance with this university Rule will generally assure compliance with governmental requirements. Investigators are urged, however, to familiarize themselves with the conflict of interest rules adopted by agencies sponsoring their research activities.

### **3.21.25 - Disclosure Procedures for Sponsored Activities**

Each person engaged in an area of sponsored research and covered by this Rule is responsible for determining whether any actual, potential or apparent conflict of interest or commitment exists. The principal investigator of each specific sponsored activity, in consultation with all other participants in the activity, is responsible for determining whether any possible conflicts exist with respect to such activity and for so indicating on the New Mexico State University Proposal Award Form submitted to the Office of the Vice President for Research at the time approval for such activity is sought. If any possible conflicts are identified, the person or persons having the conflicts should attempt to resolve them in advance of submitting the activity proposal for review and approval, but in any event must concurrently disclose them for review by the Conflict of Interest Committee during the pre-award process. Disclosure shall be made by submitting the individual's current annual Conflict of Interest Disclosure Form with the approval documentation provided to the Office of the Vice President for Research. If a new conflict of interest or commitment arises during the course of sponsored work, the person having such conflict must submit an updated disclosure form. The Office of the Vice President for Research shall furnish such disclosure forms to the Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities.

### **3.21.30 - Review and Resolution of Conflicts of Interest Relating to Sponsored Activities**

- A. Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities: The Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities shall be a standing committee consisting of the vice president for research, the director of a college/university research center or institute director designated by the vice president for research and three faculty members appointed by the vice president for research and approved by the Faculty Senate. One member of the committee shall not be involved in sponsored research.
- B. Committee Authority and Functions:
  - 1. The Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities shall meet as necessary to review all disclosure statements and decide in each instance whether:
    - a. There is no potential conflict of interest; or



- b. There was a conflict of interest, which has since been resolved; or
  - c. There is a conflict of interest that has not been resolved.
- 2. In making these determinations, the committee, at its discretion and under conditions of confidentiality, may seek the advice of additional persons.
- 3. The committee will exercise care at all times to ensure confidentiality and to protect the safety and privacy of persons involved in or affected by the review.
- 4. If the committee determines that there is an unresolved conflict of interest:
  - a. The appropriate dean, vice president or vice provost will be notified;
  - b. The committee will work with the affected principal investigator and other key personnel, including affected departmental personnel, to determine how the conflict should be managed so the sponsored activity can proceed if at all possible; and
  - c. Acceptance of an award for the affected sponsored activity will be delayed pending resolution of the conflict.
- 5. In order to effectively manage or remedy a conflict of interest, the committee may impose conditions or restrictions to control, reduce or eliminate the possibility that the conflict will affect the objectivity of the sponsored research or other activity. Examples of conflict of interest management options include:
  - a. Public disclosure of the conflict.
  - b. Divestiture of conflicting financial interests or placement in a blind trust.
  - c. Escrow of a conflicting equity interest until appropriate triggering conditions are met.
  - d. Disqualification of the conflicted individual from management, supervisory or other affected responsibilities for the sponsored activity.
  - e. Prohibition of the conflicted individual's involvement in affected aspects of the research or other activity.
  - f. Severance of business relationships that create the conflict.
  - g. Monitoring of research or other affected activities by independent reviewers.

### **3.21.35 - Appeals from Decision Concerning Conflicts of Interest Arising from Sponsored Activities**

A sponsored activity may not be accepted in the event that the committee is unable to fashion a remedy for a specific conflict of interest and the conflict remains unresolved. In such case, the Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities will notify the appropriate dean, vice president or vice provost. Appeal of the decision to not accept an award or to accept it subject to conditions in furtherance of a specific management plan, may be made to the executive vice president and provost, who will consult with the principal investigator and the Committee on Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities prior to making a final determination. A final determination on appeal of a conflict of interest decision will be made within 30 days of the date the appeal was taken. A final determination on appeal shall be achieved before the university accepts a sponsored activity.

### **3.21.40 - Retention of Records Concerning Conflicts of Interest in Sponsored Activities**

*[Amendment presented to the Administrative Council 04.13.10; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.20.10]*

The Office of the Vice President for Research will maintain records of all conflict of interest disclosures and all actions taken with respect to such disclosures for either:

- A. A period of three years following the final close-out of the affected sponsored activity or the resolution of any governmental action relating to such sponsored activity or the underlying conflict of interest, whichever comes later; or
- B. As otherwise provided by law. The original disclosure forms will be retained electronically by the Office of Human Resource Services as part of the employee's official personnel file.



### 3.22 - Conflicts of Interest Arising from Consensual Relationships

- A. Rule Statement: It is the Rule of the university that employees with direct teaching, supervisory, advisory or evaluative responsibility over other employees, students and/or student employees recognize and respect the ethical and professional boundaries that must exist in such situations. Consensual relationships can create conflicts of interest that impair the integrity of academic and employment decisions. Such relationships also contain the potential for exploitation of the subordinate employee, student or student employee and the possible professional or academic disadvantage of third parties, and can subject both the university and individuals to liability. Therefore, the university strongly discourages consensual relationships between supervisors and subordinates, teachers and students, and advisors and students. Should such a relationship develop, the faculty member, supervisor or advisor has the obligation to disclose its existence to an immediate supervisor and cooperate in making alternative arrangements for the supervision, evaluation, teaching, grading or advising of the employee, student or student employee.
- B. Scope: This Rule applies to all NMSU employees including faculty, staff and student employees.
- C. Definitions:
1. A consensual relationship is a mutually acceptable, romantic and/or sexual relationship.
  2. A conflict of interest arises when an individual with the authority and responsibility to evaluate the work or performance of an employee, student or student employee acquiesces or engages in a consensual relationship with the employee or student.
  3. An employee is defined as any individual, whether paid or not, who is listed and active on the university's Human Resources Management System. This includes all faculty, staff and student employees to include affiliated faculty and associated employees.
- D. Reporting Responsibility: In the event a conflict of interest exists arising from a consensual relationship, the individual in the supervisory, teaching or advisory position shall immediately notify the supervisor about the relationship and cooperate with the supervisor in making arrangements necessary to resolve the conflict of interest. Notification of the consensual relationship shall be provided in writing and signed by both parties involved.
- E. Supervisor Responsibility: A supervisor who is notified shall take immediate steps to alter the conditions that create the conflict of interest caused by the relationship. In most instances, this will be accomplished by providing an alternative means for the supervision, teaching, advising and/or evaluation of the subordinate employee, student or student employee. A supervisor who becomes aware of a consensual relationship that has not been declared shall investigate and take action as appropriate and required by this Rule. Both parties in the relationship and the supervisor shall sign the resolution. All documentation will be maintained in a departmental file.
- F. Failure to Report or Cooperate: Employees in positions of authority who enter into or continue consensual relationships without reporting them, or who fail to cooperate in efforts to eliminate the conflict of interest resulting from a consensual relationship may be subject to disciplinary action, which may include counseling, letters of warning, reprimand, suspension or termination. In the event that a complaint of sexual harassment or sexual misconduct is reported by the subordinate party regarding an unreported relationship, there will be no presumption that the relationship was consensual in nature.
- G. Grievance of Disciplinary Actions: Disciplinary actions imposed for violations of this Rule may be grieved or appealed by the individual who is disciplined pursuant to existing university policies and procedures.
- H. Assistance: Questions regarding this Rule should be directed to the assistant vice president for human resource services.

**3.25 -Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus.** (See also Rules [1.20 Gender Equity and Statement of Principles](#), [3.22 Conflicts of Interest Arising from Consensual Relationships](#); (Amendments recommended by the Administrative Council 02.11.14; approved by the Board of Regents 03.10.14.)

- A. New Mexico State University (NMSU) is dedicated to providing equal opportunities in areas of employment and academics without regard to age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation or protected veteran status as outlined in federal and state anti-discrimination statutes. As a federal contractor, NMSU's affirmative action program also supports this effort. The following is a listing of applicable federal and state laws:
1. Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967
  2. Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990, as amended
  3. Civil Rights Act of 1991
  4. Title IX of the Education Amendments of 1972
  5. Executive Order 11141
  6. Executive Order 11246
  7. Equal Pay Act of 1963
  8. Pregnancy Discrimination Act
  9. Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, as amended
  10. Title VI and VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964
  11. Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act
  12. Genetic Information Non-discrimination Act of 2008
  13. NM Human Rights Act, 1969
  14. Campus SaVE Act, 2013
- B. The Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) is designated as the office that receives and processes internal discrimination complaints within the NMSU system. The NMSU OIE website will include office address, location and contact information: <http://eeo.nmsu.edu/>
- C. Title IX Notice:
1. NMSU does not discriminate on the basis of sex in education programs and activities; Title IX of the Education Amendments Act of 1972 is a federal law that states:
 

*"No person in the United States shall, on the basis of sex, be excluded from participation in, be denied the benefits of, or be subjected to discrimination under any education program or activity receiving Federal financial assistance."*
  2. Title IX prohibits:
    - a. Sexual misconduct (including sexual violence)
    - b. Sex discrimination (gender bias)
    - c. Sexual harassment
    - d. Retaliation
  3. Title IX applies to students, staff and faculty. Title IX requires reporting from "responsible employees", defined to include:
    - a. Those with authority to address and remedy sex-based discrimination and harassment; and/or
    - b. Those with responsibility to report sexual misconduct to a supervisor and OIE; and/or
    - c. Those who a student would responsibly believe have such authority or obligation.
  4. In cases involving harassing speech, assessing Title IX applicability to off-campus behavior will require a two-prong test:
    - a. Does NMSU have control over the harasser (subject to our rules) and

- b. Does NMSU have control over the context of the harassment (on our property, in our programs, on land we lease or control, or at events we sponsor)
  5. NMSU will reserve the option to take off-campus jurisdiction in cases involving sexual violence, sexual assault, or rape that involve students or employees.
  6. The Chancellor will designate an administrator to serve as the NMSU Title IX Coordinator, whose duties will include overseeing all Title IX complaints and identifying and addressing systemic problems that arise during the review of such complaints.
  7. Inquiries concerning the application of Title IX may be referred to the NMSU Title IX Coordinator or the Office of Civil Rights of the United States Department of Education. The NMSU OIE website will include the NMSU Title IX Coordinator's name, office address, telephone number, and e-mail address as well as the link to the Office for Civil Rights.
- D. Campus Violence Elimination Act (Campus SaVE Act) Notice: NMSU does not tolerate any sexual violence to include intimate partner violence which can be defined as any physical, sexual, or psychological harm against an individual by a current or former partner or spouse of the individual. Such sexual violence covers domestic violence, dating violence and stalking. The Campus SaVE Act complements and is a companion to Title IX and assists with the response to and prevention of sexual violence in higher education. The Act provides a framework for educational institutions to address incidents of sexual violence occurring on-campus, on public property within and adjacent to campus, and at non-campus properties like off-campus student organization housing, campus sponsored events and remote classrooms. Specifically, the Campus SaVE Act outlines provisions for the following:
1. **Transparency:** Students or employees reporting victimization will be assisted by campus authorities in reporting a crime to law enforcement and with obtaining or enforcement of no contact directives or restraining orders. Employees and students should be aware of bystander intervention which includes taking action to prevent harm or intervene when there is a risk of domestic violence, dating violence, sexual assault, or stalking against another person. Individuals who make reports will be provided options and assistance in changing academic, living, transportation and working situations if requested and reasonably available. Further, a resource guide will be provided which includes information on counseling, health, local advocacy and legal service agencies. The range of any possible disciplinary actions or sanctions and procedures may be found in the *NMSU Student Social Code of Conduct* and/or the *Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU*.
  2. **Accountability:** Provide a fair investigation and resolution of complaints. Additionally, both accuser and accused may be accompanied during proceedings by an advisor of their choice and both parties will receive written outcomes of disciplinary hearings at the same time.
  3. **Education:** Conduct initial and ongoing awareness programming for students and employees that addresses the issues of primary prevention, definition of consent, reporting, bystander intervention and risk reduction.

Persons with inquiries about the application of the Campus SaVE Act may contact any of the following: Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) Executive Director; the NMSU Police Department Victim's Assistance Coordinator or the Dean of Students. The NMSU OIE website will include the most current names, office address, telephone number and e-mail address as well as the link to the Office for Civil Rights.

E. Discrimination Policy:

1. NMSU is committed to providing a place of work and learning free of discrimination and harassment on the basis of a person's age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, serious medical condition, sex, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, or spousal affiliation. Where a violation of NMSU policy, rules or procedures is found to have occurred, NMSU will act to stop the conduct, to prevent its recurrence, to remedy its effects, and to discipline those responsible in accordance with the *Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU* or the *NMSU Student Social Code of Conduct*, as applicable.
2. No employee or student, either in the workplace or in the academic environment, should be subjected to discrimination which includes inappropriate conduct. Even one incident may constitute a violation of policy,

rule or procedure. It is expected that students, faculty and staff will treat one another and campus visitors with respect.

3. It is against NMSU policy to discriminate in any aspect of employment or education, which includes, but is not limited to:
  - a. hiring actions and terminations;
  - b. compensation, assignment, or classification of employees;
  - c. transfer, promotion, layoff, or recall of employees;
  - d. job advertisements;
  - e. recruitment actions;
  - f. testing;
  - g. grading;
  - h. acceptance or participation in an academic program or activity;
  - i. use of university facilities;
  - j. training programs;
  - k. benefits;
  - l. retirement plans, and paid and unpaid leave programs;
  - m. housing;
  - n. academic accommodation;
  - o. employment accommodation;
  - p. financial aid;
  - q. other terms and conditions of employment
4. Determining what constitutes discrimination will be accomplished on a case by case basis and depends upon the specific facts and the context in which the conduct occurs. Some conduct may be inappropriate, unprofessional, and/or subject to disciplinary action, but would not fall under the definition of discrimination. The specific action taken, if any, relating to a particular instance depends on the nature and the seriousness of the conduct that is reported.
5. Discriminatory practices include, but are not limited to:
  - a. discrimination on the basis of a person's age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, race, religion, sex, protected veteran status, sexual orientation, serious medical condition or spousal affiliation;
  - b. retaliation against an individual for engaging in a protected activity such as filing a charge of discrimination, participating in an investigation, or opposing discriminatory practices;
  - c. Use of electronic mail or computer dissemination of offensive material relating to protected categories;
  - d. Denying or interfering with an employee's or student's authorized reasonable accommodation based on disability or religion;
  - e. employment or education decisions based on stereotypes or assumptions about the abilities, traits or performance of individuals based on age, ancestry, color, disability, gender identity, genetic information, national origin, protected veteran status, race, religion, serious medical condition, sex, sexual orientation, or spousal affiliation; and
  - f. conduct that has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic or work performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment in which to work or learn.

F. Sex Discrimination/Sexual Harassment Policy:

1. NMSU is committed to providing a place of work and learning free of sexual misconduct which includes sexual harassment and sexual violence. Engaging in sexual behavior that is inappropriate, unwanted and unsolicited is a violation of NMSU policy. Where sexual harassment is found to have occurred, NMSU will act to address the reported conduct, to prevent its recurrence, to remedy its effects, and to discipline those responsible in accordance with the *Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU* and/or *NMSU Student Social Code of Conduct*, as applicable.
2. No employee or student, either in the workplace or in the academic environment, should be subjected to unwelcome non-verbal, verbal or physical conduct that is of a sexual nature. Even one incident may constitute a violation of NMSU policy, rule or procedure.

3. Determining what constitutes sexual harassment is dependent upon the specific facts and the context in which the conduct occurs. Some conduct may be unprofessional and/or subject to disciplinary action, but would not fall under the definition of sexual harassment. The specific action taken, if any, depends on the nature and the seriousness of the reported conduct and may include disciplinary processes.
4. Unwelcome sexual advances, requests for sexual favors, and other non-verbal, verbal or physical conduct of a sexual or gender bias nature, constitute a violation of NMSU policy and/or administrative rules and procedures when:
  - a. Submission to such conduct is made either explicitly or implicitly a term or condition of an individual's employment or academic status;
  - b. Submission to or rejection of the conduct is used as a basis for academic or employment decisions or evaluations, or permission to participate in an activity; or
  - c. The conduct has the purpose or effect of substantially interfering with an individual's academic or work performance, or of creating an intimidating, hostile or offensive environment in which to work or learn.
5. Sexual harassment may take many forms, subtle and indirect, or blatant and overt.
6. Examples of unwelcome conduct of a sexual or sex related nature that may constitute a violation of policy, rules or procedures may include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Rape, sexual assault, sexual battery, sexual coercion, sexual exploitation, stalking, or other sexual violence;
  - b. Sexual violence is a physical act perpetrated against a person's will or where a person is incapable of giving consent due to the victim's use of drugs or alcohol. Additionally, a person may be unable to give consent due to an intellectual or other disability;
  - c. Sexually explicit or gender related statements, comments, questions, jokes, innuendoes, anecdotes, or gestures;
  - d. Uninvited touching, patting, hugging, or purposeful brushing against a person's body or other inappropriate touching of an individual's body;
  - e. Remarks of a sexual nature about a person's clothing or body;
  - f. Use of technology, electronic mail or computer dissemination of sexually oriented, sex-based communications or sexually explicit images;
  - g. Sexual advances, whether or not they involve physical touching;
  - h. Requests for sexual favors in exchange for actual or promised job or educational benefits, such as favorable reviews, salary increases, promotions, increased benefits, continued employment, grades, favorable assignments, letters of recommendation;
  - i. Displaying sexually suggestive objects, pictures, magazines, cartoons, or screen savers; or
  - j. Inquiries, remarks, or discussions about an individual's sexual experiences or activities and other written or verbal references to sexual conduct.

G. Retaliation:

1. Retaliation against an individual who in good faith complains of alleged discrimination or sexual harassment or provides information in an investigation about behavior that may violate NMSU policy, rules or procedures is prohibited and may be grounds for discipline. Retaliation in violation of NMSU policy, rules or procedures may result in discipline up to and including termination and/or expulsion. Any employee or student bringing a discrimination or sexual harassment complaint in good faith or assisting in the investigation of such a complaint will not be adversely affected in terms and conditions of employment and/or academic standing, nor discriminated against, terminated, or expelled because of the complaint.
2. "Retaliation" may include, but is not limited to such conduct or adverse actions as:
  - a. Adverse action taken to keep someone from opposing a discriminatory practice, or from participating in an discrimination proceeding;
  - b. Employment actions such as termination, refusal to hire, and denial of promotion;
  - c. Threats, unjustified negative evaluations, unjustified negative references, or increased surveillance;
  - d. Action such as an assault or unfounded civil or criminal charges that are likely to deter reasonable people from pursuing their rights; or
  - e. An unfair or unjustified grade.

Note that petty slights and annoyances, such as stray negative comments in an otherwise positive or neutral evaluation, snubbing a colleague, or negative comments that are justified by an employee's or student's poor work/academic performance or history are not considered adverse actions.

- H. Applicability and Sanctions: All students and employees are subject to NMSU policy and administrative rules and procedures. Any student or employee who violates policy, rules or procedures is subject to discipline up to and including termination and/or expulsion in accordance with the *Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU* or in the case of students, the *NMSU Student Social Code of Conduct*. Complaints may also be filed against visitors, consultants, independent contractors and outside vendors whose conduct violates these policies, with the possible sanctions of limiting access to campus facilities and other measures to protect the campus community.
- I. Policy Statement Distribution: The Chancellor's policy statement references the university's position as contained in these administrative rules and procedures. All employees will be provided the Chancellor's policy statement on an annual basis. Human Resource Services (HRS) and the Office of Institutional Equity (OIE) will maintain documentation (written or electronic) that each employee received the Chancellor's policy statement. New employees will be provided a copy of the Chancellor's policy statement at the time of hire, generally at New Employee Orientation (NEO) and documentation will be maintained by HRS. Additionally, the Chancellor's policy statement will be provided to students at least annually. The distribution and receipt documentation may be accomplished electronically for either employees or students. The complete text of this policy will be maintained on the OIE website: <http://eeo.nmsu.edu/>
- J. Complaints and Investigation:
1. Employees and students may file an internal discrimination complaint with OIE within fifteen (15) working days from the date of the incident(s). Individuals may use the NMSU Internal Discrimination Complaint Form to submit their complaint. The use of this form facilitates the gathering of information that is necessary to assess the complaint. The OIE Executive Director (or designee) may extend the filing date of a complaint beyond the fifteen (15) working days if there are extenuating circumstances.
  2. OIE will provide the option to the complainant of pursuing their complaint through an informal (which may include mediation) or formal process (submittal of the complaint). The formal internal discrimination complaint will be subject to an initial review to determine if the complaint will proceed to the investigation. If the initial review finds that the complaint will not be accepted for investigation, the OIE Executive Director (or designee) will inform the complainant in writing of the decision. The complainant may appeal the decision in writing to the Executive Vice President and Provost (or designee) within five (5) working days of receipt of the notification letter.
  3. If the internal discrimination complaint is accepted, the accused individual(s) will be provided a copy of the complaint and will be extended five (5) working days to provide a written response to OIE. OIE shall initiate the process to investigate the complaint. This process includes interviewing the complainant, respondent, potential witnesses and the gathering of any related documents.
  4. All individuals are required to cooperate with any investigation in response to allegations of discrimination. Refusal to cooperate in an investigation may result in disciplinary action in accordance with university policy, rules and procedures or student social code of conduct, as applicable. The completion of the investigation will be within sixty (60) days of initiation unless there are extenuating circumstances. A report of inquiry will be generated by the investigator and forwarded to the Executive Vice President and Provost. Within fifteen (15) days of receipt, the Executive Vice President and Provost (or designee) will review the report and render a decision in writing to the OIE Executive Director. The standard of evidence used for internal discrimination investigations is the "preponderance of the evidence". Preponderance of the evidence means the greater weight of the evidence. The OIE Executive Director (or designee) will transmit the Executive Vice President and Provost's (or designee) decision in writing to the complainant, the accused and appropriate administrators. The completion of the decision transmittal exhausts the internal process for employees, students and others or may file complaints.
  5. Penalties: Cases for students who are found to have violated the *NMSU Student Social Code of Conduct* and/or the *Regents Policy Manual or Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU* will be referred to Assistant Dean of Students. Cases for employees who are found to have violated *Regents Policy Manual or Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU* will be referred to Human Resource Services/Employment and Labor Relations. Sanctions for students may include action up to and including expulsion. Sanctions for

employees may include employment action up to and including termination in accordance with provisions of the *Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU*

K. General Information:

1. Supervisors: If anyone in a supervisory, managerial, administrative or executive role or position, such as a supervisor, department chair, or director of a unit, receives a complaint of alleged discrimination or sexual harassment, or observes or becomes aware of conduct that may constitute discrimination or sexual harassment, that person must immediately contact OIE.
2. Employees: An employee who believes that he or she has been subjected to discrimination or sexual harassment by anyone is encouraged, but it is not required, particularly if it may be confrontational, to promptly tell the person that the conduct is unwelcome and ask the person to stop the conduct. An employee is not required to do this before filing a complaint. A person who receives such a request must immediately comply with it and must not retaliate against the employee. If the employee feels uncomfortable about discussing the incident with the immediate supervisor, the employee should feel free to bypass the supervisor and file a complaint with OIE.
3. Students: A student who believes that he or she has been subjected to discrimination or sexual harassment by anyone is encouraged, but it is not required particularly if it may be confrontational, to promptly tell the person that the conduct is unwelcome and ask the person to stop the conduct. A student is not required to do this before filing a complaint. A person who receives such a request must immediately comply with it and must not retaliate against the student. If the student feels uncomfortable about discussing the incident with the faculty member, department head, dean or director of an administrative unit, the student should feel free to bypass the person and file a complaint with OIE.

When discriminatory conduct involves a crime of violence or a non-forcible sex offense, FERPA permits NMSU to disclose to the alleged victim the name of the alleged perpetrator, any violation found to have been committed and any sanction imposed).

In the event a student is found to have engaged in sexual harassment of another student, NMSU will disclose to the student who was harassed, information about the sanction imposed on the student when the sanction directly relates to the harassed student.

4. Internal NMSU Units: Internal units such as the Dean of Students Office, Housing and Campus Life, Athletics and community colleges will promptly contact and consult with OIE when knowledge is obtained relating to potential discrimination or sexual harassment.
5. Non-employees and non-students: Individuals who are neither NMSU employees nor NMSU students and who believe they have been subjected to discrimination or sexual harassment by an NMSU employee during the employee's work hours or by a NMSU student on campus or at a NMSU-sponsored event may utilize the complaint process set forth above.

L. Prompt Attention:

Complaints of discrimination or sexual harassment are taken seriously and will be dealt with promptly, impartially, and equitably. Where discrimination is found to have occurred, NMSU will act to stop the reported conduct, to prevent its recurrence, to remedy its effects, if any, and to discipline those responsible.

M. Confidentiality:

NMSU recognizes that confidentiality is important. However, confidentiality cannot be guaranteed. The administrators, faculty or staff responsible for implementing these policies, rules and procedures will respect the privacy of individuals reporting or accused of discrimination or sexual harassment to the extent reasonably possible and will maintain confidentiality to the extent possible. Examples of situations where confidentiality cannot be maintained include, but are not limited to, necessary disclosures during an investigation, circumstances where the NMSU is required by law to disclose information (such as in response to legal process), or when an individual is in harm's way.

To the extent provided by law and university policy, rules or procedures, documents concerning a discrimination

investigation and investigative results are not subject to public disclosure. Investigative materials and documents contain matters of opinion related to the working relationship between NMSU and its employees. Documents protected by the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), Privacy Act of 1974, the New Mexico Inspection of Public Records Act, etc. are not subject to disclosure.

N. Supervisor Responsibilities:

1. Every supervisor (includes faculty in academic setting) has responsibility to take reasonable steps to prevent acts of discrimination or sexual harassment, which include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Monitoring the work and school environment for signs that discrimination or harassment may be occurring;
  - b. Refraining from participation in, or encouragement of actions that could be perceived as discrimination or harassment (verbal or otherwise);
  - c. Stopping any observed acts that may be considered discrimination or harassment, and taking appropriate steps to intervene, whether or not the involved individuals are within their line of supervision; and
  - d. Taking immediate action to minimize or eliminate the work and/or school contact among individuals where there has been a complaint of sexual harassment, pending the completion of the investigation.
2. If a supervisor (or faculty in academic setting) receives a complaint of alleged discrimination or sexual harassment, or observes or becomes aware of conduct that may constitute discrimination or sexual harassment, the supervisor (or faculty in academic setting) must immediately contact OIE.
3. Failure to take the above action to prevent the occurrence of or stop known discrimination or harassment may be grounds for disciplinary action in accordance with provisions of the *Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU*.

- O. Relationship to Freedom of Expression: NMSU is committed to the principles of free inquiry and free expression. Vigorous discussion and debate are fundamental rights and the university's policy, rules and procedures are not intended to stifle teaching methods or freedom of expression. Discrimination or sexual harassment, however, is neither legally protected expression nor the proper exercise of academic freedom; it compromises the integrity of this institution, the tradition of intellectual freedom and the trust placed in the institution by its members.

### **3.30 - Disability Accommodation** (See also Policies [3.25 Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus](#))

The university is dedicated to providing reasonable accommodation to qualified university employees and applicants for positions in accordance with state and federal laws. Qualified individuals with disabilities are protected from discrimination in hiring, promotion, discharge, pay, job training, fringe benefits, and other aspects of employment. Accessibility to buildings, programs, and services will also be safeguarded to the extent that an undue financial hardship is not imposed on the university. The university also provides reasonable accommodation for temporary impairments, such as those that may result from pregnancy. The accommodation process begins when an employee (or applicant) communicates the need for an accommodation. The completion of the Petition for Accommodation Form, available at the Office of Institutional Equity/EEO, facilitates the initiation of the accommodation process.

#### **REVISION HISTORY:**

Provisionally amended by the Chancellor 06.24.15; ratified by Board of Regents 07.21.15.

### **3.31 - Distribution of Effort**

There are competing demands on the energies of a faculty member (for instance, research, teaching, committee work, outside consulting). The way in which a faculty member divides effort among these various functions does not raise ethical questions unless the university or government, industrial, or business agency supporting the research is misled in its understanding of the amount of intellectual effort actually devoted to the research in question. A system of precise time accounting is incompatible with the inherent character of the work of a faculty member, since the various functions performed are closely interrelated and do not conform to any meaningful division of a standard work week. On the other hand, if the research agreement contemplates that a staff member will devote a certain fraction of effort to the government, industrial, or business sponsored research, a demonstrable relationship between the indicated effort of responsibility and the actual extent of involvement is to be expected. Research administering agencies in the university have established simple procedures of accounting which indicate the proportion of the investigator's time



spent on sponsored research. Each administering agency will inform the investigator of the procedures developed to assure that proposals are responsibly made and complied with.

### **3.40 -Drug-Free Workplace**

*Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 07.08.08; adoption of the amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08]*

The university is a recipient of federal grants and contracts in excess of \$100,000 and is subject to the provisions of the Drug-Free Workplace Act of 1988, the special Drug-Free Workforce rules promulgated by the Department of Defense, and the Drug Free Schools and Communities Act. The Board of Regents has directed the Chancellor to institute and maintain programs that meet the requirements of federal drug and alcohol regulations. These programs are administered through the Office of Human Resource Services.

- A. General Policy Prohibiting Drugs and Alcohol on NMSU Property: The unlawful possession, use, or distribution of illicit drugs and alcohol on its property or as part of any of its activities is prohibited and a violation of university policy. University property is defined as all lands and building under the control of the Board of Regents. It is a federal requirement and a university policy that, as a condition of employment, an employee will notify the immediate supervisor within 5 days after conviction of a criminal drug offense occurring in the workplace. Supervisors will inform the Office of Human Resource Services, through appropriate channels, of any notifications received.
- B. Disciplinary Sanctions for Employees: Employees who violate the university's alcohol or drug policies are subject to termination, demotion, or suspension. Additionally, employees may be required to report to the Employee Assistance Program for a clinical assessment and participate in a recommended counseling/rehabilitation program. When returned to work, the employee must comply with all university policies and maintain acceptable job performance or be subject to appropriate disciplinary action.

### **3.50 - Firearms on University Premises**

- A. Purpose: To clarify New Mexico state law requirements relating to the carrying of firearms on university premises, and to authorize supplemental university policy requirements, for the protection of the public's health, safety and welfare.
- B. Scope: This policy applies throughout the NMSU System.
- C. Policy Administrator: The University Police Department shall administer this policy.
- D. Definitions: The following definitions will apply for purposes of application and enforcement of this policy:
  - I. "Peace Officer": A peace officer means any public official or public officer vested by law with a duty to maintain public order or to make arrests for crime, whether that duty extends to all crimes or is limited to specific crimes;
  - II. "University Premises": University premises includes both:
    - a. The buildings and grounds of the university, including playing fields and parking areas of a university, in or on which university or university-related activities are conducted; and
    - b. Other public buildings or grounds, including playing fields and parking areas that are not university property, in or on which university-related and sanctioned activities are performed.
  - III. "Firearm": A weapon, or component thereof, defined under state or federal law as a firearm. This includes complete firearms, as well as components considered to be firearms, such as receivers, sound suppressors, and destructive devices.
- E. Policy Statement(s):
  - I. No person of any age shall carry a firearm on university premises or in a university vehicle, unless they qualify under one or more of the following exceptions, and meet any additional requirements of the University Police Department:
    - a. a peace officer;

- b. security personnel authorized by the University Police Chief or designee;
  - c. a student, instructor or other university-authorized personnel who are engaged in army, navy, marine corps or air force reserve officer training corps programs or a state-authorized hunter safety training program;
  - d. a person conducting or participating in a university-approved program, class or other activity involving the carrying of a firearm; or
  - e. a person older than nineteen years of age on university premises in a private automobile or other private means of conveyance, for lawful protection of the person's or another's person or property.
- II. To enhance public safety on NMSU campuses, the Board of Regents authorizes the University Chief of Police to promulgate reasonable standards or other requirements for the individuals permitted by one of the exceptions above to carry a firearm on university premises or in university vehicles, including but not limited to background checks, training, and safety measures. Such standards and other requirements shall be posted conspicuously on the website of the University Police Department.
- F. Procedural Guidelines: To facilitate the administration and enforcement of this policy, and in addition to any reasonable standards and requirements which may apply to those entering university premises with a firearm, the policy administrator may develop and issue supplemental Procedural Guidelines (includes protocols, forms, permits, etc.), consistent with the policy. All procedures, forms, permits etc. utilized in the application or enforcement of this policy shall be posted on the University Police Department's website, and shall be linked from this section. Other related reference material relating to firearms on public property may also be linked from this Section with the approval of the policy administrator.
- G. Standards and Requirements for Firearms on University Premises: As authorized by Regents Policies 1.10 and 3.50, Section F. the following standards and requirements issued December, 2015 by the NMSU Police Department provide supplemental guidance:
- I. **Applicable Statute: Section 30-7-2.4 NMSA 1978, et seq**  
**Unlawful carrying of a firearm on university premises; Notice; Penalty**
- A. Unlawful carrying of a firearm on university premises consists of carrying a firearm on university premises **except by**:
- 1) a peace officer;
  - 2) university security personnel;
  - 3) a student, instructor or other university-authorized personnel who are engaged in army, navy, marine corps or air force reserve officer training corps programs or a state-authorized hunter safety training program;
  - 4) a person conducting or participating in a university-approved program, class or other activity involving the carrying of a firearm; or
  - 5) a person older than nineteen years of age on university premises in a private automobile or other private means of conveyance, for lawful protection of the person's or another's person or property.
- B. A university shall conspicuously post notices on university premises that state that it is unlawful to carry a firearm on university premises.
- C. As used in this section:
- 1) "university" means a baccalaureate degree-granting post-secondary educational institution, a community college, a branch community college, a technical-vocational institute and an area vocational school; and
  - 2) "university premises" means:
    - a) the buildings and grounds of a university, including playing fields and parking areas of a university, in or on which university or university-related activities are conducted; or
    - b) any other public buildings or grounds, including playing fields and parking areas that are not university property, in or on which university-related and sanctioned activities are performed.
- D. Whoever commits unlawful carrying of a firearm on university premises is guilty of a petty misdemeanor.

II. **The following shall clarify the requirements for each of the above exceptions listed in G. I. A. 1-5 above:**

- A. **Peace Officer:** Currently employed peace officers who are on duty with their respective agencies are allowed to carry firearms on university premises. Officers who are not on duty may carry firearms on university premises if allowed by their parent agency policies and procedures, and under the condition that they also have proper identification and that the firearm remains concealed at all times. Off-duty officers attending special events are encouraged to check-in with the police event supervisor prior to entering. Off-duty officers who are living in campus housing must obtain approval from both the NMSU Housing and Residence Life Director and the NMSU Police Chief prior to being allowed to keep a firearm in the residence.
- B. **Security Personnel:** Only security personnel employed by the university are allowed to carry a firearm on campus, and only when they are on duty, reporting for duty, or leaving duty. Security personnel may only carry a firearm if they have successfully completed a background check conducted by the NMSU Police Department, psychological exam, medical exam, and firearms training program (as specified by the NMSU Police Department). Security personnel authorized to carry a firearm must complete at least 4 hours of refresher training each year, and must qualify with the firearm annually. Only university-authorized firearms may be carried by security personnel. Any discharge of a firearm while on university premises (outside of designated training) must be immediately reported to the NMSU Police Department. Security personnel who are living in campus housing must obtain approval from both the NMSU Housing and Residence Life Director (or the appropriate facility supervisor if not part of campus housing) and the NMSU Police Chief prior to being allowed to keep a firearm in the residence.
- C. **Classes, Hunter Safety Programs, and ROTC programs:** Any classes, hunter safety programs, and ROTC training involving the use of a firearm(s) on university premises must be registered with and approved by the university prior to being conducted. The instructor will be required to submit a firearm safety plan for review and approval prior to the event being approved. The safety plan shall include measures that will be taken to ensure firearms and ammunition are controlled at all times, the names of the individuals who will be responsible for supervision, the ratio of students to instructors/safety officers (may not exceed 6:1), emergency procedures that will be followed in the event of an injury or accidental discharge, and locations of any live firing. Any discharge of a firearm while on university premises (outside of designated training) must be immediately reported to the NMSU Police Department.
- D. **University-approved programs, classes, or other activities involving the carrying of a firearm:** In order to be considered approved by the university, programs, classes, and other activities involving the carrying of a firearm must be registered with and approved through the Department of Campus Activities, with approval by the NMSU Chief of Police.
  - 1) Academic classes involving the use of a firearm must also have the approval of the Provost or Vice President for Academic Affairs of the particular campus.
  - 2) Other programs sponsored by the university must also have the approval of the appropriate Dean, Director, or Vice President overseeing the sponsoring unit.
  - 3) All programs and activities must submit a safety plan for approval by the Chief of Police, and participants may only have a firearm on university premises immediately prior to, during, and immediately after the authorized activity.
  - 4) Firearms may not be possessed in other parts of university premises except as necessary for transportation to and from the authorized activity. During transportation to and from the activity, the firearms shall be unloaded and locked inside approved containers.
  - 5) All participants shall undergo a fingerprint background check conducted by the NMSU Police Department prior to being allowed to bring a firearm onto university premises for the purpose of participating in authorized university activities, and may be issued an authorization/identification card by the NMSU Police Department that must be kept on their person when utilizing a firearm on campus.

- 6) Instructors or supervisors of authorized activities are responsible for ensuring the safe operation of firearms at all times.
  - 7) Any discharge of a firearm while on university premises (outside of designated training) must be immediately reported to the NMSU Police Department.
  - 8) For employees of the university who may be required to carry a firearm in order to carry out their duties, there are additional requirements:
    - a) Such employees must successfully complete an annual fingerprint background check conducted by the NMSU Police Department, as well as successfully complete an initial training program that is appropriate for the nature of their work with a firearm, annual refresher training, and annual qualifications.
    - b) Such employees must register the firearms that will be used with their supervisor, and the supervisor shall retain copies of all registration and training records for the length of employment plus three years.
    - c) Individuals authorized under this section and who are living on university premises must obtain approval from both the NMSU Housing and Residence Life Director (or the appropriate facility supervisor if not part of campus housing) and the NMSU Police Chief prior to being allowed to keep a firearm in the residence.
  - 9) Firearms may not be transported inside university-owned vehicles unless approval has been obtained from the appropriate Dean, Director, or Vice President, and a safety plan for securing the firearm(s) has been approved by the NMSU Police Chief.
- E. **Carrying a firearm inside a private vehicle by individuals older than 19 years of age:** Individuals may have firearms inside their vehicles while on university premises, but shall not take them out of the vehicle nor brandish them while on university premises. Anyone already prohibited by law from possessing a firearm is prohibited from having one in their vehicle.
- F. **Additional Penalties:** Violations of the above may result in criminal charges, as well as disciplinary charges for students and employees. Individuals violating the above may also be removed from university premises and barred from re-entry.
- G. **Limitations:** These standards and requirements do not apply to lands owned by the Board of Regents, but leased to another party and no longer under the operational control of the Board of Regents, unless specifically stated otherwise in the terms of the lease.
- H. **Inquiries:** For questions regarding these standards and regulations, contact: NMSU Chief of Police; PO BOX 30001 / MSC 3187; University Park, NM 88003-800;(575) 646-3311; [police@nmsu.edu](mailto:police@nmsu.edu)

Rule Administrator:	NMSU Police Department
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 3.50 as initial Rule 3.50 and authorized incorporation of the Police Department's supplemental guidelines into Rule 3.50. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 3.50:</b> 05.12.15 amendment recommended by University Administrative Council; 07.21.15 amendment approved by Board of Regents.

### 3.55 - Fires, Fireworks

This fire prevention Rule establishes fire restrictions for the main campus to include the main campus, university-owned lands east of Interstate 25, the Horticulture Farm, the Horse Center, and the Leyendecker Plant Science Farm. The following acts are prohibited unless an appropriate permit has first been obtained through the university fire department: (1) building or using an open fire on university land; and (2) use of all fireworks on university land.

### 3.60 - Flags-National, State

The national flag will be flown at half-staff on the deaths of those prescribed in the National Flag Code or on special request from Washington. (Typically the flags are lowered from the date of a death through the date of funeral services.) The state flag will be flown at half-staff on the occasion of the death of any of the following: regent, past regent, president, past president, vice president, dean, and others as decided by the administration.

### 3.63 - Freedom of Expression *(See also Regents Policy 3.63 - Freedom of Expression; Rule [3.92 Sales and Solicitation](#))*

- A. **Purpose:** The purpose of this policy is to recognize, respect, and encourage the free exchange of ideas through written, spoken, and other forms of expression, including the right to peaceful assembly, as guaranteed by the First Amendment to the U.S. Constitution and the New Mexico Constitution. Furthermore, this policy clarifies application throughout the NMSU system by identifying the distinct types of forums, as well as to describe the reasonable restrictions, if any, which may be imposed in order to protect the university's teaching, research and service operations, and student activities from significant disruption and interference.
- B. **Scope:** This policy applies to all people, and throughout the NMSU system (at all campuses, facilities and other real property under the operation and control of the NMSU Board of Regents, to include university sponsored events off-premises). Commercial solicitation is not covered by this policy and is governed by Policy 3.92.
- C. **Policy Administrator:** The President at each campus shall have primary responsibility for the administration of this policy, on behalf of the NMSU Board of Regents. Parties responsible for implementing and applying this policy also include, but are not limited to:
1. Provost and Executive Vice President
  2. Deans of the Colleges and Libraries and Graduate School
  3. Dean of Students, including the Office of Campus Activities
  4. Associate Vice President of Facilities and Services
  5. Director of Athletics
  6. Director of Housing and Campus Life
  7. Director of Special Events
  8. Manager or Building Monitor within any university facility
- D. **Definitions:** For purposes of administering this policy, the following definitions apply:
1. **Affix** means to stick, to anchor, or to fasten to something else, regardless of whether or not it leaves a mark or causes damage.
  2. **Commercial Speech** is speech that proposes a commercial transaction; the audience consists of prospective consumers, and the content of the message is business related in character.
  3. **Content Neutral** means without regard to the viewpoint or message. Content neutral restrictions are those based on reasonable time, place, and manner rather than the content or viewpoint of the message.
  4. **Forum** is a term used by the U.S. Supreme Court to help describe the extent to which content neutral restrictions on free expression may legally be applied. The three types described in this policy are: traditional open public forum; limited public forum and non-public forum. These terms apply not only to physical areas, but also to electronic communication and websites. The type of forum will be determined by the nature of the space being used, its traditional usage, official designations, and the circumstances relating to the nature of an event or function taking place in that location. **For example**, if a normally public forum were reserved for a specific event (following applicable university procedures) that might convert the location to a limited or non-public forum during the event for which it was reserved; conversely, areas such as special collections within the university are typically non-public forums, but may become limited public forums for certain special events.
  5. **Social Media** means computer- mediated tools that allow people to create, share, or exchange information, ideas, videos, and pictures in virtual communities and networks.

6. **Speech** is written, spoken, and other forms of expression of thoughts, ideas, or positions, generally related to issues of public interest.
  7. **University Premises**, sometimes referred to simply as “campus,” means all campuses, facilities, land, buildings, or other indoor or outside space owned, leased or otherwise under the operational control of NMSU. University owned property leased to other entities and not under the operational control of NMSU are not considered university premises for purposes of this policy.
  8. **Unprotected Speech** means speech that is not afforded First Amendment protection, such as commercial speech that is false or misleading. Other examples include fighting words, child pornography, defamation, and libel.
- E. **Policy Statements:** New Mexico State University aspires to be an intellectually open campus. Free exchange of ideas is a reflection of the university’s public land-grant heritage, interest in diverse points of view, and commitment to excellence in education and research. NMSU encourages free expression and peaceful assembly, provided they do not disrupt the university missions or functions. The type of forum, described below, will determine the level of restriction, if any, which may be imposed on free expression activities within the forum. Restrictions must be content neutral, typically geared to time, place and manner. The type of forum for a given location may vary, based on the circumstances relating to the nature of an event or function scheduled to occur at the location.
1. **Public Forums** are areas that traditionally have been open to the public, such as parks, sidewalks, and lobbies as well as other areas that become public forums by university designation. Free expression and civil discourse are encouraged in public forums, and any regulation of expression within a public forum must be narrowly tailored to serve a compelling state interest.
  2. **Limited Public Forums** are areas open to the public or a segment thereof (including through the purchase of admission), but where there is a specific purpose. The necessities of confining a forum to the limited and legitimate purpose for which it was created may justify some limitations that are narrowly tailored to allow the event or activity to continue and/or achieve its intended purpose. Any limitations must be consistent with the spirit of this policy. Legitimate limitations include subject matter and classification of participants (students, student government representatives, faculty, etc.). Limitations must be reasonably related to a definite and substantial university interest. Any limitations must be content neutral, and aimed solely at reducing or preventing disruption to the activity that would cause a definite and measurable interruption to the intended purpose, or protecting other clearly compelling university interests (e.g., public safety). If a limited public forum serves more than one purpose, the university may prioritize the purposes for which it may be used, e.g. a campus auditorium may give priority to theater productions. Expression within a limited public forum is permitted consistent with the Procedural Guidelines administered by the Office of Campus Activities.
  3. **Non-Public Forums** are areas not open to the general public and where expression by those permitted to be there may be reasonably limited, in a content neutral manner, to that which is compatible with the purpose and nature of the location. (Examples include faculty and administrative offices, classrooms, residence hall rooms, and archive and special collections of libraries.)
  4. **Disruption of university functions or activities:** Regardless of the type of forum, free expression activities and events shall not materially or unreasonably interfere with the education, research, public service, and outreach missions of the university, office operations, or sleep of residents.
  5. **Modes of Free Expression:** The university recognizes that there are many different modes of free expression, including distribution and posting of literature; group speech activities such as rallies, parades and demonstrations; electronic sound amplification, chalk, symbolic speech (e.g. nudity, fire, and/or weapons); and electronic communication. The limitations described in the Procedural Guidelines pertaining to the various types of expression are intended to safeguard personal safety and the university’s missions, and not to hamper freedom of expression. *See* Section F.
  6. **Respect for Rights of Others:**
    - a. **Prohibition of Third Party Interference with Right to Free Expression:** Except as provided elsewhere in this policy, university employees, students, and other members of the public shall not interfere with the

- rights of freedom of expression by others permitted by this policy. Alleged violations of rights afforded by the U.S. and N.M. Constitutions, recognized by this policy, will be taken seriously and investigated promptly and objectively.
- b. **Retaliation Prohibited:** Retaliation against individuals who have exercised the rights granted by the First Amendment, recognized through this policy, is strictly prohibited. Any such claim should be reported immediately to an appropriate university official to register a complaint. Generally, the Office of the Dean of Students and the Office of Human Resource Services-Employee and Labor Relations administer student and employee grievances, respectively. Such claims will be taken seriously, investigated independently, and if substantiated, will be grounds for corrective or disciplinary action, appropriate to the circumstances.
7. **Respect for University Property and Functions:** In exercising the right of free expression and peaceful assembly, individuals must also accept the responsibility of following the laws related to the safety of people and property. Outdoor and indoor activities must follow all applicable fire codes and other local, state, and federal laws. *See* Section F., regarding Procedural Guidelines, which may clarify limitations intended to safeguard missions and personal safety, and not to hamper free expression.
  8. **Interface with other laws and regulations:** There is inherent tension that exists between competing public policies affecting individual rights. A detailed examination of statutes and regulations which protect individuals from sexual harassment, discrimination, hostile environment and other discriminatory conduct is beyond the scope of this Freedom of Expression policy. This policy is not intended to insulate persons from accountability for their actions if their conduct discriminates, harasses or otherwise creates a hostile environment based on any class protected by federal and state anti-discrimination laws. (*See Also Policy 3.25, Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus*). Nothing in this policy is intended to provide a defense in any action against a third party by an alleged victim of defamation, libel, slander, invasion of privacy, assault, or any other civil or administrative claim.
  9. **Dispute Resolution:** The successful implementation of this policy will depend upon the university community's education and engagement, including but not limited to understanding which types of planned activities require advance permission, and what to do if an event or expressive activity is questioned. The Procedural Guidelines (See Section F.) provide some hypothetical scenarios within the Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) to provide guidance about how this policy should be applied. Because time will often be of the essence when issues arise involving this policy, the informal methods listed below are available to supervisors, students, employees and members of the public in order that individuals may seek a policy clarification or interpretation in advance, in order to resolve issues in a mutually professional and amicable manner, rather than through more adversarial grievance or litigation methods. These methods include and are not limited to:
    - a. A single point person will be designated by each NMSU campus president to serve as the liaison between members of the university community and/or the public and the Policy Administrators listed under Section C, in order to resolve issues expeditiously.
    - b. Individuals may request clarification of the policy or the Procedural Guidelines by contacting the designated point person. The designated point person will promptly respond to acknowledge the inquiry, and as appropriate or needed, may consult with any of the Policy Administrators prior to providing an interpretation to the individual.
    - c. If the individual(s) wishes to appeal the interpretation provided by the designated point person, such notification must be given to the point person either in writing or via email. The point person will then call a meeting of the Policy Administrators (or any subset, depending upon availability) and the individual(s) as soon as practicable, which meeting may be conducted telephonically or electronically. The decision of the Policy Administrators will be rendered within one working day of the meeting and communicated to the individual via email or other contact information supplied by the individual.
    - d. Students and employees also have recourse to file grievances against those who they feel may have restricted their rights under this policy, and shall follow the applicable student or employee grievance policy if the above steps have not resolved the dispute.
  10. **Sanctions:**
    - a. **Individual Consequences for Conduct Not Protected by Constitution or This Policy:** Nothing in Regents Policy 3.63 or these corresponding rules and procedures protects expressive activities which:

- i. constitute criminal, defamatory, or discriminatory misconduct;
- ii. contain true threats of violence or imminent harm; or
- iii. seek to incite, or intentionally incite, a fight.

Individuals engaging in such conduct may face criminal prosecution, civil lawsuit, and/or disciplinary action. (*For example, see Policies 3.10; 3.25; 5.47, 8.30*). Neither Regents Policy 3.63, nor these corresponding rules and procedures, provide a defense to individual liability for such prohibited conduct.

- b. **Disclaimer of Liability:** NMSU shall not be liable for any injuries to participants or third parties caused by individuals or groups engaging in freedom of expression activities.
  - c. **Damage or Injury:** If property damage or personal injury occurs, individuals or groups determined to be responsible may be subject to appropriate administrative, civil, or criminal action, for the purpose of covering the university's costs associated with the damages. Additionally, while generally NMSU wishes to facilitate free discussion, nothing in Regents Policy 3.63 nor these corresponding rules and procedures is intended to eliminate any rights of persons to pursue any legal remedies they may have under local, state, or federal law.
  - d. **Unattended or abandoned materials:** Materials used for free expression activities (literature, signage, etc.) shall not be left unattended. Any items that are left unattended for more than thirty (30) minutes may be removed by the university at the owner's expense. Signage promoting or providing directions to an event are allowed on the preceding day for a morning event or on the day of an afternoon or evening event, will not be considered to have been left unattended, and shall be removed by the event organizers at the conclusion of the event. Permission for posting or leaving of materials outside of the above restrictions may be granted on a case-by-case basis by the Office of Campus Activities.
- F. **Procedural Guidelines:** To facilitate the implementation, administration and enforcement of this policy, the policy administrators identified above may develop and issue supplemental **Procedural Guidelines** consistent with this policy, which may include protocols, FAQ's, forms, flowcharts, etc.. The Procedural Guidelines utilized in the application or enforcement of this policy shall be outlined below in this Section, and may be posted at an appropriate NMSU website, and linked from this section. With the approval from the policy administrators, other related reference material relating to freedom of expression, anti-discrimination laws, hate crimes, etc. may also be listed below or linked from this Section.

Pursuant to authority granted in Regents Policy 1.10 and consistent with Regents Policy 3.63, Section F. the Procedural Guidelines issued September 3, 2015 are hereby merged into this [replicated] rule:

## PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES

### PART I: INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW

These Procedural Guidelines are issued to facilitate the implementation and consistent administration and enforcement of Regents Policy 3.63, as revised by the Board of Regents on July 21, 2015 *See Also* [Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](http://campusactivities.nmsu.edu/) posted at <http://campusactivities.nmsu.edu/>. Certain types of free expression activities may require a permit in advance from the university's Department of Campus Activities; these are indicated in **bold** font throughout the guidelines-See Part VI below for the process to obtain a permit.

The policy administrators may continue to develop and issue additional or amended guidelines, consistent with Regents Policy 3.63. These guidelines consist of the following Parts:

- Part 1:** Introduction and Overview
- Part 2:** Restrictions on Expression for Special Situations
- Part 3:** Modes of Free Expression
- Part 4:** Respect for University Property and Functions
- Part 5:** Sanctions
- Part 6:** Role of Department of Campus Activities
- Part 7:** Dispute Resolution—*See* Regents Policy 3.63, Section E. 9

### PART 2: RESTRICTIONS ON EXPRESSION FOR SPECIAL SITUATIONS

Individuals who voluntarily join certain organizations, such as the university police department, ROTC, athletic teams, and confidential research projects, may be subject to additional restrictions on their freedom of expression related to those functions, based upon their knowing and voluntary waiver of their rights consistent with the program needs/directives.



### PART 3: MODES OF FREE EXPRESSION

- A. Distribution and Posting of Literature and Signs: Individuals or groups may petition, distribute non-commercial written material, hand out newspapers, or conduct speech acts.
1. Literature may be distributed hand-to-hand, through the use of tables, or by posting on designated bulletin boards and kiosks.
  2. In-person distribution must be done without the touching of another person.
  3. Signage promoting or providing direction to an event does not require a permit, provided the signage is posted no more than 24 hours prior to the event and is removed no later than 24 hours the day following the event. **Signage for longer periods of time require a permit.**
  4. **Materials shall not be affixed to any part of a university building or structure without a permit** from the Department of Campus Activities.
  5. Posting on traffic signs, power poles, trees, landscaping, or automobiles belonging to others is not allowed.
  6. Tables are allowed as long as the tables do not unreasonably interfere with pedestrian traffic, to include blocking ingress or egress. Individuals who have reserved a table through the Department of Campus Activities will be given priority.
- B. Group Speech Activities, Including Rallies, Parades and Demonstrations:
1. Any group speech activity, regardless of the number of expected participants, may be coordinated through the Department of Campus Activities at the discretion of the organizers.
  2. When planned activities are likely to draw 250 participants or more, notification to the Department of Campus Activities is required.
  3. When planned activities necessitate road or parking lot closures or detours, or deny others access to or reasonable use of NMSU property, a permit is required.
- C. Political Activities: Political activities must be conducted in a manner that does not imply the university officially endorses or supports a particular candidate or position.
- D. Electronic Sound Amplification:
1. The use of electronic sound amplification equipment without a permit is authorized in the open lots to the east of the Pan American Center and Aggie Memorial Stadium, the Corbett Center Outdoor Stage, and the Miller Field Gates area off Espina Street, from:  
  
*8:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m., Sunday through Thursday; and  
8:00 a.m. to midnight on Friday and Saturday*
  2. Sound amplification equipment may be allowed at other times and in other locations with a permit obtained from the Department of Campus Activities.
- E. Use of Chalk: Chalk may be used on university premises as long as it is restricted to exterior concrete walkways. All chalk used must be of a temporary or removable nature. The university's maintenance schedules relating to university facilities will not be deferred to protect chalk.
- F. Symbolic Expression Requiring a Permit: An individual or group who plans free expression activities that involve fire, weapons, or nudity must first obtain a permit from the Department of Campus Activities. The permit requirement is not intended to impede symbolic expression, but to protect the safety of the university community and property and to ensure compliance with applicable laws. For other types of symbolic expression that an individual or group believes might generate a safety concern, advance notice to the Department of Campus Activities or to the University Police Department is encouraged.

- G. Electronic Communication (e.g., Email, Social Media): Similar to public spaces, electronic communication may fall within a public, limited public, or non-public forum. The protections set forth in Regents Policy 3.63 and these corresponding rules and procedures extend to electronic communication, with similar limitations. Where a site owned, operated, or otherwise controlled by NMSU is limited to certain members or subject matters, speakers must be authorized participants whose communications are germane to the stated subject matter. With regard to communications using electronic and other media, speakers should be aware of federal, state and university anti-discrimination laws and policies, and NMSU's obligation to enforce such laws and policies. *See, for example*: Title IX (20 U.S.C. §1681 *et seq.* and 34 C.F.R. § 106.1 *et seq.*); Title VII (42 U.S.C. §2000e *et seq.*, as amended; and NMSU Policies 3.25 (Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus); 2.35.1.1.1 (Acceptable Use); and 3.99 (Prohibition of Hazing and Hostile Misconduct).

#### **PART 4: RESPECT FOR UNIVERSITY PROPERTY AND FUNCTIONS**

- A. Expressive activities in any type of public forum shall not:
1. Unreasonably obstruct vehicular or pedestrian traffic;
  2. Restrict public access to the entrances or exits to buildings and facilities;
  3. Permanently occupy land areas;
  4. Unreasonably interfere with or disrupt classes, university academic or administrative operations, including scheduled events;
  5. Cause damage to buildings, utilities, or landscaping;
  6. Erect structures that are dangerous or cannot be easily dismantled and removed;
  7. Cause injury or damage to persons or property;
  8. Litter or stake on university premises contrary to Regents Policy 3.63 and these corresponding rules and procedures;
  9. Affix materials to buildings or other structures without a permit granted by the Department of Campus Activities.
- B. If there is doubt about whether expressive conduct violates the above, university officials should take effort to resolve the doubt in favor freedom of expression. Such resolution should be based on indicia of measurable disruption, damage or other clear violation, and in accordance with the standards outlined for the distinct types of forums outlined in Regents Policy 3.63, Sections E. 1. E. 2, and E. 3.

#### **PART 5: SANCTIONS**

Any person determined to have violated Regents Policy 3.63 or its supplemental rules and procedures may be subject to any of the following sanctions. The sanction(s) will be commensurate with the seriousness of the violation, and the listing below is not intended to imply that the sanction needs to be imposed in a progressive nor sequential manner.

- A. Non-punitive measures, such as an educational or administrative requirement designed to bring conduct in compliance with Regents Policy 3.63 or corresponding rules and procedures;
- B. Being asked to cease and desist or to relocate by appropriate university employees acting within the scope of their duties or the police;
- C. Being ordered to leave the premises or property owned or controlled by the university by the person in charge of the property or by the police;
- D. Applicable institutional disciplinary proceedings for students, faculty, staff or others, as appropriate;
- E. Prosecution for violation of local, state or federal law;
- F. Restriction of future use of, or access to, the university campus;

## G. Reimbursement for damages.

**PART 6: ROLE OF DEPARTMENT OF CAMPUS ACTIVITIES**

The Department of Campus Activities, located in Room 106 of Corbett Center, coordinates competing requests for use of campus equipment or facilities, and considers requests for permits made pursuant to Regents Policy 3.63 and these corresponding rules and procedures. Such consideration will be content neutral, and permission shall be granted or denied consistent with the standards for the distinct types of forums described in Regents Policy 3.63, Sections E. 1., E. 2., and E. 3. Permit requests will be reviewed and granted in a fair and consistent manner, in accordance with the standard protocols of the office.

- A. Advance Notice Encouraged: Notice in writing to the Department of Campus Activities about a planned activity or event is encouraged, even if a permit is not required, particularly if an action or event involves reserving a table or location on campus, a potential safety issue (group expression), or other unusual prop. Advance notice provides the Department of Campus Activities the opportunity to resolve competing requests (e.g. first come first serve basis for use of some facilities), and also the opportunity to inform and coordinate as needed amongst potentially affected students or staff, offices and university facilities.
- B. Advance Notification Required: Written notification in advance of a planned activity likely to draw 250 or more participants is required in order that the Police Department and other potentially affected units may make necessary accommodations.
- C. Permit Required- STEPS TO OBTAIN PERMIT:
  1. To obtain an Activity Registration Form, go to: [http://upc.nmsu.edu/activity\\_form/activity.php](http://upc.nmsu.edu/activity_form/activity.php) and follow those procedures.
  2. If the form indicates that the request relates to a community college or other university premise, then the Department of Campus Activities will coordinate with the appropriate official(s) from the community college.
  3. The Department of Campus Activities will attempt to notify the requestor within two business days regarding the status of the request, if it has not been returned as granted.
  4. If the request is granted, the requestor will receive a copy of the signed, approved Activity Registration Form (also referred to herein as “permit”).
  5. At the actual event, a copy of the permit should be able to be produced, upon request.
  6. If the request is denied, the requestor will receive a short statement of the basis of the denial; if the requestor is not satisfied, the Dispute Resolution process outlined in Regents Policy 3.63, Section E. 9. will apply.

**PART 7: DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

See Regents Policy 3.63, Section E. 9

Rule Administrator:	President of each NMSU Campus
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	September 5, 2015
Revision History:	10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 3.63 as initial Rule 3.63 and authorized the incorporation of Procedural Guidelines into Rule 3.63. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 3.63:</b> 05.12.15 major revision rewriting former policies 3.63 and 3.86 recommended by University Administrative Council; major revision approved by Board of Regents 07.21.15 (to be effective 45 calendar days after approval).

### 3.65 - Protection of Sensitive Information

*Policy recommended by the Administrative Council 09.13.11; adopted by the Board of Regents 10.10.11]*

Certain information generated by the operations of the various university colleges and other units is sensitive in nature, and requires a heightened level of protection to ensure its confidentiality. Examples of sensitive information included, but are not limited to: classified information, controlled unclassified information, and proprietary information.

#### A. Definitions.

1. Classified information refers to information owned by, produced by or for, or is under control of the United States Government specifically authorized under criteria established by an Executive Order or an Act of Congress to be kept secret; unauthorized disclosure, either by itself or in context with other information, reasonably could be expected to cause damage to national security, including defense against transnational terrorism.
2. Controlled unclassified information refers to information that loss, misuse, unauthorized access or disclosure, or modification thereof could cause harm to important interests, such as personal or medical privacy to which individuals are entitled under laws, national security, law enforcement, proprietary commercial rights, or the conduct of government agency programs. Controlled unclassified information includes, but not is limited to, information designated by a federal government agency as "For Official Use Only", personally identifiable information generated in research approved by the Institutional Review Board, and information protected by the International Trafficking in Arms Regulations (ITAR), the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act (FERPA), the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPPA), the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA), and the Red Flags Rule under the Fair and Accurate Credit Transactions Act of 2003.
3. Proprietary information refers to confidential information shared for the purpose of research or other academic inquiry and that is often protected by agreements not to be disclosed to competing commercial entities or the general public.

B. Duty to Safeguard Sensitive Information. Units keeping or using sensitive information should develop appropriate procedures for its protection and train faculty, staff, and students whose positions require access to such information. All employees shall comply with applicable laws and regulations, university policy, rules and procedures, governing university and/or departmental procedures, and contractual agreements regarding non-disclosure of such information. Related policies and rules include:

- [2.35.1.1.1 Acceptable Use of Information and Communications Technology](#)
- [2.35.1.2.3 NMSU Institutional Data Security](#)
- [2.90.20 Student Educational Records – Compliance with FERPA](#)
- [2.90.30 Protection of Non Public, Personal Information](#)
- [2.91 Identity Theft Protection Program](#)
- [4.65 Security Clearance \(Department of Defense\)](#)
- [5.94 D. Protection of Confidential Information](#)
- [5.94.30 D. Institutional Review Board](#)
- [5.94.40 D. Maintenance of Sponsored Project Records](#)
- [6.93 Embargo of Dissertations or Master's Theses](#)
- [3.19.20 Principles of Ethical Conduct](#)

### 3.70 - Administrative Office Hours *(See also Rules [5.84 - \[Faculty\] Office Hours](#); [7.10 - Holidays \(NMSU Official\)](#); [8.75 - Workweek](#))*

As a general rule, individual work schedules will conform to the public hours of 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Some offices close from 12 noon to 1 p.m. for lunch. Most offices are closed on Saturday and Sunday, except on special occasions and as required by the executive vice president and provost; the appropriate dean or vice president; or in support of distance education offerings, the director of distance education.

With the approval of the appropriate dean or vice president and the executive vice president and provost, departments may establish alternate work schedules if it is determined they better meet the needs of the clientele and/or better serve the needs of an individual employee without adversely affecting the clientele. Alternate work schedules are to be of a semi-permanent nature (e.g., 1 semester at a time, 1 academic year at a time, etc.). All requests and subsequent

approval or denial of alternate work schedules are to be in written form. The requirements of some job positions will be not be conducive to an alternate work schedule.

Rule Administrator:	Human Resource Services
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	08.08.17 UAC recommended amendment; 08.08.17 Chancellor approved. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 3.70 as initial Rule 3.70 <b><i>Prior Revision History as Policy 3.70 not available</i></b>

**3.75 - Non-Work Related Use of University Resources** *(See also [2.35 NMSU General ICT Policies](#))*  
*[Amendment, deleting material superseded by amended Policy 2.35, approved by the Administrative Council 04.14.09; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09][Amendment (FS Senate Proposition 19-09/10) passed 04.29.10; recommended by the Administrative Council 06.08.10; approved by the Board of Regents 07.20.10]*

University employees should always be mindful of the resources entrusted to them by the public, government entities, and private donors, including the public's perception of how the university conducts its business. Employees should strive to conduct themselves consistent with the highest ethical principles, to avoid any action that may be viewed as a violation of the public trust in the use of these resources, and to act responsibly in order to preserve and/or safeguard university resources. These resources include, but are not limited to, employee's time, facilities, supplies, and equipment, such as telephones, fax machines, and computers. Employees do not have a right or expectation to privacy as it relates to information or data contained on or accessed through university equipment or resources.

The application of the following guidelines for non-work related use will depend upon the particular circumstances surrounding each such use, including factors such as the nature of the use, reasonableness, cost, time, employee needs and work habits etc. Employees should consult with their supervisors in advance if they have any questions about appropriateness of certain practices.

- A. Guidelines: The use of the university's resources and services for non-work related purposes is permitted only in compliance with the following criteria:
1. The cost to the university is negligible.
  2. The use does not interfere with an employee's obligation to carry out university duties in a timely and effective manner. Time spent engaged in the non-work related use of university resources is not considered to be university work time.
  3. The use does not undermine the use of university resources and services for official purposes, nor violate any university policy, rule or procedure, nor violate state or federal law.
  4. The use neither expresses nor implies sponsorship or endorsement by the university.
  5. The use does not involve the viewing, displaying, downloading, printing, procuring, or transmitting of sexually explicit material or any other material that would violate university policies or rules/procedures, or the law, including but not limited to, those relating to sexual harassment, fraud, hostile workplace, obscenity, libel, defamation, or hate/violent misconduct.
  6. Users should be aware that internal or external audit or other needs may require examination of uses of university resources or services and should not expect such uses to be free from inspection.
  7. University resources shall not be used in conduct of business or marketing or political activities for non-work related purposes in an inappropriate manner or in violation of NMSU policy or rules/procedures.
  8. The NMSU internal mail delivery system shall not be used to deliver non-work related material. University accounts shall not be charged for mailing personal and non-university business material.
  9. NMSU vehicles shall not be used for personal or non-university business purposes. *See also* Policies [9.33 Vehicle Assignments](#); [9.34 Fleet Asset Management Program](#); and the [Vehicle Use Procedures](#).

### 3.82 - Picnics

Group picnicking is allowed if scheduled through Conference Services.

### 3.90 Religious Denominations

Various religious denominations, representing many faiths and doctrines, are engaged in campus ministries and other religious activities near the university. The Board of Regents and the university are completely impartial and give no preference to any religious denomination or organization, and no religious denomination or organization is an official part of the university and has no right, by using the name New Mexico State University, or by using a reproduction of the Seal of New Mexico State university, or by any other means, to give the impression that it is an official part of the university or that its activities are an official part of the program or curriculum of the university. Although not an official part of the university the Interfaith Council (IC) is a coalition of over 14 religious groups ministering to the spiritual needs of the students, faculty, and staff. Collectively and individually they provide fellowship, recreation, worship, service projects, retreats, conferences, and speakers for student groups.

### 3.92 -Sales and Solicitation (*See also Policies [3.63 Freedom of Expression](#)*)

It is the intent of the university to assure that permitted activities occur with the full knowledge and approval of designated university officials in a manner which is applied equally to all eligible parties. Toward this end, the sales and solicitation Rule will be administered through the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management, with delegation for its enforcement to the director of campus activities. Copies of the Rule may be obtained through the Department of Campus Activities. In the event that the terms of this Rule conflict with other existing policies impacting freedom of expression in areas generally accessible to the public, the terms of the other existing policies shall prevail.

#### A. Definitions:

1. Activity Registration Form: A form used by the Department of Campus Activities to sanction and plan for special academic and nonacademic events on campus requiring approval by designated campus authorities having involvement with or supervision over the event.
2. Fund-Raiser: Any activity which has as its goal financial gain for a cause or an activity to include the solicitation of contributions or the sale of a product of service conducted by university departments, agencies, or student organizations.
3. Off-Campus, For-Profit Organizations: Organizations that have, as their central purpose, the generating of a profit for their owners, partners, or stockholders.
4. Off-Campus, Nonprofit Organizations: Public, governmental, and charitable organizations that, while not part of the university, may be permitted in some instances to utilize university facilities or services because of their nonprofit status.
5. Personal Gain: An activity which is intended to benefit an individual financially.
6. Solicitation: The act of selling or encouraging the purchase of a product either directly or indirectly.
7. Student Organizations: Organizations (recognized by the Department of Campus Activities) whose membership is registered students who meet with the intention of accomplishing specific goals or interests of the members as stated in their by-laws (Hospitality and Tourism Student Association, Hispanic Business Student Association).
8. University-Affiliate Organizations: Organizations which are recognized by the university to support its efforts and promote its welfare while operating outside its regular reporting structure (Aggie Athletics Fund, Faculty Women's Club, ASTC, The Symphony Guild).
9. University Department: An operating unit of the university which is supported by university funds and reports through the university structure (Electrical and Computer Engineering Department, English Department, Facilities).

#### B. Sanctions: Failure to adhere to the sales and solicitation or general fund raising Rule may result in sanctions such

as withdrawal of solicitation privileges for the offending individual or organization, removal of the right to conduct future activities on campus, loss of recognition, and/or any other penalties which may apply under university policies or state or federal laws.

C. On-campus Sales and Solicitation by university Departments, Staff, Faculty, Students, and Student Organizations:

All sales (except those covered by university contracts or accomplished through the Ticket Office) and/or solicitations on campus by recognized university departments, staff, faculty, and student organizations for the purpose of selling merchandise or services, or obtaining contributions, are subject to prior approval and authorization. The request for approval shall be signed by an appropriate representative of the group or its supervisor and the cognizant university officials. Such sales and solicitations shall be in accordance with regulations and policies governing the facilities where the activity will be held and shall be within the general policies of the university contained herein. All funds collected shall be exclusively used to fulfill the purpose of the group earning the funds. Groups utilizing university accounts shall make weekly deposits. (The department head or organization president shall keep appropriate documentation on file should an audit be found necessary, and such documentation shall be made available upon a request from a cognizant university official.) University departments will also be governed by university rules and regulations and State of New Mexico Purchasing and Property Disposal Policies and Statutes. Affiliated organizations are not considered university organizations for the purpose of this Rule and are not extended privileges for on-campus sales under this section.

1. **Sale of Products:** Sale of products, merchandise, or services normally will not be permitted on campus when in direct competition with an existing university or agency provider, such as the university Bookstore, which either provides or has the jurisdiction to provide the same or similar goods or services. This section shall also apply when the requested activity is in competition with services provided by a business holding a contract with the university to provide goods and services such as for food or vending.
2. **Personal Financial Gain:** Sales and solicitations by individuals or organizations on university property which result in personal financial gain are expressly prohibited except as noted in this Rule. However, reimbursement for legitimate, direct expenses incurred by organizations or their members for an event are not considered personal financial gain for the purpose of this Rule.
3. **Door-to-Door Solicitation:** No door-to-door solicitation of any kind shall be permitted by individuals or organizations in university facilities to include residential units. Solicitations may, however, be permitted at approved solicitation sites at various university facilities in accordance with the policies governing those facilities. This section does not preclude the conduct of official university business requiring contact at an individual's residence.
4. **Electronic Media Solicitation:** The university's resources are provided for official university business and may not be used for personal gain by faculty, staff, or students. These resources shall include the university's World Wide Web site and its attached materials, the electronic e-mail system (including Hotline and ABCD), and facsimile equipment. Use of public address systems, message boards, and/or the electronic message display sign in advertising/promoting an event is permitted with proper authorization.
5. **Manner of Solicitation:** Approved solicitations shall be carried out in a manner which does not:
  - a. Unreasonably obstruct vehicular or pedestrian traffic.
  - b. Block the entrances or exists to building and facilities.
  - c. Erect permanent structure, shelters, or camps.
  - d. Unreasonably interfere with classes, university work, and scheduled events.
6. **Distribution of Printed Materials:** Solicitations via distribution of printed materials shall be conducted consistent with the following regulations as well as other policies governing university facilities.
  - a. Student organizations and employees may distribute printed materials on campus as provided in the freedom of expression policy.
  - b. Printed material may be posted only on interior campus bulletin boards designated for that purpose or in locations designated for that use by the Department of Campus Activities or as designated by the deans or vice presidents in buildings under their control. Approval shall be sought from building monitors in each area prior to posting. A list of building monitors is available through the Office of the Associate Vice President for Facilities and Services.
  - c. Materials may not be attached to walls, doors, window glass, floors, or any other parts of university



- buildings or structures, traffic signs, mailboxes, power or light poles, sidewalks, artistic displays, university signs or trees.
- d. Printed materials may not be placed on automobiles under any circumstance.
  - e. The sponsoring group is responsible for timely removal and appropriate disposal of the material at the end of its usefulness or 30 days after posting, whichever comes first.
  - f. Printed materials to be posted shall be affixed in designated locations in a manner appropriate to the display space (tacks and pins for bulletin boards and masking tape for non-tackable surfaces). Nails, transparent tape, etc., which leave a residue or which damage surfaces, shall not be used, and the group or individual will be held accountable for any damage.
7. **Commercial Sponsorship:** Commercial sponsorship of university -organized events is permitted in certain circumstances when prior approval is secured in a manner noted below. If an event advertisement references a sponsor, it shall feature minimal display of the sponsor's name and, in no case, will the sponsor's name be bigger than that of the event or the organization's name. The sponsor shall provide a sample of the identification to be used. Large banners or posters featuring the sponsor's name are not acceptable.
  8. **Sale of Personal Items/Services:** Individual students, faculty, and staff are permitted to advertise the sale of personal items or services (*e.g.*, books, tutoring, typing, babysitting, automobiles, stereo equipment, computers, etc.) only at approved, designated locations and subject to the following:
    - a. Individuals may not advertise as commercial distributors of products or services (*e.g.*, Avon, Tupperware, credit cards, magazines, review courses, etc.).
    - b. Approved locations for posting personal material can be obtained from building monitors, directors of various facilities, or from the director of campus activities.
    - c. Individuals in campus residences may advertise and conduct certain businesses in their residences (*e.g.*, child care, résumé typing, etc.) when that business is appropriate to the residence area, has been registered with the Department of Housing and Dining Services, and is not related to a commercial vendor.
    - d. Yard sales in student family housing may be conducted at individual units provided that Housing and Residential Life is notified in advance. Instruction in the proper methods of conducting sales and assistance in the advertisement of these sales is provided by Housing and Residential Life. Housing and Residential Life reserves the right to limit the number or duration of yard sales should they become disruptive to the neighborhood, excessive in nature, or if it is determined that the sales are being organized for commercial purposes. Yard sales in conjunction with other chartered groups/organizations are permissible upon approval of an Activity Registration Form.

*(Note: Personal advertising of items for sale in university publications or media such as the student newspaper or the student radio station is allowed.)*
  9. **Requests for Permission to Solicit:** Requests to conduct on-campus sales/solicitations or off-campus fund-raising events/activities by student organizations shall be initiated at the Department of Campus Activities by completion of an Activity Registration Form. Requests to conduct on-campus sales and solicitations by university departments and/or university employees shall be submitted to the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management (or designee) in memo form, and shall include project purpose, dates, times, specific activities, and solicitation methods. Requests to conduct off-campus projects by student organizations, university departments/employees shall be submitted in the appropriate format to the Office of the Vice President for Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and shall include project purpose, dates, times, budget, methods of solicitation, and names of solicitor(s). (*See General Fund Raising Policy*) Requests to conduct university events having commercial sponsorship shall be submitted to the director of campus activities and shall include the purpose of the event, dates, times, specific activities, and solicitation methods.
  10. **Sales by University Employees:** The sale of goods and services by employees to the university, or the purchase of same by the university from employees is prohibited. Requests for an exception to this policy must be initiated through the director of the Procurement Services Office. (*See also [Chapter 3 Codes of Conduct - Conflict of Interest](#) and Rule [4.50 Outside Employment and/or Activities](#)*) university employees desiring permission to use the university's name, reputation, facilities, programs, etc., for the purpose of accruing personal financial gain shall obtain prior written approval from the director of the Procurement Services Office. Existing academic or human resources policies governing such activities shall take precedence over this Rule (*e.g.*, consulting, personal appearances, or authorship for any pay in media areas



of TV, radio, or print media, implying university product or service endorsement, etc.).

**D. Sales/Solicitation Rule for Non-university Organizations and Individuals:**

1. Commercial advertising, promotion and/or solicitation are not permitted on the campus except in the following instances:
  - a. Media advertising/solicitation utilizing campus media outlets, including the *Round Up*, KRUX, campus television, and university publications, etc., is permitted when done in accordance with any policies governing these media and when such advertising is presented in that media's primary format.
  - b. The university's electronic media may not be used for commercial solicitation. These media shall include (but are not limited to) the World Wide Web site and its attached materials, electronic mail (e-mail) system, and facsimile equipment.
  - c. Physical properties donated or provided by commercial interests may display the name, identifying symbol, or features of the donor or provider, when such displays are consistent with the campus planning regulations and are judged by the executive vice president and provost and the Chancellor to benefit the university.
  - d. Use of a public address system, message boards, and/or the electronic message display sign in advertising/promoting an event is permitted when authorized by the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management (or designee).
  - e. Distribution of printed commercial advertising materials or similar advertising on the university grounds or in facilities during an event is permitted when the university sponsor or host of the event has received prior written approval for such an activity from the key administrator of the building used and the cognizant vice president or campus president.
  - f. In-person solicitation on campus is permitted when a solicitor receives a personal invitation from an individual to meet on a private basis. Individuals (students or employees) may not extend invitations to solicitors to meet with a group of individuals for the purpose of soliciting without prior written approval. Requests for approval shall be in writing to the director of campus activities, and must follow the Activity Registration process.
  - g. In-person solicitation to individuals or select groups of employees by representatives of commercial organizations is permitted when directly related to the official business of the university and its departments (e.g., trade fairs or scientific equipment vendors). Such solicitation shall be approved by the cognizant department head, dean, and/or vice president.
  - h. Public sales and solicitation of products on university property by non-university vendors may be permitted under limited conditions on a private basis when the vendor is sponsored by a recognized campus organization or a university department; such activity will be directly related to the purposes and goals of the university and pertinent to the sponsoring group (e.g., fraternity and athletic club photographers, etc.) In all such cases, prior written approval must be obtained from the director of campus activities.
2. Distribution of Informational Material: Non-university, nonprofit, or noncommercial organizations or individuals are permitted to display informational material within campus buildings upon approval of the cognizant building monitor or building director. This approval shall be subject to the specific policies governing the operation of the particular facility, or group of facilities, and other university policies. Such organizations are not permitted to conduct in-person distribution of materials (handouts) or in-person direct contact with students unless prior approval is received from the director of campus activities (e.g., distribution of Bibles, etc.). Activities by affiliate organizations shall be conducted in compliance with all the regulations contained herein for sales and solicitation, and shall be reviewed and approved by the university department to which each is affiliated. These regulations exist to support the organizations and to supplement the efforts of the university (i.e., Aggie Athletics Fund/Athletics Department, Library Associates/Libraries). Distribution or presentation of informational materials in a university facility hosting a particular event (to which the material is directed) may require approval from the event sponsor in addition to that of the cognizant vice president (or designee). Direct public solicitation of gifts and/or donations on campus is prohibited except in instances involving approved and scheduled private, organized group activities (i.e., fund-raising banquets, meetings, gatherings with the sole intent of fund raising, and/or political campaign activities). (See [Policy 3.63, Freedom of Expression](#))
3. Food Service Rule for Sales/Solicitations/Acquisition: The university food service contractors are granted the right to operate/conduct food services on the university campus. Clarification of this right is necessary, however, in view of the many activities conducted on the campus which involve food products, and which

may or may not conflict with contractual obligations of the university to the contractors. The following food service Rule outlines the conditions under which student, staff or faculty activities may involve food and beverage services:

- a. Student groups and university departments must seek and receive approval for any food events not catered by the university food service providers by completing an Activity Registration Form from the Department of Campus Activities.
- b. No off-campus firm or agency may be contracted to provide or to cater food service to university students, staff, administrative groups, conferences, or visitors in Corbett Center Student Union or other locations on university property where the primary university food services contractor is providing food services.
- c. Non-university vendors providing services in approved locations on campus other than athletic facilities must be pre-certified by the director of housing and dining services and rebate to the Office of Housing and Dining Services a commission of seven percent of all sales applicable to the campus event.
- d. Student groups and university units or offices may secure prepared food products from off-campus sources to serve on the campus when all of the following conditions are met:
  - i. The products are served exclusively to the members and guests of the sponsoring organization at private gatherings, such as club meetings.
  - ii. The products are served or sold in a manner or under conditions that are not construed to be in competition with the university food contractors. (The sale is construed to be in competition when the seller is soliciting the same consumer prospects as those sought or being serviced by the university food contractors and offering products similar to those provided by the contractors.)
  - iii. If food is prepared in the homes of participants and is served pot luck, it shall be only for the participants and their personal guests and constitute a private gathering where the general public is not invited.
- e. Individuals on campus may secure food from those off-campus vendors who provide delivery service (e.g., pizza or other campus delivery products) when done on an individual order basis. Any other delivery policies for individual buildings or facilities shall apply (e.g., a residence hall's Rule).
- f. Given health, safety, and liability concerns, raw food may not be secured for preparation and distribution on campus unless approval is obtained in writing from the director of campus activities and from the Public Health Division (per following paragraph):

*Organizations granted approval for a public event where the preparation, sale, or distribution of food products is conducted must apply for and receive a State of New Mexico Food Purveyors License. The license must be obtained from the Public Health Division of the State Health Department, Office of Health Facilities Licensing, 1170 North Solano Drive, Las Cruces, New Mexico, in accordance with the New Mexico Food Service Sanitation Act, Chapter 309, Laws of 1977. A copy of the license must accompany the Activity Registration Form or other request for conducting the event. Failure to secure the license constitutes automatic disapproval of the request.*

**E. General Fund-Raising Rule for Student Organizations, University Departments, and Other Affiliated Groups:**

Raising funds from private sources is an important means of supplementing the various programs in teaching, research, extra-curricular, and service activities. The university recognizes and encourages the efforts of campus groups in this regard, but also recognizes the necessity to establish guidelines which aid in coordinating these activities to avoid conflicts, duplication, violation of laws or regulations, or activities which reflect negatively on the university. This Rule applies to fund-raising/solicitation of individuals and business firms by student organizations, departments, and agencies of the university as well as other groups which are affiliates of the university. It does not pertain to proposals for research support addressed to government agencies supporting research that are covered by existing university policies and procedures.

1. Proposals for fund-raising activities from university departments, agencies, academic classes and other affiliated groups must be submitted in writing to the Office of the Vice President for University Advancement no less than 2 weeks prior to the activity. Proposals shall include the purpose, budget plan, amount sought, prospective donor or donors, and a time schedule for the activity.
2. Fund-raising activity proposals from recognized student organizations will be initiated with the director of

campus activities by completing an Activity Registration Form.

3. Approved fund-raising activities are to be coordinated through the Office of the Vice President for University Advancement or the Department of Campus Activities in a manner appropriate to each activity/project and in accordance with Rule guidelines stated herein.
4. Organizations incorporated outside the university which raise funds for a university department, agency, or unit are requested to confer with the vice president for university Advancement before commencing to fund-raise.
5. Approved activities must comply with all university, city, state, and federal laws, ordinances, and regulations, including taxation; and it shall be the responsibility of the activity sponsor to become aware of applicable requirements.
6. Internal operating policies related to fund-raising events in specific facilities shall have jurisdiction when an event is held in these facilities (*e.g.*, residence halls, Corbett Center, Pan American Center).
7. No member of the sponsoring organization or participant in the activity shall receive personal financial gain from it. Reimbursement of planned, bona fide expenses of the activity (labor or materials), however, shall not be considered as personal gain. In no case shall an employee receive payment for personal services (labor) unless prior written approval is obtained from the executive vice president and provost.
8. All funds raised through an activity and deposited in NMSU Foundation, Inc. accounts shall be administered in accordance with policies and procedures of the NMSU Foundation.
9. Fund-raising at university events is not permitted unless specific approval is sought and granted through the director of campus activities in consultation with the vice president for university advancement.
10. On- campus fund-raising involving the sale of merchandise or services must receive the prior approval of the director of campus activities in order to avoid contractual, operational, or jurisdictional conflicts.
11. Expectations: It is expected that all fund-raising events held on or off campus will be conducted in a manner which reflects positively on the sponsor and the university. While it is recognized that the type of activities will vary greatly, event sponsors are urged to avoid telephone solicitation, door-to-door sales or solicitations, and direct collections at civic or service organization meetings off campus. These methods are often over-used and may be counterproductive. Caution is also advised in the repetitious solicitation of businesses or prominent citizens for the same reason. (*See Rule [2.70 United Way](#) for exception.*)

### **3.98 - Smoking**

*Amendments approved by the Administrative Council 05.09.06; adoption of amendments ratified by the Board of Regents 09.08.06]*

- A. General: Accumulating evidence has shown environmental or second hand tobacco smoke increases the risk of cancer and other health hazards for non-smokers as well as smokers. New Mexico State University has a vital interest in maintaining a healthy and safe environment for its students, faculty, staff and visitors while respecting individual choice. Consistent with these concerns and the New Mexico Clean Indoor Air Act, NMSA 1978, § 24-16-1 through 11, the following Rule has been established to restrict smoking of tobacco, or any other weed or plant, and provide procedures for accommodating the preferences of both smokers and nonsmokers.

Smoking of tobacco products is prohibited in all buildings (exceptions below) owned or leased by the university as well as within 25 feet of entrance or exit, vehicles, and during some organized outdoor events on university property.

- B. Smoke Free Areas: Smoking is prohibited in or at:

1. All enclosed buildings and facilities including classrooms, offices, food service venues, lavatories, and most residence halls ( in accordance with Housing and Residential Life policies);
2. within 25 feet of building entrances and exits (when reasonable) and fresh air intake grills unless it is a specially designated smoking area;

3. partially or fully enclosed walkways, corridors, elevators;
4. vehicles owned, leased or rented by the university;
5. within 50 feet of any area where flammable materials are handled or stored, or where other significant fire hazard may exist; and/or
6. indoor athletic or other university-sponsored or designated events.

No Smoking signs or the international no smoking symbol will be posted at major entrances of all university buildings except for those campus residences where smoking is permitted.

- C. Smoking Permitted Areas: Smoking is permitted outdoors on university property except during organized events which have been designated as “No Smoking”. Individuals choosing to smoke outdoors must be 25 feet from doorways, open windows, enclosed walkways, and ventilation systems to prevent smoke from entering enclosed buildings and facilities, and to prevent public access from being denied to an individual with a respiratory medical condition.

In accordance with Housing and Residential Life policies, smoking is permitted in those units which constitute private residences; when everyone in the shared residence is a smoker or at the discretion of each family housing unit.

Fraternities and sororities will work toward an agreement, consistent with university policy during the 2006-07 school years.

- D. Education and Services for Smokers: In light of numerous adverse health effects associated with active smoking, and with exposure to second hand smoke, the university will provide educational services to faculty, staff, and students about the hazards of smoking and information and services on quitting smoking. In addition to consulting with their own health care providers, students, faculty, and staff may get assistance from the following university programs.

1. Students may contact the NMSU Student Health Center for information and programs on quitting smoking.
2. Faculty and staff may obtain assistance in smoking cessation through the Employee Health Center.

- E. Cooperation and Compliance: This Rule relies on the mutual courtesy and cooperation of smokers and nonsmokers for its success. It is the responsibility of all members of the NMSU community to observe the provisions of this Rule on smoking. Complaints or concerns or disputes regarding its implementation should be referred to the immediate supervisor for resolution. The Office of Environmental Health and Safety will assist in determining what distance or location is reasonable for the particular situation. If a resolution cannot be reached, the matter will be referred by the supervisor to the appropriate department head, director, dean, vice president for mediation. Managers, department heads and unit directors are responsible for seeing that persons in their areas are informed and comply with this smoking Rule. Those having difficulty complying with these restrictions are encouraged to seek assistance from the resources listed in Section D. Students, faculty, and staff violating this Rule are subject to disciplinary action. Any person who commits an unlawful act under any of the provisions of the New Mexico “Clean Indoor Air Act” shall be fined in an amount not less than ten dollars or more than twenty-five dollars for each violation.

- F. Disposal of Tobacco Waste: Anyone who chooses to smoke or use smokeless tobacco on campus must discard the waste in an appropriate manner.

### 3.99 Prohibition of Hazing and Hostile Misconduct

*[Policy approved by the Administrative Council 10.14.08; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09]*

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 03.09.11; approved by the Board of Regents 03.14.11]*

- A. Policy Overview: New Mexico State University promotes a safe environment where students, faculty, staff and visitors may reside on campus, participate in university sponsored activities and be members of organizations recognized by NMSU without compromising health, safety, or wellness. It is therefore the University's policy to prohibit any act or omission which constitutes hazing, bullying or other hostile misconduct, as well as retaliation against persons who report misconduct pursuant to this policy. In the event an allegation of hazing, bullying, hostile misconduct or retaliation is substantiated after objective investigation, appropriate corrective or disciplinary action will be taken to ensure that the offensive behavior does not recur.
- B. Definitions:
1. **Bullying**. "Bullying" is an act or omission that intimidates or mistreats a person, typically a person perceived to be weak or vulnerable.
  2. **Hazing**. "Hazing" is an act committed by one or more individuals, on or off campus, where the following apply:
    - a. The act was committed in connection with student or employee status or in connection with an initiation into, an affiliation with, or the maintenance of membership in, any organization. For the purpose of this policy, "organization" means an intercollegiate or intramural athletic team; chartered student organization; or other association, order, society, corps, cooperative, club, department, unit, division or similar group that is officially affiliated with the university and whose membership consists primarily of enrolled students or employees of the university; and
    - b. The act creates unreasonable risk of emotional or physical harm, or causes actual physical harm, mental duress or degradation, or interferes with a person's academic endeavors or progress, or work environment.
  3. **Hostile Misconduct**. "Hostile Misconduct" is an act or failure to act, which is sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent so as to interfere with or limit a person's ability to participate in academic opportunities or activities, or to work productively in the workplace. The hostile misconduct prohibited by this policy need not be based on any protected class, which is similarly prohibited by the university's anti-discrimination policies.
  4. **Retaliation**. "Retaliation" for purposes of this policy is retribution in any form against a person who has in good faith: (a) opposed the misconduct prohibited by this policy; (b) filed a complaint of hazing, bullying or other hostile misconduct with their supervisor, the Office of Human Resource Services department or other appropriate office with jurisdiction; (c) assisted with or participated in an investigation, proceeding or hearing related to enforcement of this policy. Retaliation in and of itself, if substantiated by investigation, will result in disciplinary action, up to and including termination.
- C. Discriminatory Misconduct/Report to OIE: An act of hazing, bullying or other hostile misconduct may also constitute illegal discrimination if it is based upon age, ancestry, color, mental or physical disability, gender, genetics, serious medical condition, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, gender identity, spousal affiliation, or veteran status. In this event, it shall be reported to the Office of Institutional Equity for action under the university's anti-discrimination policies, which also prohibit retaliation.
- D. Hate Crimes/Report to NMSU Police: An act of hazing, bullying or other hostility may also constitute a hate crime under the laws of New Mexico, and shall be reported to the NMSU Police Department for potential criminal investigation and prosecution.
- E. Acquiescence Not a Defense: It is a violation of this policy even if the recipient of the misconduct consented to or acquiesced in the hazing, bullying or other hostile act or omission.
- F. Examples: Examples of hazing, bullying and other hostile misconduct may include, and are not limited to:
1. Verbal acts and name calling; graphic and written statements, which may include the use of cell phones or the internet;

2. Threats of, or actual harm or humiliation;
3. Physical abuse, such as whipping, beating, branding, pushing, shoving, or tackling, use of physical restraints, etc;
4. Forced physical activity, such as consumption of food, liquor or drugs, or sleep deprivation;
5. Theft and/or destruction of property under any circumstance;
6. Yelling, screaming, or calling members (prospective or actual) demeaning names, or restricting normal routine social interaction;
7. Engaging in behavior that a reasonable, similarly situated, person would consider humiliating and or degrading to others;
8. Forcing, requiring or endorsing new members to violate university policies, organization/association bylaws, team rules and/or any local, state, or federal law.

G. Exclusions: This policy is not intended to prohibit the following conduct:

1. Customary public athletic events, contests or competitions as sponsored by the University;
2. Activity or conduct that furthers the goals of NMSU educational curriculum, extracurricular program, military training program, or other official university function or program.

H. Duty to Report: Prevention of hazing, bullying, hostile misconduct and retaliation is the responsibility of every member of the university community. Each organization, association, athletic team, department, unit, division, as well as each individual, has the obligation to report incidents that are believed to be associated with hazing, bullying, hostile misconduct, or retaliation, to the Office of Student Judicial Services, the Office of Institutional Equity, the NMSU Police Department, or other university supervisor or official independent from the offensive conduct.

I. Prompt Investigation and Corrective Action: All alleged incidents of hazing, bullying and other non-discriminatory hostile misconduct or retaliation addressed by this policy will be taken seriously, shall be investigated and when warranted, corrective or disciplinary action will be taken.

1. An objective, confidential investigation will be conducted by the supervisor, in consultation with the Office of Human Resource Services, into each complaint received.
2. The actions or omissions subject of a complaint and substantiated by investigation will be assessed based on the totality of the circumstances, and will involve making a determination whether the alleged hostile misconduct was sufficiently severe, pervasive or persistent such that a similarly situated reasonable person would be significantly and adversely impacted in his or her ability to benefit from the educational or work opportunities provided by the institution.
3. Substantiated violations will result in administrative, civil and/or criminal sanctions to the offending employee, student or student organization.
4. One or more of the following offices or processes may be involved in affording relief to the person who has experienced the hazing, bullying, hostile misconduct or retaliation: the Employee Assistance Program, Counseling Center, Employee Health Services, Student Health Center, the Office of Student Judicial Services, the administrative review process of the Department of Campus Activities, the Social Misconduct Review Board of the Department of Athletics, the Office of Housing and Residential Life, the appropriate supervisor in coordination with the Office of Human Resource Services in accordance with the applicable NMSU grievance and /or disciplinary process, as well as through the appropriate local, state, and/or federal law enforcement agencies.

### 3.100 - Protocols in the Event of a Missing Residential Student

*[Policy recommended by the Administrative Council 05.03.11; policy adopted by the Board of Regents 06.23.11]*

- A. **Purpose:** To maximize the use of all available university resources and information, in order to facilitate and expedite the search for a residential student reported or suspected to be missing; to provide rules and procedures, in compliance with the federal Clery Act, as amended by the Higher Education Opportunity Act of 2008.
- B. **Scope:** This Rule applies within the NMSU System.
- C. **Rule Administrators:** This Rule is administered by the Office of Housing and Residential Life and the NMSU Police Department.
- D. **Definitions:**
  - 1. “Residential Student”: For purposes of this Rule, a residential student is one who resides in on-campus housing, under a housing contract, and is currently enrolled at the University.
  - 2. “Missing Resident Student”: A missing residential student means a residential student whose whereabouts are unknown to the Office of Housing and Residential Life, roommate or immediate family member and the circumstances of whose absence indicate that:
    - a. The student did not voluntarily leave the housing unit, residence hall or campus (excludes involuntary escort by law enforcement); or
    - b. The student voluntarily left the housing unit, residence hall or campus, but indicated an intent not to return. (For example, belongings are missing or student made comment indicating intent to harm self.)
- E. **Rule:** It is the Rule of the university to coordinate the resources available from various campus offices in order to expedite the location of any resident student suspected or reported to be missing, consistent with the notification and reporting requirements of the federal Clery Act and corresponding regulations.
  - 1. Upon entering into the housing contract, or as part of the housing check in process, the resident student, or parent or guardian if student is a minor, shall sign an acknowledgment of receipt of this Rule.
  - 2. Upon entering into the housing contract, or at the time of the housing check in process, the residential student shall be given the opportunity to confidentially identify one or more “missing person contact”, whom the campus will attempt to contact immediately, and in no case later than 24 hours after the student is deemed missing. The confidential missing person contact may be a person other than the next of kin Emergency Contacts provided via *MyNMSU* pursuant to Rule [2.35.1.1.8 Emergency Notification](#) for general emergencies. The student, or guardian if the student is a minor, is responsible for ensuring that the all emergency notification contact information, including any distinct missing person contact, is up-to-date and accurate.
  - 3. The Office of Housing and Residential Life will collect and maintain the confidential missing person contact information, which may be shared with others in furtherance of a missing person investigation. The information may be stored electronically in a manner that integrates the “missing person contact” with campus records system(s), to facilitate mutual access by staff of student affairs, housing and university police.
  - 4. If the Office of Housing and Residential Life or the NMSU Police Department deems any residential student to be missing, university administration shall be notified as soon as possible under the circumstances.
  - 5. If a residential student under 18 years of age and not emancipated is deemed missing, the NMSU police chief or designee shall notify the confidential missing person contact and the custodial parent or guardian not later than 24 hours after the time that the student was deemed missing.
  - 6. This Rule and accompanying procedures are not intended to limit or prohibit law enforcement personnel from contacting anyone they may deem necessary as part of their missing person investigation.
- F. **Procedures:**
  - 1. Any student, staff or faculty member or other person who receives a report that a residential student may be

missing, or has a reasonable suspicion based on personal knowledge of the student's schedule and habits to conclude that the person has involuntarily disappeared, shall immediately notify either the Office of Housing and Residential Life or the NMSU Police Department. The report should not be delayed in the hope the person will return. There is no requirement to wait 24 hours to report that someone is suspected to be missing, and in fact, such a delay can be detrimental to search efforts.

2. The office or department receiving a report of a suspected missing resident student shall notify the other in order to clarify and expedite the assignment of responsibilities. The office or department receiving such a report shall notify the Office of the Dean of Students, and keep that office informed about the status.
3. All students and employees shall cooperate with preliminary inquiries by the Office of Housing and Residential Life or other NMSU department personnel, as well as with law enforcement personnel, should a criminal investigation become necessary. A failure to cooperate may result in disciplinary action, as may be appropriate, based on the circumstances, including any adverse impact caused by the lack of cooperation. A failure to cooperate with law enforcement personnel may also result in criminal charges as appropriate.
4. NMSU housing staff will conduct preliminary inquiries, in accordance with the departmental protocol that the Office of Housing and Residential Life has promulgated for such incidents. (See [Housing and Residential Life](#)). During the preliminary inquiry stage, Housing staff may utilize available university resources and information, including but not limited to the Offices of the Registrar, the Dean of Students, Parking and Transportation, to facilitate and expedite verification of the student's whereabouts. If housing personnel are not able to speak with the student or to otherwise verify the student's whereabouts within 3 hours from the first report or suspicion that the student might be missing, the matter will be reported to the NMSU Police Department for a formal missing person investigation.
5. Consistent with applicable New Mexico law, the NMSU Police shall conduct a missing person investigation, and if necessary, shall be given access to university resources and information, including but not limited to the Offices of the Registrar, Dean of Students, Parking and Transportation, Housing and Residential Life.

### 3.101 Student Social Code of Conduct

- A. Purpose: To assist students in becoming responsible members of the community, through notice of their rights and responsibilities, including the university's expectations for student conduct, and provision of fair investigative hearing and appeal processes by which students will be held accountable for their actions.
- B. Scope and Effective Date: This policy shall apply throughout the NMSU system, effective August 16, 2015.
- C. Policy Administrator; Required Periodic Review: The Office of the Dean of Students shall serve as the primary policy administrator, who will work closely with other officials who administer student discipline in the community colleges and other university programs, regarding promulgation, implementation and application of the Student Social Code of Conduct.
- D. Definitions: See [Part VI of the Student Social Code of Conduct](#).
- E. Policy Statements:
  1. The responsibility of administering the student discipline system for misconduct not related to academic integrity is delegated to the Office of the Dean of Students. For central reporting purposes, as well as for consistency in sanctions generally, this office shall serve as the university's central administrative authority. Officials who administer student discipline in the community colleges and other university programs, shall coordinate with the Office of the Dean of Students as they administer student discipline.
  2. The Office of the NMSU Dean of Students is authorized to promulgate and effectuate a Student Social Code of Conduct, to provide notice to students about their rights and responsibilities, including the expectations for student conduct and potential consequences for violations. The code will be developed in collaboration with the community colleges' vice presidents of student services or equivalent, the office of general counsel, and be subject to approval by the Vice President of Student Affairs and Enrollment Management and the Executive Vice President and Provost.



3. The Student Social Code of Conduct will address topics including, but not limited to: the administration of student discipline, generally; students' rights and responsibilities; standards of conduct; the range of possible sanctions; victim rights; fact finding hearing procedures; and appeal hearing procedures.
  4. The Student Social Code of Conduct shall be available on line at the website of the Office of the Dean of Students and may be printed or summarized in student handbooks at the discretion of the officials administering student discipline. The link to the code may also be included in written materials and on the websites of the community college offices of student support services.
  5. The Office of the Dean of Students, in collaboration with the community college vice presidents of student services or equivalent shall jointly review and recommend updates/revisions to the Student Social Code of Conduct and associated procedural guidelines at least every two years.
- F. Procedural Guidelines: To facilitate the implementation, administration and enforcement of the Student Code of Social Conduct authorized by this policy, the Office of the Dean of Students may develop supplemental procedural guidelines, forms, templates, flowcharts, FAQ's consistent with this policy and the Student Social Code of Conduct, to facilitate common understanding and consistent application of the code. The Student's Social Code of Conduct, and corresponding procedural guidelines, if any, will be posted on the Dean of Students' website, and linked from this section.

**REVISION HISTORY AND EFFECTIVE DATE:** Policy recommended by University Administrative Council 07.14.15; policy adopted by Board of Regents 07.21.15, with an **effective date of August 16, 2015**.

## Chapter 4

### Human Resources - General

#### 4.05 Appeals/Grievances

- 4.05.11 Appeals/Grievances - Non-Discrimination-Based Staff, Applicable to all Regular Non-Probation Employees
- 4.05.20 Appeals - Consulting
- 4.05.30 Appeals - Disability Accommodation
- 4.05.50 Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution (Faculty Grievance Review Board established to replace Salary Increase/Performance Evaluation and Faculty Grievance Review Boards, to hear grievances raised by faculty)
- 4.05.60 Appeals - Intellectual Property
- 4.05.70 Appeals - Layoffs
- 4.05.80 Appeals - Sick Leave Bank
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#### 4.10 Children, Employment of

#### 4.25 Due Process \*

#### 4.26 Employee Separation

#### 4.30 Hiring

- 4.30.05 Employment Background Reviews
- 4.30.10 Hiring - Definitions
- 4.30.20 Hiring of Individuals Named in a Contract
- 4.30.30 Process to Determine Ineligibility for Rehire Status *[Former Policy 8.40.1]*

#### 4.45 Layoffs and Recall

#### 4.50 Outside Employment and/or Activities

#### 4.60 Public Affairs Participation \*

#### 4.70 Supplemental Employment/Compensation

#### **\* NMSU Policy System in Transition:**

*These provisions appear in both the Regents Policy Manual (RPM) and the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) as a result of the replication of the NMSU Policy Manual authorized by the Board of Regents on October 21, 2015. That replication was the first step in a project to restructure and update NMSU system policies and procedures into a Regents Policy Manual and a distinct set of administrative rules and procedures, to provide operational guidelines for management. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion caused by this duplication.*

#### **4.05.11, 4.05.20, 4.05.30, 4.05.50, 4.05.60, 4.05.70, 4.05.80, and 4.05.90 through 4.05.90 - Appeals/Grievances** (*See Also* Regents Policy [4.25 Due Process](#))

New Mexico State University is dedicated to providing equal employment opportunities in all areas of occupation without regard to age, ancestry, color, mental or physical disability, gender, gender identity, serious medical condition, national origin, race, religion, sexual orientation, spousal affiliation or veteran status, according to state and federal laws. This dedication extends to recruiting and hiring, promotion and other human resources actions such as compensation, benefits, transfers, layoffs, termination, training, education, tuition assistance, social and recreational programs. NMSU's comprehensive affirmative action program supports this effort. A listing of applicable state and federal laws includes the following:

- Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1975
- Americans With Disabilities Act of 1990
- Civil Rights Act of 1991
- Education Amendments of 1972, Title IX
- Executive Order 11141
- Executive Order 11246
- Equal Pay Act of 1963
- New Mexico Human Rights Act
- Pregnancy Act of 1978
- Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973
- Titles VI and VII, Civil Rights Act of 1964
- Vietnam Era Veterans Readjustment Act of 1974

#### **4.05.11 - Appeals/Grievance - Non-Discrimination-Based Staff, Applicable to all Regular Non-Probation Employees**

*[Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 09.09.08; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09]*

- A. Hostile Work/Academic Environment: A hostile environment claim may be based on offensive conduct or behavior that is sufficiently severe and/or pervasive to create an abusive work/academic environment or related activities. *See* below for definition:
- B. Nondiscrimination-Based Harassment: The university prohibits any unlawful practice of harassment in work place, classroom environments, including related activities, which has the effect of creating a hostile environment based on disputes arising from nondiscrimination matters. Responsibility for such matters is designated to the appropriate directors, department heads, deans, vice presidents or vice provosts. On the occasion that nondiscrimination harassment is reported or discovered during an investigation by the assistant director of Employee Management Services, a referral to the appropriate official may be made for further review and action. Examples of nondiscrimination harassment may include conduct and behavior that is sufficiently severe and/or pervasive to create an abusive work or academic environment. (*See* Regents Policy 3.25 Equal Opportunity and Prohibition of Unlawful Discrimination and corresponding administrative rules and procedures at [Rule 3.25 - Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus](#))
- C. Grievance Exceptions: Grievable items do not include basic management rights such as, but not limited to, the right to manage, direct and assign employees, determine staffing patterns, rate of pay and/or tasks to be performed. Any action or complaint commenced in any state or federal agency or court (or before any state or federal employee or hearing officer) may, at the discretion of the executive vice president and provost result in a stay of any pending or filed internal proceeding (grievance, appeal, etc.) filed by or on behalf of an employee of the Board of Regents. Upon termination of the external proceeding the executive vice president and provost will review the status of the internal proceeding in the light of the results of the external proceedings. If, in the executive vice president and provost's opinion, further action is required, the internal proceeding may continue in accordance with established procedures. If no further action is deemed necessary, the internal proceeding will cease
- D. Nondiscrimination-Based Grievance Procedures: Employees are encouraged to resolve issues through discussion with the immediate supervisor(s) and may contact the Office of Employee Management Services for consultation on nondiscrimination matters at any time. If resolution is not attained, a formal or informal grievance may be filed

with the Office of Employee Management Services. Employees shall be free to discuss matters with the Office of Employee Management Services and file grievances without fear of reprisal.

**[BYPASS-** If the complainant wishes to bypass STAGES ONE and TWO and go directly to STAGE THREE, a letter requesting a Human Resources board hearing may be addressed to the assistant director of the Office of Employee Management Services (or designee) within 10 working days of the occurrence. In addition to the letter, the complainant will be required to complete the appropriate grievance form and provide supporting documents. These documents will be provided to the party charged, who will prepare a response and submit any supporting documents to Office of Employee Management Services (or designee) within 10 working days of receipt of complainant's documents. Employee Management Services (or designee) will provide the complainant with a copy of materials submitted by the party charged and provide the Human Resources Board with copies of all appropriate documents.]

### **STAGE ONE**

- A. **Informal Complaint:** The complainant may elect to pursue an informal complaint by meeting with the Office of Employee Management Services within 15 working days of occurrence of the grievable item. During the informal stage, the complainant may elect not to self identify. The remedy may include seminars, exchange of information, newsletter articles, memorandums, administrative review, or counseling. Informal settings (where the parties are identified) may also include mediation at the departmental level or other direct communication with both parties. If the informal filing does not result in resolution, the complainant may exercise the formal grievance process within 5 working days of completing the informal complaint process.
- B. **Formal Grievance:** Completion of the Office of Employee Management Services Grievance Form is required within 15 working days after the occurrence or within 5 working days following the informal complaint process. The complainant will include the basis of the grievance which identifies specific employment practices and procedures. The grievance will be accepted or denied in writing by the Office of Employee Management Services (or designee). If denied, the complainant may appeal in writing to the Office of General Counsel (or designee) within 5 working days of receipt of written denial letter. If accepted, the party charged will be provided with a copy of the complaint documents and will be extended 10 working days to respond. Additional time may be granted on a case-by-case basis by written request. The complainant will be provided a copy of the response, and may amend the initial grievance within 2 working days of receiving the response. If amended, the party charged will also be extended 2 working days to provide any additional documentation. The Office of Employee Management Services (or designee) will investigate relevant issues, secure appropriate statements, and prepare a report for administrative review.
- C. **Disclosure of Witness Statements:** All witness statements are the responsibility of the person filing or responding to the grievance(s). Witness statements provided by either complainant or the party charged must be provided to the opposing party at the time the statements are presented to the Office of Employee Management Services. The Office of Employee Management Services may conduct any further investigation deemed appropriate, which may include additional witness statements. The result of that investigation is the work product of the investigator and not subject to disclosure.

### **STAGE TWO - Administrative Review**

The assistant vice president for human resource services (or designee) will review the report provided by the Office of Employee Management Services and render a decision. The determination letter will be transmitted in writing by the Office of Employee Management Services (or designee) to the complainant, party charged and appropriate administrators. If the complainant or respondent is not in agreement with the decision, new or additional documentation may be provided through the Office of Employee Management Services to the assistant vice president for human resource services (or designee) within 5 working days of receiving the determination letter. Following the review of the new or additional information, a final decision will be issued from the assistant vice president for human resource services (or designee) within 5 working days of receipt of the information to the complainant and party charged.

### **STAGE THREE - Board Review:**

[The Human Resources Board may be convened to address: terminations, suspensions, demotions, and related issues resulting in reduction/loss of wages and/or appeals of overall unsatisfactory, needs improvement, or does not meet expectations performance evaluation ratings for regular non-probationary staff employees.]

If the complainant does not agree with the assistant vice president for human resource service decision in STAGE TWO, a request to convene the Human Resources Board may be submitted in writing to the Office of Employee Management Services within 5 working days of receiving the decision from the assistant vice president of human resource services. The complainant and party charged will be required to provide all documentation to be reviewed by the Human Resources Board according to procedures cited herein. The Human Resources Board will hold a hearing and issue a recommendation to the executive vice president and provost (or designee) within 5 working days of said hearing. Should the Human Resources Board require additional time, the chair will notify the complainant, party charged, and executive vice president and provost. The executive vice president and provost (or designee) will issue a final decision in writing to both complainant and party charged within 5 working days of receiving the Human Resources Board's recommendation. STAGE THREE concludes the appeal process for non-probationary staff employees at the university.

## **HUMAN RESOURCES BOARD OPERATING PROCEDURES**

### **A. The Complainant is Responsible for Providing The Office of Employee Management Services (or Designee) with:**

1. A written request for a Human Resources Board hearing within 5 working days of completing STAGE TWO or within 10 working days if STAGES ONE and TWO are bypassed.
2. A list of witnesses (by name, title, employer, telephone number, and order of appearance at the hearing). It is the complainant's responsibility to secure permission from and arrange for attendance of named witnesses prior to submittal.
3. Seven copies of all documentation to be reviewed during the hearing, plus an additional copy for each individual named in #2 above.
4. The name(s) of legal counsel and/or other representative(s) who will be in attendance at the hearing. Legal counsel or representative(s), who are not university employees, may only actively participate in the hearing process for appeals involving termination, demotion, or suspension. Cross examination of witnesses will be permitted through the chair. Any questions for parties charged/complainant(s) may be channeled through the chair, who will determine the relevance and appropriateness of the question.
5. A written request for an open or closed hearing.
  - a. Open Hearing - an open hearing is one in which the public may attend, but may not participate in the hearing. In an open hearing, witnesses may stay only after completing their testimony.
  - b. Closed Hearing - a closed hearing is one in which only the complainant and party charged may be present to offer testimony to the Human Resources Board. In a closed hearing, witnesses will be present only during their testimony.
6. A request for special accommodation(s), if needed.

### **B. The Party Charged is Responsible for Providing to the Office of Employee Management Services (or Designee) with:**

1. A list of witnesses (by name, title, employer, telephone number, and order of appearance at the hearing). It is the responsibility of the parties charged to secure permission from and arrange for attendance of named witnesses prior to submittal.
2. Seven copies of all documentation to be reviewed during the hearing, plus an additional copy for the complainant.
3. The name(s) of legal counsel and/or other representative(s) who will be in attendance at the hearing. Legal counsel or representative(s), who are not university employees, may only actively participate in the hearing process for appeals involving termination, demotion, or suspension. Cross examination of witnesses will be permitted. Parties charged will not be subjected to cross examination.
4. A written request for an open or closed hearing.

5. A request for special accommodation(s), if needed.

C. The Office of Employee Management Services (or Designee) is responsible for ensuring that:

1. The Human Resources Board has been notified in writing of the hearing.
2. The parties charged, complainant(s) and Human Resources Board members are advised in writing of the date, time, and location of the hearing.
3. The complainant and party charged are informed in writing of time constraints of 2 hours each to present material, including witness testimony and rebuttal. (Additional time may be considered, if requested).
4. Grievance procedures and exchange of statements are provided to both the complainant and party charged at least 48 hours prior to the hearing.
5. A pre-hearing orientation is provided to the Human Resources Board for purposes of receiving documents, instructions, and appropriate policies and procedures.
6. An agenda is prepared for the hearing and time constraints are monitored.
7. An official tape recording of the hearing is available, upon written request, to the complainant and/or party charged.
8. Reasonable accommodations are made, upon request.

D. The Chair is Responsible for ensuring that:

1. An open or closed hearing is stated for the record during the hearing.
2. Instructions at the hearing are recorded for the record.
3. The nature of the charge is clearly understood.
4. All issues presented during testimony are relevant to the charge. It is the chair's prerogative to determine when issues have been clarified and may terminate the process accordingly.
5. Additional documentation (if provided by either party after documents have been submitted) is pertinent and reasonable.
6. Both parties are extended an opportunity for an executive Session at the end of the Human Resources Board hearing (not recorded). An executive session provides the complainant and party charged with an opportunity to present any relevant extenuating or mitigating matters after closing statements, not to exceed 5 minutes each. During an executive session, only the voting board members and party requesting executive session will be present.

E. The Human Resources Board is responsible for ensuring that:

1. An open or closed hearing is designated after considering the sensitivity of the issues, in conjunction with any specific requests from the complainant or party charged.
2. A conflict of interest situation is called any time a Human Resources Board member's relationship or association (personal or business) with either the complainant or party charged may interfere with the process.
3. A written Human Resources Board recommendation is forwarded to the executive vice president and provost within 5 working days following the hearing.

F. Nonexempt Human Resources Board: The Nonexempt Human Resources Board members are restricted to two consecutive terms of 3 years each. The Nonexempt Human Resources Board will hear grievances from nonexempt employees only. Representatives include:

1. Chair: Dean selected by the executive vice president and provost to serve for 3 years. The previous chair will serve as alternate and assume all duties of the chair in case of absence. [Note: The same chair will serve on both nonexempt and exempt boards.]
  2. Member: Nonexempt employee and alternate selected from and by the NMSU Employee Council to serve for 3 years.
  3. Member: Nonexempt employee and alternate selected from and by the Institutional Equity/EEO Advisory Committee to serve for 3 years.
  4. Member: Nonexempt employee and alternate appointed by the Chancellor to serve for 3 years.
  5. Member: The Office of Employee Management Services (or designee), permanent, *ex officio* member.
  6. Member: Assistant Vice President for Human Resource Services permanent, *ex officio* member.
- G. Exempt Human Resources Board: Exempt Human Resources Board members are restricted to two consecutive terms of 3 years each. The Exempt Human Resources Board will hear grievances from exempt employees only. Representatives include:
1. Chair: Dean selected by the executive vice president and provost to serve for 3 years. The previous chair will serve as alternate. [Note: The same chair will serve on both nonexempt and exempt boards.]
  2. Member: Exempt employee and alternate selected from and by the NMSU Employee Council to serve for 3 years
  3. Member: Exempt employee and alternate selected from and by the Office of Institutional Equity/EEO Advisory Committee to serve for 3 years.
  4. Member: Exempt employee and alternate appointed by the Chancellor to serve for 3 years.
  5. Member: The Office of Employee Management Services (or designee), permanent, *ex officio* member.
  6. Member: Assistant vice president for human resource services, *ex officio* member.

#### **4.05.20 - Appeals - Consulting**

The faculty member may appeal decisions (denial of consulting privileges) to the Faculty Grievance Review Board.

#### **4.05.30 - Appeals - Disability Accommodation** (See Rule [3.25 Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus](#))

#### **4.05.50 - Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution**

##### **PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW**

The following rules and procedures (collectively referred to as Rule 4.05.50) are adopted pursuant to the authority granted in Regents' Policy 4.00. The university provides eligible faculty members with a fair and expeditious process by which faculty members may seek redress for grievable issues and may seek resolution of disagreements/disputes arising in the workplace. The following protocols describe the manner in which faculty grievances will be received by a body elected by the Faculty at large known as the Faculty Grievance Review Board (FGRB); accepted or declined; mediated; and/or heard more formally by a faculty peer hearing panel made up of members of the FGRB which issues factual findings and recommendations, and the university's chief academic officer issuing a final decision. The university encourages the early resolution of disputes in the work place through informal discussion. For matters not resolved in the Pre-Grievance Resolution stage, this Rule provides structured mediation and grievance hearing procedures for resolution by peer and administrative review. Retaliation against any person attempting dispute resolution in accordance with this Rule or against those who may be called upon to participate in the resolution process is prohibited; such allegations will be independently investigated and if substantiated, will be grounds for employee

discipline.

### **Contents of this Rule:**

PART 1:	INTRODUCTION AND OVERVIEW
PART 2:	DEFINITIONS
PART 3:	RECOGNITION AND AUTHORITY OF THE FACULTY GRIEVANCE REVIEW BOARD
PART 4:	GENERAL PROCEDURES APPLICABLE EACH STEP OF GRIEVANCE PROCESS
PART 5:	PRE-GRIEVANCE DISCUSSIONS (w/i 30 days from most recent action or inaction giving rise to the grievance)
PART 6:	PROCEDURES TO INITIATE A GRIEVANCE
PART 7:	INITIAL FGRB MEETING (15 day duration; 30 days if appealed)
PART 8:	MEDIATION (30 day duration, absent agreement from both parties to extend)
PART 9:	FORMAL HEARING (45 day duration, absent time extension)

### **PART 2: DEFINITIONS**

- A. "Day": Means Monday through Friday, excluding official university holidays and closures.
- B. "Faculty": Any full- or part-time tenured, tenure track, or regular non-tenure track faculty member who alleges they have been personally affected by a decision, action, or inaction. Faculty employment status will be determined by Human Resource Services when requested by the FGRB Chair.
- C. "Faculty Consultant": A faculty member who provides consultation support in the pre-grievance, informal, mediation, and hearing and appeal grievance steps.
- D. "Faculty Grievance Review Board Chair" or "FGRB Chair": A member of the Faculty Grievance Review Board elected by the membership to serve as the contact person for the full FGRB, who will coordinate procedural matters and communicate on behalf of the FGRB. The chair shall administer this Rule, and communicate for the panel collectively, which may necessitate a vote of the full FGRB from time to time, if the matter is in debate.
- E. "Grievance Record": The documentation in any format (e.g. e-mail) relating to the grievance, including but not limited to notifications setting the date, time, and location of the mediation session or formal hearing; written procedural guidance provided by the FGRB Chair, mediator or hearing panel to the parties, if any; all evidence submitted by the parties at the formal hearing, labeled as to which party submitted it; the recordings of the formal hearing, the findings of fact and recommendations, and the Executive Vice President and Provost's final decision. No materials from the mediation shall be part of the grievance record except for notices of meeting dates and the Mediation Agreement, if any.
- F. "Grievant": Means any faculty member, or any group of faculty, alleging a grievable claim.
- G. "Hearing Panel": Three members of the FGRB, designated by it to conduct the formal hearing, if the matter is not resolved in mediation.
- H. "Hearing Panel Chair": A member of the three member hearing panel, designated amongst the three panel members, to serve as the lead in conducting the administrative hearing for the grievance matter. The hearing panel chair conducts the hearing fairly and impartially, consistent with this Rule, and communicates for the panel collectively, which may necessitate a vote of the panel from time to time, if matters are in debate.
- I. "Mediator": The person(s) designated by the FGRB to explore pre-hearing dispute resolution.
- J. "NMSU Entity": A general term which is used to refer to an NMSU administrative unit, including, but not limited to, departments, colleges, schools, extension service, and experiment stations. The NMSU Las Cruces campus library is considered a single NMSU entity for purposes of this Rule. Private corporations or other entity affiliated with NMSU for fundraising, research, public service, or other purposes are not "NMSU entities".
- K. "Party": The individual(s) who filed the grievance and any person or entity named or joined as a respondent.
- L. "Respondent": Any person or entity whose action or inaction gave rise to the grievance.



**PART 3: RECOGNITION AND AUTHORITY OF THE FACULTY GRIEVANCE REVIEW BOARD**

- A. Grievances Within the FGRB's Jurisdiction: The jurisdiction of the Faculty Grievance Review Board (FGRB) shall include faculty grievances of all types, except for issues subject to an appeal or review process covered in another policy or rule, and except for the following non-grievable issues:
1. Job direction, including coaching, counseling, and documented warnings provided for purpose of improving work performance;
  2. Non-renewal of annual employment contract during probationary period of a tenure-track faculty member, unless a violation of policy, rule or procedure, or the letter of hire is alleged;
  3. The merits of promotion and tenure final decisions except for alleged violation(s) of policy, rule or procedure. (See Rule 5.90 - Promotion and Tenure);
  4. Disputed matters that fall within the jurisdiction of another NMSU entity or hearing body, including but not limited to: involuntary termination for cause (See Rule 5.47 - Faculty Discipline and Appeal Processes), complaints of unlawful discrimination (See Rule 3.25 - Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus), and intellectual property disputes (See Rule 11.05 - Intellectual Property Management);
  5. Reassignment or transfer, provided no change in tenure home (See Rule 5.90.2 - Glossary), loss in pay or faculty rank, or other violation of policy, rule or procedure, or letter of hire is alleged;
  6. Changes in status of an academic administration position, consistent with policy, rules and procedures (See Regents Policy 10.00, Rule 5.92 -Reassignment of Administrators/Department Heads) and with letters of hire;
  7. The substance of a policy, rule or procedure, including established practices, unless it has an alleged unfair impact;
  8. A resignation that has been sent and received;
  9. Issues that could have been raised in a previous grievance submitted to the FGRB involving the same parties and arising from the same or substantially similar facts, unless new evidence is submitted that is found to be substantive. This exclusion is intended to bar duplicative claims or claims that could have been included in the prior grievance; and
  10. Grievances filed past the time limits as specified in this Rule without a waiver from the appropriate NMSU official.
- B. Authority: The FGRB, assigned mediators, or hearing panel members, as appropriate, are authorized to:
1. Elect a chair and vice chair from its membership. The chair will receive and send correspondence relating to procedural matters for pending grievances, and take the lead in setting meetings and coordinating with other officials and offices as necessary for the FGRB to administer this Rule. The vice chair will act in the chair's absence;
  2. Decide whether or not matters brought before it are within its jurisdiction (See PART 3 A. above), and including determination of eligibility of faculty member (See PART 2 B.) and whether the grievance was submitted in a timely manner (See Part 6. A.) and in proper form (See Part 6. B.);
  3. Ascertain the best approach for processing the grievance, including, but not limited to, selection of an appropriate mediator and hearing panel;
  4. Conduct fact finding hearings and to issue recommendations to the Executive Vice President and Provost;
  5. Recommend revisions to Rule 4.05.50; and
  6. Require the attendance and cooperation of the parties and additional individual during the grievance.

- C. Administrative Support: The Faculty Senate Chair, or their designee, and the Assistant Vice President of Human Resource Services shall coordinate to provide the FGRB with the necessary clerical, administrative, and technical support it requires, which shall include guidance relating to applicable time deadlines and other procedural issues that may arise.
- D. Composition of Faculty Grievance Review Board (FGRB): The FGRB shall consist of a total of 9 faculty members with 6 at-large members (4 tenured or tenure-track faculty and 2 college regular non-tenure track faculty) and 3 department heads.
1. Elections:
    - a. Elections will be held during the Fall semester with the term of service to begin the first day faculty report the following Spring semester. If for some reason service cannot start at that time, regardless of when it does start, the end date of service will not change.
    - b. Nominees for the at-large positions shall result from a general announcement calling for nominees, including self-nominations. The at-large members shall not be a department head, associate dean, or dean on interim or permanent basis. The faculty shall elect the at-large member(s) from the complete list of nominees.
    - c. After a general call throughout the NMSU system for nominations for the department head positions, the Executive Vice President and Provost will forward at least two nominations for each vacant position to the Faculty Senate who will elect the member.
    - d. Nominations will be made such that no Faculty Senate electing group (*See Faculty Senate Constitution*) shall have more than three members on the FGRB and no department will have more than one.
    - e. Elected members shall serve a three-year term and shall serve no more than two consecutive, 3-year elected terms.
    - f. Elected members shall attend orientation training within a month after beginning their FGRB service.
    - g. Elected members shall either have already received mediator training or agree to attend such training when offered.
  2. Continuance of Service: The members shall continue to serve on the FGRB until member's replacement has been elected, notwithstanding the limitation on service to two consecutive three-year terms.
  3. Vacancies Due to Resignation:
    - a. A FGRB member may resign by providing written notice to the FGRB Chair copied to the Faculty Senate Chair.
    - b. Any FGRB member who is unavailable for more than 12 weeks, including during the summer, shall be deemed resigned from the FGRB.
    - c. Upon a vacancy created by an at-large FGRB member's resignation, the Faculty Senate Chair shall announce the vacancy system-wide and ask interested and qualified faculty to submit their names. The Faculty Senate Chair shall select from these names an individual to serve.
    - d. Upon a vacancy created by a Department Head FGRB member's resignation, the Executive Vice President and Provost shall submit at least two nominees to the Faculty Senate Chair. The Faculty Senate Chair shall select from these names an individual to serve.
    - e. The replacement member shall serve for the remainder of the elected member's term.
    - f. Replacement member's service shall not be counted as part of the two-term limit.

E. Meetings:

1. For all meetings of the FGRB, a minimum of 24 hours e-mail or written notice will be given to all members of the FGRB.
2. For actions taken by the FGRB, a minimum of a quorum of five is needed. To facilitate meetings of the FGRB, members may participate telephonically or by other electronic/digital means, provided that confidentiality is maintained.

F. Training: Each FGRB member shall receive annual training relative to their FGRB duties and responsibilities. Additional training may be required. Any FGRB member who fails to attend mandatory training shall be deemed resigned from the FGRB, at the discretion of the FGRB Chair and with concurrence from the Faculty Senate Chair.

**PART 4: GENERAL PROCEDURES APPLICABLE TO EACH STEP OF GRIEVANCE PROCESS**

A. Communications:

1. There shall be no *ex parte* communication in any form (e.g. verbal, written, email, text, social media) between a party, including the party's representative or faculty consultant, and a mediator, hearing panel member, or other individual who may be involved in the grievance resolution.
2. Communications between any party and any official with responsibility under this Rule should either be in writing or be promptly documented for the benefit of the other officials (e.g. members of the hearing panel or members of the FGRB) and parties.
3. Under no circumstances shall any individual communicate in any form with the Chancellor or the Executive Vice President and Provost about the grievance, unless permitted by this Rule.
4. Official correspondence shall be sent by the FGRB Chair, mediator, or hearing panel chair, as appropriate, in a manner that maintains confidentiality and that facilitates confirmation of receipt.

B. Right to Faculty Consultant: Either party may enlist the aid of a Faculty Consultant whose role shall be to provide guidance directly to the party and to attend the mediation or formal hearing. The role of Faculty Consultant does not include actively advocating in official communications, mediation sessions, or the formal hearing on behalf of the party. It is the responsibility of the party to keep the Faculty Consultant informed. If the party requests assistance in obtaining a Faculty Consultant, the Faculty Senate Chair or their designee shall appoint a senior faculty member to serve in that capacity.

C. Stay of Proceedings: With the concurrence of the Office of University General Counsel, a grievance may be stayed by the FGRB Chair when the grievant is also seeking relief based upon the same set of facts in another forum, or agrees to explore alternative dispute resolution outside the scope of this Rule. The matter may be re-opened, if appropriate, depending upon the outcome of the other proceeding. Any party may submit a written request to the FGRB Chair that a particular grievance be stayed.

D. Confidentiality: All personnel shall maintain and preserve confidentiality regarding faculty grievance matters. Resolution terms of any grievance will be only be divulged to personnel whose assistance is required in implementing the terms of the agreement.

E. Fair and Impartial Mediation and Hearing Process: All parties, including grievant and respondent, are entitled to a fair and impartial review of their claims. This includes the prompt resolution of actual or perceived conflicts of interest:

1. Conflicts Guidelines:

- a. Under no circumstances will a FGRB mediator or hearing panel member participate in a hearing convened to hear a grievance involving a party with whom the member has a familial, personal, or close professional relationship. A FGRB member shall not mediate, nor hear, a matter involving faculty from their own academic department.

- b. If one or more of the witnesses has a close relationship with one of the hearing panel members, disqualification of the hearing panel member from service shall not be automatic, but shall be decided by a majority of the quorum of panel members based upon the specific facts of each case.
- c. If the grievant, respondent, or a witness has had prior contact with either the assigned mediator or a hearing panel member, disqualification of the mediator or panel member from service shall not be automatic, but shall be decided by a majority of the quorum of panel members based upon the specific facts of each case.

2. Early Disclosure of Conflict and Voluntary Recusal:

- a. Any FGRB member selected to serve as either the mediator or as a member of the hearing panel in a grievance matter shall disclose actual or potential conflicts of interest immediately, or as soon as it is realized, in order that it may be resolved prior to the informal or formal grievance processes.
- b. A party shall also raise the issue of an actual or potential conflict of interest relating to a mediator or FGRB hearing panel member as soon as the conflict is known.
- c. After consideration of the relevant facts and positions of the parties, if it is determined that a conflict exists sufficient to call into question the impartiality of the FGRB member, the resolution will be either voluntary recusal by the individual alleged to have the conflict or by substitution of a different individual by the FGRB Chair.

3. Process to Resolve Alleged Conflict of Interest:

- a. In the event a conflict of interest issue is raised and not resolved amicably by substitution of another individual, the FGRB Chair shall give notice of the potential conflict to the parties and proceed to resolve the issue as expeditiously as possible.
- b. If a challenged mediator or hearing panel member agrees that the conflict is sufficient to render the member unable to participate in a fair and impartial manner, the individual shall be excused from further participation.
- c. If the challenged mediator or hearing panel member disagrees that there is a conflict sufficient to affect impartiality, the matter will be decided by the Faculty Senate Chair.
  - i. Each party may provide their position on the issue and comment on the position of the other party. Other evidence may be considered if relevant or needed to decide the issue; however, the parties are entitled to know and comment on any other evidence considered by the Faculty Senate Chair in making the decision.
  - ii. If a mediator is excused based on a finding of conflict of interest, the FGRB Chair shall select a replacement.
  - iii. If a hearing panel member is excused based on a finding of conflict of interest, the FGRB Chair shall select a replacement from the FGRB.

F. Time Deadlines After a Grievance has been Accepted: Each step of the grievance process is intended to be conducted as expeditiously as possible. Requests for extensions of time may be made by any party or official involved in the process. All requests for time extensions, including basis for the request, shall be in writing and shall be copied to all parties and the FGRB Chair. The FGRB Chair, with the concurrence of the Faculty Senate Chair, will decide whether or not to grant requests for extensions of time.

G. Filing and Storage of Grievance Record: At the conclusion of any stage of the grievance process, the officials with authority under this Rule shall forward documentation belonging in the grievance record to the FGRB Chair. If the matter is submitted to a formal hearing panel, once the panel has rendered its findings and recommendations, the hearing panel chair shall notify the FGRB and transmit the hearing record to the FGRB chair, who will compile the complete grievance record and forward to the office of the final decision maker. The final decision maker shall ensure that the Office of Human Resource Services, Employee and Labor Relations (HRS-ELR) receives the complete Grievance Record for storage and maintenance in accordance with the university's records retention

policies, once the final decision has been issued to the parties.

1. The grievance record shall not be filed in the official personnel file. The grievance record will be stored in a grievance file with the Office of Human Resource Services, Employee and Labor Relations. Occasionally, it may be appropriate to file or to cross-reference a grievance decision in the official personnel file (e.g. to justify a mandated change in salary).
2. If the grievant prevails on an issue affecting a document contained in the official personnel file, that document will be revised and the original document will be moved to the grievance file, to document compliance with the decision on the grievance.
3. Copies of the document reflecting the final administrative action to be taken as a result of a grievance, such as a Mediation Agreement or the Final Decision, shall be stored permanently in the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.

H. Prohibition of Retaliation:

1. Retaliation against any person or against any party involved in the grievance is strictly prohibited.
2. Any claims of retaliation shall be reported immediately to the Assistant Vice President of Human Resource Services.
3. Claims of retaliation shall be investigated independently of Rule 4.05.50 and, if substantiated, will be grounds for corrective or disciplinary action, appropriate to the situation.

**PART 5: PRE-GRIEVANCE DISCUSSIONS** (w/i 30 days from most recent action or inaction giving rise to the grievance)

- A. Good Faith Effort to Resolve by Pre-Grievance Communication: A potential grievant is strongly encouraged to attempt to seek resolution of the dispute as soon as possible, prior to escalation and polarization of positions, and also at the lowest administrative level possible. For this reason, time is built into the grievance process to allow the parties to make a good faith attempt to resolve the matter(s) in dispute.

**PART 6: PROCEDURES TO INITIATE A GRIEVANCE**

- A. Filing of Formal Grievance: If the pre-grievance discussions are unsuccessful, the faculty member submits a written grievance within thirty (30) days from the date of the action or inaction giving rise to the grievance. The thirty (30) day deadline may be waived by the FGRB in cases alleging a "continuing violation" where the most recent incident alleged occurred within the thirty (30) day period, or where ongoing and genuine efforts during the pre-grievance stage caused a delay in filing, but should not extend past ninety (90) days from the most recent action or inaction.

B. Grievance Format:

1. The grievance shall be in memo format, with the subject line indicating that it is a faculty grievance and the respondent(s) named therein (e.g. "SUBJECT: Faculty Grievance versus Respondents ABC and GHI").
2. The grievance memo, limited to 5 pages excluding attachments, shall:
  - a. Identify the grievant(s) by name, job title, phone number, mailing address, NMSU e-mail address and the method by which they may be readily contacted;
  - b. Identify the respondent(s) by name, job title, phone number, and e-mail address;
  - c. Identify the issue(s) in dispute, including the specific allegations against each named respondent;
  - d. Identify any individuals with personal knowledge regarding the issues in dispute, including contact information for the individual;
  - e. Identify efforts made to date to resolve dispute;

- f. Outline the points in support of the grievant's position, referencing any supporting documentation;
  - g. State the desired outcome of the grievance;
  - h. Include the statement "By signing this grievance, I hereby verify that the facts I have alleged in this grievance are to the best of my knowledge and belief true and accurate.";
  - i. Contain the signature of the grievant with the date signed; and
  - j. Attach or reference any supporting documentation;
- C. Notice: The grievant shall electronically send a copy of the grievance to:
- 1. The FGRB Chair;
  - 2. If the FGRB accepts the grievance, it shall be the responsibility of the grievant to provide a copy of the grievance to the respondent and any other parties as may appropriate (e.g. grievant's and respondent's supervisors).

**PART 7: INITIAL FGRB MEETING** (15 day duration; 30 days if appealed)

- A. Participation by FGRB Membership: For jurisdictional or other procedural issues, the FGRB may meet in person or by electronic means, provided that all members are able to hear and to be heard during the meeting.
- B. Determination of Jurisdiction:
- 1. Within ten (10) days of receipt of the grievance, at least a quorum of the FGRB chair shall convene to review the grievance and determine whether or not the faculty member has standing and has filed a timely claim that is grievable under this Rule. The FGRB will either accept or reject the grievance.
  - 2. Typically, the FGRB Chair will issue official correspondence to the parties on behalf of the FGRB; however, as agreed by the members, any member may issue the written determination to the parties on behalf of the FGRB, provided it is reflective of what the majority of the FGRB members decided.
  - 3. The determination to accept or decline a grievance shall be issued in writing to all parties within five (5) days from the date the FGRB met to determine whether or not to accept the grievance.
- C. Right to Appeal from Determination Relating to the FGRB's Jurisdiction:
- 1. The FGRB determination may be appealed by either party in writing to the Assistant Vice President of Human Resource Services. A copy of the appeal shall be sent to all parties and to the FGRB Chair.
  - 2. The appeal must be received by the Office of the Assistant Vice President of Human Resource Services within five (5) days of the appellant's receipt of the determination from the FGRB.
  - 3. The appeal must be written, with a copy of the determination by the FGRB attached, and explain the basis for the appeal.
  - 4. All parties shall be given an opportunity to respond in writing and provide their respective position relative to the appeal. Any response shall be submitted to the Assistant Vice President of Human Resources Services within five (5) days of the parties' receipt of the appeal.
  - 5. The Assistant Vice President of Human Resource Services may consult with the Executive Vice President and Provost and shall issue a final written decision within five (5) days from the date that the Assistant Vice President for Human Resource Services received the appeal.
  - 6. A copy of the decision shall be sent to all parties and to the FGRB Chair.
  - 7. The decision of the Assistant Vice President of Human Resource Services is not appealable.

**D. Mediator Selection:**

1. If the grievance is accepted, the FGRB shall select a mediator, or at their discretion co-mediators, at the meeting at which the grievance is accepted.
2. If a FGRB member serves as mediator, that person will also coordinate the mediation.
3. In cases in which an external mediator is needed, the FGRB Chair will coordinate the selection with the Assistant Vice President of Human Resource Services. When an external mediator is used, the FGRB Chair will act as the mediation coordinator.

- E. Option to Bypass Mediation: At the discretion of majority of a quorum of the FGRB, and in rare instances, the mediation step may be bypassed, allowing the parties to proceed directly to a formal hearing.

**PART 8: MEDIATION (30 day duration, absent agreement from both parties to extend)**

- A. Purpose: The purpose of the mediation phase of the grievance procedure is to resolve the grievance and obviate the need for the formal hearing and decision-making process. The mediation may involve multiple sessions at the discretion of the mediator(s) and with the cooperation of the parties.

**B. Confidentiality:**

1. All documentation, information, positions asserted, admissions or concessions shared for purposes of exploring a mediated resolution shall remain confidential and shall not be divulged by any party or mediator to any person without a need to know, including other members of the FGRB, nor used against any party at any subsequent hearing or proceeding.
2. Every individual consulted regarding the potential for settlement shall be advised about the confidential nature of the communications.
3. The provisions relating to confidentiality continue to apply even after the conclusion of the mediation session(s).

**C. Mediation Coordinator Responsibilities:**

1. Arrange for the initial mediation to take place within ten (10) days of the appointment of the mediator.
2. Work with the FGRB Chair, the Office of Human Resource Services, and the Office of University General Counsel, as necessary, regarding the logistics of conducting the mediation sessions, especially with regard to compliance with applicable time deadlines.

**D. Mediator(s) Responsibilities:**

1. Provide the parties to the grievance written ground rules for the pre-hearing dispute resolution session(s) prior to or at the commencement of the first mediation session. The parties will be asked to read them and to sign, indicating their willingness to abide by them. If any party refuses, the mediation will be cancelled, and the grievance will be submitted to the FGRB hearing panel chair for a hearing and decision.
2. Meet with the parties and take other action as necessary to resolve all or part of the grievance. This may include review of documents, interviews or consultations with persons not on the FGRB, including but not limited to university officials whose authority to implement a proposed solution will be necessary, provided they will not be involved in the mediation and/or formal hearing processes.
3. Cancel the session and submit the matter to the formal hearing stage if, at any point during the mediation, a party's behavior is in violation of the ground rules and the behavior is counterproductive to the mediation.
4. If all or part of a grievance is resolved, draft during the mediation session a Mediation Agreement outlining the agreement, including the details relating to follow-up action(s) to be taken, and have it signed by all parties.

5. Work, if necessary, with HRS-ELR and Office of University General Counsel to obtain any needed administrative approvals to authorize the draft agreement.
  6. No later than thirty (30) days from the mediator's receipt of the grievance, absent an extension of time, send a written request for formal hearing to the FGRB Chair if not all issues being grieved are resolved through mediation.
  7. Request an extension of time only if progress is being made and there remains a viable possibility of resolving the grievance in the mediation stage.
- E. Mediation Outcomes: By way of a transmittal memo, the mediator shall inform the Assistant Vice President of the Office of Human Resource Services about the outcome of the mediation, and attach a copy of the mediation agreement, if any. The mediator shall also inform the FGRB Chair of the outcome(s) of the mediation session so the chair can forward the record to HRS if the mediation was successful or arrange for a formal hearing if some of the issues are unresolved. The possible outcomes of a mediation session include:
1. Complete Resolution: If mediation resolves all of the issues identified in the grievance, a signed Mediation Agreement (see E. 5. below) will be produced prior to the conclusion of the mediation session.
  2. Partial Resolution: For issue(s) resolved by the mediation, the resolution will be included in the Mediation Agreement (see E. 5. below). For issue(s) not resolved by mediation, the issue(s) remaining will be identified in the notification of the outcome (See item E. 5.) and submitted for formal hearing. Each party has the authority to decide whether or not to agree to a Mediation Agreement that resolves only part of a grievance.
  3. No Resolution: If the mediation does not resolve any of the issues raised in the grievance, the issues remaining will be submitted for formal hearing by way of the mediator's notification of the outcome. See E. 5. below.
  4. Mediation Agreement: If some or all of the issues identified in the grievance are resolved through mediation, a Mediation Agreement will be written by the mediator and signed by all parties prior to the conclusion of the mediation session. The Mediation Agreement will document the issue(s) resolved through mediation and the agreed to conditions. All parties who have agreed to the resolution shall sign the Mediation Agreement. By signing the Mediation Agreement, the parties indicate that they are willing to be held accountable to the terms of the Mediation Agreement and, if necessary, that their supervisor(s) may be enlisted to enforce the agreement. The Mediation Agreement shall be filed with the grievance record; each party will be provided with a copy to facilitate its implementation. The parties shall agree to maintain it in a secure manner that will not jeopardize confidentiality.
  5. Notification of Mediator Outcome: The mediator shall inform the Office of Human Resource Services of the outcome of the mediation including a copy of the mediation agreement, if any. The mediator shall also inform the FGRB Chair of the outcome(s) of the mediation session so the chair can forward the record to HRS if the mediation was successful or arrange for a formal hearing if some of the issues are unresolved.
- F. Documentation:
1. Mediation Agreement: The only documentation that shall be retained after mediation is a formal signed Mediation Agreement that documents that the parties reached a mutually satisfactory agreement.
  2. Note Destruction: All written notes taken by any participant during the mediation session will be collected by the mediator at the conclusion of the mediation session. If not mediation agreement is reached or after a mediation agreement has been signed by all parties, these notes will be destroyed by the mediator.

## **PART 9: FORMAL HEARING (45 day duration, absent time extension)**

- A. Composition of Hearing Panel: Three members of the FGRB, consisting of two faculty members and one department head, shall constitute the hearing panel. Under no circumstances shall the mediator(s) serve on the hearing panel.
- B. Hearing Panel Appointment: The hearing panel will be appointed by a majority of a quorum of the FGRB



within ten (10) days of the mediator informing the FGRB Chair that the grievance was not resolved by way of mediation.

C. Hearing Panel Chair: The hearing panel shall select one of its members to chair the panel. The hearing panel chair shall:

1. Communicate with the parties and other personnel as appropriate on behalf of the panel.
2. Inform the parties that they must submit a position statement outlining the points in support of that party's position (with attached exhibits and a list of witnesses, if any) and that they must electronically distribute their position statements to the other party and all members of the hearing panel. The position statements must be distributed within five (5) days of this notification.
3. Allow all participants at least five (5) days to review the position statements.
4. Set the hearing date to be five (5) to fifteen (15) days after the last of the position statements has been distributed and give all participants at least five (5) days, and more if possible, notice prior to the meeting.
5. Coordinate with HRS-ELR for logistic and administrative support.

D. Timeframe for Hearing: The hearing shall be conducted within twenty (20) days after the FGRB Chair notifies the hearing panel chair that the mediation left some issue(s) unresolved. The timeline below begins when the hearing panel chair has notified the parties that mediation did not completely resolve the grievance and that the grievance resolution process is advancing to the hearing phase.

1. Days 1-5: Each party develops and distributes their position statement. The position statement must outline the points in support of that party's position, with attached exhibits, and a list of witnesses, if any. Each party must electronically distribute their position paper to all other parties and all members of the hearing panel within this 5-day period. The position statements will become a permanent part of the grievance record.
2. Days 6-10: All participants review the position statements.
3. Days 11-20: Initial hearing panel held.
4. Time Extension: If the hearing panel is not able to convene to hear the matter within said timeframe, the hearing panel chair shall request an extension of time from the FGRB Chair. *See Part 6. F)*
5. Panel Member Substitution: In order to expedite the hearing, the FGRB Chair may substitute hearing panel members. If necessary as a matter of last resort, the assistance of the Assistant Vice President of Human Resource Services may be sought.

E. Hearing Procedures:

1. Participation: For hearing panels, each member appointed to serve on the panel shall attend and participate. Also present will be all parties, witnesses, and consultants. A representative designated by HRS-ELR will serve as Notary to swear in witnesses and to record the hearing. Additional representatives from HRS and General Counsel will be available for telephonic consultation as needed.
2. Preservation of Record: An audio recording of the hearing, excluding the panel's deliberations, shall be made and kept. The parties shall be entitled to a copy of the recording, upon written request, after the final written decision has been rendered. Responsibility for transcription, if desired, is on the party desiring the transcription.
3. Disclosure Statement: The hearing panel chair shall ensure that all perceived or actual conflicts of interest have been resolved prior to commencing the hearing by asking for all participants, including the panel members, to indicate that they are not aware of any potential conflicts of interest.
4. Role of Legal Counsel: No person attending the hearing may be represented by legal counsel at the

- hearing.
5. **Closed Hearing:** The hearing shall be closed to the public.
  6. **Time for Presentation at Hearing:** The hearing panel chair will assure that all parties have an opportunity to present their cases and may impose reasonable time limits; therefore, the parties should be prepared to make concise statements of their respective positions, refrain from presenting duplicative witness testimony, etc.
  7. **Conduct of Hearing:** The hearing panel chair shall maintain control of the proceeding, including evidentiary and procedural issues. As needed to determine the panel members' collective decision, each panel member may be asked to indicate a position by way of vote. For procedural issues raised by the parties, the chair may ask the parties to step out while the panel deliberates and decides; when the parties return, the chair shall announce the panel's decision on the issue.
  8. **Witnesses:** Each party may call witnesses. Witnesses may only be in the hearing while giving testimony. This does not apply to the parties who may also provide testimony.
  9. **Testimony:** Testimony of any party or witness shall be taken under oath. The hearing panel chair may request that all oaths be taken at one time and then the witnesses asked to leave until such time as they are called to testify, or they may be taken individually immediately prior to giving testimony.
  10. **Oath Administration:** A representative from Human Resource Services, Employee and Labor Relations must administer the oath to the parties participating in a hearing regarding their testimonies.
  11. **Deliberations:** The hearing panel shall deliberate in closed session, apart from the parties. The panel may elect to consult with representatives from the Office of University General Counsel, the Office of Human Resource Services, or other NMSU offices during the hearing or during its deliberations.
- F. **Findings and Recommendations:** Within ten (10) days from the closure of the hearing (last date of deliberations by the hearing panel), the hearing panel chair shall submit findings and recommendations representative of the hearing panel's collective decision, which may include any dissenting opinion, to the FGRB Chair. The FGRB Chair shall forward these materials along with the complete Grievance Record to the office of the final decision maker, which is typically the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.
- G. **Procedures for Final Decision:** The Executive Vice President and Provost is authorized to issue a written final decision on grievances heard by the FGRB. If for any reason the Executive Vice President and Provost is recused or excused from making a decision, the Chancellor, or other designee of the Vice President of the Office of Human Resource Services, shall have the authority to issue a written final decision and the FGRB Chair will be notified. The Executive Vice President and Provost or other designated decision maker shall issue the final decision within fifteen (15) days from receipt of the FGRB hearing panel's findings and recommendations and the complete Grievance Record. The decision, with a copy of the FGRB hearing panel's findings and recommendations attached, shall be delivered to the parties. A copy of the decision shall also be sent to the Office of Human Resource Services for inclusion in the Grievance Record. Notification that a final decision has been issued will be sent to the FGRB Chair.

Rule Administrator:	Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
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**4.05.60 - Appeals - Intellectual Property** (See Rule 11.05-Intellectual Property Management, Pt. 8)

Disputes relating to intellectual property are to be submitted to the Intellectual Property Office, and if not resolved informally, will be set for an administrative hearing with the Intellectual Property and Commercialization Board.

**4.05.70 - Appeals - Layoff** (See [Rule 4.45 Layoffs/Recall](#))

Employees who are to be laid off may appeal through faculty processes or through staff processes, as applicable. (See [4.05.50 Appeals - Faculty](#), or [3.25 Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus](#))

**4.05.80 - Appeals - Sick Leave Bank** (See also Rule [7.20.25, Leaves-Sick](#) (See procedures posted at HRS Benefits website associated with Rule [7.20.80-Leaves-Sick Leave Bank](#))

If application for use of leave is denied, the decision of the assistant vice president for human resource services may be appealed to the executive vice president and provost, whose decision is final.

**4.05.90 - Appeals - Student** (See [NMSU Student Handbook](#) and current [NMSU Undergraduate](#) or [NMSU Graduate Catalog](#))**4.10 - Children, Employment of**

Normally, employment of children under 16 years of age is prohibited. Consult the Office of Human Resource Services for any special considerations. Children under age 18 may not be employed or permitted to labor in any underground mine or quarry or at or about any place where explosives are used.

**4.25 - Due Process**

Due process opportunities are available to all regular employees. These policies and procedures are designed to provide an objective consideration of employee grievances. Employees are provided peer group representation on review boards and committees in order to ensure fair and impartial hearings of their complaints. Within each appeal procedure, notice is given as to who makes the final decision. These decisions are final and cannot be further appealed within the university structure. The Board of Regents will periodically review these policies but will not hear individual grievances. The appeals procedures are designed to resolve grievances at the lowest level possible. Prior to formal appeal, all parties should exhaust every opportunity to settle the grievance through administrative review at the department or college level.

**4.26 - Employee Separation**

When an individual leaves employment with the university, a number of details must be attended to, both by the employee and the employing department. Employees separating from the university should make arrangements to return all university property in their possession and settle any accounts with the university prior to their separation. Property should be returned when an employee transfers from one department to another department within the university as well. Examples of property that should be returned include, but are not limited to: keys, identification cards, university -issued credit cards, computer hardware and software, cell phones, classroom materials (such as grade books/files, completed exams), sponsored project files, etc. Accounts to be settled may include such things as parking or library fines, tuition and fees, advances or overpays, personal phone calls, and so on. Departing employees may need to make arrangements with the Office of Human Resource Services regarding such things as health insurance and retirement rollovers as well.

Supervisors of employing departments are separately responsible for ensuring that required forms and notifications to payroll and the Office of Human Resources are submitted in a timely manner, and that access to university property and systems is terminated by having combinations changed, canceling computer system access codes, etc. Computer hard drives should also be checked for sensitive information and unlicensed software.

An optional NMSU Separation Checklist is available that employees and employing departments may find helpful in the separation process and can be found at: [HR Forms](#) Employee Separation Checklist

### 4.30, 4.30.05, 4.3010, 4.30.20 and 4.30.30 – Hiring Rules

#### 4.30 - Hiring

The Board of Regents has delegated to the Chancellor or to whomever the Chancellor delegates, the employment of all faculty, staff, and other university personnel. Although the board should never actively nor directly participate in the actual hiring of university personnel, with the exception of selection of the Chancellor and the director/secretary of the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (*See* Regents Policies 1.30 - 1.40), the board should always be at liberty to review any particular hiring by the administration to determine whether or not the board's hiring policies are being followed.

- A. Exempt and Faculty Hiring Procedures: The recruitment, selection, and hiring of exempt employees is accomplished by the employing department with approval of the appropriate director, dean/vice president, or executive vice president and provost, and the Office of Human Resource Services. Additional procedures for filling executive and faculty positions are contained in the Search Committee Guidelines, available through Human Resource Services at <http://hr.nmsu.edu/searchcommittee/>
- B. Recruitment: If no underutilization exists in the job grouping, positions may be posted for a minimum of 14 calendar days. If underutilization exists, the position is normally posted for 28 calendar days in order to generate an adequate applicant pool. Requests for exception to the 28 day posting may be submitted to the Office of Human Resource Services for consideration.
- C. Search Committee Procedures: Procedures to be followed when involving a search committee in the recruitment and selection process are contained in the Search Committee Guidelines, available through Human Resource Services at <http://hr.nmsu.edu/searchcommittee/>
- D. Dual Career Couples: Dual career couples comprise an increasing percentage of university professionals. To recruit and retain diverse employees, New Mexico State University and the University of Texas at El Paso support efforts to accommodate the needs of dual career couples. Assistance in identifying employment opportunities in the southern New Mexico and El Paso, Texas area is available to aid in family relocation to our communities.
- E. Job Sharing: When two people may be in the same academic department, a job sharing arrangement may be established. Salary and work duties are negotiable between the two people and the department subject to approval by the appropriate college dean and the executive vice president and provost. Candidates should discuss job sharing with the department head as early as possible in the search process.
- F. Athletic Coaches and Directors: In recognition of the unique nature of the recruitment and hiring of athletic coaches and athletic directors, upon the approval of the chancellor, the university allows an alternative recruitment process for these positions. The hiring official may utilize an alternative process not requiring a public posting and fill a new or vacant coaching or athletic director position when the urgency of committing a job offer to a candidate is documented and/or utilization of the standard competitive processes otherwise required under this Rule is not practical to secure the selection of a highly qualified candidate. All candidates hired under this exception will serve under time-limited contract appointments.

Rule Administrator:	Human Resource Services (HRS)
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 UAC recommended amendment; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved. 10.21.15: BOR approved replicated Policy 4.30 as initial Rule 4.30 <b>No Prior Revision History Available for Policy 4.30.</b>
Cross References:	<a href="#">Rule 8.40, Hiring</a> , <a href="#">Policy 5.15, Faculty Appointments</a> and <a href="#">Search Committee Guidelines</a>

### **4.30.05 - Employment Background Reviews**

*[Policy approved by the Administrative Council 04.11.06; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 9.08.06]  
[Amendment adopted by the Administrative Council 07.08.08; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08]*

In order to create a safe and secure workplace and to ensure that New Mexico State University employees are qualified to perform the duties and responsibilities of the positions they hold, the university has adopted a background review Rule. The Rule and procedures are set forth below:

A. Background Reviews: Background reviews, depending upon the position, may include:

1. Credential verification (academic degrees certification, professional licenses, etc.)
2. Criminal history and identity (Federal, State and Local)
3. Employment references
4. Consumer credit reports
5. Drug testing
6. Social Security Number traces
7. Motor vehicle driving history

B. Positions/Employees Subject to Background Reviews:

1. The following employees will be subject to background review:

- a. All regular employees who are hired, rehired, transferred, promoted, reclassified, or appointed to interim positions. Rank promotions of tenured, tenure track and non-tenure track faculty are not subject to a background review upon promotion.
- b. University employees competing for vacancies through an external search process.
- c. University employees changing positions from faculty to academic administrative or to administrative status.
- d. Graduate assistants, teaching assistants, post doctoral appointments, temporary employees, student employees, volunteers (with the exception of 4-H volunteers) and affiliates with significant responsibilities listed in the NMSU Sensitive Duties Checklist. A background review will be conducted at the initial time of hire. Employees holding positions in any of these categories will not be subjected to another background review unless there is a break in employment of one year or more.

C. Conditional Exception for Short Term Hires: For short-term hires of 30 days or less (no extensions), a waiver may be granted by human resource services. However, the department head/director is responsible for ensuring that the employee does not perform duties listed in the NMSU Sensitive Duties Checklist without adequate safeguards.

D. Prior History of Criminal Conviction: Potential candidates, including graduate assistants, teaching assistants, post doctoral appointments, temporary employees, emergency hire employees, student employees, volunteers (with the exception of 4-H volunteers), and affiliates that disclose a felony conviction will be subject to a background review prior to a final offer of employment.

E. Required Consent to Release: A signed Background Check Release Form is required as part of the application process and must be present before any background review may be conducted.

F. Response to Adverse Information: Any background review report that reveals adverse information on an applicant or employee shall not automatically disqualify a candidate for the position being sought or held conditionally pending results of review.

G. Rejection or Termination of Employment for Misrepresentation: Any material misrepresentation or omission on an application document may be grounds for rejection of the application, termination of employment, or refusal of subsequent employment consideration with the university.

- H. Possibility for Additional Employment Reviews: Additional employment reviews may be required by law, regulation, or contract.
- I. Confidentiality: Background review information findings are to be regarded as highly confidential and will be released only under conditions consistent with applicable law.
- J. Procedures:
1. Determination Regarding Nature of Background Review: When a department initiates any action requiring a background review, the hiring department will coordinate with Office of Human Resource Services to determine the type(s) of background review(s) to be conducted.
  2. Requirements for Job Posting and Application Packet: All job postings must contain notice that background reviews will be performed on the finalist. The application packet required of candidates must include a Background Check Release Form to be considered a complete application.
  3. Hiring Department Duties: The hiring department is responsible for obtaining the following information on finalists when required for the position:
    - a. Educational credentials: Verify through official transcripts the highest (terminal) degree of final candidates.
    - b. Employment references and past performance: Check and document at least three of the relevant references listed on the application or resume. Verify work dates, job titles, work experience and performance of candidates.
    - c. Professional license or certifications: If a position requires a license or certification(s), such as a licensed practical nurse, contact the responsible licensing board (local or national) to verify and document that the candidate has a current and valid license or include this in your background review request.
  4. Initiation of Post-Offer Background Review Process: Once a finalist is selected, the hiring department will forward to Human Resource Services a completed permission to offer, Employment Background Review Request Form, a copy of the a Background Check Release Form, pertinent application materials, and Sensitive Duties Checklist. The Office of Human Resource Services will work with the hiring department to coordinate the appropriate background reviews.
  5. HRS Coordination with NMSU's Vendor: The Office of Human Resource Services will coordinate requests to external vendors for the applicable background review checks and will note on the Employment Authorization Form the date the authorization was received and the date the request was made to external vendors. The Office of Human Resource Services will review all background review reports received.
  6. Non-Adverse Information Discovery: If background review reports are non-adverse, the Office of Human Resource Services will notify the hiring department that the offer may be finalized or, if the individual is currently working, that the background check has been successfully completed and the hiring process is finalized.
  7. Adverse Information Discovery: If the background review reports produce any information that might be considered as a cause for an adverse employment action, the Office of Human Resource Services will work with the hiring department, appropriate dean/vp and Office of the General Counsel to evaluate the value of the information against the total past employment record and future employment potential. These parties will assess the relevance of the information to job duties, the date of the offense(s), the nature of the offense(s), and the accuracy of the information the individual provided on the employment application. If consensus cannot be reached, the executive vice president and provost (or designee) will make the final decision.
  8. Pre-Adverse Action Notice Process: If the information is deemed relevant and prompts the university to consider taking adverse employment action (*i.e.*, denying employment, reassignment, or termination), the Office of Human Resource Services, in compliance with Fair Credit Reporting Act (FCRA), is required to forward a New Mexico Pre-Adverse Action Notice to the applicant that includes a copy of the individual's background report and a copy of "A Summary of Your Rights Under the Fair Credit Reporting Act." The Pre-Adverse Action Notice will provide the candidate an opportunity to challenge the information provided in the report and take steps to correct inaccuracies or provide explanation. A final employment decision will

not be made by the hiring department until all information is gathered and considered, or at such time as the applicant fails to respond as required. A minimum of five days for an applicant to refute, explain or correct the information is required.

- a. Notice to Applicant: The Adverse Action Notice forwarded to the applicant must include:
  - i. The name, address, and phone number of the reporting agency.
  - ii. A statement that the agency supplying the report did not make the decision to take the adverse action and cannot give specific reasons for it; and a notice of the individual's right to dispute the accuracy or completeness of any information the agency furnished, and the right to receive a free additional consumer report from the agency upon request within 60 days, and to dispute with the reporting agency the accuracy or completeness of any information in a consumer report furnished by the agency.
9. Retention of Records: The Office of Human Resource Services will manage and retain employment background review information. Information collected on successful applicants will be stored separately from the official employee files. Information collected on unsuccessful applicants will be stored with the candidates' application materials and retained for three years. Documents related to employment background review information collected by hiring departments will be filed and maintained in the departments and destroyed three years after rejection for unsuccessful candidates or three years after termination or retirement for successful candidates.
10. Coordination Required: All hiring departments should contact the Office of Human Resource Services for further assistance if information obtained from a consumer report is to be used to take adverse action against a candidate or employee.

#### **NMSU BACKGROUND REVIEW - SENSITIVE DUTIES CHECKLIST**

New Mexico State University requires a background review on graduate assistants, teaching assistants, post doctoral appointees and other temporary employees, student employees, volunteers and affiliates that have significant responsibilities listed at [Sensitive Duties Checklist](#):

#### **4.30.10 - Hiring - Definitions**

- A. Purpose: To define the NMSU employment categories for regular and non-regular faculty appointments and for regular and non-regular staff employment.
- B. Academic Appointments (Las Cruces Campus and Community Colleges): Academic appointments are extended to members of the faculty, administrators of academic programs, and individuals appointed to faculty ranks in the cooperative extension service, at the community colleges, and in the university library. Academic appointments are either regular or non-regular as defined below. Exceptions for extenuating circumstances must be approved by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, with consultation from the Assistant Vice President for Human Resources or designee. Additional information regarding faculty hiring can be found in Rule [5.15 - Appointments](#).
  1. Regular Academic Appointment:
    - a. Definition: A regular academic appointment is a status for individuals hired in a 9-month or 12-month academic position with no predetermined appointment termination date.
    - b. FLSA Status: Exempt
    - c. FTE: A .5 FTE and not to exceed 1.0 FTE.
    - d. Appointment Period: Undefined, no predetermined termination date.
    - e. Multiple Jobs: Employees hired into regular faculty appointments are only eligible for simultaneous NMSU employment if all jobs are offered in compliance with other university policies and have a total combined FTE not to exceed 1.5.
    - f. Eligibility for Benefits: As allowed by the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, [Chapter 7, Employee Benefits](#).
  2. Non-Regular Faculty Appointments:

a. Temporary Faculty Appointments

- i. Definition: Temporary faculty appointment is a status for individuals hired for a predetermined length of time and may have a title rank of College Instructor, College Asst Prof, College Asst Prof, or College Prof as specified at the time of employment.
- ii. FLSA Status: Exempt
- iii. FTE: Not to exceed .74 FTE.
- iv. Appointment Period: Not to exceed one (1) year but may be hired for a semester, academic year, or fiscal year. The department is authorized to continue to re-hire individuals as a new temporary appointment in compliance with other university policies; however, there shall be no entitlement or expectation of continued employment beyond the existing appointment period.
- v. Multiple Jobs: Employees hired as temporary faculty may be hired into an appropriate category of non-regular employment simultaneously provided total combined job FTE does not exceed .74 and is in compliance with Rule [5.15.40 - Appointments Non Tenure Track](#).
- vi. Eligibility for Benefits: As allowed by the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, [Chapter 7, Employee Benefits](#).

b. Term Faculty Appointments

- i. Definition: Term faculty appointment is a benefit eligible status for individuals hired for a predetermined length of time and may include the title rank of College Instructor, College Asst Prof, College Asst Prof, or College Prof as specified in the written offer letter at the time of hire.
- ii. FLSA Status: Exempt
- iii. FTE: Not less than .75 FTE and not to exceed 1.0 FTE
- iv. Appointment Period: The appointment period is not less than six (6) months and may not exceed a total of two (2) consecutive years at which time the employee shall be required to have a 26-week break in NMSU employment. There is no entitlement or expectation of continued employment beyond the appointment period.
- v. Multiple Jobs: Employees hired as term faculty may be hired into an appropriate category of non-regular employment simultaneously provided total combined job FTE does not exceed 1.0.
- vi. Eligibility for Benefits: as allowed by the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, [Chapter 7, Employee Benefits](#).

c. Advertising is optional for non-regular positions. Employees in non-regular positions may not be hired into a regular employment position without a competitive recruitment process. Any employee hired in a Term Staff appointment that competes for an advertised regular position and is selected will serve a probationary period not including time served in a Term Staff appointment status.

d. Rights for Non-Regular Faculty Positions:

- i. Grievance Rights for Non-Regular Faculty Positions: *see* Policies [4.05.40 Appeals Discrimination - Faculty](#), [4.05.50 Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution](#) and [5.47 Faculty Discipline and Appeal Process](#)
- ii. Not eligible for annual salary increases, promotion, transfer, retention, counter offers, etc.

C. Staff Employment Categories (Las Cruces Campus and Community Colleges): Staff employment opportunities are extended to non-faculty and are either regular or non-regular employment, as defined below. Exceptions for extenuating circumstances must be approved by the assistant vice president for human resources or designee.

1. Regular Staff (Non-Faculty) Employment:

- a. Definition: Regular staff employment is a status for an individual hired with no predetermined employment termination date.
- b. FLSA Status: Employment within this category may be either exempt or nonexempt.



- c. FTE: A minimum .5 FTE and not to exceed 1.0 FTE.
- d. Employment Period: Undefined, no predetermined termination date.
- e. Multiple Jobs: Individuals hired with a regular employment status are only eligible for simultaneous NMSU employment if all jobs have a total combined FTE not to exceed 1.5.
- f. Eligibility for Benefits: As allowed by NMSU Administrative Rules and Procedures, [Chapter 7 Employee Benefits](#).

2. Non-Regular Staff (Non-Faculty) Employment:

a. Temporary Staff Employment:

- i. Definition: Temporary staff employment is a status for individuals hired for short or long-term employment periods usually to meet general operating requirements with a pre-determined end date that is specified at the time of hire.
- ii. FLSA Status: All employment within this category will be based on either an exempt or nonexempt classification title and will be compensated on an hourly basis.
- iii. FTE: Not to exceed .74 FTE. FTE should reflect average hours to be worked during the employment period and should not exceed the average of 29 hours per week.
- iv. Employment Period: The employment period is a maximum of one (1) year; however, regardless of when initiated. The department is authorized to continue to re-hire the individual in temporary employment; however, there shall be no entitlement or expectation of continued employment beyond the existing employment period.
- v. Multiple Jobs: Employees hired as temporary staff may be hired into another appropriate category of non-regular employment simultaneously provided total combined job FTE does not exceed .74.
- vi. Eligibility for Benefits: As allowed by the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, [Chapter 7, Employee Benefits](#).

b. Seasonal Staff Employment

- i. Definition: Seasonal staff employment is short-term employment performed on a seasonal basis where, ordinarily, the employment pertains to or is exclusively performed during certain seasons or certain periods of the year. Seasonal work from its nature may not be continuous or carried on throughout the year. Seasonal employees are typically hired to support an annual or semi-annual event or to work during a specific agricultural growing season.
- ii. FLSA Status: All employment within this category will be based on either an exempt or nonexempt classification title and will be compensated on an hourly basis.
- iii. FTE: Not to exceed 1.0 FTE.
- iv. Employment Period: The employment period is up to a maximum of three (3) consecutive months. The individual is not eligible for rehire into any temporary or other non-benefit eligible position until there has been a break of employment greater than the current/previous employment period.
- v. Multiple Jobs: Employees hired as seasonal staff may not be hired into another category of non-regular employment simultaneously.
- vi. Eligibility for Benefits: As allowed by the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, [Chapter 7, Employee Benefits](#).

c. Term Staff (Emergency Hire Only) Employment

- i. Definition: Term staff employment is a benefit eligible status, which may only be utilized under a demonstrated urgent/critical business need.
- ii. FLSA Status: Nonexempt level classifications compensated hourly or exempt level classifications compensated professional salaried.
- iii. FTE: Not less than .75 FTE and not to exceed 1.0 FTE.
- iv. Employment Period: The employment period is not less than six (6) months and may not exceed a one year period, at which time the employee shall be required to have a 26-week break in NMSU employment. Consecutive term staff appointments are not authorized. There is no entitlement or expectation of continued employment beyond the employment period.

- v. **Multiple Jobs:** Employees hired as term staff employment may be hired into another appropriate non-regular employment category simultaneously provided total combined job FTE does not exceed 1.0.
  - vi. The hiring college/division Dean/VP must include, in the position request, justification of the urgent/critical business need for a term staff employee. Requests will be reviewed and approved by the Assistant Vice President for Human Resource Services or designee.
  - vii. **Eligibility for Benefits:** As allowed by the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, [Chapter 7, Employee Benefits](#).
- d. Advertising is optional for non-regular positions. Employees in non-regular positions may not be hired into a regular employment position without a competitive recruitment process. Any employee hired in a Term Staff appointment that competes for an advertised regular position and is selected will serve a probationary period not including time served in a Term Staff appointment status.
- e. **Rights for Non-Regular Staff Positions:**
- i. No grievance rights. This does not apply for complaints involving any type of unlawful discrimination, which shall be filed with the NMSU Office of Institutional Equity and shall follow NMSU policy, rules and procedures.
  - ii. Not eligible for annual salary increases, in-range adjustments, reclassification, promotion, transfer, retention, counter offers, etc.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Employment and Compensation Services
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	05.10.16 UAC recommended amendment; 05.10.16 Chancellor approved amendment. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 4.30.10 as initial Rule 4.30.10. <b><i>Prior Revision History as Policy 4.30.10: 12.11.15 Board of Regents approved amendment. 04.03.14 Board of Regents approved amendment. 06.11.13 Administrative Council recommended amendment; 06.20.13 Board of Regents approved amendment.</i></b>

#### **4.30.20 - Hiring of Individuals Named in Contract (Faculty and Exempt Staff Only)**

Under certain conditions it may be necessary for an employing department to hire an individual named in a grant or contract. With prior approval of the Office of Human Resource Services and the executive vice president and provost, a faculty or exempt staff member may be hired with full benefits under the following conditions:

- A. The individual is named as principal or co-principal investigator of the grant or contract.
- B. The individual named in the grant or contract possesses unique or highly specialized qualifications required by the granting agency in order to carry out the responsibilities required of the grant or contract.
- C. The granting agency has approved the award of the grant or contract subject to the appointment of the particular individual named.
- D. The university is awarded or assumes the oversight of an existing external workforce. Under these conditions, waiver of the advertising requirements for regular employment must be requested in writing to the Office of Human Resource Services and the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost. Employment of an individual named in a grant or contract is contingent upon funding of that specific grant or contract and is not transferable to another source of funding.

## 4.30.30 – Process to Determine Eligibility for Rehire Status

### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

This Rule assists the university to maintain a secure and safe campus and an effective and efficient work environment. It provides a process for management, working in coordination with the Office of HRS-Employee and Labor Relations, to determine whether an employee or former employee (also referred to as “affected employee”) should be deemed ineligible for rehire within the NMSU System.

### PART 2: CONDITIONS REQUIRED TO CHANGE STATUS TO INELIGIBLE FOR REHIRE

Affected employees may be deemed ineligible for rehire, if their separation from employment was based on or preceded by serious misconduct detrimental to the mission and interests of the university. For misconduct to result in a determination of ineligibility for rehire, it must be capable of being proven by a preponderance of the evidence and be of such a nature that it either did or would have supported an involuntary termination under the applicable disciplinary policy or rule. This Rule applies in situations where the affected employee is terminated for just cause and also in situations where misconduct is discovered and/or substantiated by an internal investigation as or after the employee resigns or retires.

### PART 3: PROCEDURES (See Also [ARP Appendix 4-A](#) )

#### A. STEP 1: Review of Facts Supporting Change in Status; Time Deadline:

1. The dean, vice president or equivalent unit leader of the supervising department provides documentation in support of a request to change an affected employee’s status to ineligible for rehire.
2. HRS-ELR reviews and if it concurs, it will manage the process to generate and send the appropriate notice to the affected employee.
3. The notification to an affected employee shall be given within one year from the date that facts or allegations are discovered by supervisory management which may require a formal investigation; if no action is taken under this rule within the year, it shall be time-barred. An exception to this rule may be allowed in the event that an inability to locate the affected employee prevents timely notification, and in that case, the deadline shall be tolled until the affected employee is located.

#### B. STEP 2: Written Notice to Affected Employee: Affected employees will be given written notification by HRS-ELR of the factual basis/es supporting a change in employment status to ineligible for rehire. This notice may be given either: 1) during an exit interview process, 2) in a notification part of an involuntary termination proceeding; or 3) if the employee has already separated from the university, by written notice delivered to the employee. Delivery may be accomplished by any means including but not limited to personal delivery, e-mail or fax, certified mail or regular first class mail. If a mailed document is not returned as undeliverable, there shall be a presumption of delivery.

#### C. STEP 3: Affected Employee’s Right to Contest: Unless the notification is/was part of a proposed termination action (which is contested in a distinct pre-determination hearing and appeal process), the affected employee may contest the change in status by submitting a request for formal review to HRS-Employee and Labor Relations within ten (10) working days from receipt of the written notice form HRS-ELR.

#### D. STEP 4: HRS-ELR PROVIDES DOCUMENTATION IN SUPPORT OF CHANGE IN STATUS:

If the affected employee requests a formal review, within ten (10) working days from receipt of the request, HRS-ELR will provide the documentary or other evidence which supports the proposed change in status.

#### E. STEP 5: AFFECTED EMPLOYEE SUBMITS DOCUMENTATION OPPOSING CHANGE IN STATUS:

The affected employee shall have thirty (30) working days to deliver a written statement to the Assistant Vice President for Human Resource Services explaining the reasons the affected employee believes the change in status is not warranted.

#### F. STEP 6: REVIEW AND OFFICIAL DECISION BY HRS OR EVP/PROVOST OFFICE:

1. If the affected employee was a student or staff, the determination review will be conducted by the assistant vice president for human resource services or designee.

2. If the affected employee was faculty, HRS-ELR will forward to the executive vice president and provost or designee for a decision.
3. The assistant vice president for human resource services or designee or the executive vice president and provost or designee, as appropriate, after consultation with General Counsel, will review the matter and render an official decision on behalf of NMSU within thirty (30) working days from the date of receipt of the written statement from the affected employee. The decision may uphold, reverse or modify the proposed determination of ineligibility and will be the university's final decision.
4. The Decision may be delivered using any of the methods described above for delivery of the notice of proposed change in employment status.

Rule Administrator:	Office of Human Resource Services-Employee and Labor Relations
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	07.15.08
Cross References:	See <a href="#">Flow Chart at ARP Appendix 4-A</a>
Revision History:	04.12.16 University Administrative Council recommended amendment; 04.12.16 Chancellor approved. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 4.30.30 as initial Rule 4.30.30. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 4.30.30:</b> 03.13.12 Administrative Council recommended amendment; 05.11.12 Board of Regents approved amendment. 06.10.08: Policy (then NMSU Policy 8.40.1) adopted by Administrative Council; 07.15.08 policy adoption ratified by Board of Regents BOR.

#### **4.40 - Layoff/Financial Exigency** (See [Rule 4.45-Layoffs and Recall](#)) [Repealed 10.11.16]

Rule Administrator:	Office of HRS-Benefit Services
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	10.11.16 Repeal of Rule 4.40 recommended by University Administrative Council; 10.11.16 Repeal of Rule 4.40 approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 4.40 as initial Rule 4.40. <b>Prior Revision History as Rule 4.40 not available.</b>

#### **4.45 - Layoffs and Recall** [formerly numbered 8.45]

- A. Layoff, transfer and recall, due to a university wide financial exigency of positions funded from state appropriations as a line item, will be made in accordance with this Rule.
- B. Transfer, recall, and termination policy for employees (below the rank of director) who are facing termination for reasons other than a university wide financial exigency shall be as follows:
  1. It is the policy of the university to attempt to transfer any non-probationary, satisfactorily performing employee who will be laid off as a result of a reduction in force, reorganization, or job elimination.
  2. Employees may be transferred to like positions for which they are qualified on the basis of seniority (i.e., service within both the university and the department, along with past work performance) as vacancies occur.
  3. Those individuals not transferred by their termination date will be placed on leave without pay in accordance with the rules and procedures provided in Rule [7.20.85 Leaves - Without Pay](#).
  4. The university may recall non-probationary employees on a seniority basis whenever possible, with those having the most seniority and good work records recalled first. Recall rights are limited to the first 90 calendar days after layoff.
  5. The transfer or recall of employees to other positions may result in a different rate of pay, level, and job title.
  6. Specific plans for any area which is terminating employees will be prepared at the time of the layoff, reviewed

by the assistant vice president for human resource services and approved by the executive vice president and provost.

7. Salary and wage rate will be in accordance with Rule [5.25-Compensation \(Faculty\)](#) or [Rule 8.15-Compensation \(Staff\)](#).
- C. This Rule is not applicable to positions when wages are derived from external funds or other non-instructional type funding. Departmental layoff plans may be developed and submitted to the executive vice president and provost through the assistant vice president for human resource services for these positions, if necessary. All terminations due to a layoff must have the prior approval of the assistant vice president for human resource services and executive vice president and provost. Any employee whose position is federally funded, and who is facing involuntary leave due to a temporary federal financial shortfall, may choose to use annual leave or leave without pay during the required absence. Leave without pay requests should be processed in accordance with [7.20.85 Leaves - Without Pay](#).

#### **4.50 - Outside Employment and/or Activities** (See also [Chapter 3 Codes of Conduct - Conflict of Interest](#))

Employees may not engage in outside business activities while on duty. Violation of this provision may be grounds for involuntary termination. Employees holding a part or full-time second job should not allow such employment to interfere with their performance or attendance. If the supervisor can reasonably demonstrate that performance or attendance problems are resulting from outside employment, the supervisor may ask the employee to terminate such employment. If the employee refuses to do so, the employee may be terminated.

#### **4.60 - Public Affairs Participation** (See also [Chapter 3 Codes of Conduct - Conflict of Interest](#))

The policy of the Board of Regents is that faculty and staff have the same citizens' rights as other people. However, employees seeking elective office or serving in an elective office must not allow campaign and service activities to interfere with university responsibilities. Employees elected to the state legislature will be placed on leave without pay during the term of such office. Any possible conflict of interest shall be reported by the employee or by any other concerned employee to the administration through the appropriate channels. Unresolved issues shall be referred to the appropriate Faculty Grievance Review Board. It shall be the responsibility of the employee to report appointment or election to public bodies and/or conflict of interest situations. Such reports shall be sent to the Office of the President. The written notification shall include the type of employment or type of office, the commencing and terminating dates or period of service, and, when applicable, the nature of the conflict of interest situation. The Chancellor has discretion to approve requests to serve on international, national, state, and local committees and commissions.

#### **4.65 Security Clearance (Department of Defense)**

*[Repealed 08.08.17]*

Rule Administrator:	Physical Sciences Laboratory; Office of the Chancellor
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	08.08.17 Repeal of Rule 4.65 recommended by University Administrative Council; 08.08.17 approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 4.65 as initial Rule 4.65. <b><i>Prior Revision History as Rule 4.65 not available.</i></b>

#### **4.70 - Supplemental Employment/Compensation**

- A. Rule Permitting Supplemental Compensation: Supplemental compensation may be paid to faculty and staff acting in the capacity of a professional/faculty employee for an additional assignment performed during normal university working hours, providing that assignment is (1) clearly outside the scope of that person's regular teaching, research and service responsibilities; and (2) does not interfere with those responsibilities. Such time will be counted against a faculty member's allowed consulting time and must be approved in advance by all cognizant administrators, including the executive vice president and provost. Additional compensation is submitted for approval by the completion of an E-Hire Form. This compensation may be authorized in addition to regular salary for those employees exempt from overtime provisions of the Fair Labor Standards Act and is used to authorize payment for consulting, workshops, etc. Supplemental compensation will not be paid solely on the basis that the salary has been budgeted into the agreement.

**B. Supplemental Employment Guidelines:**

1. Applicable only to faculty, or those staff acting in the capacity of a professional/faculty employee.
2. Applicable only to employees currently employed during the period when the supplemental compensation was earned.
3. The rate of pay should not exceed the employee's current rate of pay in the employee's primary job assignment. Under those special circumstances where a request exceeds the employee's rate of pay, a special memo of justification approved by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost must be attached to the form. Hours worked (a) should not exceed a reasonable percentage of full-time hours (Any percentage greater than 50 percent must be justified in an attached memo); (b) must be properly documented per grant/contract requirements.
4. Only in unusual cases may an exempt staff and faculty member be paid to work on a grant or contract, as consultants or otherwise, if that effort results in payment in excess of 100 percent FTE unless specifically provided for, as supplemental compensation, in the agreement or approved in writing by the sponsoring agency. For federal grants and contracts, approval will normally be granted only if two conditions exist:
  - a. The work is across departmental lines or involves a separate or remote location; and
  - b. The work performed by the employee is in addition to the regular departmental workload.

## **Chapter 5**

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**\* NMSU Policy System in Transition:**

*This provision appears in both the Regents Policy Manual (RPM) and the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP) as a result of the replication of the NMSU Policy Manual authorized by the Board of Regents on October 21, 2015. That replication was the first step in a project to restructure and update NMSU system policies and procedures into a Regents Policy Manual and a distinct set of administrative rules and procedures, to provide operational guidelines for management. We apologize for any inconvenience or confusion caused by this duplication.*

## CHAPTER 5- HUMAN RESOURCES-FACULTY POLICIES

### 5.05 - Academic Freedom

The quest for truth often leads the scholar into difficult and untried territory. As a dealer in ideas, the teacher or researcher comes often in conflict with prevailing belief of large segments of society and even with those of colleagues. Yet, because of the practical benefits of scholarly activity, it is profoundly important that this diversity of ideas be not only tolerated, but encouraged. The right to support unorthodox positions, arrived at through scholarly investigation, free from coercion or reprisals, is fundamental to the continued progress of society. The right to pursue unpopular lines of inquiry and express new and unaccepted ideas falls within the framework of a special set of guarantees called academic freedom. In granting these guarantees, society expresses a willingness to risk the consequences because history confirms that the risk is outweighed by the benefits stemming from such a policy. Scholars are entitled to full freedom in the conduct of their research and publication of the results, and full freedom in the classroom to discuss those topics in which they are professionally experts as determined by their credentials. The exercise of this freedom carries with it the burden of corollary responsibilities. Scholars must not knowingly misrepresent facts. They must be careful in their teaching not to introduce controversial matter bearing no relationship to their subjects. They must exercise appropriate restraint and guard against distortions and inaccuracies. Outside their academic roles, as private citizens, scholars have no special privileges. When they speak or write as citizens, they should be free from institutional censorship or discipline, but their special position in the community imposes special obligations. As persons of learning and educational officers, they should remember that the public may judge their profession and their institution by their utterances. Hence they should at all times be accurate, should exercise appropriate restraint, should show respect for the opinions of others, and should make every effort to indicate that they are not speaking for the institution. Institutions of higher education are conducted for the common good and not to further the interest of either the individual scholar or the institution as a whole. The Board of Regents recognizes that it is not possible to define, with any great precision, the limits of academic freedom in the complex world of ideas. The gray areas are practically endless and the final judgment of what is acceptable and reasonable must be left by society to the academic community itself. The scholar's own colleagues and institution must bear the brunt of public criticism, have the most to lose from withdrawal of public trust, and are, therefore, in the best position to balance the issues of academic freedom and responsibility.

### 5.06 - Administrative Reviews

Each dean or community college executive officer is responsible for preparing, scheduling, delivering and retaining appropriate administrative reviews of associate deans, department heads, directors and their equivalent. In addition to annual performance evaluations, administrative reviews are scheduled to occur every few years to determine an incumbent's performance as an administrator. Administrative reviews are often coordinated by a third party (such as NMSU's Institutional Research) and may include written evaluation by both internal and external constituents.

#### 5.06.10 - Administrative Review of Deans and Community College Presidents

*Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11]*

##### A. Policy:

1. Academic deans and community college presidents are due to be reviewed within six months of the third anniversary of their first appointment to their appointment as academic administrator and every fifth anniversary thereafter, under the criteria prepared by their supervisor.
2. Reviews may be conducted at a shorter interval, at the discretion of the supervisor.
3. In exceptional circumstances, faculty or staff may petition the supervisor of the academic dean or community college president to conduct an administrative review outside of the normal review cycle.

##### B. Procedures:

1. Prior to each review, the supervisor will request a written and/or oral evaluation of the person(s) being reviewed from the faculty, staff and any other relevant constituencies.
2. The person under review may prepare and distribute a statement of professional accomplishments during the review period.
3. The appropriate supervisor will do the following:

- a. Review and assess the information received.
- b. Compile a summary report, redacting the sources of the information received.
- c. Transmit and discuss the summary report with the academic administrator subject of the administrative review.
- d. Discuss the summary report with the relevant faculty and staff.
- e. For deans, transmit a copy of the summary report to the chair of the Faculty Senate.
- f. Transmit a copy of the summary report to the president, when administrative review is not conducted by the Chancellor.

#### **5.06.20 - Administrative Review of Associate Deans and Community College Academic Officers**

A. Policy:

1. Associate deans and community college academic officers will be reviewed within six months of the third anniversary of their first appointment to the position, and at least every five years thereafter, under the criteria prepared by their appropriate supervisor.
2. Reviews may be conducted at a shorter interval, at the discretion of the appropriate supervisor. In exceptional circumstances, faculty or staff may petition the appropriate supervisor to conduct an administrative review outside of the normal review cycle.
3. Prior to each review the appropriate supervisor will request a written evaluation of the associate dean or community college executive officer from each faculty and staff member in the unit and obtain any other pertinent input from relevant constituencies (either on campus or off campus).

B. Procedures: The appropriate supervisor will do the following:

1. evaluate the information
2. create a summary
3. conduct an evaluation session with the individual being evaluated
4. share the summary with the relevant faculty and staff
5. transmit a summary to the executive vice president and provost

#### **5.06.30 - Administrative Review of Department Heads or Community College Equivalent and Community College Division Deans or Heads**

*[Amended by Proposition 12-06/07 passed by the Faculty Senate 02.01.07; ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07]*

A. Policy:

1. Department heads or equivalent and community college division deans or division heads will be reviewed by the appropriate supervisor within six months of the third anniversary of their first appointment to the position, and at least every five years thereafter, under the criteria prepared by their appropriate supervisor.
2. Reviews may be conducted at a shorter interval, at the discretion of the appropriate supervisor.
3. In exceptional circumstances, faculty or staff may petition the appropriate supervisor to conduct an administrative review outside of the normal review cycle.

B. Procedures:

1. Prior to each review, the appropriate supervisor will request a written evaluation of the individual being reviewed from each faculty and staff member in the unit and obtain any other pertinent input from relevant constituencies (either on campus or off campus).

2. The appropriate supervisor will do the following:
  - a. evaluate the information
  - b. create a summary
  - c. conduct an evaluation session with the individual being evaluated
  - d. share the summary with the relevant faculty and staff
  - e. transmit a summary to the executive vice president and provost or community college executive officer

#### **5.06.40 - Administrative Review of Directors of Academic School, Center or Program**

##### **A. Policy:**

1. The director of an academic school is reviewed using the same process as used for administrative reviews of department heads or equivalent.
2. Directors of centers and programs are reviewed by their respective supervisors no later than within six months of the third anniversary of their first appointment to the position and at least every five years thereafter, under the criteria prepared by their appropriate supervisor.
3. Reviews may be conducted at a shorter interval, at the discretion of the appropriate supervisor.
4. In exceptional circumstances, faculty or staff may petition the appropriate supervisor to conduct an administrative review outside of the normal review cycle.

##### **B. Procedures:**

1. Prior to each review the appropriate supervisor will request a written evaluation of the individual being reviewed from each faculty and staff member in the unit and obtain any other pertinent input from relevant constituencies (either on campus or off campus).
2. The appropriate supervisor will do the following:
  - a. evaluate the information
  - b. create a summary
  - c. conduct an evaluation session with the individual being evaluated
  - d. share the summary with the relevant faculty and staff
  - e. transmit a summary to the dean and executive vice president and provost

### **5.14 Faculty Credentials Required of NMSU Instructors of Record**

#### **PART 1: PURPOSE**

As authorized by Regents Policy 5.00, this Rule establishes the minimal faculty qualifications required of NMSU Instructors of Record.

#### **PART 2: DEFINITIONS**

- A. Subfield: A component of the discipline in which the instruction is delivered. The focus is on the course being taught and the general appropriateness of the Instructor of Record's qualifications with reference to such courses. The key consideration is whether a degree in the field or a focus in the specialization appropriately matches the courses the Instructor of Record would teach in accordance with the conventions of the academic field.
- B. ABD: All But Dissertation
- C. Instructor of Record: Includes employees hired into any faculty position, including full and part-time faculty, tenured, tenure-track and non-tenure track faculty, temporary faculty, faculty teaching dual credit and credentialed graduate students. Non-credentialed teaching assistants enrolled in a graduate program, whose teaching is

supervised by faculty, for the purposes of this Rule are not considered to be an Instructor of Record, but will be listed as the Instructor of Record in the schedule of classes, and considered as such for all other purposes.

- D. NMSU Entity: NMSU Entity, sometimes also referred to as “unit”, is a general term which may refer to a college, an academic department or any other individual unit within the NMSU System, including but not limited to agricultural experiment stations.
- E. One Level Above: One Level Above refers to the degree being earned by the student and the degree Instructor of Record’s degree credentials. For this rule, One Level Above for occupational education/career and technical education is a bachelor’s degree. For non-occupational undergraduate courses, One Level Above is a master’s degree. In graduate courses, One Level Above is the terminal degree that field. (*See Part 3. B. for details and exceptions.*)

### **PART 3: REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO FACULTY QUALIFICATIONS**

Each NMSU Entity will ensure that its Instructors of Record have the academic preparation, the appropriate discipline, the expertise and sufficient training and/or equivalent professional experience in the area in which they teach. All Instructors of Record must meet or exceed the minimal institutional qualifications set forth in this Rule, as well as applicable requirements of accrediting bodies and state agencies. NMSU acknowledges that in order to maintain Higher Learning Commission (HLC) accreditation, the institution must be compliant with HLC minimal standards relative to faculty qualifications.

A. Teaching and Learning/Quality, Resources and Support: The institution will provide:

1. An adequate number of, and appropriately qualified, Instructors of Record and staff to provide high-quality educational programs (including dual credit, contractual and consortial programs), instruction and student services.
2. Sufficient number and continuity of Instructors of Record to carry out classroom and non-classroom roles, including oversight of curriculum and expectations for student performance, establishment of academic credentials for instructional staff and involvement in assessment of student learning.
3. Sufficient processes and resources for Instructors of Record to remain current in their disciplines, adept in their teaching role, and engaged in ongoing professional development.

B. Teaching and Learning/Qualifications and Credentials Required of the Instructors of Record:

1. Primary indicators of Instructor of Record qualifications are credentials earned. Credentials refer to degrees earned that establish the Instructor of Record’s credibility as a content expert and thus competence to teach college-level content. Specifically, degrees and certificates from accredited institutions or otherwise reputable and established institutions of higher education and other areas of professional education and training provide evidence of appropriate credentialing.
2. Degree completion in a specific field enhances the depth of subject matter knowledge. All Instructors of Record should have completed a program of study and possess a degree in the discipline or Subfield (as applicable) in which they teach and/or for which they develop curricula, with coursework at least One Level Above that of the courses being taught or developed. In terminal degree programs, an Instructor of Record should possess the same level of degree for which they are providing instruction. In some cases, extensive and appropriate professional or research experience may be used to establish equivalent tested experience that may be considered in determining qualification to teach particular content.
3. Instructors of Record teaching any non-occupational undergraduate courses, including general education and dual credit, will hold a master’s degree or higher in the discipline or the Subfield. If the Instructor of Record holds a master’s or higher degree in a discipline or Subfield other than that in which they are teaching, the Instructor of Record must have completed a minimum of 18 graduate credit hours in the respective discipline or Subfield. A Master of Education degree or similar broad based degree will be considered appropriate qualification for Instructors of Record when it can be demonstrated that the content of that Instructor of Record’s degree is sufficiently related to the discipline of the course (*See Subsection B. 8. below*). High school teaching experience alone is not acceptable as evidence for the content knowledge needed for discipline-specific college courses, or for discipline-specific experience.

4. Instructors of Record who do not have the minimal qualifications as described above, must meet exception criteria, and receive *prior approval* to begin or continue teaching. (*See Subsections B. 7. and B. 8. below*).
5. Instructors of Record teaching occupational courses (e.g. in career and technical education programs, college-level certificate programs, and occupational associate degree programs) should hold a bachelor's degree in the field and/or a combination of education, training and tested experience. In these cases, professional certificates and/or industrial experience will be identified as appropriate qualifications. (*See Subsections B. 7. and B. 8. below*). It is appropriate to consider training and tested experience for instruction of technical and occupational courses. Such consideration is particularly relevant in fields where the associate's degree is the terminal degree, or where there is no degree beyond a high school diploma. Qualifications for occupational courses are applicable even in instances where technical/occupational courses may transfer into a bachelor's degree program.
6. Instructors of Record teaching in a graduate program should hold the terminal degree determined by the discipline and have a record of research, scholarship or achievement appropriate for the graduate program; or have a master's degree, equivalent scholarly experience and creative activity appropriate for the graduate program in which they teach. (*See Subsection B. 7. below*). In addition, Instructors of Record guiding doctoral education should have a record of scholarship and preparation to teach at the doctoral level. Research and scholarship should be appropriate to the program in which they teach, as determined by the program faculty.
7. Standardized Discipline Specific Qualification through Equivalent/Tested Experience: Instructors meeting minimal levels of qualification based on factors other than minimal degree thresholds must meet the minimal thresholds of equivalent experience/research pre-determined by program faculty, approved through the department head/equivalent, dean/equivalent, community college Vice President for Academic Affairs and Executive Vice President and Provost.
8. Individual Discipline Specific Qualification through Equivalent/Tested Experience: Exceptions to the requirement to meet the pre-determined and approved minimal qualifications may be granted in accordance with the steps below, on a case by case basis. Exceptions will be granted only when equivalent expertise and knowledge has been clearly established.
  - a. Department head/equivalent must submit a written request and justification for exceptions, based on the candidate's qualifications, to the college dean or community college Vice President for Academic Affairs.
  - b. If the dean/equivalent or community college Vice President for Academic Affairs supports the request, they must forward the request, expressing their support for the hire and justification to the Executive Vice President and Provost, who makes the final decision on all requests.
  - c. Documentation for individual exceptions, including the original credentials, will be maintained in Human Resource Services (HRS). Original documents from community college hires will be maintained by the appropriate community college's Human Resources office, with copies maintained at NMSU-Las Cruces HRS.

#### **PART 4: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. Executive Vice President and Provost: The Executive Vice President and Provost is ultimately responsible for the verification and validation of the credentialing requirements for all Instructors of Record within the NMSU System. This is accomplished through coordination with, and in reliance upon, the senior academic administrators at each campus (academic deans and community college vice presidents for academic affairs), and with assistance from their respective HR offices.
- B. Academic Dean/ Division Dean through Community College Vice President Academic Affairs: During the hiring or renewal process, the academic dean, or division dean through the community college Vice President of Academic Affairs, are responsible for validation of Instructor of Record credentialing documents and for ensuring that qualifications align with course assignments for their college or community college division. Prior to an Instructor of Record's appointment with NMSU, the academic dean or community college division dean examines and approves the prospective Instructor of Record's credentials to ensure compliance with institutional and

accreditation requirements. The academic dean or the division dean, through their respective community college vice president of academic affairs, will forward verified documentation, including official transcripts and translation and evaluation of foreign transcripts as needed, to HR.

- C. Academic Department Head or Community College Equivalent: Prior to assignment of an Instructor of Record, the department head or equivalent at the community colleges examines the prospective Instructor of Record's credentials to verify that the Instructor of Record meets the position requirements. The qualifying degree is the primary indicator that qualifies the Instructor of Record to teach a particular course. If an exception is being sought for a particular course new to the faculty member, the department head or equivalent must forward the documentation required for exceptions through the dean or community college Vice President for Academic Affairs to the Executive Vice President and Provost for approval prior to the course being taught.
- D. Instructors of Record: All Instructors of Record are required to provide appropriate documentation to verify their credentials.
  - 1. Credentials include but are not limited to: resume/curriculum vitae, official transcripts, appropriate licenses or certifications, verification of work related to teaching experience and if required, documentation of equivalent/tested experience to justify alternative credentialing.
  - 2. The cost to obtain official credentials (including necessary translation and evaluation of transcripts from institutions outside of the United States) and copies of licenses and certifications must be borne by the prospective faculty member.
  - 3. Instructors of Record who are teaching in disciplines that require licensure and/or certification are responsible to provide documentation of licensure and certification to the department head or equivalent community college division dean. It is the responsibility of the Instructor of Record to acquire and maintain discipline-required licensure(s)/certification(s).
  - 4. The institution may request updated documents from its faculty members to maintain credentialing records.
- E. ABD Instructors of Record: ABD Instructors of Record must provide an official transcript or other equivalent credentials with their terminal degree posted within one (1) year of appointment.
- F. Human Resources (HR): The Human Resources office is each institution's designated repository for faculty credentials, and is responsible for maintaining official documentation of faculty credentials (including official transcripts and other documentation relevant to the faculty member's teaching qualifications). Prior to new appointments and subsequent with continued appointments, the dean will forward all such documents to HR. The dean will be notified of any discrepancies or incomplete documentation. In such cases the dean must submit the required credentialing documents for all Instructors of Record as soon as possible, and no later than the university's official census day.

## **PART 5: PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES**

- A. Requirement for Official Transcripts or Other Equivalent Credentials: It is the responsibility of each faculty member/Instructor of Record to provide official transcripts/credentials to NMSU.
  - 1. Transcripts that are classified as unofficial will not be accepted in lieu of official transcripts. NMSU criteria for determining the authenticity of transcripts and other credentials includes:
    - a. The issuing institution's official seal;
    - b. Signature of the appropriate authorizing agent, preferably the institution's registrar;
    - c. The institution's official letterhead or stationary;
    - d. The institution's watermark or other identifier;
    - e. The date of issue.
  - 2. Credentials from institutions outside of the United States must be translated and evaluated for equivalency by either a reputable external agency, or if available, by a qualified internal NMSU employee. Final approval must be granted by the Executive Vice President and Provost or designee.

- B. Transcripts or Equivalent Credentials from Non-Accredited Institutions: Individuals whose qualifying degree is from a non-accredited institution in the United States (U.S.) will be considered on a case-by-case basis. When hiring such individuals, additional criteria must be considered, including the degree issuing institution's reputation, whether the institution is accredited or recognized by other agencies or organizations, and a thorough evaluation of the candidate's course work and experience. If such a hire is deemed desirable, the department head or equivalent must fully evaluate the faculty member's educational background and experience and document the findings in a memorandum to the dean. If the dean agrees that the individual possesses the appropriate academic preparation and experience, the dean or equivalent will forward supporting documentation with the request to hire.
- C. Additional or Updated Information Requests: NMSU may require an Instructor of Record to provide additional or updated documentation; it will be the responsibility of the Instructor of Record to respond in a timely manner.
- D. Documentation Required Pending Receipt of, or In Lieu of, Official Credentials: On rare occasion for circumstances which inure to the benefit of the students and not convenience to administration nor to the Instructor of Record, an Instructor of Record may be permitted to commence teaching prior to receipt of official credentials and/or an official evaluation of such credentials, *provided* that unofficial credentials have been provided and have otherwise been authenticated.
1. In such cases, a copy of the request for official credentials must be included in the Instructor of Record's qualifications documentation.
  2. In the interim, the hiring department head or equivalent will verify the Instructor of Record's degree and major field of study by contacting the awarding college/university.
  3. The department head or equivalent will also attempt to confirm receipt of the credential request, and will document if there is any type of hold on the release of the credentials.
  4. When the official credentials arrive, they will be forwarded to HR and placed in the Instructor of Record's file.
  5. Official credentials must be submitted to HR no later than the official census day of the hiring semester.
  6. In cases where an Instructor of Record's degree granting institution does not provide official credentials, the Executive Vice President and Provost will render a determination after considering the academic record presented and other relevant facts and evidence pertaining to an Instructor of Record's credentials and qualifications.
- E. Consequences for Non-Compliance with this Rule:
1. If after the university's official census day, all required documentation relating to faculty credentials, including but not limited to the official transcript and the external evaluation of international transcripts (if applicable), has not been received by HR, the Instructor of Record will be deemed to have not met credential requirements, and will not be eligible for reappointment the following semester.
    - a. If the documentation is received after census day, the candidate may be reconsidered for eligibility for reappointment, depending upon the circumstances for the delay in receipt of credentials, at the discretion of the Executive Vice President and Provost.
  2. Because proper credentials are a condition of employment, NMSU reserves the right to remove an Instructor of Record from a teaching or other academic assignment immediately if evidence is discovered which substantiates dishonesty materially affecting the Instructor of Record's purported academic record. (*See Rules 5.47 and 5.15.40*)

Rule Administrator:	Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	March 14, 2017
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**5.15.10, 5.15.20, 5.15.30, 5.15.40, 5.15.50, and 5.15.60 - Appointments** (See also Rule [4.30, Hiring; Search Committee Guidelines](#))**5.15.10 - Appointments - Definitions of Faculty Appointments** (See Rule [4.30.10-Hiring-Definitions](#))**5.15.20 - Appointments - Graduate Faculty**

The ultimate responsibility for the quality of the graduate program resides in the graduate faculty, individual departments offering graduate work, and the cognizant dean. The dean of the Graduate School is responsible for the administration of the Graduate School's policies. Staff members qualified to perform the functions of the graduate faculty are nominated by the heads of their departments for approval by the cognizant dean and the dean of the Graduate School. The Graduate Council shall maintain a standing committee on Graduate Faculty Appointments comprised of three senior graduate faculty currently serving on the Graduate Council. The standing committee on Graduate Faculty Appointments shall review and make recommendations to the dean of the Graduate School on appointment of faculty nominees to the graduate faculty. This standing committee on Graduate Faculty Appointments also shall review appointment criteria as needed. Approval will be granted in recognition of the staff member's active interest in graduate work as demonstrated by continual study, creative activity, and successful teaching. Appointment to the graduate faculty will normally require that the individual have an earned doctoral degree. The qualifications of each new member of the graduate faculty will be given comprehensive review by the department head, cognizant dean, and the dean of the Graduate School at the end of 3 years. The qualifications of each graduate faculty member will be reviewed every 3-5 years by the department head, cognizant dean, the Graduate Council standing committee on Graduate Faculty Appointments, and the dean of the Graduate School. Selection of instructors to teach courses at the 450-499 level is left to the department head and college dean; however, such persons must have at least a master's degree. Any exceptions to this policy, rules or procedures must have prior written approval of the dean of the Graduate School. Graduate students may not assign grades to other graduate students in courses numbered above 450. Selection of individuals to teach courses numbered 500 and above is left to the department head and the college dean. The individual must have an earned doctorate, or a master's degree with extensive experience, and have evidence of creative activity. Any exceptions to this policy, rules or procedures must have the prior written approval of the dean of the Graduate School. Members of the graduate faculty chair all graduate committees, direct master's theses, direct doctoral dissertations, teach 600-level courses, serve as representatives of the dean of the Graduate School, serve on educational specialists' exams, and serve on doctoral exams. Any exception to this policy, rules or procedures must be approved in writing by the dean of the Graduate School. Before an individual is appointed to the graduate faculty, evidence of creative activity, in addition to the doctoral dissertation, is required. In implementing this approach, the department heads, the deans and the dean of the Graduate School will review all members of the graduate faculty in their colleges and invoke the review clause on individuals not meeting the minimum requirements.

**5.15.30 - Appointments - Joint**

- A. Written Agreement: At the time of joint appointments, a written agreement is signed by the faculty member and administrative heads of the participating departments. The agreement entails the nature and extent of reciprocal commitments between the faculty member and each academic department. The agreement serves as a guide in the evaluation process and defines the role of all parties in that process.
- B. Role of the dean of the Graduate School: The dean of the Graduate School coordinates and ensures equity in the evaluation of joint appointees.
- C. Procedures:
  - 1. All joint faculty are assigned to one college for administrative purposes. This college is responsible for initiating all forms, but signatures of both deans and both department heads are required on all forms.
  - 2. A copy of the joint appointment agreement will accompany formal appointment papers forwarded to the executive vice president and provost for action.
  - 3. A mutually agreed-upon statement of goals for the faculty member is prepared at the beginning of each annual evaluation period. These goals serve as the evaluation criteria for the period. The goals statement is arrived at by consultation between the faculty member and the department heads involved.
  - 4. The faculty member submits duplicate statements of achievements (*e.g.*, faculty evaluation forms) to the

department heads at the end of the evaluation period.

5. The department heads, in consultation, prepare a single evaluation and recommendation to be forwarded to the appropriate dean or deans.
6. Recommendation at the college level is made in consultation with department heads and deans involved in the joint appointments.
7. The time periods for all steps in the evaluation process are the same as those set by the executive vice president and provost for all faculty.

#### **5.15.40 - Appointments – Non-tenure-Track**

*[Amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 10.07.07] [Proposition 14-08/09 passed by the Faculty Senate 04.30.09; adopted by the Administrative Council 07.14.09; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09][Amendment, waiving the limitations on retention of part time faculty through Spring 2011, approved by the Administrative Council 02.09.10; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.20.10][Amendment, further extending the waiver of the limitations through Dec. 2012, recommended by the Administrative Council 04.12.11; adoption of amendment approved by the Board of Regents 05.06.11][Proposition 07-12/13 passed by the Faculty Senate 12.06.12; approved by the Board of Regents 01.28.13][Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]*

Non-tenure-track faculty will be employed to teach, do research, or perform other work assignments. They may be employed full-time or part-time, with regular or non-regular status. All appointments and renewals are subject to need, availability of funding and terms of appointment. The initial employment base period of a non-tenure-track faculty member may be renewed depending on funding availability, needs of the employing unit, and the results of performance evaluations.

Persons in non-tenure-track faculty positions may only be hired into tenure-track positions following a national search. In the event that they are hired into tenure-track positions, their service in non-tenure-track positions shall not normally count toward tenure. (See Rule [5.90 Promotion and Tenure](#)).

- A. College Faculty: The titles of college instructor, college assistant professor, college associate professor, and college professor are used for non-tenure-track faculty hired primarily to teach courses for the university, although they may at times serve in an administrative or supervisory capacity or be assigned to research. They must have master's degrees or equivalent experience in the field but do not always have terminal degrees. Regular College Faculty appointments are renewable annually for an unlimited time. Although employing units are not obligated to renew or to give a reason for nonrenewal of a college faculty contract, hiring departments are encouraged to promote an environment of stability by renewing contracts of college faculty when warranted by the need of the department and the performance of the faculty member. College faculty members shall be evaluated annually. Regular college faculty are eligible for salary increases and promotion to the next rank according to policies, procedures, and criteria set by the university and their colleges and departments. (See Employment Base and Status below).

College faculty are listed in the university catalogs under their assigned departments and are eligible for privileges accorded other faculty, such as ID cards, library privileges and faculty parking. They are eligible to apply for membership in the graduate faculty and, if accepted, supervise theses and dissertations while a member of the graduate faculty. College faculty are eligible to serve as principal investigators on grants and proposals. As provided for in the Faculty Senate Constitution, college faculty can serve on the Faculty Senate.

- B. Research Faculty: The titles of research assistant professor, research associate professor, and research professor are used for persons who are hired to engage in research activities and have qualifications similar to those held by tenure-track faculty of comparable ranks.

A clear statement of justification as to why it is in the university's best interest to grant research faculty status will be noted on the hiring forms by the department head and forwarded through the academic dean to the executive vice president and provost for each research faculty appointment. Salaries are normally contingent on external funding, though a department or college may fund the salary of a research faculty member from internal funds for a short time while external funds are being sought. Research faculty members are evaluated annually and are eligible for salary increases and promotion to the next rank according to policies, procedures, and criteria

set by the university and their colleges and departments. Research appointments are renewable annually for an unlimited time provided funding is available and annual evaluations demonstrate acceptable job performance.

Research faculty are listed in the university catalogs under their assigned departments and are eligible for privileges accorded other faculty, such as ID cards, library privileges and faculty parking. They are eligible to apply for membership in the graduate faculty and, if accepted, supervise theses and dissertations or serve as the dean's representative while a member of the graduate faculty. Research faculty may serve as principal investigators on grant proposals. At the discretion of their department head or equivalent administrator, they may retain their research faculty status without pay while funding is being sought.

- C. Affiliated Faculty: When it is in the best interests of the university, individuals who are financially independent of the university may be associated with and provide support or services to one or more university programs without receiving monetary compensation (e.g., no salary, per-course or hourly pay provided). A clear statement of justification as to why it is in the university's best interest to grant affiliated faculty status will be noted on the hiring forms by the department head and forwarded through the academic dean to the executive vice president and provost for each affiliated faculty appointment. The term (not to exceed 12 months), rank, and other conditions and expectations of these honorary appointments will be determined for each individual appointee. The criteria upon which the determinations are based vary depending upon the background of the appointee, the nature of the discipline represented, and the needs of the university. In general, persons appointed should have qualifications commensurate with the corresponding rank of tenure-track faculty appointees. An appointment end date no later than 12 months from date of hire must be identified at the time of appointment or renewal. Affiliated faculty appointments may be renewed annually. Affiliated faculty may be listed in the university catalogs under appropriate departments and affiliated faculty receive the faculty I.D. card and library privileges in recognition of their contribution to the university.
- D. Extension Associate: An individual hired into a Cooperative Extension Service position in regular or non-regular status, full-time or part-time, funded principally (50 percent or more) by grants or other nonpermanent funds may be designated an extension associate. An individual hired with less than the master's degree may also be designated as extension associate. That individual may also be given the courtesy title of college instructor, college assistant professor, college associate professor, or college professor. An extension associate cannot obtain tenure. When an extension associate either receives a master's degree and/or recurring state funds become available, an extension associate may be considered for appointment to tenure-track status following normal appointment rules. Extension associates may be notified of nonrenewal with proper notice: those in the first year of service will have 3 months' notice prior to their anniversary date; those in the second or more years of service will have 6 months' notice prior to their anniversary date.
- E. Prior Service: Non-tenure-track faculty have duties and/or qualifications and/or expectations different from tenure-track faculty. Consequently, service in the non-tenure-track position will not normally count towards tenure in any subsequent tenure-track appointment.
- F. Employment Base and Status: The fixed-period base for employment of a non-tenure-track faculty member is a time period that may be a semester, an academic year, or a fiscal year, and the amount of assigned effort may be figured on the basis of hours per week, credits per semester, or credits per academic year. The full-time hourly basis is 40 hours per week. The full-time credit basis is 12 credits per semester or 24 credits per academic year, except in the community colleges, where the full-time credit basis is 15 credits per semester or 30 credits per academic year. The full-time equivalent (FTE) fraction for a non-tenure-track faculty member employed on an hourly basis is the ratio of the number of hours assigned per week to the basis of 40 hours/week. The FTE fraction for a non-tenure-track faculty member employed on a credit hour basis is the ratio of the number of credits allocated during the applicable base period to the full-time credit basis applicable for that base period. An FTE fraction of .75 or greater is considered full-time, while an FTE fraction less than .75 is considered part-time.

A non-tenure-track faculty member employed as temporary and averaging an FTE of .67 per college or more over 2 consecutive academic years may be eligible to be considered for a regular non-tenure-track appointment after appropriate advertising. If not converted to regular appointment, the employee's FTE must average less than .67 per college during each of the ensuing 2 consecutive academic years. A temporary faculty member averaging less than .67 FTE per college over 2 consecutive academic years may be eligible for renewals of temporary appointments after appropriate reviews and approvals. Temporary appointments require an appointment end date on the hiring form no later than 1 calendar year after the hiring date. All temporary appointments are limited to 1 year at a time. If there is no break in service, both regular and temporary non-tenure-track appointments may be renewed without advertising, after appropriate reviews and approvals.

- G. Special Application for Non-tenure-Track Temporary Community College Faculty: A non-tenure-track faculty member employed as temporary and averaging an FTE of .67 per college or more, over 2 consecutive academic years may be eligible to be considered for a regular non-tenure-track appointment after appropriate advertising. (For benefits, *See* Salaries/Benefits) If not converted to regular appointment, the employee's FTE must average less than .67 per college during each of the ensuing 2 consecutive academic years. A temporary faculty member averaging less than .67 per college over 2 consecutive academic years may be eligible for renewals of temporary appointments after appropriate reviews and approvals.
- H. Qualifications: Qualifications for appointment of non-tenure-track faculty are to be determined in such a manner as to be flexible enough to meet the particular needs of each unit utilizing such faculty, but minimum qualifications shall be a master's degree or equivalent experience in the field or related field for the junior ranks of instructor and assistant professor, and an earned doctorate or equivalent experience in the field or related field for the senior ranks of associate professor and professor. (*See* Rule 5.14 - Faculty Credentials Required for NMSU Instructors of Record.)
- I. Appointment and Nonrenewal: Each regular or non-regular non-tenure track faculty member will be given a copy of the employing conditions, generally as an offer notification. At the time of first hire at the university, each regular or non-regular non-tenure-track faculty member should read this section of the rules and procedures, as well as the non-tenure-track promotion procedures of the appropriate college. Nonrenewal of a non-tenure-track appointment may be without implication of criticism or specification of cause. An appointment end date on the initial offer notification constitutes written notice of the end date of the appointment. In such a case, the individual concerned should be informed as soon as possible whether the individual will be offered subsequent employment following the appointment period, either as a renewal of a regular appointment or in non-regular status. Successive year renewals of regular appointments that specified an appointment end date may be made without advertising the position.

If such a regular appointment is not renewed for at least the succeeding semester, then it must be re-advertised. The minimum written notice of nonrenewal of a regular appointment that does not include an appointment end date on the offer notification will be as follows: During the first year of service in regular status (9- or 12-month basis), 3 months' notice will be given before the end of the academic year (9-month employees) or the fiscal year (12-month employees). After the first year of service, 6 months' notice before the end of the academic year (9-month employees) or the fiscal year (12-month employees) will be given. Non-tenure-track faculty members employed without an ending date whose employment is contingent upon the availability of non-I&G funds shall be given at least 30 calendar days' notice of nonrenewal. Providing proper notice of nonrenewal is given, the university does not have any legal obligation to provide funding for any non-tenure-track faculty member beyond the current appointment period. However, employing units are strongly encouraged to attempt to maintain a stable job environment for this type of appointment. A non-tenure-track faculty member may be dismissed for cause at any time that the member's conduct becomes inimical to the students, the faculty, the educational program, or the university. The executive vice president and provost must approve any involuntary termination for cause. A non-tenure-track faculty member will have the right to appeal human resources decisions, which directly affect the member, according to university appeals procedures. (*See* Policies [3.25 Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus](#); [4.05.50 Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution](#); and [5.47 Faculty Discipline and Appeal Process](#)) Any non-tenure-track faculty member who proposes to resign shall give written notice to the immediate supervisor at the earliest time possible.

- J. Salaries/Benefits: Employing units will offer salaries to prospective college faculty on the basis of qualifications, availability of funding, and supply vs. demand, subject to the administrative approval procedures in effect for prospective tenure-track faculty. Salary scales for non-regular part-time, non-tenure-track faculty will be set each year for the Las Cruces campus and for the community colleges by the executive vice president and provost. Exceptions to the rates must be approved by the executive vice president and provost. These rates will be made available to all faculty. Non-tenure-track faculty who are in regular status are eligible for benefits as defined in Chapter 7.
- K. Evaluation, Promotion, Salary Adjustments: Each regular and non-regular non-tenure-track faculty member will be evaluated annually during the term of employment if the employment is renewed for more than one academic semester. The evaluation will be based on those duties described under the terms of employment as agreed upon by the individual and supervisor under the general headings of teaching or research or professional service or administrative duties, or some combination thereof. A copy of the written evaluation will be given to the faculty member. Promotion in rank and salary adjustments will be made on the basis of the above-mentioned written

evaluations and the availability of funds. Meritorious performance may be rewarded by encouraging non-tenure-track faculty to apply for a tenure-track faculty position. College faculty in regular status shall participate in the merit system. Each college will develop separate policies, procedures, and criteria for the promotion of non-tenure-track faculty. These are subject to final approval by the executive vice president and provost. These promotions will be handled in the same time period and with documentation similar to that for tenure-track faculty promotions.

- L. Voting Privileges: The tenured and tenure-track faculty in employing units of the university will decide which types and ranks of non-tenure-track faculty may vote on (1) routine departmental matters, and (2) policy matters. Should a question arise whether an issue is a routine departmental matter or a policy matter, the tenured and tenure-track faculty will decide. Non-tenure-track faculty will not vote on any faculty personnel matters.
- M. Guidelines: As a guideline, the total FTE of non-tenure-track faculty with the job titles of college instructor, college assistant professor, and college associate professor shall not exceed 25 percent of the total FTE for tenured, tenure-track, and non-tenure-track faculty on the main campus (community colleges excluded). Distinction will be made, if possible, between teaching and non-teaching non-tenure-track faculty in any given monitoring period. (See section below)
- N. Monitoring: During each fall and spring semester the executive vice president and provost shall provide the following data to the chair of the Faculty Senate: The number of individuals employed by the university holding academic rank by headcount and FTE, by contract type (tenured, tenure-track, non-tenure-track), by job title and rank for each academic rank unit on the main campus, for each of the community colleges, and for all other organization units. Where these numbers include individuals whose primary employing unit is different from the academic rank unit, these data will be footnoted appropriately. The chair of the Faculty Senate will present these data to the Committee on Committees for analysis and monitoring with respect to the above guidelines.
- O. Exempt Employees Hired as Part-Time Faculty: Exempt employees who wish to teach a university class for remuneration may do so if the class meets outside regularly scheduled working hours (normally 8 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday) and approval has been obtained from the employee's supervisor and the Dean, Vice President or Campus President. Exempt employees teaching a course for remuneration during his/her regular working hours is normally inappropriate, and rather, a percentage of the person's regular salary should be paid by the beneficiary unit for the duration of the teaching service. (See guidelines under Rules [5.32 - Consulting](#) and [5.25 - Faculty Compensation - Adjustments](#).)

### **5.15.50 - Appointments - Postdoctoral**

*[Amendment (FS Proposition 02-10/11) passed by the Faculty Senate 10.07.10; recommended by the Administrative Council 10.12.10; approved by the Board of Regents 10.29.10] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]*

- A. Postdoctoral Appointment Defined: A postdoctoral appointment is a classification for those individuals who are exemplary scholars, who have recently been awarded a doctoral degree, and who wish to continue their education and research experience under the direction of a university faculty member.
- B. Recruitment Considerations: The recruitment process for a post doctoral appointment shall include consideration of any individual who expresses an interest in such an appointment. Advertising on a local, national or international basis is optional.
- C. Terms of Appointment: Appointments contemplate 1.0 FTE employment for at least one (1) year, renewable annually, and not to exceed a total of five (5) years, absent an exceptional circumstance. Exceptions to reduce FTE percentage, to not less than .50 FTE, or to deviate from the minimum term of one (1) year or the maximum term of five (5) years, will require the written approval from the appropriate dean or equivalent administrator and the vice president of research. The annual term of employment shall be specific in the appointment letter or in other Office of Human Resource Services documentation. The postdoctoral appointee shall receive the benefits and privileges associated with regular employment, including leave accrual.
- D. Annual Renewal Required (Lack of Renewal Confirms End of Term Appointment): Sixty (60) days advance notice of annual renewal shall be given. A failure to give timely notice shall not prevent a renewal, but lack of notice of annual renewal constitutes confirmation of the end date specified on the annual appointment letter or other Office of Human Resource Services documentation.



- E. Termination of Employment Prior to End of Appointment Term: An annual post doctoral appointment may be terminated prior to the end of the termination date specified in the appointment letter or other Office of Human Resource Services documentation for two reasons:
1. For just cause, in accordance with the university's procedures governing involuntary termination of regular faculty; or
  2. Loss or reduction in funding affecting the position.
- F. Grievance Rights: If it becomes necessary for an individual holding a post doctoral position to file a grievance, the faculty grievance procedure at [4.05.50 Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution](#) will apply. If the post doctoral appointee's complaint involves unlawful discrimination, then Regents Policy 3.25, Equal Opportunity and Prohibition of Development Opportunities and Rule [3.25 - Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus](#) or other OIE protocols will govern.

### **5.15.60 - Appointments - Qualifications** *(See Also Rule 5.14 - Faculty Credentials Required of NMSU Instructors of Record)*

- A. General Qualifications for Appointment (Main Campus): Common elements to be considered in appointment, differing only in degree in all ranks, are as follows:
1. Teaching: This element is difficult to define precisely, but is commonly considered to include the teacher's knowledge of the field; awareness of development in the field; skill in arousing interest and evoking responses in students; skill in stimulating students to think critically, to understand the interrelationship of fields of knowledge and the application of knowledge to human problems; skills in integrating domestic and international knowledge and insights into class content; and skill in raising students' awareness about the domestic and international social, political, economic, and ethical implications of their courses of study.
  2. Research: This element is composed, in part, of the person's research or other creative work that indicates professional merit and interest. The results of this activity will find expression normally through accepted channels or media in the respective professional fields or in the person's teaching. Teaching and research are ordinarily closely related; it is difficult to comprehend how a person can teach well without having firsthand understanding of how the knowledge of the field is discovered. The research performance of faculty will be based on domestic and/or international scholarly activity. Annual performance evaluation of any faculty member will recognize that success in research may require long-term efforts. Promotion and tenure and annual performance raises will give equivalent consideration to research effort and success, whether domestic or international.
  3. Service: This element includes the person's general contributions to the organization and development of the university, and services to any local, state, national, or international agency or institution needing the specific benefits to be derived from the person's professional knowledge and skills.
- B. Specific Qualifications for Appointment (Main Campus): In the following statements of required time in each rank, IT SHOULD BE EMPHASIZED THAT THE PERIODS STATED ARE TO BE CONSIDERED AS MINIMUM AND NOT AS MAXIMUM, UNDER NORMAL CIRCUMSTANCES. It is recognized that the time served in a rank at another institution should be taken into consideration. It is also recognized that the evidence of competence differs for various fields, to some extent, and standards of judgment cannot be rigidly uniform.
1. JUNIOR RANKS
    - a. Instructor: This rank should be given to persons with advanced training who have demonstrated scholarly/creative ability. Usually, the individual will not yet have demonstrated ability to do both teaching and research independently. An instructor must have knowledge of the particular course materials and should have some intellectual vision; but need not be expected to have acquired a significant understanding and original point of view or philosophy of the general subject. In addition to such general considerations, as stated above, the specific degree requirements for this rank will normally be the master's degree or the equivalent, and except under unusual circumstances the instructor will be encouraged to be studying toward a terminal degree.
    - b. Assistant Professor: To be considered for this rank, a person must have demonstrated ability in the field. It is strongly believed that a relationship exists between teaching and research, and that a good teacher

or researcher must constantly remold the materials of the courses or projects in the light of new knowledge derived from the person's own creative scholarship as well as that of others. An assistant professor may be expected to have a thorough command of the subject matter of some segment of the general field of the discipline, in addition to a comprehension of the whole. In addition to such general considerations as stated above, specific degree requirements for advancement or promotion to the rank of assistant professor and, of course, applicable to the senior ranks as well, NORMALLY will be the doctor's degree. Outstanding experience and recognition in the profession outside the academic field may be considered as the equivalent of the degree requirement.

2. SENIOR RANKS. Appointment or promotion to either senior rank should represent an implicit prediction on the part of the department, college, and the university that the individual so appointed will make sound contributions to teaching and learning during the remainder of the individual's life. Senior rank status should occur only after careful investigation of the candidate's promise in scholarship, teaching, research, leadership, and learning. By this statement it is meant that serious attention must be given to the caliber of the candidate's professional stature, for this will probably be the key factor in determining the extent to which past performance in teaching and creative work may be expected to carry on through continuing and enlarged contributions. Services rendered to communities and agencies or organizations in the person's professional capacity shall be considered in assessing qualifications for advancement to senior ranks.

- a. Associate Professor: This person's views contribute to departmental policy. An associate professor should have competence and mature outlook over a fairly large part of the whole field. To be considered for this rank a person should expect to serve for at least 4 years as an assistant professor under normal circumstances. A candidate for an associate professorship is expected to have demonstrated capacities in the lower ranks and should offer evidence that teaching and research have kept abreast of times in method and subject matter; that a greater degree of maturity has been attained and that there has been a retention of interest in competent teaching and research. Furthermore, the candidate must have shown evidence of productivity and competent scholarship beyond that completed for the degree of the doctorate.
- b. Professor: Appointment of individuals to professorships is obviously the most critical step in determining the future of the academic caliber of the university. There should, therefore, be clear understanding of the functions and qualifications of individuals in this rank. A professor through teaching, creative activity, and service should have demonstrated substantial command of the whole field, sound scholarship, and a mature view of the discipline. Appointment or promotion to professor should not be considered to be forthcoming merely because of years of service to the university (it should not be expected based on any number of years as an associate professor) or because a continuous contract is achieved. Rather, a person being considered for a professorship is expected to have maintained all of the qualities and conditions required for tenure and the associate professor rank. In addition, a professor should exhibit special stature in the discipline, leadership and substantial strength in all areas-teaching, creative activity, and professional service. In the recommending procedures the department head and the faculty member shall submit information as follows:
  - i. Special Stature in the Discipline:
    - Teaching Performance: Data indicating performance, including innovation, enthusiasm, and contributions to activities designed for the improvement of instruction. Peer and student evaluation may be useful ingredients in determining teaching performance.
    - Creative Activity: Lists of publications, exhibits, recitals, etc. Peer evaluation both on and off campus. The direction of graduate students where appropriate to the individual's discipline.
    - Professional Service: Information showing involvement in state, regional, national, and international groups within the field and contributions to the university. Objective data showing prestige and recognition among the practitioners of the discipline.
  - ii. Leadership: Information showing initiative, perseverance, and originality and skills in human relations.

Initial appointments for faculty employed with the rank of professor may also include continuous contract.

- C. General Qualifications for Appointment (Community College System): The following qualifications are listed in the order of their relative importance: teaching is more important than professional service; professional service is more important than other service; other service is more important than research. referendum

1. **Teaching:** This element is commonly considered to include the teacher's knowledge of the field; awareness of and the application of developments in the field; skill in arousing interest and evoking responses in students; skill in stimulating students to think critically, to understand the interrelationship of fields of knowledge and the application of knowledge to human problems; and skill in awakening students to a realization of the social, political, economic, and ethical implications of their study.
2. **Professional Service:** This element includes, above all, the faculty member's service with respect to the organization, development, and welfare of the community college and the university. This element also includes service to any individual or group needing the specific benefits of the faculty member's professional knowledge and skills.
3. **Other Service:** This element allows a faculty member to be recognized for service to the general welfare of the community which is interrelated with the welfare of the community college.
4. **Research:** Research or other creative work is not required at the community colleges. However, those faculty members who produce research and/or creative work should be encouraged, and such work should be considered for appointment, promotion, and tenure considerations.

The academic credentials of all community college instructors will be reviewed by the community college program coordinators (when appropriate), division heads, and the chief instructional officer to meet the guidelines established by the main campus departments. Instructors must also be approved by the campus executive officer and the executive vice president and provost.

- D. **Specific Qualifications for Appointment (Community College System):** In the following statements of required time in each rank, it should be emphasized that the periods stated are to be considered as minimum and not as maximum, under normal circumstances. It is recognized that the time served in a rank at another institution should be taken into consideration. It is also recognized that the evidence for various fields, to some extent, and standards of judgment cannot be rigidly uniform.

1. **JUNIOR RANKS**

- a. **Instructor:** This rank should be given to persons with the necessary education and/or experience to teach within the community college concept.
- b. **Assistant Professor:** To be considered for this rank, a person must have demonstrated the ability to teach effectively in the person's field. It is strongly believed that a good teacher must constantly remold the course or project materials in light of new knowledge derived from the teacher's own creative scholarship, as well as that of others. To be considered for this rank, a person should expect to serve at least 3 years as an instructor under normal circumstances. An assistant professor may be expected to have a thorough command of the subject matter of some segment of the general field of the discipline, in addition to a comprehension of the whole.

2. **SENIOR RANKS.** Appointment or promotion to either senior rank should represent an implicit prediction on the part of the community college that the individual so appointed will make sound contributions to teaching and learning during the remainder of the individual's life. It should be made only after careful investigation of the candidate's promise in teaching, professional service, other service, and, if applicable, research and/or creative service. By this statement, it is meant that serious attention must be given to the caliber of the candidate's professional stature, for this will probably be the key factor in determining the extent to which past performance in teaching and service may be expected to carry on through continuing and enlarged contributions.

- a. **Associate Professor:** An associate professor occupies a position adjunct to that of the professor. This person's views contribute to community college policy. An associate professor should have competence and mature outlook over a fairly large part of the professor's whole field. A candidate for an associate professorship is expected to have demonstrated capacities in the lower ranks and should offer evidence that the candidate's teaching has kept abreast of times in method and subject matter, that a greater degree of maturity has been attained, and that there has been a retention of interest in competent teaching and service. To be considered for this rank, a person should expect to serve for at least 4 years as an assistant professor under normal circumstances.
- b. **Professor:** Appointment or promotion of individuals to professorships is obviously the most critical step



in determining the future of the community college system and the university. There should, therefore, be a clear understanding of the functions and qualifications of individuals in this rank. A professor through teaching and service should have demonstrated substantial command of the professor's whole field, sound scholarship, and a mature view of the discipline. Promotion to professor should not be considered to be forthcoming merely because of years of service to the community college and the university (it should not be expected based on any number of years as an associate professor) or because a continuous contract is achieved. Rather, a person being considered for a professorship is expected to have maintained all the qualities and conditions required for tenure and for the rank of associate professor. Additionally, a professor should exhibit special stature in the professor's discipline, in leadership, and in both teaching and service.

## **5.20, 5.20.10 and 5.20.20 - Assignments**

### **5.20 - Assignments - General**

It is the policy of the university to provide conditions under which high quality instruction, research and service may be expected to occur. The faculty and administration recognize that quality education is based on and will occur as the result of interaction and contact between professionally competent faculty and adequately prepared students. Statements in this manual which are concerned with assignment of faculty load and with the award of academic credit are expressed generally in terms of the amount of contact occurring between faculty and students. In practice, many academic efforts, having little or nothing to do with the amount of contact *per se*, are nevertheless quantified and rewarded in terms of the credit hours. Such cases are covered by prior approvals among students, faculty and administrators. This Rule is based on the following:

- A. Teaching: Refers to activities related to courses given in a current term, such as meeting scheduled classes, grading, preparing lectures, evaluating students, reading student papers, academic advising, supervising teaching assistants, and supervising laboratories. Ordinarily, scheduled class meetings will equal at least 750 minutes per semester per credit hour.

Refers to the statewide non-credit teaching activities of members of the Cooperative Extension Service, and other university faculty members, such as conducting seminars, meetings, workshops and consultations with ranchers, farmers, businessmen, homemakers, community leaders and other citizens of the State, and the preparation of educational materials-bulletins, newsletters, news articles, radio and television programs, and self-teaching programs.

- B. Research and Other Creative Endeavors: Refers to activities in the faculty member's area of responsibility related to a specific project, such as performing a professional skill, writing or developing research proposals, statistical consulting, writing articles and/or books and/or reviews, creating a new art form(s), performing departmental and/or sponsored research, giving recitals, maintaining an artistic skill.
- C. Professional and Public Service: Refers to activities related to maintaining expertise in a professional field and activities performed to benefit the community outside the institution, respectively. Specific activities in this category include attending professional meetings and/or seminars, editing a journal, serving as an officer in a professional society, consulting, performing professionally as in plays or orchestras, participating in lectures or seminars for the public, and involving oneself in community activities such as civic clubs, agricultural or urban extension services.
- D. Internal University Activities:
  1. General contact with students, such as: counseling; preparing recommendations; participating in social interaction; recruiting students; sponsoring student organizations; meeting with parents; attending student recitals; coaching intramural or intercollegiate athletics; directing the band, orchestra, student plays, debate team, or other student groups.
  2. Committee participation, such as: attending departmental meetings; Faculty Senate; promotion and tenure committees; planning committees; or admission committees.
  3. Administrative duties, such as: performing the duties of a department head, dean, vice president, or any other administrator; keeping records; preparing minutes; writing and answering memoranda; assigning faculty

course loads; preparing budgets; gathering data; helping during registration; interviewing candidates for faculty positions; advising on library purchases; escorting visitors.

#### **5.20.10 - Assignments – International** *(See also Rules [2.69.1](#) and [2.69.2](#) - International Travel)*

- A. Internalization Generally: Internationalization is the incorporation of international content, materials, activities, and understanding into teaching, research, and public service functions of universities to enhance their relevance in an interdependent world. The major elements of the strategy being used to internationalize our university are:
  1. Defining international goals/objectives.
  2. Determining specific actions/activities relating to goals/objectives.
  3. Identifying individuals/units which have lead responsibilities for implementing activities.
  4. Formulating a strategy for the implementation of activities.
- B. Internationalization Policy: The current emphasis is seeking a balance between the concepts of cooperation and competition. This new emphasis places a major responsibility on the U.S. universities for providing relevant educational experiences for their students so that they are equipped to compete, become gainfully employed, and participate effectively as citizens in the new and emerging world environment. The principal purpose of university's internationalization strategy is to systematically and incrementally change the institution to better serve current and future needs of the institution's clientele.
- C. Assignment of Faculty to International Programs: The nature and requirements of the international assignment will be carefully reviewed and understood by university administrators and the faculty member before beginning the assignment. Accomplishments during assignment to international projects will be given consideration in evaluating annual performance, merit increases, promotion, and advancement to continuous contract. In future evaluations, consideration may be given to how knowledge and insight gained during an international assignment are integrated into the faculty member's teaching, research, and outreach responsibilities after returning from this assignment. *(See Also Rule [5.65](#) - Faculty Exchange; and Rule [2.69](#) - International Travel)*

#### **5.20.20 - Assignments - Teaching Load** *(See also [5.45.30](#) Department Heads - Teaching Loads)*

*[Amendment effective 07.01.09(FS Proposition 05-08/09) passed by the Faculty Senate 10.30.08; approved by the Administrative Council 11.11.08; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09] [Amendment effective 07.01.09 (FS Proposition 19-08/09) passed by the Faculty Senate 04.30.09; approved by the Administrative Council 07.14.09; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09]*

- A. Purpose: Faculty members perform a wide variety of tasks determined by the requirements of their discipline and by the mission of the university. Accordingly their workload will vary from individual to individual and over time for a particular individual. The purpose of this Rule is to establish a fair and equitable allocation of workload among faculty taking into account the interests of the faculty and the needs of the university. Recognizing the complex role played by faculty in the university setting, the primary responsibility for establishing workloads shall rest with the departments or equivalent administrative unit.
- B. Scope of Application: The rules set out here apply to faculty time financed from instruction and general (I & G) funds. Faculty time not financed by I & G funds is not covered by these rules. Faculty time partially funded from I & G shall be prorated.
- C. Teaching Load, Generally, for NMSU LC Faculty: A faculty member employed on the Las Cruces (Main) Campus budgeted exclusively from I&G funds will normally be responsible for the equivalent of teaching 12 credits per semester. The faculty member may be expected to participate in some scholarly and creative activity, professional and/or public service, or internal service to the university. Significant work of this kind reduces the faculty member's responsibility for formal instruction.
- D. Teaching Load, Generally, for Community College Faculty: The teaching load for community college faculty members will usually be the equivalent of 15 credits a semester or from 27 to 30 credits an academic year. The teaching load shall be prorated for short courses or courses taught over part of a semester.

E. Equitable Distribution of Workload:

1. Executive Administration: The executive vice president and provost and Chancellor shall seek to allocate faculty resources among departments or equivalent administrative units, taking account of internal and external constraints, so as to distribute workload in a fair and equitable manner. Factors that may be considered in allocating resources include accreditation, workloads at peer institutions, national disciplinary norms, and retention of faculty, the needs of new programs, credit hour production, legislative mandates, and other factors.
2. Dean or Equivalent: Within each college or equivalent unit, the college dean or equivalent administrator shall seek to allocate faculty resources within their college or equivalent unit in order to achieve a fair and equitable workload. When inequitable workloads arise, it shall be the responsibility of the dean or equivalent administrator to rectify the inequality.

F. Departmental Workload Policy:

1. Departments and equivalent units will specify how they determine teaching loads. Departmental or equivalent unit workload policy will be 1) developed by the department faculty in collaboration with the department head and approved by the dean or equivalent administrator, 2) contained in written departmental guidelines, and 3) distributed to all faculty in the department. Department guidelines shall clearly specify the method by which teaching load is distributed. The dean or equivalent may ask for revisions to the departmental workload policy.
2. In determining teaching load, the departmental or equivalent unit workload policy shall consider the impact of: courses with a lab component; career path of the instructor; tenure and promotion; workloads at peer institutions; national disciplinary norms; faculty retention; relative proportion of graduate and undergraduate instruction; supervision of master's theses or doctoral dissertations; student advising and retention activity; mentoring activity, individual faculty member's scholarly and creative productivity; service productivity; new preparations; method of course delivery; class size; help from graduate assistants; administrative and/or service assignments; team teaching; and methods of grading. Given the importance of graduate programs to the mission of the university, special consideration must be given to support of graduate programs. Other factors specific to particular departments or disciplines may also be considered.

G. Annual Determination of Individual Faculty Teaching Load/Right to Appeal: The teaching load for each faculty member will be determined annually by the department head or equivalent administrator through a process that follows established departmental or equivalent unit policy and involves an element of negotiation. The agreed upon teaching load for each faculty member will be articulated in writing and signed by the faculty member and the department head or equivalent administrator, and shall be included in the faculty member's personnel folder. If agreement on these responsibilities cannot be reached, the faculty member may appeal the case in accordance with university procedures. (See Rule [4.05.50, Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution](#)) In an appeal situation, if a change in academic responsibilities will affect the faculty member for more than one semester, the appeals procedure must have been completed before the reassignment can be made or continued.

H. Considerations for Variance: The percentage breakdown of time allocated to each academic activity may vary among faculty members.

1. The allocation will be based on the average time required for the satisfactory performance of the activity.
2. Courses such as thesis, dissertation, research, special problems and independent study are not automatically considered to be the equivalent with teaching typical graduate or undergraduate courses. When such activities are included in the teaching load, the department head or equivalent administrator and the affected faculty member shall collaboratively determine course equivalency consistent with the department teaching load policy.
3. In collaboration with faculty in their department or equivalent unit, and subject to approval by the college dean or equivalent administrator, department head or equivalent administrator may make adjustments to faculty teaching loads if those adjustments increase load equity and are at least revenue neutral. Adjustments to teaching loads within programs should result in or maintain load equity, should respect the career paths of faculty, and should not place an extra teaching burden on junior faculty who are preparing for tenure review.

When a faculty member is assigned special duties above the normal load, arrangements will be negotiated between the faculty member and concerned administrators to determine the amount of additional compensation, if any, to be received.

4. When considering individuals for tenure, promotion in rank, merit pay increases, research/service awards, and/or endowed chairs/professorships, departmental workload policy and an applicant's teaching load history must be presented to reviewing bodies and individuals. An applicant's teaching load and its potential impact on scholarly and creative activities, and service must be considered in the review process.
- I. Cooperation: The successful application of these guidelines depends upon maintaining goodwill between faculty and administrators.

## **5.25 through 5.31 - Faculty Compensation** (*See also* Rule 11.05 - Intellectual Property Management; Rule [5.92-Reassignment of Administrators/Department Heads](#))

### **5.25 – Faculty Compensation - Adjustments**

- A. Purpose: To establish a process for faculty compensation adjustments that address changes in cost of living, reward productivity and achievement, and correct market or equity disparities.
- B. Contingency: Salary increases are contingent upon the availability of funding. The availability of funds for salary increases is typically determined each year after the Board of Regents has approved the annual budget and the New Mexico legislature has appropriated funds for the operation of the university. All budgetary matters are subject to review and approval by the Board of Regents.
- C. Types of Salary Adjustments: Salary increases may be in the form of either a one-time nonrecurring payment, or an adjustment to the annual base salary. Examples of the different types of salary adjustments include: cost of living increase (COLA), promotion between ranks, merit, equity, or market competition and related factors.
- D. Eligibility for Salary Increase: Faculty eligible for salary adjustments are the tenured, tenure track and college track faculty. Faculty hired after December 31 of an academic year will not be eligible for a COLA or merit based salary adjustment until the first applicable pay period in the second subsequent fiscal year.
- E. Effective Date of Salary Increase: Salary increases are awarded effective with the first applicable pay period in the next fiscal year, unless otherwise approved by the Senior Vice President of Administration and Finance and the Executive Vice President and Provost or Chancellor.
- F. Disclosure of Information Relating to Faculty Salary Increases: Each year upon request, the executive vice president and provost will report to the faculty on how funds allocated for salary increases were distributed.

Rule Administrator:	Office of Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	March 14, 2017 as amended (also re-numbered former Rule 5.25 et seq as Rules 5.25 through 5.31)
Revision History:	03.14.17 amendment recommended by University Administrative Council; 03.14.17 amendment approved by the chancellor. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved replica of Policy 5.25 et seq as initial Rule 5.25 et seq. <b><i>Prior Revision History not available.</i></b>

### **5.26 - Compensation - Continuing Education Courses**

It is the policy of the university that providing life-long learning through continuing education is an important part of *its* mission. In order to encourage faculty to participate in these activities, the faculty may earn extra compensation for teaching in continuing education programs in lieu of consulting. The extra compensation will normally be paid at a rate of 0.00278 X 9-month salary per hour of instruction. This rate is based on the assumption that 12 credits per semester, for two semesters, for 15 weeks is the normal load for an academic year.  $[0.00278 \times 1/(12 \times 2 \times 15)]$  - maximum rate. For purposes of E-Hire Forms, these hours must be kept separate from for-credit hours.

## 5.27 – Compensation - Faculty Promotion

- A. **Purpose:** To reward and incentivize faculty progress along the academic ranks, and assist the university with the retention of talented, capable and experienced faculty through the award of promotional increases to base salary.
- B. **Increase to Base Salary for Promotion between Faculty Ranks:** Subject to the contingencies described in Rule 5.25, each tenured, tenure track and college track faculty member promoted to a higher rank shall receive an upward adjustment in base salary, prorated based on FTE, irrespective of any other salary increases.
1. **NMSU - Las Cruces Faculty:** The amount of the base salary increase for the promotion will be calculated using the mean salary of the incumbents in the rank to which the faculty member is being promoted. If there were to be no incumbent at the higher rank in the promoted faculty member's track (e.g. tenured, tenure-track or college track) within the promoted faculty member's college, an equitable promotion increment will be determined by the Executive Vice President and Provost, in consultation with Human Resources.
    - a. Promotion from Rank of Instructor to Assistant Professor: Faculty promoted from the rank of instructor to assistant professor shall receive an upward adjustment to base salary of 7% of the current mean salary of all assistant professors within the college, calculated separately for college and tenure track.
    - b. Promotion from Rank of Assistant Professor to Associate Professor: Faculty promoted from the rank of assistant professor to associate professor shall receive an upward adjustment to base salary of 7% of the current mean salary of all associate professors within the college, calculated separately for college and tenure track.
    - c. Promotion from Rank of Associate Professor to Professor: Faculty promoted from the rank of associate professor to the rank of professor shall receive an upward adjustment to base salary of 11% of the current mean salary of all professors was in the college, calculated separately for college and tenure track.
  2. **NMSU - Community College Faculty:** The amount of the increase in base salary for the promotion will be calculated using the mean salary of the incumbents in the rank and track from which the faculty member is being promoted. Faculty promoted between ranks shall receive an upward adjustment to base salary of 6% of the current mean salary of the rank currently held. (For example, an assistant professor being promoted to associate professor would receive an increase equal to six percent of the current mean salary of all assistant professors).

Rule Administrator:	Office of Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	March 14, 2017 as amended (also re-numbered former Rule 5.25 et seq as Rules 5.25 through 5.31)
Revision History:	03.14.17 amendment recommended by University Administrative Council; 03.14.17 amendment approved by the chancellor. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 5.25 et seq as initial Rules 5.25 et seq. <b>Prior Revision History not available.</b>

## 5.29 - Compensation - Distance Education

*[Repealed 08.08.17]*

Rule Administrator:	Office of HRS-Benefit Services
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	08.08.17 Repeal of Rule 5.29 recommended by University Administrative Council; 08.08.17 approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 5.29 (formerly 5.25.30) as initial Rule 5.29 (formerly 5.25.30). <b>Prior Revision History as Rule 5.29 (formerly 5.25.30) not available.</b>

## 5.30 - Compensation - Summer

*[Amendment (FS Proposition 20-09/10) passed by the Faculty Senate 04.29.10 and also recommended by the Administrative Council 05.11.10; approved by the Board of Regents 07.20.10]*

- A. **Teaching:** For faculty at campuses whose faculty members have a normal teaching load of 24 credits during the regular year, summer teaching is paid at the rate 11.11% of annual salary for a 3 credit class or 3.70% of annual salary per credit hour. For faculty at campuses whose faculty members have a normal teaching load of 30 units

during the regular year, summer teaching is paid at the rate of 8.31% of annual salary for a 3 credit class or 2.77% of annual salary per credit hour.

- B. Sponsored Research: Sponsored research is paid at a rate consistent with federal regulations including, but not limited to, those contained in OMB Circular A. 21. as administered by the Office of Naval Research.
- C. Combined Teaching-Sponsored Research: For those both teaching and engaged in sponsored research, summer pay is pro-rated between the two activities. The regular summer employment period is computed from the last workday after grades are due at the end of the spring semester until the first workday before Faculty are required to report in the fall semester. The pro-rating calculation shall be done consistent with OMB Circular A. 21.
- D. Negotiated Summer Salary: For persons who have no regular academic-year salary on which to base summer compensation, salary may be negotiated within the approved ranges for temporary faculty.
- E. Supplemental Compensation: The policies regarding supplemental compensation during the summer period are the same as those that apply to the academic-year period, as described in Rule [4.70 Supplemental Employment/Compensation](#) .
- F. 12-month Faculty: The policies pertaining to compensation for 12-month Faculty during the summer period, including department heads, are the same as those that apply to the academic year.
- G. Graduate Assistants: In summer sessions, graduate assistants receive the same pay per week as they do during the regular semester.

### **5.31 - Compensation - Employee Recognition Program** (See Rule [8.15.10 - Employee Recognition Program](#))

### **5.32 - Faculty Consulting** (See also Rule [8.25, Consulting-Exempt Staff](#); Rule [4.70, Supplemental Employment/Compensation](#); Rule [3.20, Conflicts of Interest and Conflicts of Commitment](#))

- A. Definitions: The following definitions, policies, and procedures will be applied to all full-time faculty members:
  - 1. University: New Mexico State University.
  - 2. Consulting: Services for compensation, not disbursed by the university, in an employee's area of specialization.
  - 3. Consulting time: That time afforded a faculty member during the faculty member's normal working hours.
  - 4. Full-Time and Part-Time: A faculty member employed for an FTE fraction of 0.9 or greater is considered full-time, while an FTE fraction of less than 0.9 is considered part-time.
- B. Consulting Policies:
  - 1. Consulting by full-time faculty should be considered secondary to the performance of the faculty member's assigned duties.
  - 2. Written notification is required for consulting. Written permission is required for consulting time.
  - 3. Consulting time shall not average more than 1 day per week during the months of full-time employment excluding those days when university offices are officially closed.
  - 4. Consulting is to be conducted in an ethical manner that should not create a conflict-of-interest situation.
  - 5. University facilities, equipment, personnel or supplies which are not freely available to the general public will not be used in consulting without proper arrangements for reimbursement.
  - 6. Additional assignments performed during normal university working hours, and for which an employee receives supplemental compensation, will be counted against that faculty member's allowed consulting time

and must be approved by all cognizant administrators.

C. Procedures/Right to Appeal:

1. The faculty member shall submit a written notification of consulting to the faculty member's immediate supervisor (usually the department head) prior to initiation of consulting. At times, consulting opportunities arise when it is not possible to immediately submit a written notification (such as weekends or holidays). In those cases, the faculty member is expected to make every possible effort to submit the notification on the next regular business day for the university.
2. The immediate supervisor is responsible for notifying the appropriate dean or director of those faculty members who have submitted notification of consulting.
3. The faculty member shall obtain prior written permission for consulting time from the faculty member's immediate supervisor and appropriate dean or director. The request for consulting time must be acted upon within 5 working days.
4. Prior written approval and financial arrangements for reimbursement must be obtained from the immediate supervisor before university facilities, equipment, personnel or supplies may be used in consulting by the faculty member. These arrangements will be reviewed by the appropriate dean or director and may be disapproved, with cause.
5. Causes for denial of consulting privileges include, but are not limited to: a clear conflict-of-interest situation, unprofessional conduct by the faculty member negatively reflecting on the university, significant interference with assigned university duties, consulting time exceeding an average of 1 day per week, or misuse of university facilities, equipment, personnel or supplies.
6. The faculty member may appeal decisions to the Faculty Grievance Review Board.
7. Additional policies not in conflict with the above may be developed and implemented by the college faculties and administrations.

**5.35 - Deans** (*See also* Regents Policy 10.00, Administrator Rights and Responsibilities; Rule 5.14 - Faculty Credentials; Rule 5.20.20 Assignments - Teaching Load; Regents Policy [1.05.50 University Administrative Council](#); Regents Policy [1.05.60 Academic Deans Council](#))

**5.45, 5.45.10, 5.45.20, and 5.45-30 - Department Heads** (*See also* Rule [5.06.30 - Administrative Review of Department Heads](#); Rule 5.14 - Faculty Credentials, Part 4. C. (Academic Department Head or Community College Equivalent; Rule 5.20.20 -Teaching Workload Sections F. (Departmental Workload Policy), G. (...Determination of Individual Teaching Load) and H. (Considerations for Variance); Rule [5.92 - Reassignment of Administrators/ Department Heads](#); Regents Policy 10.00, Administrator Rights and Responsibilities).

### **5.45 Department Heads, Generally**

A department head serves at the discretion of the dean/director, with the concurrence of the executive vice president and provost. All academic departments are administered by department heads under the cognizance of the college dean, graduate dean, if appropriate, and the executive vice president and provost.

- A. Department Head Increment: It is the policy of the university to provide additional stipends for those administering the academic departments, based upon the number of full-time faculty, part-time faculty, and graduate assistants supported from instruction and general funds. It is understood that this increment is included in the original offer to department heads just joining the faculty and is relinquished if the individual gives up the department head responsibilities.
- B. Faculty Rank: Department heads are academic administrators, with faculty rank, but eligible for consideration under all policies applying to the faculty. For example, some department heads have been promoted to a higher rank and some have been tenured, but obviously the promotion and tenure considerations were in keeping with their positions as members of the faculty.



- C. **Length of Appointment:** For department heads who are 12-month employees, the year is from July 1 to June 30. Department heads that have negotiated a 9-month appointment come under the policies of the regular faculty with respect to all pay and fringe benefits and normally are excluded from summer teaching. Department heads observe the administrative calendar.
- D. **Salary Determination:** When an internal candidate is selected, department head salary normally is determined by multiplying the 9-month faculty salary by 12/9 and adding the department head increment.
- E. **Summer Session:** (See [5.30 Compensation - Summer](#))

## **Rule 5.45.10 - Department Heads - Leaves**

### **PART 1: ANNUAL LEAVE**

Annual leave for full time 12-month department Heads is accrued and/or paid out pursuant to [Rule 7.20.75 - Annual Leave](#) of the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP). Department heads must complete monthly leave reports indicating annual leave usage, and the dean's office must maintain accurate leave records for each department head. Department heads will accrue annual leave beginning with the effective date of the appointment to this academic administrator position (See Also Regents Policy 10.00, Administrator and Supervisor Roles and Responsibilities). Department heads are encouraged to take annual leave to assist them to maintain continuing effectiveness.

### **PART 2: SICK LEAVE**

Sick leave for full time 12-month department Heads is accrued and/or converted pursuant to [Rules 7.20.75 - Sick Leave](#) and [7.20.42 - Faculty Care Leave](#). Department heads must complete monthly leave reports indicating sick leave usage, and the dean's office must maintain accurate leave records for each department head.

### **PART 3: SABBATICAL LEAVE**

Service in the capacity as a department head is counted for purposes of calculating eligibility for sabbatical leave. Sabbatical leave for 12-month department heads is governed by [Rule 7.20.70 - Leaves-Sabbatical](#). In addition to the procedures of Rule 7.20.20, a department head may elect to take sabbatical leave in segments. Each leave segment should be of sufficient length to permit a significant planned accomplishment. When segments are used, the accrual for the next sabbatical leave begins with the end of the academic year in which the first segment was taken.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.13.17 UAC recommended amendment; 06.14.17 amendment approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 5.45.10 as initial Rule 5.45.108 <i><b>Prior Revision History as Policy 5.45.10 not available.</b></i>
Cross References:	ARP, Rule 7.20.25 - Leaves-Annual ARP, Rule 7.20.75 - Leaves - Sick ARP, Rule 7.20.42 - Leaves - Faculty Care Leave ARP, Rule 7.20.70 - Leaves - Sabbatical Regents Policy 10.00, Administrator Rights and Responsibilities

## **5.45.20 - Department Heads - Responsibilities**

The following responsibilities of the department head are to be accomplished, insofar as possible, within budget and policy/rules restraints.

- A. **Academic Leadership:** The department head is expected to be the academic leader of the departmental faculty. The department head is responsible for ensuring that highly qualified faculty are employed. Also, the department head ensures that official transcripts, including highest degree earned are obtained for every new faculty member's official personnel file (routed through the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost). Insofar as possible, the kind of atmosphere in which the faculty can do their best work in teaching, research, and service should be maintained.
- B. **Faculty Development:** Leadership of the faculty implies working closely with the faculty on the development



and sustenance of departmental courses and the stimulation and encouragement of faculty development. A performance evaluation of each faculty member will be carried out at least once a year and should be made in the positive vein of professional development. Evaluation of the progress of tenure-track faculty should be made in consultation with senior department faculty and in accordance with the highest national standards of faculty performance.

- C. Professional Contacts: The department head is responsible for encouraging the national and international professional contacts of the faculty within the constraints of the departmental budget. This implies appropriate travel and bringing well-known professionals to the campus.
- D. Teaching Support: The department head has no more important task than ensuring teaching excellence. Encouragement and support of good teaching must be given to faculty, especially new faculty. Copies of current syllabi will be maintained in the department head's office. The department head is responsible for ensuring an effective departmental evaluation of teaching, and for advisement of student departmental majors.
- E. Effective Management: The department head must ensure the effective administration of the department, including keeping the faculty fully informed of department, college, and university matters. Routine and special reports, including grade reports and other matters, must be handled accurately and on time. Effective supervision and development of the department budget is important. The department head will keep the faculty informed on budgetary matters. All research and program contracts should be carefully supervised, both for fiscal integrity and academic appropriateness.
- F. Departmental Advocate/College and University Steward: The department head is expected to be an advocate of the department, yet at the same time appreciate the concerns and priorities of the college and university. The most important department activities in the development of faculty, programs, research, and service are done in close partnership with the office of the dean of the college.
- G. Liaison to Dean: The department head is responsible to the dean of the college for all the activities of the department. The dean should be kept apprised of all department activities and problems.
- H. Policy Compliance: The department head is responsible for ensuring that department, college, and university policies, rules and procedures are enforced.
- I. Role in Recruitment: The department head will inform the search committee chair if an underutilization memorandum is received from the Office of the executive vice president and provost for purposes of meeting affirmative action goals. The [Search Committee Guidelines](#) will be provided by the department head for tenure-track faculty positions.
- J. Supervision of Graduate Assistants: Graduate assistants are recommended for appointment by the department head. The appointment requires approval of the college and graduate dean. Three letters of recommendation are required for the approval. Specific orientation and training of graduate assistants are the responsibilities of the department head. Graduate assistants work under the close supervision of faculty. The policy on academic freedom does not apply to the service expected of graduate assistants. The assignment of teaching duties to graduate assistants is the responsibility of the department head. Such assignment requires that the department head ascertain that the graduate assistant is fully qualified and that the work performed by the graduate assistant be closely supervised by a member of the faculty responsible for monitoring the assigned tasks associated with the graduate assistant's teaching responsibility. Only those graduate assistants proficient in English may be assigned to teaching or teaching-related activities.

### 5.45.30 - Department Heads - Teaching Requirements

Minimum teaching	for FA/SP/SI/SII
	Number of courses of 3 credits or equivalent*
Doctorate granting departments	3
Master granting departments	4
Bachelor granting departments	5

**\*Adjustments**

With the approval of the dean, an adjustment of one fewer course than the above number of courses may be made by any department that qualifies for three or more points as listed below.

	Points
With 100 or more majors	1
With 15 or more graduate students	1
With \$300,000 in grants or more and/or \$20,000 in gifts in each year	1
With 15 or more faculty	1
With 30 or more faculty	1

### 5.47 - Faculty Discipline and Appeal Processes

*[Amendment deleting material from policies 4.05.50 and 5.98 to establish this policy recommended by FS Proposition No. 13-10/11A, passed by the Faculty Senate 03.03.11; the University Administrative Council recommended, as further amended, on 04.12.11; policy adopted by the Board of Regents 05.06.11.] [Amendment recommended by the Faculty Senate in Proposition No. 13-11/12A approved 04.05.12; approved by the Board of Regents 06.21.12]*

- A. **Purpose:** To establish policy, rules and procedures by which allegations of serious faculty misconduct, or inability to perform essential functions of the job, may be addressed equitably, expeditiously and without violating the principles of academic freedom or due process.
- B. **Scope:** This rule applies when serious misconduct, or inability to perform essential functions of the job, is reasonably suspected of any tenured, tenure track, or regular, non-tenure track faculty within the NMSU System.
  1. This rule does not apply to situations involving unsatisfactory job performance covered by other policies regarding the quality of teaching/advising, research/scholarship or outreach/ extension or service. (See [5.87 Post-Tenure Review](#); [5.90 Promotion and Tenure](#); [5.98 Tenure Track and Tenure](#) policies)
  2. This rule does not apply to situations involving the voluntary or involuntary retreat to a faculty position from an appointment as academic administrator, because such appointments are within the discretion of an executive administrator.
  3. This rule does not apply to situations involving non-renewal of the annual faculty contract.
- C. **Rule Administrator:** The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, jointly with the Office of Human Resource Services, administers these rules and procedures.
- D. **Definitions and Roles:**
  1. "Clear and Convincing Evidence": Clear and convincing evidence means evidence that makes the fact to be

proven highly probable or reasonably certain. To prove a fact by clear and convincing evidence is evidence stronger than a "preponderance" and yet less than "beyond a reasonable doubt;" for evidence to be clear and convincing, it must instantly tilt the scales in the affirmative when weighed against the evidence in opposition and the fact finder's mind is left with an abiding conviction that the evidence is true. (*See Also subsection K. 3.*)

2. "Day": When a time limit refers to "day", it refers to business rather than calendar days (Monday through Friday), and excludes official university holidays.
  3. "Dean": When the rule refers to dean, it will include the equivalent ranks to dean, for academic units other than a college or library. It also will mean the designee serving in lieu of the dean, who may be designated by the Faculty Senate chair and assistant vice president for human resources, in consultation with the Office of the General Counsel, due to a conflict of interest on the part of the dean or dean equivalent. The dean serves as the informal pre-determination hearing officer. (*See subsection L., below*).
  4. "Investigative Administrator": When the rule refers to the "investigative administrator", it refers to the individual who performs or coordinates the confidential investigation into the allegations against the faculty member, including issuance of the investigative report. (*See subsection H. below*). The investigative administrator also consults with the Office of Human Resource Services and/or Office of General Counsel regarding the appropriate level of corrective action warranted, if any; prepares the notice of proposed corrective action; and presents the matter to the pre-determination officer (the dean). (*See subsections H- K below.*) The investigative administrator will usually be the immediate supervisor, or academic department head. It may also mean someone designated to serve in lieu of the immediate supervisor, in the event of a conflict of interest. (i.e. if the investigative administrator is implicated in the alleged misconduct.) In cases involving alleged discrimination in violation of federal or state law or university policy, rules or procedures, it means a representative from the Office of Institutional Equity. In cases involving alleged embezzlement or other white collar type criminal activity, the investigation may be conducted by law enforcement, the Office of Internal Audit or other expert in the field. In these instances, the investigative administrator will coordinate with the involved supervisor, and HRS in order to determine the facts and the appropriate corrective or disciplinary action.
  5. "Preponderance of the Evidence": Preponderance of the evidence means the greater weight of the evidence. To prove a fact by the greater weight of the evidence means one must be persuaded that what is sought to be proved is more probably true than not true. Evenly balanced evidence is not sufficient. (*See Also subsection K. 3.*)
- E. Overview of Rule: This section lists generally the steps which shall guide faculty and administration in the rare instance that serious misconduct, or inability to perform essential job functions, is reasonably suspected of a faculty member. More detail regarding each process is provided throughout this rule.
1. Administrative Leave. [no time frame indicated and will vary] (*See Section G.*)
  2. Internal Investigation. [no time frame indicated and will vary based on complexity] (*See Section H.*)
  3. Assessment of Appropriate Corrective Action. [no time frame indicated and will vary] (*See Section I.*)
  4. Assembly of Evidence and Notice of Intended Corrective Action. [no time frame indicated] (*See Section J.*)
  5. Pre-Determination Hearing (Decision by Dean). [20 days or less from receipt of request for hearing, unless extension] (*See Section M.*)
  6. Post-Determination Appeal Hearing (Decision by Executive Vice President and Provost). [45 days or less from receipt of Notice of Appeal, unless time extension] (*See Section N.*)
  7. Final Review (Decision by Chancellor). [20 days or less from receipt of Request for Final Review, unless time extension] (*See Section O.*)

A flow chart indicating the steps in the investigative, corrective action and appeal processes involved in the case of serious misconduct or inability to perform essential job functions alleged against a faculty member may be viewed at [Appendix 5-A.](#)

- F. Alternative Dispute Resolution: At any stage in the processes described herein, if mutually agreed to between

the parties, the disputed matter may be stayed as the parties attempt to resolve the dispute through an alternate method of dispute resolution, including but not limited to the following methods: mediation, settlement facilitation, or other negotiated resolution outside of the formal hearing processes provided for herein.

- G. Administrative Leave: When a faculty member is reasonably suspected or otherwise accused of serious misconduct constituting just cause under this rule, the faculty member may be placed on paid administrative leave pending a confidential investigation, in accordance with the following protocol:
1. These decisions will be made on a case by case basis by the department head or equivalent supervisor, in conjunction with the Office of Human Resource Services, and based upon the facts alleged in each matter, including the potential risk of harm to students, others or the institution.
  2. Approval from the assistant vice president of human resource services or designee is required to place any faculty member on paid administrative leave or to relocate, or to reassign job duties, pending the investigation. The dean will be notified about the pendency of the internal investigation, but not about the factual details.
  3. In lieu of paid administrative leave, a faculty member may be temporarily relocated to an alternate work environment or be assigned to perform alternate job duties, provided such temporary job modification will not in any way impede the investigation.
  4. A faculty member placed on paid administrative leave shall remain available for communications from NMSU, and otherwise be ready to report to work upon request. If the faculty member has a need to be absent during a period of administrative leave, the faculty member shall obtain the appropriate approval.
- H. Confidential Investigation: The allegations, and any defense raised by the faculty member in response to the allegations, shall be investigated fully and fairly, within a reasonable amount of time, and as confidentially as possible; based upon the circumstances involved in each matter.
1. The investigative administrator shall consult with the assistant vice president of human resources or designee and/or the university general counsel for guidance and support relating to the performance of the internal investigation.
  2. The faculty member accused shall be provided notice of the charges at the appropriate time during the investigation, which may be when the investigation begins, or may be later, depending upon the nature of the allegations. The faculty member shall be given an opportunity to respond to the charges during the investigation process.
  3. The investigation shall be documented with factual findings and supporting evidence. The evidence may consist of witness statements or summaries, documents, audio or video recordings or photographs, or other exhibits. The investigative report, including supporting documentation or other evidence, shall be delivered to the assistant vice president of human resource services. The investigative administrator shall retain the investigative work papers, investigative report and supporting documentation or other evidence in a confidential and secure location.
  4. The investigative administrator shall confer with the assistant vice president for human resource services and/or the office of university general counsel to decide whether or not the findings warrant corrective administrative action.
  5. As soon as practicable, the charged faculty member shall be informed generally regarding the results of the investigation.
  6. If the faculty member is exonerated by the investigation, then no documentation referencing the investigation shall remain in the official personnel file, unless requested by the faculty member.
  7. If corrective action is going to be pursued, the faculty member will be provided a copy of the investigative report and access to the supporting documents at the time that the corrective action is formally proposed.
  8. In order to protect the positions and reputations of those persons who, in good faith, report reasonably suspected misconduct, the university prohibits retaliation in any form to be taken against the reporter or any

person who cooperates in the investigative process. A complaint of suspected retaliation will also be cause for the initiation of a separate internal investigation to be conducted in coordination with the Office of Human Resource Services, and if substantiated, will be grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.

9. If the investigative report reflects that the alleged misconduct was not substantiated, the university will make efforts to restore the reputation of the faculty member, to the extent feasible and desired by the faculty member. Additionally, and depending upon the circumstances, the university may initiate a separate internal investigation in the event the investigative report indicates that the initial report of suspected misconduct or any testimony given as part of the internal investigation may have been intentionally falsified. If deliberate falsification of such a complaint or testimony is substantiated, it will be grounds for disciplinary action against the false reporter, up to and including termination of employment.

- I. Just Cause Required: Just Cause, capable of being proven by the standard of proof set forth at subsection K.3, is required before suspension without pay, reduction in salary, or involuntary dismissal may be imposed. Just cause includes dishonest behavior; gross or habitual neglect of professional responsibilities; willful violation of NMSU policy, rule or procedures; use of any improper influence to secure a promotion or privileges for individual advantage; or any other serious misconduct causing or creating the potential for harm to person, property or the institution.

Just Cause may also be unrelated to any misconduct on the part of faculty, and could include a loss of licensure and/or clinical admitting privileges required for the performance of one's academic duties; or the medical inability to perform essential functions of the job.

- J. Administrative or Corrective Action: Corrective or other administrative action may be taken for serious misconduct or inability to perform the essential functions of one's job, if substantiated by the applicable standard of proof through the investigative fact finding process.

1. The types of administrative action anticipated by this rule include one or more of the following: written warning, mandatory attendance at training, suspension without pay, reduction in salary, and involuntary dismissal.
2. The range of corrective action which may be imposed for misconduct is not intended to require progressive discipline; rather, it is intended to allow the severity of the corrective action to match the seriousness of the policy, rule or procedural violation or other misconduct. The corrective action, if any, to be imposed will vary depending upon the severity of the misconduct substantiated by the investigative findings.
3. The investigative administrator and the assistant vice president of human resource services shall coordinate regarding the appropriate level of corrective action or other administrative action, and if it does not warrant suspension without pay, reduction in pay, or involuntary dismissal, shall decide whether other corrective or administrative action is appropriate.
4. If suspension without pay, reduction in salary or involuntary dismissal is supported by the investigative report and recommended by the investigative administrator, the due process hearing requirements outlined in the remainder of this rule shall apply. *See Also [Appendix 5-A](#).*

- K. General Description of Due Process: A recommendation to dismiss from employment or to reduce salary attributable to regular faculty employment are serious corrective actions implicating one's property rights, which is why just cause and due process are required before such action may be taken.

1. Due process requires fair and timely hearing processes, before an impartial hearing official or body. The faculty member charged with misconduct and facing serious disciplinary action is entitled to a pre-determination hearing, at which the relevant facts are presented by the parties, and determined by a hearing officer to be accurate prior to proceeding with the proposed corrective action. This ensures that the faculty member has had an adequate opportunity to present a defense to the claims and the evidence; it also ensures that the decision makers have an accurate understanding of the facts underlying the recommendation.
2. The faculty member also has the right to a post-determination appeal to the executive vice president and provost, as well as the right to request a final review by the Chancellor.

3. At the pre-determination hearing and any subsequent appeal, the burden of proving just cause by the applicable standard of proof is on NMSU. The standard of proof shall be clear and convincing evidence for all infractions, except for disciplinary action proposed for discrimination proscribed by federal and state law, which matters are investigated by the university's Office of Institutional Equity; the burden of proof when discrimination constitutes the grounds for which the disciplinary action is being taken shall be preponderance of the evidence. (*See subsections D.4. and D.5.*)

L. Time Deadlines and Extensions: The pre-determination, appeal and final review processes will be conducted as expeditiously as possible.

1. At the request from a party, a one-time extension of the time deadline may be granted, after notice to the other party and consideration of that party's position relative to the request.
2. If the request for the time extension is from a hearing Faculty Appeals Board member, the chair of Faculty Senate may grant a reasonable extension, with notice to all parties.
3. A second or subsequent request for time extension from any party or from a Faculty Appeals Board member will only be granted in exceptional cases, after consideration of the basis for the request and the respective positions of the parties. The Faculty Appeals Board or Faculty Senate chair may deny a request for extension, in the best interest of the institution, even if no party opposes it.

M. Pre-Determination Process: **[25 days or less from date of issuance of notice letter or memo, unless time extension granted]**

1. Notice of Proposed Administrative Action. The investigative administrator or other uninvolved supervisor shall issue a letter or memo to the faculty member notifying the grounds for the recommended corrective action, and attach a copy of the investigative report. If for some reason, there is not a document entitled, "investigative report", the charges against the faculty member and the evidence substantiating the charges shall be provided. Guidelines for investigative reports are available in the Office of Human Resource Service or the Office of the General Counsel. The notice letter or memo shall explain the faculty member's right to attend an informal pre-determination hearing, and be delivered by hand-delivery or by certified U.S. mail, return receipt requested.
2. Right to Attend Pre-Determination Hearing. **[5 days for faculty to confirm attendance at hearing]** A pre-determination hearing will be convened by the dean or Dean's Advisory Committee, as appropriate (*See 3 a. below*), in order to review the recommended action together with the evidence, and to hear the faculty member's position in response thereto.  
Within five (5) days of the documented receipt of the written notice of proposed administrative action, the faculty member shall notify the dean's office in writing whether or not the faculty member will attend the hearing and/or be represented by legal counsel.

The faculty member shall also indicate whether or not the use of the Dean's Advisory Committee is requested. (*See 3. a. below*)

If the faculty member chooses to not attend the informal fact finding hearing, a determination will be rendered in the faculty member's absence.

3. Informal Pre-Determination Hearing: **[15 days or less]** An informal fact finding hearing shall be heard by either the dean or by the Dean's Advisory Committee, within fifteen (15) days from the date of the notice letter or memo, as follows:
  - a. Option to Utilize a Dean's Advisory Committee: The use of the Dean's Advisory Committee may be requested by the faculty member whose conduct is subject of the proceedings, or initiated at the discretion of the dean. The Dean's Advisory Committee shall consist of three members of Faculty Senate selected by the Faculty Senate chair. If utilized, it will assist the dean by hearing the evidence and the parties' respective positions, and by rendering findings of fact and recommendations.
    - i. If utilized, the Dean's Advisory Committee shall hold the hearing no later than fifteen (15) days from the date of the notice letter or memo to the faculty member.
    - ii. If utilized, the Dean's Advisory Committee shall render written findings and recommendations, with

the record, to the dean or designee and to the faculty member within five (5) days from the hearing;

- b. **Hearing by Dean:** If neither the dean nor the faculty member elects to utilize the Dean's Advisory Committee, the dean shall conduct the pre-determination hearing within fifteen (15) days from the date of the notice letter or memo.
  - c. **Legal Counsel:** If the faculty member is represented by legal counsel, the university may also utilize legal counsel. The role of the attorneys during the pre-determination hearing is not to actively participate or present, but to advise and provide support.
  - d. **Conduct of Pre-Determination Hearing:** At the pre-determination hearing, the faculty member will be given the opportunity to respond to the charges and to the evidence, including the submission of documentary and other evidence, such as any witness statements collected. In the event the faculty members informs the dean in advance of the hearing that an NMSU employee is a necessary witness and will not cooperate in providing a statement, NMSU will make arrangements for the witness to be available either in person or through other telephonic or technological means.
4. **Issuance of Determination: [10 days or less]** Within ten (10) days from the pre-determination hearing or from receipt of the Dean's Advisory Committee's findings and recommendations, as appropriate, the dean shall issue a determination to the parties, with a copy to the assistant vice president of human resource services and to the university's general counsel. The dean may uphold, modify or reject the proposed administrative action.
  5. **Notification of Right to Appeal.** The determination shall notify the faculty member of the right to appeal. If the faculty member does not appeal, a copy of the determination shall be sent to the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, as well as filed in the faculty member's official personnel file.
- N. **Post-Determination Appeal:** The aggrieved faculty member may appeal the determination of the dean in accordance with the policies and procedures below.
1. **Initiation of Appeal: [5 days]** To appeal, the faculty member ("appellant") shall submit a written notice of appeal to the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, within five (5) days from the receipt of the dean's determination. The appellant shall also send a copy of the notice of appeal to the dean and to the assistant vice president of human resource services.
  2. **Notice to Convene Faculty Appeals Board: [3 days]** Within three (3) days, the executive vice president and provost shall notify the Faculty Senate chair to convene the Faculty Appeals Board.
  3. **Faculty Appeals Board:**
    - a. **Composition:** The Faculty Appeals Board is convened as needed; its membership for any given appeal shall be determined based on the date the Notice of Appeal is received by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost. The Faculty Appeals Board shall consist of each senator with the longest continuous Faculty Senate service from each Faculty Senate voting unit. If a senator is from the same department or other academic unit as the appellant or is otherwise unable to serve (*See* subsection 4 a. below), the senator with the next longest Faculty Senate service from the same voting unit shall be selected by the Faculty Senate chair to serve. If two senators have identical length of service, the senator with the longest service at the university will serve; if there still remains a tie, lots shall be drawn.
    - b. **Quorum:** All Faculty Appeals Board members are required to attend each appeal hearing.
    - c. **Chair:** The Faculty Appeals Board will elect one of its members to serve as chair on a hearing by hearing basis, after notification by the Faculty Senate chair to the appropriate senators that the Faculty Appeals Board needs to convene.
    - d. **Administrative Support:** The Faculty Senate chair and the assistant vice president of human resource services shall coordinate to provide the Faculty Appeals Board with the necessary clerical, administrative and/or technical support it requires. They may also provide guidance to all parties regarding applicable time deadlines and other procedural issues that may arise.
  4. **Conduct of Appeal Hearing: [25 days]** Within twenty five days (25) from the date of the notice of appeal, the Faculty Appeals Board shall schedule a hearing on the matter of the faculty member's appeal.
    - a. **Fair and Impartial Hearing/Avoidance of Conflicts of Interest:** Faculty members are entitled to a fair and impartial hearing. This includes the prompt resolution of actual and perceived conflicts of interest. (*See* M. 3. a. above)

- i. Disclosure of Potential Conflicts of Interest:
  - The members of the Faculty Appeals Board shall disclose any potential or actual conflict of interest immediately, or as soon as practicable, in order that the issue may be fully resolved prior to the appeal hearing.
  - A party shall also raise the issue of a perceived conflict of interest as soon as the conflict is known.
- ii. Resolution of Disclosed or Perceived Conflicts of Interest:
  - In the event a conflict of interest issue is raised, verbally or in writing by anyone, the Faculty Appeals Board chair shall give notice of the potential conflict to the parties and proceed to resolve the issue as expeditiously as possible.
  - If a challenged Faculty Appeals Board member agrees that the conflict is sufficient to render the member unable to participate in a fair and impartial manner, the member shall decline to participate and an alternate member will be selected by the Faculty Senate chair, in accordance with M. 3 a. above.
  - If the challenged Faculty Appeals Board member disagrees that there is a conflict sufficient to affect impartiality, the matter will be decided by the Faculty Senate chair.
  - Each party may provide their position on the issue, and to comment on the position of the other party.
  - If a Faculty Appeals Board member is excused based on a finding of conflict of interest, an alternate member will be selected by the Faculty Senate chair, in accordance with M. 3 a. above.
- iii. Guidelines for Determining Conflicts of Interest:
  - Under no circumstances will a Faculty Appeals Board member participate in a hearing convened to hear an appeal by a person with whom the member has a familial, personal or close professional relationship. A Faculty Appeals Board member shall not hear a matter involving faculty from their own NMSU entity.
  - If one or more of the witnesses has a close relationship with one of the Faculty Appeals Board members, disqualification from service shall not be automatic, but shall be decided based upon the specific facts of each case.
  - If the appellant or a witness has had prior contact with either the assigned mediator or a hearing panel member, disqualification from service shall not be automatic, but shall be decided based upon the specific facts of each case.
- b. Scope of Hearing and Burden of Proof: The hearing will be limited to the issues relevant to those identified in the notice of proposed corrective action, and the university bears the burden of showing that the action taken was supported by just cause.
- c. Closed Hearing: The hearing will be closed to the public.
- d. Hearing Record: The hearing will be electronically or digitally recorded. NMSU will not provide transcripts of the hearing; upon request and payment of a reasonable recording fee, the university will provide an audio, digital or other form of recording, as appropriate. (*See also* subsection O. below)
- e. Informal Nature of Hearing: The hearings of the Faculty Appeals Board are not be bound by the rules of civil procedure, and any evidence of probative value in determining the issues involved may be admitted. Every possible effort will be made to obtain the most reliable evidence available.
- f. Legal Counsel: Each party may be represented by legal counsel in their preparations for the hearing and appearance before the Faculty Appeals Board.
- g. Notice of Hearing: The chair will notify the appellant, respondent NMSU department and other appropriate persons in writing the date, time, and location of the hearing. The hearing will be scheduled within twenty five (25) days from the date of the notice of appeal.
- h. Pre-Hearing Exchange of Documents: **[5 days prior to hearing]** At least five days prior to the hearing, each party shall submit a copy of their position statement and supporting evidence to the assistant vice president for human resource services, and to the other party via secure electronic delivery, or other confidential means. The assistant vice president for human resource services shall ensure that each member of the Faculty Appeals Board receives a copy at least three (3) days prior to the hearing.



- i. **Exclusion of Witnesses:** Witnesses shall be excluded from the hearing except to provide their testimony. This rule does not apply to parties, who may also be witnesses.
  - j. **Fair and Orderly Hearing:** The chair will assure that all parties have an adequate opportunity to present relevant evidence to the Faculty Appeals Board. Each party may call witnesses in support of their respective position. The Faculty Appeals Board may allocate reasonable time limits for each party. Each party will be invited to make an introductory opening statement, to present witness testimony and documentary evidence, and if time allows, to provide a summation of the evidence tendered. Each party shall be permitted an opportunity to cross examine the witnesses called by the opposing party.
  - k. **Closure of Hearing:** After the parties have concluded their presentations, the Chair will formally close the appeal hearing, and excuse the parties and witnesses.
  - l. **Deliberations by Faculty Appeals Board:** The Faculty Appeals Board will deliberate on the evidence received at the hearing; depending upon the time the hearing is concluded, the Faculty Appeals Board may recess and continue their deliberations to another date and time.
  - m. **Issuance of Findings and Recommendations:** **[15 days or less]** Within 15 days from the close of the appeal hearing, the chair shall submit the Faculty Appeals Board's collective findings and recommended conclusions on the issue of whether or not the action taken was supported by just cause, including the vote count and any dissenting opinion, along with the appeal hearing record. The Faculty Appeals Board shall not distribute its findings and recommendations, or otherwise disseminate any information from the confidential personnel hearing, to any person or office other than the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.
- 5. **Decision by Executive Vice President and Provost:** **[10 days or less]** The executive vice president and provost shall issue a decision to the parties within ten (10) days from receipt of the Faculty Appeals Board's findings and recommendations and the record.
  - a. In the event of a conflict of interest or other disqualifying event on the part of the executive vice president and provost, university general counsel will select a designee to decide the appeal, potentially including an outside professional.
  - b. The executive vice president and provost's decision shall notify the faculty member of the right to seek a final review by the Chancellor. A copy of the Faculty Appeals Board's findings and recommendations shall be attached to the decision.
  - c. If no final review is sought, a copy of the executive vice president and provost's decision will be filed in the faculty member's official personnel file.
- O. **Final Review by Chancellor:** The aggrieved faculty member ("appellant") may appeal the decision of the executive vice president and provost in accordance with the following:
  - 1. **Request for Final Review:** **[5 days]** Final review shall be initiated by filing a written request for with the Office of the Chancellor within five (5) days from receipt of the executive vice president and provost's decision. The appellant shall also send a copy of the request for final review to the executive vice president and to the assistant vice president of human resource services.
  - 2. **Designee in Event of Unavailability:** In the event of a conflict of interest or other disqualifying event on the part of the Chancellor, the university's general counsel will select a designee to render the final review, potentially including an outside professional.
  - 3. **Review:** **[20 days or less]** The Chancellor shall review the record and issue a final decision on behalf of the university within twenty (20) days from receipt of the request for final review and receipt of the record. In the event that the Chancellor wishes to hear from any party about the evidence in the record, all parties shall be present.
  - 4. **Issuance of Final Decision:** The Chancellor's decision shall be delivered to the parties and to the Faculty Appeals Board's chair, to the assistant vice president for human resource services and to the university general counsel. The decision of the Chancellor shall be final. A copy of the Chancellor's decision shall be filed in the faculty member's official personnel file.
- P. **Maintenance and Storage of All Hearing Records:** The pre-determination, appeal and final review hearing records consisting of all official hearing correspondence, position statements and evidence submitted by the parties, and electronic recordings will be filed in the Office of Human Resource Services. A copy of the final decision in each contested personnel matter shall also be filed and maintained permanently in the Office of the Executive Vice

President and Provost.

### 5.55 - Emeritus Status

*Amendment (FS Proposition 15-09/10) passed 04.29.10 and also recommended by the Administrative Council 05.11.10; approved by the Board of Regents 07.20.10]*

- A. **Emeritus Status:** The university provides for the emeritus faculty member the privileges and services available to all other faculty members. In furthering this objective, the following policies pertain: Emeritus status for faculty is based upon two conditions:
1. That the faculty member is eligible for retirement under the New Mexico Educational Retirement Act or the Federal Civil Service; and
  2. That the faculty member is tenured by the university; or is a college faculty who has been promoted (as per College Faculty promotion policies) to the rank of college professor.
- B. **Emeritus Benefits:** Individual emeritus faculty shall be listed for life as emeriti in the catalog. Emeritus faculty will receive general university publications (*e.g., Page One*) upon request. They may be issued identification cards; be listed in the university phone directory; have on-campus office or work facilities (if available, requested, and approved); and may be requested as an emeritus consultant. (*See also Rule [7.26 Retirement, Educational](#)*)

### 5.60 - Endowed Chairs and Professorships

Appointment of individuals to the following endowed chairs/professorships requires the approval of the cognizant dean and also the executive vice president and provost:

- The Gerald W. Thomas Chair in Food Production and Natural Resources
- Jose Fernandez Chair in Field Crop Production
- Telemetering and Telecommunication Chair
- The Tombaugh Professorship in Astronomy

### 5.65 - Faculty Exchange

- A. **Eligibility:** All full-time faculty and staff are eligible to participate in exchanges, with the approval of the cognizant department head, dean, director, vice president, and executive vice president and provost. The number of exchanges in any period will be limited only by the resources available to support exchange, and to the extent which exchanges can positively affect the teaching, research and service programs of the college. Faculty will be encouraged to consider international exchanges and sabbaticals.
- B. **Length:** Exchanges may be for any length of time subject to the approval of the cognizant administrators.
- C. **Compensation:** The university will continue to pay the exchange participant's salary and fringe benefits during participation in an approved exchange program. The participant, in effect, remains under contract with the university. A faculty or staff member preparing for exchange, or on exchange, will be considered the same as a continuing faculty or staff member for the purposes of annual salary incremental decisions. Individuals and departments may propose other approaches to compensation, depending upon the particular exchange circumstance.
- D. **Promotion, Leave, and Other Considerations:** Exchange participants will not lose rights or progress toward promotion, tenure, and sabbatical leave considerations by virtue of their participation in an exchange program. In other personnel considerations, exchange participants will be treated, to the extent possible, as if they were in residence at the university.
- E. **Rights and Responsibilities:** Exchange participants will not lose any rights or responsibilities as members of the faculty and staff or as employees of the university by virtue of participation in the exchange program.
- F. **Legal and Contractual Obligations:** A Leave Request Form is required. Exchange assignments will be detailed in a Home Memorandum of Agreement following placement. Any special legal or contractual obligations of the individual or the institution will be specified on this form. A similar form will be signed between the exchange

participant and the host institution. For incoming exchange participants, the college will specify on a Host Memorandum of Agreement any contractual obligations, exchange responsibilities, and any special considerations related to the incoming faculty or staff member. No housing or relocation expenses will be paid to either outgoing or incoming exchange faculty or staff unless agreed to in the Memorandum of Agreement.

**5.84 - Office Hours** (See also Policies [3.70 Office Hours - Administrative](#); [7.10 Holidays \(NMSU Official\)](#) and [8.75 Workweek](#))

- A. Work Hours: Faculty members will be present and available to students during the entire official dates of every academic semester. For the Fall semester, they will be available from the date of opening programs for faculty/staff through the date final grades are due; for the Spring semester, they will be available from the January return date listed as a note on the academic calendar through the date final grades are due.
- B. Faculty Absence from Class: A faculty member is responsible for informing the department head prior to being absent from campus for the purpose of out-of-city or out-of-state travel. In case of illness, the general practice is for another member of the department to substitute until the faculty member returns. However, the faculty member is responsible for informing the department head of absence from classes for any reason.
- C. Adherence to Class Schedule: Each faculty member is expected to meet classes as scheduled or to notify the department head in advance if it is necessary to miss classes. Faculty members will meet each class at the place listed in the schedule unless they have approval from the department head to meet elsewhere. (This especially pertains to changing a class to any off-campus location.)
- D. Office Hours for Students: Each faculty member is responsible to have office hours clearly posted and to be present during those times.
- E. Classes to Meet During Exam Week: Also, every class will meet during exam week, whether or not a final examination is given at that meeting.
- F. Class Cancellation: Classes are not to be cancelled without prior approval of the appropriate department head, dean, or campus executive officer.

**5.86 [EFFECTIVE THROUGH AUGUST 12, 2018]**

**5.86 - Performance Evaluation**

(See Also [5.45 Department Head - Review](#) and [5.35 Deans - Review](#) above, as well as [5.15.40 Appointments - Nontenure-Track](#))

- A. Policy Statement: The performance of each faculty member will be reviewed at least once a year by the department head, comparable administrator, or a committee. This review will include a written report submitted by the faculty member. The form(s) of this report shall be determined by individual colleges (community colleges) in consultation with their departments. The department head or comparable administrator shall report the results of this review to the individual being reviewed. These results shall serve to establish the goals for the following year. A written copy of the evaluation shall be given to the faculty member.
- B. Procedures for the Faculty Performance Evaluation System:
  - 1. Each college uses its own performance evaluation form. Early in each fall semester the department head or comparable administrator supplies each faculty member with a form. At this time the department head confers with new faculty members concerning the recording of objectives and goals and the general use of the form. In the case of continuing faculty members, the department head or faculty may request a conference for the purpose of revising or updating objectives previously agreed upon. Department heads will share the above agreements in writing with the faculty member.
  - 2. Department heads are expected to meet with all new and returning faculty members regarding progress toward promotion and tenure and to certify in writing to the appropriate dean that these meetings have occurred. Specific evaluative comments in each of the three areas of performance are required, as well as separate comments about progress toward tenure and toward promotion.
  - 3. Each faculty member completes a written form detailing and citing accomplishments in the broad categories

of teaching, research and/or creative scholarship, and service during the performance evaluation period. The type, method of collection, and disposition of evidence regarding effectiveness of teaching is of particular importance, and faculty should consult with department heads concerning collection of this evidence. The performance evaluation form, along with any supplemental material, is submitted by each faculty member to the faculty member's department head.

4. The department head reviews the faculty performance forms, prepares a written evaluation based upon accomplishments reported as compared with previously set goals and objectives (a copy of this report will be shared with the faculty member), and confers with appropriate deans to achieve consensus on the written recommendation and the prepared summary to be discussed with the faculty member. Following the conference with the dean, the department head meets with the faculty member to discuss all aspects of the performance evaluation, addressing separately the person's progress toward promotion, progress toward tenure, strengths, and weaknesses. This conference also serves to set goals and objectives for the ensuing year. No mention shall be made at this conference of the recommendation in terms of dollars. These goals and objectives will be placed in writing, with a copy to the faculty member.
5. At community colleges with program coordinators, the coordinator performs the duties of a department head in the evaluation process. The coordinator will confer with the community college executive officer, who in turn confers with the executive vice president and provost.
6. Department heads formulate recommendations where appropriate regarding promotion and tenure on the basis of policies stated in this manual. These are communicated to the college dean.
7. Each college generates its own time schedule for accomplishing the above items, within the parameters of the university calendar.
8. It will be the function of the Faculty Senate to legislate policy, rules or procedures regarding the Faculty Performance Evaluation System.

### **5.87 - Post-Tenure Review** *[Effective August 13, 2018, this rule will be re-located, as may be amended, to follow Rule 5.90 - Promotion and Tenure]*

*Policy (Proposition 22-05/06) passed by the Faculty Senate 05.04.06; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 09.08.06]*

#### **5.87.1 Introduction**

The Post-Tenure Review rule ensures that all tenured faculty members will receive an annual review and that those with either exceptionally fine performance or serious deficiencies in one or more areas will be identified. Special achievement shall be rewarded in a manner determined by each college or community college campus. For a tenured faculty member who receives two successive unsatisfactory annual reviews with identified and uncorrected serious deficiencies, this rule provides a mechanism to establish a remedial program for correcting the deficiencies. The legislation to which this rule responds is particularly concerned with the quality of teaching, and that fact shall be considered when taking any action under this rule. In particular, faculty whose teaching needs improvement will be urged to take advantage of "programs designed to assist faculty members in enhancing their teaching skills." (NMSA 1978, Section 21-1-7.1)

#### **5.87.2 Annual Reviews**

- A. Annual Review for Tenured Faculty: Tenured faculty members annually participate in and receive an extensive examination of their teaching, their research and scholarly output, and their service as part of the annual review process conducted in accordance with Rule [5.86 - Performance Evaluations](#). This annual review document shall be labeled the Post Tenure Review of each tenured faculty member. This Post Tenure Review shall weight the three areas of teaching, scholarly work, and service in proportion to the percentage each category is given in the faculty member's allocation of effort for a given year.
- B. Post Tenure Review Not Applicable for Full Time Administrators: Administrators who hold tenured faculty rank are reviewed on the performance of their faculty duties (teaching, research, and service). Administrators who have no assigned faculty duties will not be reviewed under this rule.

### 5.87.3 More Complete Post-Tenure Reviews

- A. Notification to Faculty Member about Deficiency: If, in the judgment of a superior, the annual review for a tenured faculty member shows a serious deficiency in the performance of that faculty member, the superior shall inform the faculty member in writing of the deficiency as well as recommend actions the faculty member might take to address the issue.
- B. Deficiency Not Rectified: If the deficiency or deficiencies continues for two or more years and if the faculty member has not taken the corrective actions, one of two possible courses of action may ensue:
1. The faculty member may request that the superior submit the record of poor performance and suggested actions to the other tenured faculty members of the unit for consideration in a more complete review, or
  2. If the faculty member does not request the review, the superior may initiate such a review with the concurrence of a majority of the tenured faculty in the academic unit.
- C. Goal of and Procedures for More Complete Review: The more complete review shall have the aim of identifying strengths and weaknesses of the faculty member in teaching, research, and service.
1. This review shall be undertaken by the departmental promotion and tenure committee.
  2. If there is no departmental promotion and tenure committee for that unit, the review will be undertaken by the equivalent college-level promotion and tenure committee as specified in [5.90 Promotion and Tenure](#) of this manual.
  3. Student evaluations must be considered when evaluating the faculty member's teaching, along with other factors.
  4. If the reviewers conclude that the faculty member's performance is not seriously deficient, the faculty member shall be so informed and a statement of the finding placed in the faculty member's personnel file.
  5. If serious deficiency is found, a specific remedial program shall be developed in consultation with the faculty member that includes procedures, criteria for evaluating progress, and a reasonable timetable. If the faculty member's teaching needs improvement, such a program might include participation in programs offered by the Teaching Academy, mentoring by a recipient of teaching awards, intensive study of videotaped classroom sessions, etc. When research and publication needs improvement, collaboration with another faculty member and participation in workshops on publishing might be indicated. However, in accordance with NMSA 1978, Section 21-1-7.1, part E(1), any remedial effort can be no shorter than two years in length.

### 5.87.4 Enhancement Program

Whether or not a tenured faculty member accepts the recommendation to participate in a teaching or scholarly work enhancement program, and whether or not the member performs well in the program, the faculty member's performance will be judged on subsequent teaching and scholarly work.

### 5.87.5 Frequency of Review

The more complete review shall not be initiated for any tenured faculty member more frequently than once every five years.

### 5.87.6 Persistent Teaching Deficiencies

If a tenured faculty member's teaching deficiencies are considered by the executive vice president and provost to be very serious and to have been uncorrected at the conclusion of the agreed time period, and further, if there is evidence that the faculty member's teaching performance has deteriorated since the award of tenure such that the faculty member's teaching performance is now typically unsatisfactory, the executive vice president and provost shall recommend loss of tenure for the faculty member in question.

If tenure is to be revoked, the university shall follow the processes specified in [5.98 Tenure Track and Tenure](#) for Involuntary Termination of a Continuous Contract, subject to the safeguards of [4.25 Due Process](#).

### 5.87.7 Reporting

Every year, each academic dean and the chief community college executive officer of each campus shall report to the executive vice president and provost.

- A. The number of tenured faculty receiving annual evaluations,
- B. The number receiving unsatisfactory evaluations,
- C. The number of tenured faculty who have been the subject of a more detailed peer review,
- D. The number of faculty who have participated in a remedial program as a result,
- E. The results of those programs,
- F. And the number of faculty whose tenure have been revoked

*[5.90 EFFECTIVE THROUGH AUGUST 12, 2018]*

### **5.90 - Promotion and Tenure** (See Chapter 5 Table of Contents for topical headings)

*[Amendment (FS Proposition 18-06/07 to be effective 08.01.08 )passed by the Faculty Senate 05.03.07 and Amendment (FS Proposition 16-07/08 to be effective 08.01.08) passed by the Faculty Senate 03.06.08; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08]*

#### **5.90.1 Introduction**

- A. Promotion and tenure decisions are the means by which NMSU rewards and retains its most valued scholars, sustains excellence in its instructional disciplines, and fulfills its mission to advance knowledge. The quality of faculty accomplishments in teaching and advising (or its equivalent), scholarship and creative activity, extension, outreach and service largely determines the quality of the university as a whole. The granting of tenure or promotion to associate or full professor represents a prediction by the university that the individual concerned will continue to make substantial contributions to the profession and the university.
- B. The processes involved in promotion and tenure rely upon basic principles in order to be effective. Above all, the promotion and tenure processes must be fair, transparent, and participatory. These values mean that decisions must be made without regard to race, national origin, gender, gender identity, age, disability, political beliefs, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, special friendships, or animus towards candidates, taking care to avoid conflicts of interest, structural, institutional, or habitual thoughts and patterns that could lead to discrimination. NMSU values the richness that inquiry based upon intellectual and cultural differences brings to the university community.
- C. Each principal unit must develop written standards by the end of the Spring Semester of 2008 based on criteria developed by that principal unit subject to the approval of the dean or equivalent administrator. Criteria and procedures must be clear and readily available to all participants and must be followed by all participants at each level of the process. Therefore, it is imperative that clear standards for annual performance evaluation, promotion, and tenure be articulated and broadly publicized. Applicants for tenure or promotion must be judged on their performance of the duties assigned to them, following agreed-upon allocations of effort. The process needs to involve broad consultation by groups and individuals with successively broader views of the mission of the university, and provide the opportunity for appeal. In order to achieve fairness, transparency, and broad-based participation, all of the parties must base decisions on the documentation called for by this rule.
- D. This rule relies on the four types of scholarship defined by Ernest L. Boyer (1990) in his book “Scholarship Reconsidered”<sup>1</sup>, namely, the scholarships of discovery, of teaching, of integration, and of engagement. Broadening the definition of scholarship (See Rule [5.90.4.2 Scholarships and Creative Activity](#)) reflects the changing roles of faculty members in teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, extension, outreach and service.

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<sup>1</sup> Boyer, Ernest L. (1990). *Scholarship reconsidered: Priorities of the Professoriate*. New York: Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.



E. This rule (formerly policy) takes effect at the beginning of the Fall Semester, 2008.

## 5.90.2 Glossary

Key terms used throughout this document are defined here.

- A. Allocation of Effort: The percentage of effort, agreed upon by the faculty member and department head or supervisor, that the faculty member will devote to each of the major categories of teaching and advising (or its equivalent), scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, outreach and other assigned duties.
- B. Annual Performance Review: See [5.86 Performance Evaluation](#).
- C. College Faculty: A faculty member on a regular (0.5 FTE or greater) appointment, who is not eligible for tenure. (See also Rule [4.30.10 Hiring Definitions](#); Rule [5.15.40 Appointments-Nontenure Track](#)).
- D. Core Document: A document submitted in the portfolio for promotion or tenure that includes several specific elements: a routing form, cover sheet, table of contents, curriculum vitae, executive summary, department head and dean letters, prior and current allocation of effort statements, annual performance evaluations, summary of teaching evaluations, and letters of support. (See Rules [5.90.5.1 Performance Evaluations](#) and [5.90.5.5 Portfolio Preparation](#)).
- E. Curriculum Vitae: A detailed summary that reflects the candidate's educational and academic experiences that are relevant to the position.
- F. Documentation File: An organized collection of supplemental documents and other materials that supports, explains, or clarifies the quality and significance of the candidate's work. Administrators and committee members must have access to this file, which is stored by the Principal Unit.
- G. Executive Summary: A summative report and personal statement by the candidate that addresses their activities in and philosophies regarding teaching and advising (or its equivalent), scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, outreach, and other assigned areas.
- H. Extension: The process of defining and building relationships between communities and the university to extend university resources and intellectual expertise through coalition building, non-formal educational programs, and applied research designed to address locally identified needs.
- I. Flexibility in Tenure-Track: The extension or reduction of the pre-tenure probationary period under certain circumstances.
- J. Formative Evaluation: Evaluation that allows for continuous feedback and improvement.
- K. Joint Appointment: A faculty line shared between two departments or colleges; the appointee enjoys all the privileges and incurs all the responsibilities normally given in each area.
- L. Mid-probationary Review: A formal, non-mandatory mid-term assessment requested by a tenure-track faculty member of their professional development and progress toward tenure. The mid-probationary review is in addition to the annual performance evaluation.
- M. Outreach: Entails an organized and planned program of activities which are offered to citizens of New Mexico and the nation; these activities bring the resources of the university to bear in a coherent and strategic fashion for the benefit of the receiving entity.
- N. Peer Evaluation: Assessment of teaching style, content, and effectiveness gained through observation by colleagues; the observations may come in such forms as classroom visits, participation in web-based courses, review of videotaped teaching, or reviews of course materials collected/created by the faculty member being reviewed.
- O. Performance Evaluation: An annual report prepared by the faculty member documenting activities in the areas of teaching and advising (or its equivalent), scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, outreach, and other assigned areas. The department head (or other assigned supervisor) provides the faculty member with a

written appraisal of the faculty member's performance.

- P. Portfolio: Consists of the core document and documentation file that supports the candidate's case for promotion or tenure.
- Q. Post-tenure Review: An annual review designed to identify strengths and weaknesses of the tenured faculty member in the areas of teaching and advising (or its equivalent), scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, outreach and other assigned areas. The Performance Evaluation generally serves the above aim; however, if deemed necessary due to deficiencies, a more extensive review may be initiated. (See Rule [5.87 - Post Tenure Review](#)).
- R. Probationary Period: The cumulative amount of time spent under term appointments while on the "tenure-track." (See Rule [5.90.3.6 - Flexibility in Tenure Track](#)).
- S. Principal Unit: A tenure home unit responsible for conducting annual faculty performance evaluations and making promotion and tenure decisions. This definition includes Departments, Colleges, Community Colleges, Cooperative Extension Service, and the Library, but not centers, clusters, or institutes.
- T. Research: (See Scholarship).
- U. Scholarship: Both activity and product, scholarship includes discovery through original research; integration through synthesizing and reintegration of knowledge; application through professional practice; and teaching through transformation of knowledge. (See Boyer, 1990 and Rule [5.90.4.2 Scholarship and Creative Activity](#)).
- V. Supporting Documents: Material available to the Promotion and Tenure Committee in the Documentation File that serves to further support, explain, or clarify the Core Document.
- W. Tenure: Continuous contract granted after a probationary period to a faculty member that gives protection from dismissal without due process; the primary purpose of tenure is to protect academic freedom and offer economic security.
- X. Tenure Clock: (See Rule [5.90.3.6 Flexibility in Tenure Track](#)).
- Y. Tenure Home: The principal unit where tenure and rank resides or will reside.
- Z. Tenure-Track Faculty: A faculty member who is eligible for tenure but who has not yet been granted tenure.
- AA. Tenured Faculty: A faculty member who has been granted a continuous contract by the university.

### 5.90.3 Guiding Principles

The following guiding principles are critical underpinnings to the promotion and tenure process at NMSU.

#### 5.90.3.1 Faculty Participation

The selection and retention of faculty members are of utmost importance to the quality of the university, the achievement of university goals, and the future of the institution. In order to ensure a fair process for recognition of excellent faculty, it shall be the policy of the university to allow faculty members to vote on the promotion or tenure of departmental colleagues, exercising collegial judgment based on an established set of criteria.

#### 5.90.3.2 Transparency of Process

- A. Access to Promotion and Tenure Policies/University Posting: For faculty members to trust the promotion and tenure process, they need to have a clear idea of what is expected of them, how they will be evaluated, and the rules of the process. To this end, the university website will include a specific link to the university-wide promotion and tenure rules and procedures, professional ethics related to promotion and tenure, the appeals process, and links to college, department, or division policy statements.



**B. Departmental and Principal Unit Postings:**

1. To promote the transparency of the process, each principal unit shall post on its website its written policy document aligned with the Guiding Principles, Criteria, and Policies outlined in these rules and procedures.
2. Websites will also contain links to the university's promotion and tenure documents, as well as to each of the department websites.
3. In addition, each department shall post on its website its current statement of goals, objectives, and expectations as these relate to promotion and tenure (sometimes called a functions and criteria statement). These shall be agreed upon by the faculty in each department and approved by the responsible dean or comparable administrator.

**C. Policies to be Provided to Eligible Faculty:** A written copy of promotion and tenure policies will be given to all tenure-track, tenured, college and research faculty who are eligible for consideration for promotion or tenure.**5.90.3.2.1 Conflict of Interest** – (See Policies [3.19 Conflicts of Interest - Ethical Conduct](#) and [3.22 Conflicts of Interest Arising from Consensual Relationships](#))**5.90.3.3 Performance Evaluation**

The annual performance evaluation is a component of the promotion and tenure process. This multi-layered evaluation system relies on consistency at each level of review. The performance of each faculty member, including college faculty, will be reviewed at least once a year. The performance evaluation provides documentation of expectations and a record of faculty performance relative to stated expectations. The form of the evaluation is determined by the college or community college and shall align with promotion and tenure expectations. (See Rules [5.90.5.1 Performance Evaluations](#) and [5.90.6 Post Tenure Review](#))

**5.90.3.4 Allocation of Effort**

- A. Service to Mission: The amount of effort that faculty members regardless of rank or position devote to the various aspects of their duties necessarily varies, and any fair promotion and tenure process will recognize these variations. A successful process considers whether the faculty member is effectively serving the mission of the university, as defined by a department's criteria and the individual's agreed upon goals and objectives. This means, for example, that the efforts of a faculty member made in response to administrators or committees are taken into account during promotion and tenure evaluation and are not discredited.
- B. Fairness Despite Variance in Duties: One faculty member may devote more time to teaching at one point than at another. The efforts of two faculty members may vary at the same points in their careers according to their particular strengths and department needs. Faculty assignments in different departments will also vary. It is fundamentally unfair, for example, to expect the same amount of scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, or outreach from a faculty member teaching one class a semester as from another faculty member teaching three classes a semester or several large lecture classes.
- C. Equitable Treatment: In order to ensure equitable treatment, every faculty member will complete an allocation of effort statement as part of the annual evaluation process. (See also [5.20.20 Assignments - Teaching Load](#)) When determining the allocation of effort, decisions must be made without regard to race, national origin, gender, gender identity, age, disability, political beliefs, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, special friendships, or animus towards candidates. Further, for the allocation of effort statement to be accurate and useful, administrators at all levels must understand and take an active role in avoiding institutional factors that could produce an undue burden on untenured faculty members and those from underrepresented groups in the allocation of effort process.
- D. Use of Allocation of Effort Statement: Each college shall develop and use an allocation of effort statement as specified in Rule [5.90.5.1 Performance Evaluations](#). These statements shall be a part of the faculty member's tenure and/or promotion portfolio, and all aspects of the agreed upon efforts shall be factored into the recommendation made at each step of the process.

### 5.90.3.5 The Professorial Ranks

#### A. Instructor:

1. Demonstrates expertise within their discipline through practical, applied, and/or related experience.
2. Individuals new to this rank may not have demonstrated ability to conduct independent scholarship and creative activity, but there must be substantive evidence of likely success at university teaching or its equivalent.
3. Instructors may be working toward a terminal degree.
4. An instructor's job description primarily relates to teaching or its equivalent and usually does not include scholarship and creative activity.
5. An instructor is not eligible for tenure, except at the community colleges.

#### B. College Faculty: A person holding a college faculty appointment is eligible for advancement in rank but not eligible for tenure.

#### C. Assistant Professor:

1. Normally holds the highest terminal degree in their field of expertise.
2. Outstanding experience and recognition in a professional field may be considered the equivalent of the terminal degree.
3. An assistant professor is expected to have a thorough command of the subject matter of some segment of the discipline, in addition to a comprehension of the whole.
4. Assistant professors are tenure-track faculty members hired on a yearly, renewable contract for a maximum of seven years.
5. During the sixth year, assistant professors typically are evaluated for promotion and tenure simultaneously, having submitted their portfolio at the beginning of that year.
6. However, an assistant professor may elect to apply for tenure or promotion at any time with the written approval of department head and dean or their equivalents.
7. The application for tenure may occur only one time.

#### D. Associate Professor:

1. An associate professor is often a mid-career faculty member who has been awarded tenure.
2. If a faculty member is initially employed at the rank of associate professor without tenure, the probationary period may vary depending upon agreements stipulated in writing at the time of initial hire.
3. Once tenured, associate professors may hold this rank indefinitely or apply for promotion.
4. Promotion to professor should not be considered to be forthcoming merely because of years of service to the university, or because tenure has previously been awarded.
5. In accordance with the principal unit's timelines, a faculty member may present a promotion portfolio in any given year.
6. An associate professor must demonstrate competence, continuous progress, and maturity over a large part of the academic field.
7. It is expected that evidence showing high quality of teaching and scholarship and creative activity has been provided and is current.

E. Professor:

1. A professor, sometimes referred to as a “full professor,” has established disciplinary, intellectual, and institutional leadership.
2. The professor demonstrates command and a mature view of the disciplinary field as evidenced by teaching and advising (or its equivalent) or similar experience, scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, or outreach.
3. Faculty members initially hired at the rank of professor are often given tenure on appointment.

**5.90.3.6 Flexibility in Tenure-Track**

Normally, before being considered for tenure, eligible faculty members serve six consecutive probationary years. The probationary period begins with the first year of the contract. Note that according to [5.98 Tenure Track and Tenure](#), “New tenure-track faculty reporting for duty after the last Friday in September (12-month employees) or the second Friday in October (9-month employees) will not receive a temporary contract...” The first contract will be issued at the beginning of the next contract period, which will constitute the first year of the probationary period toward tenure. During the sixth year, a case for tenure and/or promotion is made by the faculty member and considered by the university. Those achieving tenure are awarded a continuous contract at the end of their sixth year, while those not awarded tenure are given a one-year terminal contract for their seventh and final year of employment at NMSU. There may be exceptions, however, to shorten or lengthen the normal six-year probationary period.

**5.90.3.6.1 Credit for Prior Service**

- A. Faculty members with previous teaching and advising (or its equivalent), service, extension, outreach, scholarly, and/or administrative experience at another institution may have some or all of that experience taken into consideration on appointment at NMSU.
- B. With executive vice-president and provost approval, and particularly when tenure has been granted to a candidate at another institution, tenure may be accorded at the time of initial appointment to the university.
- C. Prior probationary service at another institution may count towards the six-year probationary period at NMSU, but usually only up to a maximum of three years.
- D. Any expedited schedule must be recommended by the department head and dean and agreed to by both the executive vice-president and provost and the faculty member at the time of appointment.
- E. The details of such credit for prior service, the resulting length of the probationary period, the timing of any third-year review, and the period for the tenure application process, shall all be stated unambiguously in the appointment letter.

**5.90.3.6.2 Extension of the Probationary Period**

When requested in writing within one year of the qualifying event by the faculty member, leaves of absence can lead to postponement of the tenure decision date; however, modifications in that date require the recommendation of the department head and dean and the approval of the executive vice-president and provost. Faculty responsibilities may be negotiated when the extension is requested. An extension may be granted up to two times, so long as the total pre-tenure probationary period does not exceed eight years. Exceptions to this limit can be made under extraordinary circumstances if approved by the executive vice-president and provost. Candidates must be held to the same standards of performance when the probationary period has been extended as candidates whose probationary period was not extended. The probationary period may be extended, upon written request, under the following circumstances:

- A. Leave of Absence without Pay: Probationary faculty members may request in writing a leave of absence without pay, usually not to exceed one academic or fiscal year. Prior to initiating the leave, affected faculty may request in writing a probation extension of one year.
- B. Military Leave of Absence: Involuntary induction into the armed forces entitles the faculty member to a leave of absence to cover the term of military service. Such leave constitutes valid grounds for requesting an extension of the tenure decision date. Similarly, a faculty member’s voluntary participation in a military reserve program may lead to periodic or prolonged absence sufficient to affect the faculty member’s performance (*e.g.*, annual active duty training, or active duty training or participation when a reserve unit is called to active duty) that constitutes

valid grounds for extension of the tenure decision date.

- C. Medical Leave of Absence: Probationary faculty members with a serious personal illness or providing prolonged, substantive care for a chronically ill family member may request in writing an extension of the tenure decision date, usually for one year.
- D. Family Leave of Absence or Exceptional Family Responsibilities: Upon written request, probationary faculty members who become parents will receive a one-year automatic extension of the tenure decision date. Such an extension does not require that the faculty member take a leave of absence.
- E. Catastrophic Events: Probationary faculty who have experienced a catastrophic event such as a fire or flood or who must aid family members in such situations may request in writing an extension of the tenure decision date.
- F. Jury Duty: Prolonged jury service, when significantly affecting a faculty member's performance, constitutes a valid reason to petition for extension of the tenure decision date.
- G. Other, as Negotiated: Extensions for other reasons may be negotiated.

### **5.90.3.6.3 Reduction of the Probationary Period**

- A. Tenure Upon Initial NMSU Appointment: Faculty members who have worked in a teaching and advising (or its equivalent), service, extension, scholarly, and/or administrative role at another institution may have some or all of that work taken into consideration on appointment at NMSU. With executive vice-president and provost approval, and particularly when tenure has been granted to a candidate at another institution, tenure may be accorded at the time of initial appointment to the university.
- B. Expedited Tenure Schedule: Prior probationary service at another institution may count towards the six-year probationary period at NMSU, but usually only up to a maximum of three years. Any expedited schedule must be recommended by the department head and dean and agreed to by both the executive vice-president and provost and the faculty member at the time of appointment. The details of such credit for prior service, the resulting length of the probationary period, the timing of any third-year review, and the period for the tenure application process, shall all be stated unambiguously in the appointment letter. In such instances, no extension of the probationary period will be granted unless the request falls in one of the categories mentioned in Rule [5.90.3.6.2 Extension of the Probationary Period](#).
- C. Committee, Department Head and Dean Supported Appeal for Early Tenure Review: Current faculty may request the length of the probationary period be shortened. Such an appeal requires the written request of the faculty member, positive recommendations of the department promotion and tenure committee as determined in the spring review, department head, and dean. If this tenure application is not successful, the candidate's contract is not renewed according to the provisions of Rule [5.98 - Tenure Track and Tenure](#).

### **5.90.3.6.4 Part-Time Faculty and Tenure**

- A. Retention of Tenure Upon Move from Full Time to Part Time: Tenured, full-time faculty members who move to part-time status may retain tenure.
  - 1. Retention of tenure in such a case requires the written request of the faculty member, positive recommendations of the department head and dean, and approval of the executive vice-president and provost.
  - 2. While this rule encourages departments to accommodate reasonable requests for part-time appointment, part-time appointments are not an entitlement, and requests may be turned down.
  - 3. Pending availability of funding and the approval of the department head, dean and executive vice-president and provost, the faculty member may return later to full-time tenured status. (*See* subsection D. below)
- B. Procedural Guidelines:
  - 1. When a full-time, tenure-track position becomes part time, the time in rank is prorated based on full-time equivalent (FTE).

2. As with full-time faculty, the maximum probationary period for part-time faculty members is the equivalent of six FTE years, with the tenure decision to be made before the end of the six full-time years of service. For example, a tenure-track candidate with a 0.50 FTE appointment must apply for tenure at the end of the 11th year.
  3. Part-time tenure-track faculty must be held to the same standards of performance relative to FTE as full-time faculty.
  4. If denied tenure, a faculty member on part-time appointment has only one year of continued part-time employment beyond the denial.
- C. Regular Part Time Appointment Defined: Faculty members whose regular appointments are less than 0.50 FTE do not accumulate probationary time toward tenure.
- D. Return from Part Time to Full Time: When recurring state funding is available, a tenure-track, part-time faculty member may apply for a full-time tenure track position and, if hired, apply earned tenure-track FTE from prior years toward tenure and promotion in the full-time position.

#### **5.90.3.6.5 Joint Appointment (with Dual Primary Responsibilities)**

In appropriate circumstances, a faculty member may be appointed in two departments or colleges. The faculty member with a joint appointment has a memorandum of understanding from all involved units. The memorandum of understanding stipulates the expected workload and allocation of effort distributed between the two departments; identifies the principal unit where tenure resides or will reside if applicable; defines the responsibilities of the faculty member in each unit; and indicates the term of appointment. The memorandum must explain the process for performance and promotion and tenure reviews, renewal of the joint appointment, and salary increases. Each unit must provide recommendations in annual, probationary, tenure, and promotion reviews. In joint appointments with centers or institutes, the tenure home must reside in a principal unit. In joint appointments with two or more academic units, one unit must be designated, by mutual agreement, as the tenure home.

#### **5.90.3.7 Mid-Probationary Review**

Tenure-track faculty members may request a formal mid-probationary review by those principal units that make such an option available. The mid-probationary review is an optional opportunity to obtain feedback on the tenure-track faculty member's performance and is used to identify specific activities to enhance the candidate's progress toward promotion and tenure. The review is formative, intended to assist tenure-track faculty in achieving promotion and tenure and should take into account the allocation of work effort during the three years reviewed and be based upon the principal unit's criteria. The outcome must not be used as a determinant for setting merit pay or for contract continuation decisions. Principal units should see Rule [5.90.5.4\(6\) Common Elements](#) for additional information.

#### **5.90.3.8 Community Colleges, Library, and College Faculty**

The community colleges (other than Doña Ana Community College, whose division committees function as department committees), and the library faculty should begin their promotion and tenure deliberations with a committee that acts as a college-level committee. Specific variations are described below.

##### **5.90.3.8.1 Community Colleges**

- A. Mission and Corresponding Emphasis in Evaluation Process: The mission of NMSU's community colleges is to provide open access to quality education and support economic and cultural life in prescribed service areas. Community colleges provide traditional liberal arts education, vocational and technical training, contract training, community interest classes, and developmental education. Every effort is made to keep programs and curricula flexible, in order to accommodate varied and expanding community educational needs. Since the community college's primary role is the dissemination of information, more emphasis is placed on teaching and advising (or its equivalent), in the evaluation process.
- B. Tenure Committees: Due to their size, the organizational structure for tenure review at the Alamogordo, Carlsbad, and Grants campuses consists of a tenure committee at each campus that evaluates and makes recommendations to the campus executive officer.

### **5.90.3.8.2 The Library**

The NMSU library faculty is expected to meet university requirements for academic appointment and promotion and tenure considerations. For these purposes, the category of librarianship is equivalent to the teaching and advising category. The NMSU Library places the highest value on the element of librarianship. Librarianship includes, but is not limited to the organization of knowledge, the understanding and use of technology as it relates to the information field, teaching, library management, service delivery, and building collections.

### **5.90.3.8.3 College Faculty**

College faculty may hold ranks as described in Rule [5.90.3.5 Tenure, Promotion and the Professorial Ranks](#) and are eligible for promotion. A college faculty position can be converted to a tenure-track position when sufficient recurring funds are available and a national search is conducted. In relation to the promotion of college faculty, an understanding of the following guiding principles is necessary:

- A. Criteria for Promotion: College Faculty should be evaluated for promotion based on the allocation of their effort to the areas of teaching and advising, service, scholarship and creative activity, or extension and outreach, service, and the relative mix of these duties.
- B. Development of Promotion Procedures: Colleges must develop specific promotion procedures for their college faculty. The protections for College Faculty are the same as those given tenure-track faculty and tenure faculty in Rules [5.90.5.1 Performance Evaluations](#) and [5.90.5.4 Common Elements](#) – [5.90.5.8 Appeals](#).
- C. Representation on Committee: Committees for promotion of college faculty must include college faculty representation.
- D. Appropriate Standards for Promotion: The different role played by college faculty should be recognized in the promotion process, and the standard for promotion should be appropriate given the role of college faculty.

## **5.90.4 Criteria for Promotion and Tenure**

When considering applicants for promotion and tenure, serious attention will be given to performances in the applicable areas of teaching and advising (or its equivalent), scholarship and creative activity, service, extension and outreach, and where applicable, leadership. The relative importance of each of these areas varies according to the cumulative allocation of effort statements. Each area is vital to the university's ability to achieve its mission, and the performance of a faculty member will be viewed as an indication of future contributions.

### **5.90.4.1 Teaching and Advising**

- A. Elements of Teaching as Essential Criterion: Teaching is central to NMSU's mission. For those who teach, effectiveness in teaching and advising is an essential criterion for tenure and for advancement in rank. The teaching and advising category includes all forms of university-level instructional activity, as well as advising undergraduate and graduate students, both within and outside the university community. Such activities are commonly characterized by the dissemination of knowledge within a faculty member's area of expertise; skill in stimulating students to think critically and to apply knowledge to human problems; the integration and application of relevant domestic and international, social, political, economic, and ethical implications into class content; the preparation of students for careers in specific fields of study; and the creation and supervision of appropriate field or clinical practicum's.
- B. Responsibilities of Teaching and Advising: Teaching and advising responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, preparation for and teaching of a variety of courses, seminars, and other academic learning experiences; non-credit workshops and informal instructional activities; course and program development; team or collaborative teaching; web-based instruction, both on and off campus; supervision of student research, performances, or productions; service on graduate student program and research committees; field supervision and administration of field or clinical experiences; production of course materials, textbooks, web pages and other electronic aids to learning; and others.
- C. Forms of Faculty Advising: Faculty advising may take the form of assisting undergraduate or graduate students in the selection of courses or careers, assisting learners in educational programs on and off campus, mentoring students, serving as faculty adviser to student groups, research and teaching advising, as well as other forms.

### 5.90.4.1.1 Evaluation of Teaching

- A. Evidence By Which Teaching Effectiveness is Assessed: Teaching is a complex and multifaceted activity. Therefore, several forms of evidence should be used to assess comprehensively teaching effectiveness. Each form of evidence should carry a weight appropriate to its importance in evaluating teaching. Such documentation must demonstrate command of subject matter, continuous growth, and development in the subject field, the ability to organize material and convey it effectively to students, assessment of student learning, revision and updates of curricula, and the integration of scholarship (for faculty who produce scholarship) and service with teaching. Materials appropriate for evaluating teaching should include: (a) evidence from the instructor, (b) evidence from other professionals, (c) evidence from students, and (d) evidence of student learning.
- B. Principal Units To Develop Guidelines: Each principal unit is to create clear guidelines for its teaching faculty that define teaching responsibilities and specify required evidence documenting teaching effectiveness. Specific data to be included in the evaluation packet will be determined by each principal unit.

### 5.90.4.1.2 Evaluation of Advising

For promotion and tenure considerations, performance in such activities must be documented and evaluated. Each principal unit is to create clear guidelines regarding the responsibilities and documentation requirements for its faculty who advise.

### 5.90.4.2 Scholarship and Creative Activity

*[Amendment (FS Proposition 09-09/10 to be effective 07.01.01) passed by the Faculty Senate 02.04.10; presented to Administrative Council 04.13.10; ratified by the Board of Regents 05.07.10]*

- A. Rationale: Scholarship and creative activity involves discovering and creating, teaching and disseminating, and applying knowledge and skills to worldly concerns. This understanding is grounded in Boyer's concept of the four scholarships: (1) the scholarship of discovery involves processes, outcomes, and the passionate commitment of the professoriate and others in the university to disciplined inquiry and exploration in the development of knowledge and skills; (2) the scholarship of teaching involves dynamic, reciprocal, and critically reflective processes among teachers and learners at the university and in the community in which their activity and interaction enriches and transforms knowledge and skills, taught and learned; (3) the scholarship of engagement refers to the many and varied ways to responsibly offer and employ knowledge and skills to matters of consequence to the university and the community; and (4) the scholarship of integration is the process by which knowledge and skills are assessed, interpreted, and applied in new and creative ways to produce new, richer, and more comprehensive, insights, understanding, and outcomes.
- B. NMSU Definition of Scholarship and Creative Activity: Scholarship and creative activity is both activity and product, employing dynamically interacting processes of discovery and creation, teaching and dissemination, engagement and application, and integration, in the pursuit of fulfilling the mission and vision of NMSU. Products developed through these processes, are public, open to peer review, and available for use by others. Scholarship and creative activity can take many forms, including but not limited to refereed publications. At NMSU's community colleges, scholarship and creative activity includes scholarship that is also evidenced by professional development activities that disseminate knowledge to the college's learning communities.
- C. Acknowledgement of Land Grant Mission: This definition reflects the university's mission as the state's land-grant university, serving the needs of New Mexico's diverse population through comprehensive programs of teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, extension and outreach, and service. It addresses the breadth and diversity of scholarly and creative activity among faculty, staff, and students through which this mission is fulfilled.
- D. Use of Technology is a Factor in Evaluation Categories: The dissemination and creation of scholarly work using technology is becoming increasingly important. Accordingly, it is important that promotion and tenure committees recognize this when evaluating a candidate's portfolio. The rapid pace at which technology changes makes it difficult to use a single set of evaluation criteria to fit all cases encountered. Technology often crosses the rigid boundaries of teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, and outreach, and as such, it must be evaluated in as many of these categories as appropriate. Flexibility in evaluation of the candidate's technology efforts is paramount. Reviewers must be aware of expectations placed on the candidate at the time of hiring and during annual reviews and are encouraged to evaluate technology-based scholarship and creative activity using appropriate criteria.



### 5.90.4.2.1 Evaluation of Scholarship and Creative Activity

All scholarly activity and outcomes, regardless of funding source, must consider the following criteria adapted from Diamond<sup>2</sup>:

- A. The activity's purposes, goals, and objectives are clear. The objectives are realistic and achievable. It addresses important questions in the field.
- B. The activity reveals a high level of discipline-related expertise. The scholar brings to the activity a high level of relevant knowledge, skills, artistry, and reflective understanding.
- C. Appropriate methods are used for the activity, including principles of honesty, integrity, and objectivity. The methods have been chosen wisely, and applied effectively. It allows for replication or elaboration.
- D. The activity achieves its goals and its outcomes have significant impact. It adds consequentially to the field. It breaks new ground or is innovative. It leads to further exploration or new avenues for exploration for the scholar and for others.
- E. The activity and outcomes have been presented appropriately and effectively to its various audiences.
- F. The activity and outcomes are judged meritorious and significant by one's peers.
- G. The scholar has critically evaluated the activity and outcomes and has assessed the impact and implications on the greater community, the community of scholars and on one's own work. The scholar uses this assessment to improve, extend, revise, and integrate subsequent work.

### 5.90.4.3 Extension and Outreach

Extension and outreach are essential to the university's mission because they disseminate information to the public; help the state by promoting economic development through the dissemination of new technologies and best practices; and serve as a basis for sustainable, community-oriented, informal education that addresses local needs through faculty affiliated with each county government in New Mexico. The central role of extension and outreach is recognized in that several principal units are dedicated to these functions. There are also numerous faculty members in other units for whom extension and outreach are major components of their duties.

#### 5.90.4.3.1 Evaluation of Extension and Outreach

- A. Collaborative Effort: Extension and outreach work is collaborative by nature. Faculty should provide evidence of collaboration with whomever necessary to identify local needs, garner resources, discover and adapt new knowledge, design and deliver programs, assess clientele skill changes, and communicate program results. Collaborative effort should also include networking with other university faculty in identified areas of program discovery, development, and delivery, including applications to teaching and advising where appropriate.
- B. Evaluation Guidelines: To evaluate extension and outreach scholarship the following guidelines are recommended:
  - 1. Faculty must provide evidence of extension and outreach scholarship in order that these [collaborative] efforts are recognized.
  - 2. The documentation should provide evidence that the work is:
    - a. creative and intellectual;
    - b. validated by peers;
    - c. communicated to stakeholders; and
    - d. have an impact on stakeholders and the region.
  - 3. Components of extension scholarship include:

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<sup>2</sup> Diamond, Robert M. (2002). *Serving on promotion, tenure, and faculty review committees: A faculty guide, 2<sup>nd</sup> ed.*. Bolton, MA: Ankar Publishing.



- a. developing programs based on locally identified needs, concerns, and/or issues; targeting specific audiences;
- b. setting goals and objectives for the program;
- c. reviewing current literature and/or research for the program;
- d. planning appropriate program delivery;
- e. documenting changes in clientele knowledge, behaviors, attitudes, and/or skills;
- f. conducting a reflective critique and/or evaluation of the program;
- g. validation of the program by peers and/or stakeholders; and
- h. communication of results to stakeholders and decision makers.

#### **5.90.4.4 Service**

Service is an essential component of the university's mission and requires that the faculty member contribute to the organization and development of the university, as well as provide service to any local, state, national, or international agency, organization, or institution needing the faculty member's professional knowledge and skills.

##### **5.90.4.4.1 Evaluation of Service**

The type and amount of service that a faculty member performs should be determined in consultation with the appropriate administrator(s). All relevant activities in which a faculty member participates should receive appropriate consideration for promotion and tenure decisions. Service contributions should be evaluated based on how they are applied and how they draw upon the professional expertise of the faculty member.

#### **5.90.4.5 Leadership**

In demonstrating leadership, candidates must show that they are having an impact as evidenced by the candidate's scholarship and creative activity, and by contributions to the advancement of the university which may include administrative roles in which considerable and well-documented contributions to the university have been made.

##### **5.90.4.5.1 Evaluation of Leadership**

Leadership is characterized by: (1) contribution to the mission of the college or university and to the faculty member's profession; (2) participation in the distribution of responsibility among the members of a group; (3) empowering and mentoring group members; and (4) aiding the group's decision-making process.

#### **5.90.5 Policies**

##### **5.90.5.1 Annual Performance Evaluation and the Promotion and Tenure Process**

###### **5.90.5.1.1 Performance Evaluation Policies**

Performance evaluation policies in the principal units shall include the following elements:

- A. A statement that Performance Evaluations are conducted annually.
- B. A timeline consistent with the timeline for promotion and for tenure as described in Rule [5.90.5.9 University Timeline for Promotion and Tenure](#).
- C. The requirement that a department head or comparable administrator annually meet with all faculty members regarding progress toward promotion and tenure, the recording of objectives and goals, and the department faculty evaluation format.
- D. An opportunity for the faculty member to submit a written statement in response to annual performance evaluations.
- E. A procedure for transmitting the performance evaluation, along with any supporting material, from the faculty member to the faculty member's department head
- F. A procedure for transmitting a written copy of the department head's or comparable administrator's review to the individual being reviewed and to the dean or equivalent administrator.

- G. A procedure to certify in writing to the appropriate dean or comparable administrator that a meeting with each faculty member has occurred.

### **5.90.5.1.2 Performance Evaluation Forms**

Performance evaluation forms in the principal units shall include the following elements:

A. Allocation of Effort Statement:

1. The allocation percentages will be agreed upon by the faculty member and the department head, and will be approved annually by the faculty member's department head and dean. If agreement cannot be reached, the dean or equivalent administrator may assign the allocation of effort, and the faculty member may appeal through existing university procedures. (See also [5.20.20 Assignments - Teaching Load](#))
2. The allocation of effort statement and percentages may be altered during the year with the mutual agreement of the faculty member, department head, and dean to reflect changing circumstances, such as service on a particularly time-consuming committee or grant, time for scholarship and creative activity, emergency teaching and advising assignments, etc.
3. At the minimum, this statement shall contain the following elements:
  - a. Percentage of effort devoted to teaching and advising or its equivalent, scholarship and creative activity, service, and extension and outreach. (The total percentage shall be 100%, but any category may be zero percent.)
  - b. The number of semester credit hours, student enrollment, and level of courses.
  - c. A statement of what the principal unit considers a full teaching and advising load.
  - d. If the principal unit utilizes a weighting, ranking, or scoring system, the value assigned to each category must be indicated. The values must be calculated proportionately to a candidate's allocation of effort.

B. Current Position Description.

- C. Submission from Faculty Member: A written section submitted by the faculty member detailing and citing accomplishments in relation to the criteria for promotion and tenure.

- D. Written Review by Department Head or Equivalent: A written review from the department head or comparable administrator including specific commendations, concerns, and recommendations in each of the areas of performance, as well as separate comments about progress toward promotion and tenure.

### **5.90.5.2 Implementation of the Promotion and Tenure Process**

- A. Requirement for Departmental Promotion and Tenure Committee: Each department shall have a department promotion and tenure committee except as follows: the University Library, as well as the Alamogordo, Carlsbad, and Grants community colleges, do not use department promotion and tenure committees; rather, promotion and tenure actions in these units begin with the college promotion and tenure committee. In the Doña Ana Community College, a division promotion and tenure committee functions in the same manner as a department committee.
- B. Requirement for Departmental Promotion and Tenure Policy: Each department shall have a written policy for promotion and for tenure. This policy shall be in accordance with Rule [5.90.3 Guiding Principles](#), shall include criteria and procedures for promotion and for tenure, and shall be consistent with its college's criteria and procedures for promotion and tenure. The department's criteria and procedures shall be determined collaboratively by the faculty and department head subject to approval by the college dean.
- C. Requirement for College Promotion and Tenure Committee: Each college shall have an elected College Promotion and Tenure Committee.
- D. Requirement for College Promotion and Tenure Policy: Each college shall have a written policy for promotion and for tenure. These shall be in accordance with Rule [5.90.3 Guiding Principles](#) and shall include criteria and procedures for promotion and for tenure. The college's criteria and procedures shall be determined collaboratively by the tenure and tenure-track faculty and administration in each college and must be approved by the college dean.

### 5.90.5.3 Roles and Responsibilities during the Promotion and Tenure Process

#### A. Candidate:

1. Maintains a curriculum vitae and a cumulative personal record of the activities and accomplishments affecting the application for promotion and/or tenure.
2. Reviews the personal portfolio in relation to the criteria for promotion and/or tenure and seeks guidance from senior faculty and the department head.
3. In accordance with college procedures, requests and provides materials required in the mid-probationary period review.
4. Provides the department head with a written list of potential outside references from which letters of evaluation may be requested.
5. Requests extensions of the probationary period in accordance with Rule [5.90.3.6.2 Extension of Probationary Period](#).
6. In accordance with Rule [5.90.5.6 Withdrawal of Rights and Procedure](#), requests that the review process be terminated at any time prior to review by the executive vice-president and provost.

#### B. Department Head:

1. Establishes and monitors a process for tenure-track faculty to mentor the candidate in developing the best case for promotion and/or tenure.
2. Provides leadership in the collaborative writing and maintenance of department promotion and tenure policy.
3. Provides initial information, timelines, and copies of all written guidelines regarding promotion and tenure expectations and policies to all new and continuing faculty members on a regular basis. Also informs tenure-track faculty of the rights to due process, appeal and informal processes for conflict resolution in promotion and tenure.
4. In the annual performance reviews of tenure-track faculty, includes written details relating to assigned duties (i.e. the teaching and advising (or its equivalent), scholarship and creative activity, service, extension and outreach and apportionment). The reviews also include separate statements addressing progress toward tenure and toward promotion including steps that should be taken to strengthen the faculty member's case.
5. Provides leadership in establishing agreed upon department guidelines for an annual review of tenure-track faculty by the department's promotion and tenure committee. This review is separate from, and independent of, the department head's annual review of each faculty member.
6. Assists tenure-track faculty who have completed five academic semesters or its part-time equivalent in preparing for an optional mid-probationary review.
7. In mitigating circumstances, explores with the candidate the need for a time extension (*See* Rule [5.90.3.6.2 Extension of Probationary Period](#)). With the approval of the candidate, seeks permission from the dean to extend the probationary period.
8. Provides assistance and guidance to faculty who are applying for promotion/tenure. Reviews the portfolio of applicants and, where needed, makes recommendations for improvement.
9. Sees that the department promotion and tenure committee submits recommendations for tenure and for promotion for all candidates.
10. Writes an independent evaluation/recommendation concerning each candidate's case for promotion and/or tenure in relation to the criteria for promotion and tenure. This recommendation may be in support of or against supporting either promotion or tenure, or both. It should address the strengths and weaknesses, and level and nature of accomplishments of the candidate.

11. Provides candidates, written copies of the recommendation of the department promotion and tenure committee and of the recommendation of the department head. This notification must occur prior to passing the promotion and/or tenure application on to the dean and college promotion and tenure committee.
12. Places the department head's recommendation in the candidate's portfolio.

C. Department Promotion and Tenure Committee:

1. Examines and reads the portfolio of each candidate.
2. Evaluates the candidate according to department promotion and/or tenure standards.
3. Considers the candidate's department assignment and role apportionment as specified in the candidate's position description and Allocation of Effort Forms.
4. Performs an annual review of tenure-track faculty following departmental guidelines and forwards results to department head and dean or equivalent administrator. This review is separate from, and independent of, the department head's annual review of each faculty member.
5. Makes recommendations to the department head pertaining to faculty members who are seeking promotion and/or tenure based on the candidate's portfolio and departmental criteria.
6. Records in each candidate's portfolio the committee's vote totals. (See Rule [5.90.5.4.\(6\) Common Elements](#).)
7. Places the committee's recommendation in the candidate's portfolio.
8. Participates in the optional mid-probationary review process, providing formative feedback to candidates.

D. College Promotion and Tenure Committee:

1. Examines and reads the portfolio of each candidate, including the department head's letter.
2. Evaluates the candidate according to department promotion and/or tenure standards.
3. Considers the candidate's department assignment and role apportionment as specified in the candidate's position description and Allocation of Effort forms.
4. Makes recommendations to the dean pertaining to faculty members who are seeking promotion and/or tenure.
5. Records in each candidate's portfolio the committee's vote totals. (See Rule [5.90.5.4.\(6\) Common Elements](#).)
6. Places the committee's recommendation in the candidate's portfolio.
7. Participates in the optional mid-probationary review process, providing formative feedback to candidates.

E. Dean, Community College President:

1. Ensures that a college-specific promotion and tenure policy is written and periodically revised and that the policy complies with university policy, rules and procedures.
2. Assures that each department has:
  - a. current promotion and tenure guidelines that comply with college and university policies and include date of version.
  - b. a mentoring process for tenure-track faculty.
  - c. a system of annual faculty performance evaluations.
3. In consultation with college faculty establishes policy for the constitution of a College Faculty Promotion Committee.
4. Recommends extensions of the probationary period.

5. Provides oversight for the optional mid-probationary review program.
6. Makes independent recommendations pertaining to promotion and tenure. To do this, consider:
  - a. Candidate's portfolio
  - b. Recommendations of the department promotion and tenure committees
  - c. Recommendations of the department heads
  - d. Recommendations of the college promotion and tenure committees.
7. Notifies candidates, in writing, of the recommendations of the College Promotion and Tenure Committee and of the dean. This notification must occur prior to passing the promotion and tenure applications and associated recommendations on to the executive vice-president and provost.
8. Places the dean's recommendation in the candidate's portfolio.
9. Meets with the executive vice-president and provost regarding promotion and tenure cases.

F. Executive Vice-President and Provost:

1. Ensures that each college and each department has, and periodically updates, promotion and tenure policies that comply with university policy, rules and procedures.
2. Approves requests to extend the probationary period.
3. Meets with deans regarding promotion and tenure cases.
4. Makes an independent decision pertaining to promotion and tenure. To do this, consider:
  - a. Candidate's portfolio
  - b. Recommendations of the department promotion and tenure committees
  - c. Recommendations of the department heads
  - d. Recommendations of the college promotion and tenure committees
  - e. Recommendations of the dean.
5. Passes promotion and tenure decisions on to the Chancellor.
6. Notifies candidates in writing of the decision.
7. Provides for annual training sessions for promotion and tenure committee members, department heads, and deans.

#### **5.90.5.4 Common Elements to be included in the Principal Units' Promotion and Tenure Policies**

- A. A statement that university policies regarding promotion and tenure supersede department and college policies.
- B. Statements referencing the criteria for promotion and tenure as stated in Rule [5.90.4 Criteria for Promotion and Tenure](#).
- C. A provision permitting a candidate to temporarily suspend the promotion and tenure time process in accordance with Rule [5.90.3.6.2 Extension of Probationary Period](#).
- D. A statement regarding confidentiality of records and all committee procedures, including the manner in which confidentiality is ensured. Exceptions must be clearly indicated.
- E. A method to review and update at least every three years the written promotion and tenure policies and procedures of the principal unit. A statement to the effect that if the policy should change during a faculty member's pre-

tenure or pre-promotion period, the faculty member may choose one of the policies for evaluation purposes. A procedure for the faculty member to indicate the preferred criteria must be clearly delineated.

- F. A procedure for the conduct of a mid-probationary review, if the college provides this option. Faculty who choose to participate in the review process must submit their portfolio to their department head by mid-January. The portfolio shall be prepared in accordance with Rule [5.90.5.5 Portfolio Preparation](#) and be reviewed by the department promotion and tenure committee, the department head, and the college promotion and tenure committee. The college committee will provide to the department head and candidate a written formative evaluation of progress. The review is conducted in accordance with the principal unit's promotion and tenure policy. (See Rule [5.90.3.7 Mid Probationary Review](#).)
- G. A procedure for electing the college promotion and tenure committee: All tenure and tenure-track faculty are eligible to vote during the election. When colleges choose to include college faculty on this committee, college faculty are eligible to vote for college faculty membership on the college committee.
- H. Procedure for selecting members of the department promotion and tenure committee.
- I. Definition of eligibility for serving on the promotion and tenure committees. Only tenured faculty members are eligible to vote for tenure and promotion. College-track faculty who serve on the college committee are eligible to vote on promotion of college-track faculty. In instances of promotion, committee members must hold a rank at least equal to the rank for which the candidate is applying.
- J. Provisions for term limits if desired for serving on the department promotion and tenure committee.
- K. Provisions for term limits for serving on the college promotion and tenure committee are required, except at the Alamogordo, Carlsbad, and Grants community colleges.
- L. The provision that in no case will a promotion and tenure committee be comprised of fewer than three eligible members.
- M. A provision for addressing cases where there are inadequate numbers of eligible faculty to constitute a committee. The department and/or the college promotion and tenure committees may have members from outside the department.
- N. The provision that the dean, department head, or comparable administrator may meet with the principal units' promotion and tenure committees to discuss procedural matters.
- O. The provision that the deliberations and voting of promotion and tenure committees will be conducted in closed session only among committee members.
- P. A method for surveying the committees' recommendations regarding each candidate(s) via secret written ballot. Voting must be in person. Absentia and proxy ballots are not permitted. All vote counts must be recorded.
- Q. A method for the principal units' promotion and tenure committees to submit a letter summarizing its recommendations and the numerical vote count on each candidate to the department head and college dean or comparable administrator. The recommendation must:
  - 1. Reflect the majority view.
  - 2. Contain specific commendations, concerns, and recommendations addressing the department's criteria in each of the areas required for promotion and tenure
  - 3. Allow for dissenting opinions containing specific commendations, concerns, and recommendations addressing the criteria in each of the areas required for promotion and tenure.
- R. A method for informing each candidate in writing of the principal units' recommendations and numerical vote count, the department head's letter, and/or the dean's or comparable administrator's letter.
- S. The provision that a candidate may withdraw from further consideration in accordance with Rule [5.90.5.6 Withdrawal of Rights and Procedures](#).

- T. Guidelines for preparing the portfolio. (*See Rule [5.90.5.5 Portfolio Preparation](#).*) The parties shall refer to the individual college policies for additional guidelines.
- U. A mechanism to provide candidates with sample portfolios. If the portfolios of actual persons are used, written permission must be obtained from the owner of the portfolio.
- V. A procedure for indicating how and when a candidate may change, add, or delete materials from the portfolio after the portfolio is submitted to the committee for review.
- W. A statement regarding the location where the documentation file will be stored and accessed for review.
- X. A procedure for indicating how and when evaluators may request additional information. All requests must be made in writing and transmitted to the candidate.
- Y. A procedure allowing the candidate to review all items included in the portfolio assembled prior to the review by appropriate committees, administrators, and/or external reviewers.
- Z. A procedure for soliciting external letters (*See rule [5.90.7 Example](#)*) which incorporates the following:
  - 1. The number of letters shall be solicited for each candidate.
  - 2. Specifications regarding who is responsible for obtaining the letters and how the letters will be placed into the candidate's portfolio.
  - 3. Specifications regarding how much and what type of material is supplied to reviewers. The department and/or college policies and criteria for tenure and promotion must be provided to reviewers.
  - 4. Specifications regarding the criteria for serving as an external reviewer.
  - 5. Instructions to reviewers including:
    - a. A request for a brief statement regarding the individual's qualifications for serving as a reviewer.
    - b. A request that the reviewer indicate the relationship between the candidate and reviewer.
    - c. Notification that the candidate will have an opportunity to read the letter of assessment.
    - d. Notification that third parties in the event of an EEOC or other investigation into a tenure or promotion decision may review letters.
- AA. A statement addressing the role, if any, of unsolicited letters.
- BB. A statement regarding post-tenure review in accordance with the university's Rule [5.87 - Post Tenure Review](#).
- CC. Reference to the appeals process as outlined in Rules [3.25 - Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus](#) and [4.05.50 - Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution](#).
- DD. Develop a procedure for reviewing the university's Conflict of Interest policies, rules and procedures with the promotion and tenure review committee(s).

### **5.90.5.5 Portfolio Preparation**

In accordance with department and college guidelines, the candidate is responsible for submitting a promotion and tenure portfolio comprised of a core document and documentation file. The college guidelines shall specify the inclusion of the following core document elements in this order. The combination of items listed at D. through F. shall not exceed 50 pages:

- A. A routing form developed by the college with spaces for the required signatures.
- B. A cover sheet indicating the candidate's name, current rank, department and college.
- C. Any written documentation generated throughout the promotion and tenure process, including the numerical vote counts of the promotion and tenure committee(s).



- D. A table of contents.
- E. Candidate's executive summary.
- F. A curriculum vitae.
- G. Annual performance evaluations for the period under review, including the allocation of effort statements, the goals and objectives forms, written statements submitted by the faculty member as a part of the annual performance evaluations, the supervisor's written comments, and any response made by the candidate to the supervisor's written comments. Numerical rankings, ratings, or vote counts should be removed. (*See also* Rules [5.90.3.3 Performance Evaluations](#) and [5.90.5.1 Performance Evaluations](#).)
- H. The most recent complete conflict of interest form.
- I. Principal units' mission statements.
- J. External reviews.

#### **5.90.5.5.1 Documentation File**

Supplementary materials provided by the candidate related to the areas of faculty activity. This material is not routed beyond the College Promotion and Tenure Committee, but is available for review.

If this is an application for tenure, the candidate is to include evidence of contributions since starting at NMSU, plus evidence from other institutions if credit for prior service is applicable. If this is an application for promotion, then the candidate is to include evidence of contributions since the last promotion or tenure review.

#### **5.90.5.6 Withdrawal**

- A. Voluntary Withdrawal from Consideration: A candidate may withdraw from consideration at any time prior to the final signature of the executive vice-president and provost. A candidate shall prepare a letter requesting withdrawal from further consideration. The letter shall be transmitted to the dean or comparable administrator. All documents shall be returned to the candidate and nothing relating to the application for promotion and/or tenure shall be placed in the candidate's personnel file.
- B. Withdrawal in Fifth Year of Service: If the candidate is in the fifth year of service, withdrawal from consideration for tenure must be accompanied by a letter of resignation submitted to the dean or comparable administrator no later than the end of the fifth-year contract period. The resignation shall be effective no later than the end of the sixth-year contract period.

#### **5.90.5.7 Outcomes**

- A. For full-time tenure-track candidates:
  - 1. If tenure is recommended, the executive vice-president and provost will send a Contract of Employment (Continuous Appointment) Form through the dean or comparable administrator and the department head to the candidate.
  - 2. If tenure is not recommended, the department head will give a signed Contract Status Form to the candidate for signature acknowledging notification of non-renewal.
- B. For part-time tenure-track candidates, in addition to the provisions for full-time tenure-track candidates:
  - 1. If tenure is recommended, it is for the FTE as stated in the initial contract or as negotiated.
  - 2. If tenure is not recommended, a faculty member has only one year of continued part-time employment beyond the denial.



C. For all candidates:

1. If promotion is recommended, the effective date is at the beginning of the ensuing contract year.
2. If promotion is recommended, it shall be the policy of the university that all promotions shall include a salary increase, irrespective of other salary increases.
3. In the case of a negative promotion decision, the executive vice-president and provost will inform the candidate in writing.
4. The executive vice-president and provost is responsible for informing the Chancellor of the recommendations of the department head, college dean, or comparable administrator and the decision of the executive vice-president and provost.
5. The executive vice-president and provost will prepare an official list of promotion and tenure decisions for distribution to relevant deans, comparable administrators, the vice-president for administration and finance, and the assistant director of human resource services.
6. Tenure-track faculty members whose probationary contract is not renewed and who have another year before the termination of that contract do not submit a promotion and tenure portfolio during their final year. If the non-renewal is being appealed on the basis of failure to follow procedure or discrimination, then the appellant may complete a packet and have it held in suspension until the grievance is resolved. If the individual is successful in the appeal, the portfolio will be considered by the parties involved in the promotion and tenure process.

**5.90.5.8 Appeals** (*See Policies [3.25 Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus](#) (for complaints of discrimination); [4.05.50 Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution](#) (for faculty grievances, including violation of policies or procedures); and [5.47 Faculty Discipline and Appeal Processes](#) (for appeals from disciplinary action, including involuntary termination)*)

### **5.90.5.9 University Timeline for Promotion and Tenure**

Each college shall determine a timeline for conducting promotion and tenure reviews. The dates indicated here are suggested guidelines as 12-month appointments may require a different time schedule.

A. Spring:

The department head notifies potential candidate of eligibility for promotion and/or tenure review. Department promotion and tenure committee reviews the portfolio of each faculty member and in accordance with college policies reports to the department head indicating the progress towards promotion and/or tenure as well as the strengths and weaknesses in each of the areas required for promotion and tenure.

Department head informs the candidate in writing of the department promotion and/or tenure committee recommendations.

B. June, July, August:

The candidate with support from the department and college prepares the candidate's portfolio. (*See also Rule [5.90.5.5 Portfolio Preparation](#).*)

C. September:

The candidate provides the completed portfolio to the department head.

The department head makes the completed portfolio available to the Department Promotion and Tenure Committee. The portfolio can only be amended hereafter in accordance with department and college guidelines.

D. October:

The Department Promotion and Tenure Committee considers the completed portfolio of the candidate.

E. October - December:

The college dean or comparable administrator transmits the Department Promotion and Tenure Committee and department head reports and numerical ballot results to the College Promotion and Tenure Committee.

The College Promotion and Tenure Committee reviews the department head's and the Department Promotion and Tenure Committee's recommendations.

The College Promotion and Tenure Committee informs the dean or comparable administrator if a department fails to follow department and/or college procedures.

The College Promotion and Tenure Committee reviews the portfolios of all tenure-track faculty members no later than their sixth year of service unless Rule [5.90.3.6 Flexibility in Tenure Track](#) applies.

The College Promotion and Tenure Committee submits a written recommendation on the candidate to the department head, candidate, and dean or comparable administrator in accordance with the college's promotion and tenure policy.

F. January - February:

The college dean or comparable administrator reviews the candidate's portfolio, makes a recommendation, and informs the candidate in writing of the recommendations of the College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the dean or comparable administrator.

The college dean or comparable administrator transmits to the executive vice-president and provost all recommendations including numerical votes.

G. March - April:

The college dean or comparable administrator meets with the executive vice-president and provost to review each candidate. The executive vice-president and provost's decision is indicated in writing.

The executive vice-president and provost informs the Chancellor of the recommendations of the department head, college dean, or comparable administrator and the decision of the executive vice-president and provost.

H. April - May:

Final notifications of decisions are sent through the executive vice-president and provost, dean or comparable administrator, and department head to the candidate.

The executive vice-president and provost prepares an official list of promotion and tenure decisions for distribution to relevant deans, comparable administrators, the vice-president for administration and finance, and the assistant vice president for human resource services.

The dean or comparable administrator notifies the department head, who in turn notifies the faculty member.

I. July:

Promotion and tenure decisions become effective.

**5.90.6 Post Tenure Review** (See Rule [5.87 - Post Tenure Review](#))

**5.90.7 Forms Relating to Promotion and Tenure** See [Promotion and Tenure Documents](#)

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**5.85 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 13, 2018:****5.85 Overview of Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure Rules; Definitions; Periodic Rules Review**

This rule, together with Rules 5.86 through 5.91, collectively referred to as the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure, establish the rules relating to the faculty annual performance evaluation process, and relating to promotion and/or tenure criteria and procedures for review. These rules clarify the roles and responsibilities of the candidate applying for promotion and/or tenure, as well as the roles and responsibilities of the promotion and tenure committees and academic administrators involved in each review stage. These rules set forth the requirements for the department and college promotion and tenure committees, and the common elements which must be included in their respective promotion and tenure policies. Procedural guidelines, including a suggested timeline for the promotion and tenure review processes are also provided.

For quick reference, a listing of the rules with subparts is provided below:

**Rule 5.85 - NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure; Definitions; Periodic Rules Review**

- Part 1** Overview of NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure
- Part 2** Glossary of Terms used in NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure (Rules 5.85-5.91)
- Part 3** Implementation of 2017 Revised Rules; Coordination amongst Principal Units; Periodic Rules Review

**Rule 5.86 - Annual Performance Evaluation - Regular Faculty**

- Part 1** Purpose for Annual Performance Evaluation (*See Also* Rule 5.87 Part 2; Rule 5.91 Part 2)
- Part 2** Guiding Principles for Annual Performance Evaluation
- Part 3** The Four Areas of Faculty Effort: Teaching and Advising, Scholarship and Creative Activity, Extension and Outreach, and Service
- Part 4** Requirements for Principal Units' Evaluation Policies
- Part 5** Procedural Guidelines for Annual Performance Evaluation

**Rule 5.87- Promotion and Tenure: Purpose and Guiding Principles**

- Part 1** Purpose
- Part 2** Nature of Promotion and Tenure Reviews, Generally (*See Also* Rule 5.86 Part 2; Rule 5.20.20)
- Part 3** Faculty Participation
- Part 4** Transparency of Process
- Part 5** Avoidance of Conflict of Interest
- Part 6** Statement on Value of Diversity, paired with Non-Discrimination
- Part 7** NMSU Community Colleges
- Part 8** University Library Faculty
- Part 9** College and Research Faculty

**Rule 5.88 - Promotion and Tenure: The Professorial Ranks**

- Part 1** Instructor
- Part 2** Assistant Professor
- Part 3** Associate Professor
- Part 4** Professor

**Rule 5.89 - Promotion and Tenure Committees; Common Elements Required in the Principal Unit Policies**

- Part 1** Principal Unit Committees
- Part 2** Principal Unit Policies
- Part 3** Common Elements for Principal Units' Promotion and Tenure Policies

**Rule 5.90 - Promotion and Tenure Reviews; Procedural Guidelines and Timeline**

- Part 1** Pre-Tenure Probationary Period
- Part 2** Flexibility in Tenure-Track
- Part 3** Mid-Probationary Review
- Part 4** Joint Appointment (With Dual Primary Responsibilities)
- Part 5** Roles and Responsibilities in Promotion or Tenure Reviews
- Part 6** Portfolio Preparation by Candidate
- Part 7** Withdrawal of Portfolio by Candidate from Further Consideration
- Part 8** Outcomes
- Part 9** Right to Seek Redress for Violation of Evaluation, Promotion, or Tenure Rules
- Part 10** Timeline of Procedural Steps for Promotion and Tenure Review Processes

**Rule 5.91 Post-Tenure Review** *[Note: the content of this rule is that of the [pre 08.13.18] Rule 5.87 which was pending revision into following Parts at the time of the Faculty Senate's adoption (on 05.04.17) of amended Rules 5.85 through 5.90 with effective date of August 13, 2018.]*

- Part 1** Purpose
- Part 2** Annual Performance Evaluation (First Level Review)
- Part 3** Second Level Review
- Part 4** Third Level Review
- Part 5** Involuntary Revocation of Tenure/Termination of Employment

## **PART 2: GLOSSARY OF TERMS USED IN NMSU RULES ON FACULTY EVALUATION, PROMOTION AND TENURE (RULES 5.85-5.91)**

- A. Allocation of Effort: The percentage of effort, agreed upon by the faculty member and department head or supervisor, that the faculty member will devote to each of the major categories of teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, outreach and other assigned duties. (See Rule 5.20.20 Assignments - Teaching Load)
- B. Annual Performance Evaluation: (See Rule 5.86 -Annual Faculty Performance Evaluation)
- C. College Faculty: A faculty member on a regular (0.5 FTE or greater) appointment, who is not eligible for tenure, but is eligible for advancement in faculty rank (promotion). (See Rules 4.30.10 - "Hiring Definitions" and 5.15.40 - Appointments - Nontenure Track)
- D. Core Document: A document submitted in the Portfolio for promotion or tenure that includes several specific elements: a routing form, cover sheet, table of contents, curriculum vitae, executive summary, department head and dean letters, prior and current Allocation of Effort statements, annual performance evaluations, summary of teaching evaluations, external reviews and, for community colleges, letters of support. (See Rule 5.86- Annual Faculty Performance Evaluation and Rule 5.90, Part 6, (Portfolio Preparation).
- E. Department Head: Department head refers to the academic department head or equivalent supervisor, which may include program coordinator or superintendent, depending upon the unit and as determined by the cognizant dean or community college chief academic officer.
- F. Documentation File: An organized collection of supplemental documents and other materials that supports, explains, or clarifies the quality and significance of the candidate's work. Administrators and committee members must have access to this file, which is stored by the Principal Unit.
- G. Executive Summary: A summative report and personal statement by the faculty member that addresses the faculty member's activities in and philosophies regarding teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, service, extension and outreach, and other assigned areas.
- H. Extension and Outreach: Extension involves the process of defining and building relationships between communities and the university to extend university resources and intellectual expertise through coalition building, non-formal educational programs, and applied research designed to address locally identified needs. Outreach involves an organized and planned program of activities which are offered to representative groups of citizens of New Mexico and the nation or internationally; these activities bring the resources of the university to bear in a coherent and strategic fashion for the benefit of the receiving entity.
- I. External Reviewer: A person from outside NMSU who writes a letter of evaluation of a candidate's Portfolio. (See Rule 5.89, Part 3. AA. ; Rule 5.90, Part 5, B. 9.)

- J. NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure: Rules 5.85-5.91 are collectively referred to as the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure.
- K. Four Areas of Faculty Effort: As used in this rule and the other rules governing promotion and tenure at NMSU, the Four Areas of Faculty Effort refers to: teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, extension and outreach, and service. (See Rule 5.86, Part 3)
- L. Joint Appointment: A faculty line shared between two departments or colleges; the appointee enjoys all the privileges and incurs all the responsibilities normally given in each area.
- M. Letters of Support: Letters submitted to support a candidate's application for promotion or tenure that are distinct from external reviews (See Definition I. above), but serve a similar purpose at the community colleges. (See Rule 5.89, Part 3. A.A. 6. ; Rule 5.90, Part 10, C.)
- N. Mid-Probationary Review: A formal, non-mandatory mid-term assessment requested by a Tenure-Track Faculty member of their professional development and progress toward tenure. The Mid-Probationary Review is in addition to the annual performance evaluation.
- O. NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure: Rules 5.85 through 5.81 of the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU posted at <https://manual.nmsu.edu/policies-and-procedures/>
- P. Peer Evaluation: Assessment of teaching style, content, and effectiveness gained through observation by colleagues; the observations may come in such forms as classroom visits, participation in web-based courses, review of videotaped teaching, or reviews of course materials collected/created by the faculty member being reviewed.
- Q. Performance Evaluation: An annual report prepared by the faculty member documenting activities in the areas of teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, extension and outreach, service, and other assigned areas. The department head provides the faculty member with a written appraisal of the faculty member's performance.
- R. Portfolio: Consists of the Core Document and Documentation File that supports the candidate's case for promotion or tenure. A Portfolio is also sometimes referred to as a dossier.
- S. Post-tenure Review: An annual review designed to identify strengths and weaknesses of the tenured faculty member in the areas of teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, outreach and other assigned areas. The Performance Evaluation generally serves the above aim; however, if deemed necessary due to deficiencies, a more extensive review may be initiated. (See Rule 5.91 - Post Tenure Review.)
- T. Principal Unit: A tenure home unit responsible for conducting annual faculty performance evaluations and making promotion and tenure recommendations. This definition includes Departments, Colleges, Community Colleges, Cooperative Extension Service, and the University Library, but not centers, clusters, or institutes.
- U. Probationary Period: The cumulative amount of time spent under term appointments while on the "tenure-track." (See Rule 5.90, Part 2 (Flexibility in Tenure Track).
- V. Research: See Scholarship.
- W. Research Faculty: A faculty member on a regular (0.5 FTE or greater) appointment, who is not eligible for tenure, but is eligible for promotion among the faculty ranks. (See Rules 4.30.10 - "Hiring Definitions" and 5.15.40 - Appointments - Nontenure Track)
- X. Scholarship: Both creative activity and product, scholarship includes discovery through original research; integration through synthesizing and reintegration of knowledge; application through professional practice; and teaching through transformation of knowledge. (See Boyer, 1990 and Rule 5.86 Part 4. C. 2. "Scholarship and Creative Activity".)
- Y. Service: Contribution to the institution and development of the university, as well as provision of service to local, state, national, or international agency or other organization in need of the faculty member's professional expertise.
- Z. Supporting Documents: Material available to the Promotion and Tenure Committee in the Documentation File that serves to further support, explain, or clarify the Core Document.

- AA. **Tenure:** Continuous contract granted after a probationary period to a faculty member candidate that gives protection from dismissal without due process; the primary purpose of tenure is to protect academic freedom and offer economic security.
- BB. **Tenure Home:** The Principle Unit where tenure and rank resides or will reside.
- CC. **Tenure-Track Faculty:** A faculty member in their pre-tenure probationary period, eligible for tenure but who has not yet been granted tenure, sometimes also referred to as “candidate” (as are faculty members seeking promotion).
- DD. **Tenured Faculty:** A faculty member who has been awarded tenure by the executive vice president and provost.

### **PART 3: IMPLEMENTATION OF 2017 REVISED RULES; PRINCIPAL UNIT COORDINATION; PERIODIC RULES REVIEW**

The revised NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure will become effective August 13, 2018. Prior to this effective date, each Principal Unit must update its promotion and tenure policies and forms consistent with Rules 5.85 through 5.90. At the discretion of the executive vice president and provost, the deadline for the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure may be extended pending completion of the Principal Units’ Promotion and Tenure Policies.

Rule Administrator:	Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Effective Date:	<b>August 13, 2018</b>
Revision History:	<i>05.04.17 Faculty Senate recommended adoption of new Rules 5.85 through 5.91, re compiling Rules 5.86 and 5.90 and re-numbering Rule 5.87 as Rule 5.91, (Props. 01 and 03- 16/17); 05.09.17 University Administrative Council recommended adoption and 05.10.17 Chancellor approved. 10.21.15 Board of Regents approved replica of Policies 5.86 and 5.90 as initial Rules 5.86 and 5.90. <b>Prior Revision History of Policy 5.90:</b> 03.06.08 Amendment (FS Proposition 16-07/08) and 05.03.07 Amendment (FS Proposition 18-06/07) proposed, both to be effective 08.01.08, recommended by the Faculty Senate; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 5.86 Not Available.</b></i>
Cross References:	College and Departmental Promotion and Tenure policy documents; Rule 5.20.20 Assignments-Teaching Load (addresses allocation of effort) Rule 5.98 - Tenure Track and Tenure; For relevant forms, See <a href="http://provost.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/promotion-and-tenure-2/">http://provost.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/promotion-and-tenure-2/</a>

#### **5.86 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 13, 2018:**

#### **5.86 - Annual Performance Evaluation -Regular Faculty**

##### **PART 1: PURPOSE**

This Rule affirms that the regular faculty are to be evaluated based on their performance in the Four Areas of Faculty Effort (*See* Part 3 below), and in accordance with their respective assigned workload’s Allocation of Effort. (*See Also* the Professorial Ranks, Rule 5.88) This Rule also provides guiding principles (Part 2), the elements required to be in each Principal Unit’s Performance Evaluation policies (Part 4), and procedural guidelines relating to annual performance evaluation of the regular faculty (Part 5). (*See Also* Rule 5.45 - Department Head - Review, Rule 5.35 - Deans- Review, and 5.15.40 Appointments - Nontenure-Track.)

##### **PART 2: GUIDING PRINCIPLES RELATING TO ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION** (*See Also* Rule 5.20.20 - Assignments - Teaching Workload)

- A. **Service to Mission:** The amount of effort that faculty members regardless of rank or position devote to the various aspects of their duties necessarily varies, and any promotion and tenure process will recognize these variations. A successful process considers whether the faculty member is effectively serving the mission of the university, as defined by a department’s criteria and the individual’s agreed upon goals and objectives. This means, for example, that the efforts of a faculty member made in response to administrators or committees are taken into account during promotion and tenure evaluation.

- B. Consideration for Variance in Duties: The efforts of two faculty members may vary at the same points in their careers according to their particular strengths and department needs. Faculty assignments in different departments will also vary. For example, a department or program must not impose similar expectations for scholarship and creative activity, service, extension, or outreach from a faculty member teaching one class a semester as from another faculty member teaching three classes a semester or several large lecture classes.
- C. Equitable Treatment: In order to ensure equitable treatment, every faculty member will complete an Allocation of Effort statement (*See* Part 4. B. 1. below) as part of the Annual Performance Evaluation process. When determining the Allocation of Effort, decisions must be made without regard to race, national origin, gender, gender identity, age, disability, political beliefs, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, special friendships, or animus towards candidates. Further, for the Allocation of Effort statement to be accurate and useful, administrators at all levels must understand and take an active role in avoiding institutional factors that could produce an undue burden on untenured faculty members.

### **PART 3: THE FOUR AREAS OF FACULTY EFFORT: TEACHING AND ADVISING, SCHOLARSHIP AND CREATIVE ACTIVITY, EXTENSION AND OUTREACH, AND SERVICE**

- A. Evaluation Emphasizes Four Areas of Faculty Effort: Serious attention must be given to performance in the Four Areas of Faculty Effort: teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, service, and extension and outreach. The relative importance of each of these areas varies according to the cumulative Allocation of Effort statements. Each area is vital to the university's ability to achieve its mission, and the performance of a faculty member will be viewed as an indication of future contributions.
- B. Leadership May Be Considered in Each Area of Faculty Effort: While a faculty member's performance must be evaluated through their contributions to the Four Areas of Faculty Effort, leadership is an important component. Leadership must not be considered as a separate area to be evaluated. Rather, when applicable, its value should be considered in how they affect performance in one or more of the Four Areas of Faculty Effort.

#### **C. Teaching and Advising:**

##### **1. Description of Teaching and Advising Activities:**

- a. Elements of Teaching as Essential Criterion: Teaching is central to NMSU's mission. For those who teach, effectiveness in teaching and advising is an essential criterion for tenure and for advancement in rank. The teaching and advising category includes all forms of university-level instructional activity, as well as advising undergraduate and graduate students, both within and outside the university community. Such activities are commonly characterized by the dissemination of knowledge within a faculty member's area of expertise; skill in stimulating students to think critically and to apply knowledge to human problems; the integration and application of relevant domestic and international, social, political, economic, and ethical implications into class content; the preparation of students for careers in specific fields of study; and the creation and supervision of appropriate field or clinical practica.
- b. Responsibilities of Teaching and Advising: Teaching and advising responsibilities may include, but are not limited to, preparation for and teaching of a variety of courses, seminars, and other academic learning experiences; non-credit workshops and informal instructional activities; course and program development; team or collaborative teaching; web-based instruction, both on and off campus; supervision of student research, performances, or productions; service on graduate student program and research committees; field supervision and administration of field or clinical experiences; production of course materials, textbooks, web pages and other electronic aids to learning; and others.
- c. Forms of Faculty Advising: Faculty advising may take the form of assisting undergraduate or graduate students in the selection of courses or careers, assisting learners in educational programs on and off campus, mentoring students, serving as faculty adviser to student groups, research and teaching advising, as well as other forms.

*See Also* Rule 5.87, Part 8 (University Library Faculty)

##### **2. Evaluation Criteria for Teaching and Advising:**

- a. Evidence to Assess Teaching Effectiveness: Teaching is a complex and multifaceted activity. Therefore, several forms of evidence should be used to assess comprehensively teaching effectiveness. Each form



of evidence will be weighted according to appropriate to its importance in evaluating teaching. Such documentation must demonstrate command of subject matter, the ability to organize material and convey it effectively to students, and assessment of student learning. It may also demonstrate revision and updates of curricula, and the integration of scholarship (for faculty who produce scholarship) and service with teaching. Materials appropriate for evaluating teaching should include: (a) evidence from the instructor, (b) evidence from other professionals, (c) evidence from students, and (d) evidence of student learning. It is not necessary for all four types of evidence to be used, but in accordance with state law, at a minimum, student evaluations and one other form of evidence must be used.

- b. **Principal Units to Develop Guidelines:** Each Principle Unit is to create clear guidelines for its teaching faculty that define teaching responsibilities and specify required evidence documenting teaching effectiveness. Specific data to be included in the evaluation packet will be determined by each Principle Unit.
- c. **Evaluation of Advising:** For evaluation promotion and tenure considerations, performance in such activities must be documented and evaluated. Each Principle Unit is to create clear guidelines regarding the responsibilities and documentation requirements for its faculty who advise or mentor.

#### D. Scholarship and Creative Activity:

##### 1. Description of Scholarly and Creative Activities:

- a. **Rationale:** This understanding is grounded in Boyer's concept of the four scholarships:
  - i. The scholarship of discovery involves processes, outcomes, and the passionate commitment of the professoriate and others in the university to disciplined inquiry and exploration in the development of knowledge and skills;
  - ii. The scholarship of teaching involves dynamic, reciprocal, and critically reflective processes among teachers and learners at the university and in the community in which their activity and interaction enriches and transforms knowledge and skills, taught and learned;
  - iii. The scholarship of engagement refers to the many and varied ways to responsibly offer and employ knowledge and skills to matters of consequence to the university and the community; and
  - iv. The scholarship of integration is the process by which knowledge and skills are assessed, interpreted, and applied in new and creative ways to produce new, richer, and more comprehensive, insights, understanding, and outcomes. *Boyer, Ernest L. (1990).*

*Scholarship reconsidered: Priorities of the Professoriate. New York: Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.*

- b. **NMSU Definition of Scholarship and Creative Activity:** Products developed through these processes, are typically public, open to peer review, and available for use by others, but may also include classified projects, protected intellectual property or other confidential materials. Scholarship and creative activity can take many forms, including but not limited to refereed publications and patented intellectual property. At NMSU's community colleges, scholarship and creative activity includes scholarship that is also evidenced by professional development activities that disseminate knowledge to the college's learning communities.
- c. **Acknowledgement of Land Grant Mission:** This definition reflects the university's mission as the state's land-grant university, serving the needs of New Mexico's diverse population through comprehensive programs of teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, extension and outreach, and service. It addresses the breadth and diversity of scholarly and creative activity among faculty, staff, and students through which this mission is fulfilled.

##### 2. Evaluation Criteria for Scholarship and Creative Activity: All scholarly activity and outcomes, regardless of funding source, must consider the following criteria adapted from Diamond:

- a. The activity's purposes, goals, and objectives are clear. The objectives are realistic and achievable. It addresses important questions in the field.



- b. The activity reveals a high level of discipline-related expertise. The scholar brings to the activity a high level of relevant knowledge, skills, artistry, and reflective understanding.
- c. Appropriate methods are used for the activity, including principles of honesty, integrity, and objectivity. The methods have been chosen wisely, and applied effectively. It allows for replication or elaboration.
- d. The activity achieves its goals and its outcomes have significant impact. It adds consequentially to the field. It breaks new ground or is innovative. It leads to further exploration or new avenues for exploration for the scholar and for others.
- e. The activity and outcomes have been presented appropriately and effectively to its various audiences.
- f. The activity and outcomes are judged meritorious and significant by one's peers.
- g. The scholar has critically evaluated the activity and outcomes and has assessed the impact and implications on the greater community, the community of scholars and on one's own work. The scholar uses this assessment to improve, extend, revise, and integrate subsequent work.

*Diamond, Robert M. (2002). Serving on promotion, tenure, and faculty review committees: A faculty guide, 2nd ed. Bolton, MA: Ankar Publishing.*

#### E. Extension and Outreach:

##### 1. Description of Extension and Outreach Activities:

- a. The central role of extension and outreach is recognized in that several Principle Units are dedicated to these functions. There are also numerous faculty members in other units for whom extension and outreach are major components of their duties.
- b. Collaborative Effort: Extension and outreach work is collaborative by nature. Faculty should provide evidence of collaboration with whomever necessary to identify local needs, garner resources, discover and adapt new knowledge, design and deliver programs, assess clientele skill changes, and communicate program results. Collaborative effort should also include networking with other university faculty in identified areas of program discovery, development, and delivery, including applications to teaching and advising where appropriate.

##### 2. Evaluation Criteria for Extension and Outreach: Faculty must provide evidence of the collaborative and other efforts to receive recognition in this Area of Faculty Effort.

- a. The documentation should provide evidence that the work is:
  - i. creative and intellectual;
  - ii. communicated to stakeholders; and
  - iii. have a beneficial effect on stakeholders and the region.
- b. Components of extension include:
  - i. developing programs based on locally identified needs, concerns, and/or issues; targeting specific audiences;
  - ii. setting goals and objectives for the program;
  - iii. reviewing current literature and/or research for the program;
  - iv. planning appropriate program delivery;
  - v. documenting changes in clientele knowledge, behaviors, attitudes, and/or skills;
  - vi. conducting a reflective critique and/or evaluation of the program;
  - vii. validation of the program by peers and/or stakeholders; and
  - viii. communicating results to stakeholders and decision makers.

#### F. Service:

- 1. Description of Service Activities: Service is an essential component of the university's mission and requires the faculty member to contribute to the organization and development of the university, as well as to provide

service to local, state, national, or international agencies, organizations or institutions which may benefit from the faculty member's professional knowledge and skills.

2. **Evaluation Criteria for Service Activities:** The type and amount of service that a faculty member performs should be determined in consultation with the appropriate administrator(s). All relevant activities in which a faculty member participates should receive appropriate consideration for promotion and tenure decisions. Service contributions should be evaluated based on how they are applied and how they draw upon the professional expertise of the faculty member.

#### **PART 4: REQUIREMENTS FOR PRINCIPAL UNITS' EVALUATION POLICIES**

##### **A. Policies:** Performance evaluation policies of the Principle Units must:

1. State that Performance Evaluations are conducted annually.
2. Include a timeline consistent with the timeline for promotion and for tenure as described in Rule 5.90 Part P "University Timeline for Promotion and Tenure."
3. Require that each faculty member meet with their department head or comparable administrator annually regarding progress toward promotion and tenure as appropriate, the recording of objectives and goals, and the department faculty evaluation format.
4. Describe the process for the faculty member to submit a written statement in response to the annual performance evaluations.
5. Outline process for transmitting the performance evaluation, along with any supporting material, from the faculty member to the faculty member's department head.
6. Describe a process for transmitting a written copy of the department head review to the individual being reviewed and, along with the faculty member's written statement, if any, to the dean or equivalent administrator.
7. Include a certification from the department head indicating that the Annual Performance Evaluation meeting with the faculty member occurred. The performance evaluation will not be considered final until the meeting has occurred and been documented, typically by the signatures of the Department Head and the faculty member.

##### **B. Performance Evaluation Forms:** Performance evaluation forms in the Principle Units must include the following elements:

1. **Allocation of Effort Statement:**
  - a. **Use of Allocation of Effort Statement:** Each college shall develop and use an Allocation of Effort statement as specified here and in ARP Rule 5.20. These statements shall also be a part of the candidate/faculty member's tenure and/or promotion Portfolio, and all aspects of the agreed upon efforts shall be factored into the recommendation made at each step of the process.
  - b. The allocation percentages will be negotiated by the faculty member and the department head in alignment with the departmental workload policy and Rule 5.20, and will be approved annually by the faculty member's department head and dean. If agreement cannot be reached, the dean or equivalent administrator may assign the Allocation of Effort, and the faculty member may appeal through existing university procedures.
  - c. The Allocation of Effort statement and assigned percentages may be altered during the year with the mutual agreement of the faculty member, department head, and dean to reflect changing circumstances, such as service on a particularly time-consuming committee or grant, time for scholarship and creative activity, emergency teaching and advising assignments, etc.
  - d. At the minimum, the Allocation of Effort statement will contain the following elements:
    - i. Percentage of effort to be devoted to the Four Areas of Faculty Effort. The total percentage shall be 100%, but any category may be zero percent.
    - ii. A statement of what the Principle Unit considers a full teaching and advising load.

- iii. If the Principle Unit utilizes a weighting, ranking, or scoring system, the value assigned to each category must be indicated. The values must be calculated proportionately to the faculty member's Allocation of Effort.
2. Current Position Description.
3. Submission from Faculty Member: A written section submitted by the faculty member detailing and citing accomplishments in relation to the Four Areas of Faculty Effort.
4. Written Review by Department Head: A written review from the department head including specific commendations, concerns, and recommendations in each of the areas of performance, as well as separate comments about progress toward promotion and tenure.

## **PART 5: PROCEDURAL GUIDELINES FOR ANNUAL PERFORMANCE EVALUATION**

- A. The performance of each regular faculty member, including College Faculty, Research Faculty, and library faculty, must be reviewed at least once a year. The Annual Performance Evaluation provides documentation of expectations and a record of faculty performance relative to stated expectations in Allocation of Effort documents.
- B. Each college and community college determines and uses its own performance evaluation form (*See* Part 4.B. above, "Performance Evaluation Forms"). Early in each fall semester the department head supplies each faculty member with a form. At this time the department head confers with new faculty members concerning the recording of objectives and goals and the general use of the form. In the case of continuing faculty members, the department head or faculty may request a conference for the purpose of revising or updating objectives previously agreed upon. Department heads will share the above agreements in writing with the faculty member.
- C. Department heads are expected to meet with all new faculty members regarding progress toward promotion and tenure and to certify in writing to the appropriate dean that these meetings have occurred. Returning faculty members or their department heads may request an annual meeting regarding progress toward promotion and tenure. Specific evaluative comments in each of the three areas of performance are required, as well as separate comments about progress toward tenure and toward promotion.
- D. Each faculty member completes a written form or digital database detailing and citing accomplishments in Four Areas of Faculty Effort, of teaching, research and/or creative scholarship, service, and extension and outreach during the performance evaluation period. The type, method of collection, and disposition of evidence regarding effectiveness of teaching is of particular importance, and faculty should consult their with department head concerning collection of this evidence. The performance evaluation form, along with any supplemental material, is submitted by each faculty member to the faculty member's department head.
- E. The department head reviews the faculty performance forms, prepares a written evaluation based upon accomplishments reported as compared with previously set goals and objectives (a copy of this report will be shared with the faculty member), and confers with appropriate deans on the written recommendation and the prepared summary to be discussed with the faculty member. Following the conference with the dean, the department head meets with the faculty member to discuss all aspects of the performance evaluation, addressing separately the person's progress toward promotion, progress toward tenure, strengths, and weaknesses. This conference also serves to set goals and objectives for the ensuing year. These goals and objectives will be placed in writing, with a copy to the faculty member. At community colleges with program coordinators, the coordinator performs the duties of a department head in the evaluation process.
- F. Department heads, along with departmental promotion and tenure committees, college dean, and college promotion and tenure committees formulate independent recommendations where appropriate regarding evaluation on the basis of policies stated in this manual. These are communicated to the Executive Vice President and Provost.
- G. Each college generates its own time schedule for accomplishing the above items within the parameters of the university calendar.

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Cross References:	College and Departmental Promotion and Tenure policy documents; Rule 5.20.20 Assignments-Teaching Load (addresses allocation of effort) Rule 5.98 - Tenure Track and Tenure; For relevant forms, See <a href="http://provost.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/promotion-and-tenure-2/">http://provost.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/promotion-and-tenure-2/</a>

### **5.87 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 13, 2018:**

## **5.87 - Purpose and Guiding Principles Relating to Promotion and Tenure**

### **PART 1: PURPOSE**

Promotion and tenure decisions are the means by which NMSU rewards and retains its most valued scholars, sustains excellence in its instructional disciplines, and fulfills its mission to advance knowledge. The quality of faculty accomplishments in teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, extension and outreach, and service, (collectively referred to as the Four Areas of Faculty Effort), largely determines the quality of the university as a whole. The processes involved in promotion and tenure must be fair, transparent, and participatory. For additional rules and principles relating to promotion and tenure, *See* Cross References listed in the box at end of this Rule.

### **PART 2: NATURE OF PROMOTION AND TENURE REVIEWS**

- A. The integrity of the promotion and tenure processes relies upon consultation by and between groups and individuals with successively broader views of the mission of the university, participation by the involved faculty member, who has an opportunity to seek redress for perceived violations of policy, rules or procedure which might unfairly affect the outcome. (*See* Rule 5.89, Part 1 - Principal Unit Committees; Rule 5.90, Part 5, Roles and Responsibilities in Promotion and Tenure Reviews and Part 9, Right to Seek Redress for Violation of Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure rules.) In order to achieve fairness, transparency, and broad-based participation, all of the parties must base decisions on the documentation described in the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure.
- B. The NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure are based in large part on the four types of scholarship defined by Ernest L. Boyer<sup>3</sup>, namely, the scholarships of discovery, of teaching, of integration, and of engagement. At NMSU, Boyer's definition of scholarship has been broadened to reflect the changing roles of faculty members in teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, extension and outreach, and service. *See* [Rule 5.86 Part 3.D. \(Scholarship and Creative Activity\)](#)
- C. Applicants for tenure or promotion must be reviewed on their performance of the duties assigned to them, following agreed-upon allocations of effort. (*See* Rule 5.86 Part 2; Rule 5.20.20 - Assignments - Teaching Load)

### **PART 3: FACULTY PARTICIPATION**

The selection and retention of faculty members are of utmost importance to the quality of the university, the achievement of university goals, and the future of the institution. In order to ensure a fair process for recognition of excellent faculty, it shall be the policy of the university to allow faculty members to vote on the promotion or tenure of departmental colleagues, exercising collegial judgment based on criteria established for promotion and tenure by the Principal Units and consistent with the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure.

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<sup>3</sup> Boyer, Ernest L. (1990). *Scholarship reconsidered: Priorities of the Professoriate*. New York: Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

**PART 4: TRANSPARENCY OF PROCESS**

Faculty members are entitled to know what is expected of them, how they will be evaluated, and the rules of each applicable process.

- A. Promotion and Tenure Information to be Provided to Eligible Faculty: Upon hiring of a regular faculty member, the department head or head of the Principle Unit, will provide the faculty member with electronic copies of applicable promotion and tenure policies, including departmental, college (or comparable equivalent) and university. The department head, or head of the Principle Unit, will provide, electronically, a similar packet of materials to faculty members eligible to be considered for promotion and/or tenure during the spring semester prior the academic year in which the application for promotion and/or tenure will be made.
- B. Notice of Principal Unit Functions and Criteria Statement or Equivalent: Each departmental Principal Unit shall post on its website its current statement of goals, objectives, and expectations as these relate to promotion and tenure (sometimes called a functions and criteria statement). These shall be agreed upon by the faculty in each department and approved by the responsible dean or comparable administrator.
- C. Notice of Principal Unit Promotion and Tenure Policies and Procedures: Each Principal Unit shall post on its website its written promotion and tenure policy document, which must be in alignment with the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure. In addition, they must post the link to the Office of the Provost's website.
- D. Notice of NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure: The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost will post the current and previous editions of the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure on its website. It will also post other relevant information pertaining to the annual promotion and tenure review processes, including but not limited to forms, to explain and facilitate the process for candidates and academic administrators alike.

**PART 5: AVOIDANCE OF CONFLICT OF INTEREST**

University faculty and academic administrators involved in the review and recommendation or decision making processes relating to an application for promotion or tenure shall not have any conflict of interest that would render them unable to perform their duties in a fair, impartial and equitable manner. *See Also* Rules 3.19 - Conflicts of Interest - Ethical Conduct; 3.20 - Conflicts of Interest and Conflicts of Commitment in General; and 3.22 - Conflicts of Interest Arising from Consensual Relationships; and 3.25 - Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus.

**PART 6: STATEMENT ON VALUE OF DIVERSITY; COMMITMENT AGAINST DISCRIMINATION**

NMSU values the richness that inquiry based upon intellectual and cultural differences brings to the university community. NMSU administrators recognize that all employment decisions must be made without regard to race, national origin, gender, gender identity, age, disability, political beliefs, religion, marital status, sexual orientation, special friendships, or animus towards candidates, taking care to avoid conflicts of interest, structural, institutional, or habitual thoughts and patterns that could lead to disparate treatment, including prohibited discrimination and undue preferential treatment. (*See Also* Rule 3.19 - Conflicts of Interest - Ethical Conduct; Rule 3.22 - Conflicts of Interest Arising from Consensual Relationships and Rule 3.25 - Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus)

**PART 7: COMMUNITY COLLEGES**

The mission of the NMSU community colleges is to provide open access to quality education and support economic and cultural life in prescribed service areas. Community colleges provide traditional liberal arts education, vocational and technical training, contract training, community interest classes, and developmental education. Every effort is made to keep programs and curricula flexible, in order to accommodate varied and expanding community educational needs. Since the community college's primary role is the dissemination of information, more emphasis is placed on teaching and advising, in the evaluation process. Due to their size, the organizational structure for tenure review at the Alamogordo, Carlsbad, and Grants campuses consists of one tenure committee instead of two. (*See* Rule 5.89, Part 1 below)

**PART 8: UNIVERSITY LIBRARY FACULTY**

University library faculty are expected to meet university requirements for academic appointment and promotion and tenure considerations. For these purposes, the category of librarianship is equivalent to the teaching and advising category. The University Library places the highest value on the element of librarianship. Librarianship includes, but is not limited to the organization of knowledge, the understanding and use of technology as it relates to the information field, teaching, library management, service delivery, and building collections.

## PART 9: COLLEGE AND RESEARCH FACULTY

College and Research faculty may hold ranks as described in Rule 5.88 and are eligible to be considered for promotion. The distinct roles of the College and Research Faculty should be recognized in the promotion process, and the standards and criteria for promotion should be appropriately adjusted. Committees for promotion of College and Research Faculty must include college faculty representation. (See Rule 5.89, Part 1 C. (College Faculty Representation))

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Cross References:	College and Departmental Promotion and Tenure policy documents; Rule 5.20.20 Assignments-Teaching Load (addresses allocation of effort) Rule 5.98 - Tenure Track and Tenure; For relevant forms, See <a href="http://provost.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/promotion-and-tenure-2/">http://provost.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/promotion-and-tenure-2/</a>

### **5.88 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 13, 2018:**

#### **5.88 - The Professorial Ranks**

College and Research Faculty will be eligible to be considered for advancement in rank, but are not eligible for consideration for tenure. Generalized descriptions of the professorial ranks as they relate to the promotion and tenure time table are described below. (See Rules 5.86, Part 3 and 5.87, Part 2 for standards and evaluation criteria)

#### **PART 1: INSTRUCTOR**

- A. Demonstrates expertise within their discipline through practical, applied, and/or related experience.
- B. Individuals new to this rank may not have demonstrated ability to conduct independent scholarship and creative activity, but there must be substantive evidence of likely success at university teaching or its equivalent.
- C. Instructors may be working toward a terminal degree.
- D. An instructor's job description primarily relates to teaching or its equivalent and usually does not include scholarship and creative activity.
- E. An instructor is not eligible for tenure.

#### **PART 2: ASSISTANT PROFESSOR**

- A. Tenure-Track Assistant professors normally holds the highest terminal degree in their field of expertise.
- B. Outstanding experience and recognition in a professional field may be considered the equivalent of the terminal degree.
- C. An assistant professor is expected to have a thorough command of the subject matter of some segment of the discipline, in addition to a comprehension of the whole.
- D. Assistant professors are Tenure-Track Faculty members hired on a yearly, renewable contract for a maximum of seven years.

- E. During the sixth year, assistant professors typically are evaluated for promotion and tenure simultaneously, having submitted their Portfolio at the beginning of that year.
- F. However, an assistant professor may elect to apply for tenure or promotion at any time with the written approval of department head and dean or their equivalents.
- G. A faculty member may only apply for tenure once.

### PART 3: ASSOCIATE PROFESSOR

- A. An associate professor is often a mid-career faculty member who has been awarded tenure.
- B. If a faculty member is initially employed at the rank of associate professor without tenure, the probationary period may vary depending upon agreements stipulated in writing at the time of initial hire.
- C. Once tenured, associate professors may hold this rank indefinitely or apply for promotion.
- D. Promotion to professor should not be considered to be forthcoming merely because of years of service to the university, or because tenure has previously been awarded.
- E. In accordance with the Principal Unit's timelines, a faculty member may present a promotion Portfolio in any given year.
- F. An associate professor must demonstrate competence, continuous progress, and a command over a large part of the academic field.
- G. It is expected that evidence showing high quality of teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity and/or extension and outreach or service has been provided and is current.

### PART 4: PROFESSOR

- A. A professor, sometimes referred to as a "full professor," has established disciplinary, intellectual, and institutional leadership.
- B. The professor demonstrates command of the disciplinary field as evidenced by teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, extension and outreach, and service.
- C. Faculty members initially hired at the rank of professor are often awarded service credit or awarded tenure on appointment.

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**5.89 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 13, 2018:****5.89 - Promotion and Tenure Committees; Common Elements Required in the Principal Unit Policies****PART 1: PRINCIPAL UNIT COMMITTEES**

- A. Department Promotion and Tenure Committees: At NMSU-Las Cruces, each academic department or unit utilize a department promotion and tenure committee. At the Doña Ana Community College, divisions are treated as equivalent to departments for this rule and therefore its “department promotion and tenure committees” are elected from the regular faculty from each division.
- B. College Promotion and Tenure Committee: Each college at the NMSU-Las Cruces campus will utilize a college promotion and tenure committee, consisting of elected faculty members. The community colleges other than Doña Ana Community College, NMSU- Alamogordo, NMSU- Carlsbad and NMSU- Grants, and the University Library utilize only one promotion and tenure committee which functions as a college promotion and tenure committee.
- C. College Faculty Representation: Principal Unit Committees considering the promotion of College and Research Faculty must include college faculty representation of at least one college faculty member. (*See Also* Rule 5.87, Part 9)

**PART 2: PRINCIPAL UNIT POLICIES**

- A. Department Promotion and Tenure Policy: Each NMSU-Las Cruces department or DACC division shall have a written policy for promotion and for tenure referred to as a Department Promotion and Tenure policy. The Department Promotion and Tenure policies shall include criteria and procedures for promotion and tenure, developed collaboratively by the faculty and department/division head, and approved by the college dean or community college Associate Vice President for Academic Affairs, as appropriate. The Department Promotion and Tenure Policy shall be consistent with their respective college or community college criteria and procedures for promotion and tenure. It shall also be consistent with the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure, Rules 5.85-5.91.
- B. College Promotion and Tenure Policy: Each college, community college and the University Library must have a written policy for promotion and for tenure, developed collaboratively by the tenure and Tenure-Track Faculty and college academic administration, and approved by the executive vice president and provost. The college promotion and tenure policies must be consistent with the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure (Rules 5.85-5.91).
- C. Development of Promotion Procedures: Colleges must develop specific promotion procedures for their College and Research Faculty. The protections for College and Research Faculty must be the same as those given Tenure-Track Faculty and tenured faculty in [Rule 5.85 “Performance Evaluations”](#) and Rule 5.89 - Promotion and Tenure Committees; Common Elements for Promotion and Tenure Policies.

**PART 3: COMMON ELEMENTS FOR PRINCIPAL UNITS’ PROMOTION AND TENURE POLICIES**

To facilitate consistency with the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure (Rules 5.85-5.91), each department and college promotion and tenure policy must contain the following:

- A. A statement that university policies regarding promotion and tenure supersede department and college policies.
- B. Statements describing the criteria for promotion and tenure consistent with performance evaluation criteria. (See Rule 5.85-Faculty Annual Performance Evaluation).
- C. A provision permitting a candidate to temporarily suspend the promotion and tenure time process in accordance with the procedure provided in Rule 5.90 - Procedures and Timelines for Promotion and Tenure.
- D. A statement regarding confidentiality of records and all committee procedures, including the manner in which confidentiality is ensured. Exceptions must be clearly indicated.
- E. A commitment to review for potential update the Principle Units’ respective policies and procedures for evaluation, promotion and tenure, including but not limited to those occasions when the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion and Tenure are amended, to maintain consistency. A standing committee of the Faculty



Senate will review the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure. College rules and procedures for promotion and tenure will be reviewed by a college committee which will include Faculty Senators. Department rules and procedure for evaluation, promotion and tenure will be reviewed by a departmental committee including faculty from the department and the department head.

- F. A statement to the effect that if the NMSU Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure (Rules 5.85-5.91) should change during a faculty member's pre-tenure or pre-promotion period, the faculty member may elect whether to be evaluated by the former Rule or the revised Rule, and this election shall be documented in writing to clearly specify which standards, criteria, etc will be applied in accordance with the faculty member's election.
- G. A procedure for the conduct of a Mid-Probationary Review. Faculty who choose to participate in the review process must submit their Portfolio to their department head by mid-January. The Portfolio shall be prepared in accordance with Rule 5.90, Part 6 (Portfolio Preparation) and be reviewed by the department promotion and tenure committee, the department head, and the college promotion and tenure committee. The college committee will provide to the department head and faculty member a written formative evaluation of progress. The review is conducted in accordance with the Principle Unit's promotion and tenure policy. (*See* Rule 5.90, Part 3 (Mid-Probationary Review))
- H. A procedure for electing the college promotion and tenure committee. All tenure and Tenure-Track Faculty are eligible to vote during the election. When colleges choose to include college faculty on this committee, college faculty are eligible to vote for college faculty membership on the college committee.
- I. Procedure for selecting members of the department promotion and tenure committee.
- J. Definition of eligibility for serving on the promotion and tenure committees. Only tenured faculty members are eligible to vote for tenure and promotion. College-track faculty who serve on the college committee are eligible to vote on promotion of college-track faculty. In instances of promotion, committee members must hold a rank at least equal to the rank for which the candidate is applying.
- K. Provisions for term limits if desired for serving on the department promotion and tenure committee.
- L. Provisions for term limits for serving on the college promotion and tenure committee are required, except at the Alamogordo, Carlsbad, and Grants community colleges.
- M. The provision that in no case will a promotion and tenure committee be comprised of fewer than three eligible members.
- N. A provision for addressing cases where there are inadequate numbers of eligible faculty to constitute a committee. The department and/or the college promotion and tenure committees may have members from outside the department.
- O. The provision that the dean, department head, or comparable administrator may meet with the Principle Units' promotion and tenure committees to discuss procedural matters.
- P. The provision that the deliberations and voting of promotion and tenure committees will be conducted in closed session only among committee members. Committee members can attend sessions by a confidential electronic method with permission of the committee chair. Committee members must take part in the deliberations in order to vote.
- Q. A method for surveying the committees' recommendations regarding each candidate(s) via secret written ballot. Committee members may vote in person, or by an appropriate confidential electronic method with the permission of the committee chair. Absentia and proxy ballots are not permitted. All vote counts must be recorded.
- R. A method for the Principle Units' promotion and tenure committees to submit a letter summarizing its recommendations and the numerical vote count on each candidate to the department head and college dean or comparable administrator. The recommendation must:
  - 1. Reflect the majority view.
  - 2. Contain specific commendations, concerns, and recommendations addressing the department's criteria in each of the areas required for promotion and tenure.
  - 3. Allow for dissenting opinions containing specific commendations, concerns, and recommendations addressing the criteria in each of the areas required for promotion and tenure.

- S. A method for informing each candidate in writing of the Principle Units' recommendations and numerical vote count, the department head's letter, and/or the dean's or comparable administrator's letter.
  - T. The provision that a candidate may withdraw from further consideration in accordance with 5.90.5.6 Withdrawal of Rights and Procedures.
  - U. Guidelines for preparing the Portfolio. (*See* Rule 5.90, Part 6, Portfolio Preparation) The parties shall refer to the individual college policies for additional guidelines.
  - V. A mechanism to provide candidates with sample Portfolios. If the Portfolios of actual persons are used, written permission must be obtained from the owner of the Portfolio.
  - W. A procedure for indicating how and when a candidate may change, add, or delete materials from the Portfolio after the Portfolio is submitted to the committee for review.
  - X. A statement regarding the location where the Documentation File will be stored and accessed for review.
  - Y. A procedure for indicating how and when evaluators may request additional information. All requests must be made in writing and transmitted to the candidate.
  - Z. A procedure allowing the candidate to review all items included in the Portfolio assembled prior to the review by appropriate committees, administrators, and/or External Reviewers.
- AA. A procedure for soliciting external letters of review which incorporates the following:
- 1. The number of letters that shall be solicited for each candidate. At least three letters should be included in a tenure or promotion Portfolio.
  - 2. Specifications regarding how the letters will be placed into the candidate's Portfolio. The department head will contact reviewers to solicit the letters.
  - 3. Specifications regarding how much and what type of material is supplied to reviewers. The department and/or college policies and criteria for tenure and promotion must be provided to reviewers.
  - 4. Specifications regarding the criteria for serving as an External Reviewer. A reviewer will be a highly regarded expert in one or more aspects of the candidates work and must be able to offer an objective assessment of the candidate's work. When a reviewer holds a tenured position, it should be at or above the rank sought by the candidate. Departmental rules and procedures should be precise about who is or is not appropriate to serve as an External Reviewer. It is recommended that a candidate has a diverse set of reviewers to get the most complete picture of the candidate's performance.
  - 5. Conflicts of interest, either real or perceived, must be avoided when selecting External Reviewers. *See* Rules 3.19 through 3.22 relating to Conflicts of Interest and Ethical Conduct for more information.
  - 6. Instructions to Reviewers (authors of external review letters and Letters of Support), including:
    - a. A request for a brief statement regarding the individual's qualifications for serving as a reviewer.
    - b. A request that the reviewer indicate the relationship between the candidate and reviewer.
    - c. Notification that the candidate will have an opportunity to read the letter of assessment.
    - d. Notification that third parties in the event of an EEOC or other investigation into a tenure or promotion decision may review letters.
  - 7. A statement addressing the role, if any, of unsolicited letters. If a Principle Unit decides to accept unsolicited letters, such letters must be included in the Portfolio prior to review by the Department Promotion and Tenure Committee. If the Principle Unit does not have an explicit statement regarding unsolicited letters, such letters will not be accepted nor included in the Portfolio.
- BB. A statement regarding post-tenure review in accordance with [Rule 5.91 -Post Tenure Review](#).
- CC. Reference to the appeals process as outlined in [Rules 3.25 "Discrimination, Harassment and Sexual Misconduct on Campus"](#) and [4.05.50 "Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution"](#).

DD. Develop a procedure for reviewing the university's Conflict of Interest policies, rules and procedures with the promotion and tenure review committee(s).

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### 5.90 EFFECTIVE AUGUST 13, 2018:

## 5.90 - Promotion and Tenure Review Procedural Guidelines and Timeline

### PART 1: PRE-TENURE PROBATIONARY PERIOD

Before being considered for tenure at NMSU, eligible faculty members with or without previous experience from other institutions of higher education serve five years of the pre-tenure probationary period prior to applying for tenure during the sixth year of the probationary period. The six year probationary period may be reduced or extended, in accordance with the guidelines in Part 2, and with the proper approvals. The probationary period begins with the first contract for a full academic year. See Also Rule 5.98 - Tenure Track and Tenure.

### PART 2: FLEXIBILITY IN TENURE-TRACK

This Part describes the circumstances which may justify modification of the six year term of the pre-tenure probationary period.

1. **Credit for Prior Service:** Faculty members with previous teaching and advising, service, extension, outreach, scholarly, and/or administrative experience at another institution may have some or all of that experience taken into consideration on appointment at NMSU, provided that the department head, dean and executive vice-president and provost and faculty appointee agree at the time of the appointment. The details of any agreed upon credit for prior service shall be documented unambiguously in the appointment letter, including but not limited to: the years of prior service being credited, the resulting length of the probationary period, the timing for any Mid-Probationary Review, and the expectation relating to the timing for the tenure application process. Dependent upon the nature of the prior experience or the qualifications of the faculty applicant, examples which would justify granting credit for prior service include and are not limited to:
  1. When tenure has been granted to a candidate at another institution, tenure may be accorded at the time of initial appointment to the university.
  2. Up to three years of prior probationary service at another institution may count towards the six-year probationary period at NMSU.
- B. **Extension of the Probationary Period:** When requested in writing within one year of the qualifying event by the faculty member, leaves of absence can lead to postponement of the tenure decision date; however, modifications in that date require the recommendation of the department head and dean and the approval of the executive vice-president and provost. Faculty responsibilities may be negotiated when the extension is requested. An extension may be granted up to two times, so long as the total pre-tenure probationary period does not exceed eight years. Exceptions to this limit can be made under extraordinary circumstances if approved by the executive vice-president and provost. Candidates must be held to the same standards of performance when the probationary period has been extended as candidates whose probationary period was not extended. The probationary period may be extended, upon written request, under the following circumstances:

1. **Leave of Absence without Pay:** Probationary faculty members may request in writing a leave of absence without pay, usually not to exceed one academic or fiscal year. Prior to initiating the leave, affected faculty may request in writing a probation extension of one year.
  2. **Military Leave of Absence:** Involuntary induction into the armed forces entitles the faculty member to a leave of absence to cover the term of military service. Such leave constitutes valid grounds for requesting an extension of the tenure decision date. Similarly, a faculty member's voluntary participation in a military reserve program may lead to periodic or prolonged absence sufficient to affect the faculty member's performance (e.g., annual active duty training, or active duty training or participation when a reserve unit is called to active duty) that constitutes valid grounds for extension of the tenure decision date.
  3. **Medical Leave of Absence:** Probationary faculty members with a serious personal illness or providing prolonged, substantive care for a chronically ill family member may request in writing an extension of the tenure decision date, usually for one year.
  4. **Family Leave of Absence or Exceptional Family Responsibilities:** Upon written request, probationary faculty members who become parents will receive a one-year automatic extension of the tenure decision date. Such an extension does not require that the faculty member take a leave of absence.
  5. **Catastrophic Events:** Probationary faculty who have experienced a catastrophic event such as a fire or flood or who must aid family members in such situations may request in writing an extension of the tenure decision date.
  6. **Jury Duty:** Prolonged jury service, when significantly affecting a faculty member's performance, constitutes a valid reason to petition for extension of the tenure decision date.
  7. **Other, as Negotiated:** Extensions for other reasons may be negotiated.
- C. **Faculty Request for Early Tenure Review:** A Request for Early Tenure Review is initiated in writing by the faculty member, and requires positive recommendations from the Department Promotion and Tenure Committee (as determined in the review of progress toward promotion and/or tenure), department head, and dean; followed by approval by the Executive Vice President and Provost. If an Early Tenure Review application is not successful, the candidate's contract will not be renewed, consistent with the provisions of [Rule 5.98 - Tenure Track and Tenure](#).
- D. **Changes Between Full and Part Time Employment:**
1. Tenure track faculty members whose regular appointments are less than 0.50 FTE do not accumulate probationary time toward tenure.
  2. When a full-time, tenure-track position becomes part-time, the time in rank is prorated based on full-time equivalent (FTE). As with full-time faculty, the maximum probationary period for part-time faculty members is the equivalent of six FTE years, with the tenure decision to be made before the end of the six full-time years of service. For example, a tenure-track candidate with a 0.50 FTE appointment must apply for tenure at the end of the 11th year. Part-time Tenure-Track Faculty must be held to the same standards of performance relative to FTE as full-time faculty. If denied tenure, a faculty member on part-time appointment has only one year of continued part-time employment beyond the denial.
  3. When recurring state funding is available, a tenure-track, part-time faculty member may apply for a full-time tenure track position and, if hired, apply earned tenure-track FTE from prior years toward tenure and promotion in the full-time position.
  4. Tenured, full-time faculty members approved to move to part-time status may retain tenure. Retention of tenure in such a case requires the written request of the faculty member, positive recommendations from the department head and dean; followed by approval of the executive vice-president and provost. While this rule encourages departments to accommodate reasonable requests for part-time appointment, part-time appointments are not an entitlement, and requests may be turned down. Pending availability of funding and the approval of the department head, dean and executive vice-president and provost, the faculty member may return later to full-time tenured status.

**PART 3: MID-PROBATIONARY REVIEW**

Tenure-track faculty members may request, or individual units may require, a formal Mid-Probationary Review. The Mid-Probationary Review is an opportunity for feedback on the Tenure-Track Faculty member/future candidate's performance and is used to identify specific activities to enhance the candidate's progress toward promotion and tenure. The review is formative, intended to assist Tenure-Track Faculty in achieving promotion and tenure and should take into account the allocation of work effort during the three years reviewed and be based upon the Principle Unit's criteria. The outcome must not be used as a determinant for setting merit pay or for contract continuation decisions. Principal units should refer to Rule 5.89, Part 3 for additional information

**PART 4: JOINT APPOINTMENT (WITH DUAL PRIMARY RESPONSIBILITIES)**

In appropriate circumstances, a faculty member may be appointed in two departments or in two colleges. The faculty member seeking a joint appointment must obtain a signed Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) signed by the department head and dean of each involved unit. The MOU must state the agreement between the involved units in the following areas:

- A. The units involved and the intended tenure home. It must identify the Principle Unit where tenure resides or will reside if applicable. In joint appointments with centers or institutes, the tenure home must reside in a Principle Unit. In joint appointments with two or more academic units, one unit must be designated, by mutual agreement, as the tenure home.
- B. Expectations for workload and Allocation of Effort, including specific responsibilities distributed between the involved units.
- C. The term of appointment and any other conditions of employment.
- D. Provisions explaining the process for the annual performance evaluation and promotion and tenure reviews, renewal of the joint appointment, and salary increases. Each unit must provide recommendations in annual, probationary, tenure, and promotion reviews.

**PART 5: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES IN PROMOTION OR TENURE REVIEWS****A. Candidate:**

- 1. Maintains a curriculum vitae and a cumulative personal record of the activities and accomplishments affecting the application for promotion and/or tenure.
- 2. Reviews the personal Portfolio (organized per Part 12 of this Rule) in relation to the criteria for promotion and/or tenure and seeks guidance from senior faculty and the department head.
- 3. In accordance with college procedures, requests and provides materials required in the mid-probationary periodic review.
- 4. Applies for tenure by submitting to the department head in the spring of the candidate's fifth year, or other time as previously negotiated, their Portfolio including both the Core Document and Documentation File in the format as specified in Rule 5.90, Part 6. If a faculty member/candidate does not apply for tenure in the fifth year, or extended year as appropriate, and does not submit a resignation letter as contemplated by this rule, the faculty member's employment will terminate with the expiration of the current annual "Temporary Contract".
- 5. Provides the department head with a written list of potential External Reviewers from which letters of evaluation may be requested. The candidate may provide the department head with a list of people they wish not to be reviewers. This item only applies to tenured and Tenure-Track Faculty.
- 6. Requests extensions of the probationary period in accordance with Part 2. B. above.
- 7. Has, upon receipt of the recommendation of the Department Promotion and Tenure Committee and of the head, five working days to add to the Portfolio any correction of factual errors in either recommendation.
- 8. Has, upon receipt of the recommendations of the College Promotion and Tenure Committee and of the dean, five working days to add to the Portfolio any correction of factual errors in either recommendation.
- 9. In accordance with Part 7 below, requests that the review process be terminated at any time prior to review by the executive vice-president and provost.

**B. Department Head:**

1. Establishes and monitors a process for a tenured faculty to mentor the candidate in developing the best case for promotion and/or tenure.
2. Provides leadership in the collaborative writing and maintenance of department promotion and tenure policy.
3. Provides initial information, timelines, and copies of all written guidelines regarding promotion and tenure expectations and policies to all new and continuing faculty members on a regular basis. Also informs Tenure-Track Faculty of the rights to due process, appeal and informal processes for conflict resolution in promotion and tenure.
4. In the annual performance reviews of Tenure-Track Faculty, includes written details relating to assigned duties (i.e. the teaching and advising, scholarship and creative activity, service, extension and outreach and apportionment). The reviews also include separate statements addressing progress toward tenure and toward promotion including steps that should be taken to strengthen the faculty member's case.
5. Provides leadership in establishing agreed upon department guidelines for an annual review of Tenure-Track Faculty by the department's promotion and tenure committee. This review is separate from, and independent of, the department head's annual review of each faculty member.
6. Assists Tenure-Track Faculty who have completed five academic semesters or its part-time equivalent in preparing for an optional Mid-Probationary Review.
7. In mitigating circumstances, explores with the candidate the need for a time extension. (*See Part 2. B. above*) With the approval of the candidate, seeks permission from the dean to extend the probationary period.
8. Provides assistance and guidance to faculty who are applying for promotion and/or tenure. Reviews the Portfolio of applicants to ensure its completeness and compliance with Rule 5.90, Part 6, and, where needed, makes recommendations for improvement.
9. The department head, in consultation with the Promotion and Tenure Committee, will select a list of potential External Reviewers and will contact them. The department head must contact at least one reviewer from the candidate's list provided that they are qualified to be reviewers based on the unit's policy. The department head must ensure those contacted to review the candidate's Portfolio do not have a conflict of interest. If there is a perceived conflict of interest the department head needs to justify why the reviewer has no conflict. If the department head contacts somebody on the candidate's list of people they wish not to be a reviewer, the head needs to justify the importance of selecting the reviewer.
10. Sees that the department promotion and tenure committee submits recommendations for tenure and for promotion for all candidates.
11. Writes an independent evaluation/recommendation concerning each candidate's case for promotion and/or tenure in relation to the criteria for promotion and tenure. This recommendation may be in support of or against supporting either promotion or tenure, or both. It should address the strengths and weaknesses, and level and nature of accomplishments of the candidate.
12. Provides candidates written or electronic copies of the recommendation of the department promotion and tenure committee and of the recommendation of the department head. This notification must occur prior to passing the promotion and/or tenure application on to the dean and college promotion and tenure committee.
13. Places the department head's recommendation in the candidate's Portfolio.

**C. Department Promotion and Tenure Committee:**

1. Examines and reads the Portfolio of each candidate.
2. Evaluates the candidate according to department promotion and/or tenure standards.
3. Considers the candidate's department assignment and role apportionment as specified in the candidate's position description and Allocation of Effort Forms.
4. Performs an annual review of Tenure-Track Faculty following departmental guidelines and forwards results to department head and dean or equivalent administrator. This review is separate from, and independent of, the department head's annual review of each faculty member.

5. Makes recommendations to the department head pertaining to faculty members who are seeking promotion and/or tenure based on the candidate's Portfolio and departmental criteria.
6. Records in each candidate's Portfolio the committee's vote totals. (*See Rule 5.89, Part 3 Q. and S.*)
7. Places the committee's recommendation in the candidate's Portfolio.
8. Participates in the optional Mid-Probationary Review process, providing formative feedback to candidates.

D. College Promotion and Tenure Committee:

1. Examines and reads the Portfolio of each candidate, including the department head's letter and the department's promotion and tenure committee's recommendation.
2. Evaluates the candidate according to the department's promotion and tenure standards, in conjunction with those of the college.
3. Considers the candidate's department assignment and role apportionment as specified in the candidate's position description and Allocation of Effort forms.
4. Makes recommendations to the dean pertaining to faculty members who are seeking promotion and/or tenure.
5. Records in each candidate's Portfolio the committee's vote totals. (*See Rule 5.89, Part 3 Q. and S.*)
6. Places the committee's recommendation in the candidate's Portfolio.
7. Participates in the optional Mid-Probationary Review process, providing formative feedback to candidates.

E. Dean, Community College President:

1. Ensures that a college-specific promotion and tenure policy is written and periodically revised and that the policy complies with university policy, rules, and procedures; and has been approved by the Executive Vice President and Provost.
2. Assures that each department has:
  - a. Current promotion and tenure guidelines that comply with college and university policies and include date of version.
  - b. A mentoring process for Tenure-Track Faculty.
  - c. A system of annual faculty performance evaluations.
3. In consultation with college faculty establishes policy for the constitution of a College Faculty Promotion Committee.
4. Recommends extensions of the probationary period.
5. Provides oversight for the optional Mid-Probationary Review program.
6. Makes independent recommendations pertaining to promotion and tenure. To do this, considers:
  - a. Candidate's Core Document and the Documentation File
  - b. Recommendations of the department promotion and tenure committees
  - c. Recommendations of the department heads
  - d. Recommendations of the college promotion and tenure committees.
7. Notifies candidates, in writing and electronically, of the recommendations of the College Promotion and Tenure Committee and of the dean. This notification must occur prior to passing the promotion and tenure applications and associated recommendations on to the executive vice-president and provost.
8. Places the dean's recommendation in the candidate's Portfolio.
9. Meets with the executive vice-president and provost regarding promotion and tenure cases.

F. Executive Vice-President and Provost:

1. Ensures that each college and each department has, and periodically updates, promotion and tenure policies that comply with university policy, rules and procedures.
2. Approves requests to extend the probationary period.
3. Meets with deans regarding promotion and tenure cases.
4. Makes an independent decision pertaining to promotion and tenure. To do this, consider:
  - a. Candidate's Core Document and, if requested, the Documentation File
  - b. Recommendations of the department promotion and tenure committees
  - c. Recommendations of the department heads
  - d. Recommendations of the college promotion and tenure committees
  - e. Recommendations of the dean.
5. Passes promotion and tenure decisions on to the Chancellor.
6. Notifies candidates in writing of the decision.
7. Provides for annual training sessions for promotion and tenure committee members, department heads, and deans.

#### **PART 6: PORTFOLIO PREPARATION BY CANDIDATE**

In accordance with department and college guidelines, the candidate is responsible for submitting a promotion and tenure Portfolio. (*See* Rule 5.85, Part 2, Definition R.) When appropriate and agreed to by the candidate and all reviewing committees and officials, the Portfolio may be submitted as an electronic pdf formatted file(s), provided a method for secure transmission of confidential documentation has been established.

- A. Core Document: The college guidelines shall specify the inclusion of the following Core Document elements in this order. The combination of items 4-6 shall not exceed 50 pages:
1. A routing form developed by the college with spaces for the required signatures.
  2. A cover sheet indicating the candidate's name, current rank, department and college.
  3. Any written documentation generated throughout the promotion and tenure process, including the numerical vote counts of the promotion and tenure committee(s).
  4. A table of contents.
  5. Candidate's executive summary.
  6. A curriculum vitae.
  7. Annual performance evaluations for the period under review, including the Allocation of Effort statements, the goals and objectives forms, written statements submitted by the faculty member as a part of the annual performance evaluations, the supervisor's written comments, and any response made by the candidate to the supervisor's written comments. Numerical rankings, ratings, or vote counts should be removed. (*See Also* Rule 5.86 -Annual Performance Evaluations - Regular Faculty)
  8. Principal Units' mission statements.
  9. Letters from External Reviewers.
- B. Documentation File: Supplementary materials provided by the candidate related to the areas of faculty activity. This material is not routed beyond the College Promotion and Tenure Committee, but is available for review.

If this is an application for tenure, the candidate is to include evidence of contributions since starting at NMSU, plus evidence from other institutions if credit for prior service is applicable. If this is an application for promotion, then the candidate is to include evidence of contributions since the last promotion or tenure review.



**PART 7: WITHDRAWAL OF PORTFOLIO BY CANDIDATE FROM FURTHER CONSIDERATION**

- A. Voluntary Withdrawal from Consideration: A candidate may withdraw from consideration at any time prior to the final signature of the executive vice-president and provost. A candidate shall prepare a letter requesting withdrawal from further consideration. The letter shall be transmitted to the dean or comparable administrator. All documents shall be returned to the candidate and nothing relating to the application for promotion and/or tenure shall be placed in the candidate's personnel file.
- B. Withdrawal in Fifth Year of Service: If the candidate is in the fifth year of service, withdrawal from consideration for tenure must be accompanied by a letter of resignation submitted to the dean or comparable administrator no later than the end of the fifth-year contract period. The resignation shall be effective no later than the end of the sixth-year contract period. If a faculty member does not apply for tenure in the fifth year, or extended year as appropriate, and does not submit a resignation letter as contemplated by this rule, the faculty member's employment will terminate with the expiration of the current annual ("Temporary") contract.

**PART 8: OUTCOMES**

- A. For full-time tenure-track candidates:
1. If the decision is to award tenure, the executive vice-president and provost will send a Contract of Employment (Continuous Appointment) Form through the dean or comparable administrator and the department head to the candidate.
  2. If the decision is to not award tenure, the department head will give a signed Contract Status Form to the candidate for signature acknowledging notification of non-renewal.
- B. For part-time tenure-track candidates, in addition to the provisions for full-time tenure-track candidates:
1. If the decision is to award tenure, it is for the FTE as stated in the initial contract or as negotiated.
  2. If the decision is to not award tenure, a faculty member has only one year of continued part-time employment beyond the denial.
- C. For all candidates:
1. If the decision is in favor of promotion, the effective date is at the beginning of the ensuing contract year.
  2. If the decision is in favor of promotion, it shall be the policy of the university that all promotions shall include a salary increase, irrespective of other salary increases.
  3. In the decision is not in favor of promotion, the executive vice-president and provost will inform the candidate in writing.
  4. The executive vice-president and provost is responsible for informing the Chancellor of the recommendations of the department head, college dean, or comparable administrator and the decision of the executive vice-president and provost.
  5. The executive vice-president and provost will prepare an official list of promotion and tenure decisions for distribution to relevant deans, comparable administrators, the vice-president for administration and finance, and the assistant director of human resource services.
  6. Tenure-track faculty members whose probationary contract is not renewed and who have another year before the termination of that contract do not submit a promotion and tenure Portfolio during their final year. If the non-renewal is being appealed on the basis of failure to follow procedure or discrimination, then the appellant may complete a packet and have it held in suspension until the grievance is resolved. If the individual is successful in the appeal, the Portfolio will be considered by the parties involved in the promotion and tenure process.

**PART 9: RIGHT TO SEEK REDRESS FOR VIOLATION OF EVALUATION, PROMOTION, OR TENURE RULES**

- A. A faculty member who believes that the university, college or department's promotion and tenure policy or procedures have been violated, adversely affecting the faculty member's evaluation, promotion, or tenure may file a grievance pursuant to Rule 4.05.50 - Faculty Grievance Review and Resolution.
- B. Rule 4.05.50 provides an opportunity for mediation, and in the event mediation is not successful, review by a panel of faculty peers which hears evidence presented and issues factual findings and recommendations on the issue of whether or not the rules governing evaluation, promotion or tenure were violated.
- C. A finding that there was not substantial compliance with the applicable Rules on Faculty Evaluation, Promotion, and Tenure (Rules 5.85-5.91), or a finding that any violation materially and adversely affected the outcome for a faculty member will be grounds for relief.
- D. If the grievance involves actions taken by the executive vice president and provost due to the provost's role in the promotion and tenure process, the grievance decision will be issued by the NMSU system chancellor; otherwise, the executive vice president and provost issues the final decision in faculty grievance matters.

**PART 10: TIMELINE OF PROCEDURAL STEPS FOR PROMOTION AND TENURE REVIEW PROCESSES**

Each college shall determine a timeline for conducting promotion and tenure reviews compatible with due dates issued by the executive vice president and provost. The dates indicated here are suggested guidelines; the provost may alter these by further directives; and/or 12-month appointments may require a different time schedule.

A. Spring:

The department head notifies potential candidate of eligibility for promotion and/or tenure review and provides electronic copies of departmental, college, and university policies, rules and procedures related to promotion and tenure. Department promotion and tenure committee reviews the Portfolio of each faculty member and in accordance with college policies reports to the department head indicating the progress towards promotion and/or tenure as well as the strengths and weaknesses in each of the areas required for promotion and tenure. Department head informs the candidate in writing of the department promotion and/or tenure committee recommendations.

B. June, July, August:

The candidate with support from the department and college prepares the candidate's Portfolio. (*See Rule 5.90, Part 6, Portfolio Preparation*)  
The Portfolio must be completed by the end of July to allow for review by External Reviewers in August.

C. September:

The department head makes the completed Portfolio, including letters from External Reviewers (or Letters of Support at the community colleges) available to the Department Promotion and Tenure Committee. The Portfolio can only be amended hereafter in accordance with department and college guidelines.

D. October:

The Department Promotion and Tenure Committee considers the completed Portfolio of the candidate.

E. October - December:

The college dean or comparable administrator transmits the Department Promotion and Tenure Committee and department head reports and numerical ballot results to the College Promotion and Tenure Committee. The College Promotion and Tenure Committee reviews the department head's and the Department Promotion and Tenure Committee's recommendations. The College Promotion and Tenure Committee informs the dean or comparable administrator if a department fails to follow department and/or college procedures. The College Promotion and Tenure Committee reviews the Portfolios of all Tenure-Track Faculty members no later than their sixth year of service unless Rule 5.90, Part 2 (Flexibility in Tenure Track) of this Rule applies.

The College Promotion and Tenure Committee submits a written recommendation on the candidate to the department head, candidate, and dean or comparable administrator in accordance with the college's promotion and tenure policy.

F. January - February:

The college dean or comparable administrator reviews the candidate's Portfolio, makes a recommendation, and informs the candidate in writing of the recommendations of the College Promotion and Tenure Committee and the dean or comparable administrator.

The college dean or comparable administrator transmits to the executive vice-president and provost all recommendations including numerical votes.

G. March - April:

The college dean or comparable administrator meets with the executive vice-president and provost to review each candidate. The executive vice-president and provost's decision is indicated in writing.

The executive vice-president and provost informs the Chancellor of the recommendations of the department head, college dean, or comparable administrator and the decision of the executive vice-president and provost.

H. April - May:

Final notifications of decisions are sent through the executive vice-president and provost, dean or comparable administrator, and department head to the candidate.

The executive vice-president and provost prepares an official list of promotion and tenure decisions for distribution to relevant deans, comparable administrators, the vice-president for administration and finance, and the assistant vice president for human resource services.

The dean or comparable administrator notifies the department head, who in turn notifies the faculty member.

I. July:

Promotion and tenure decisions become effective.

Rule Administrator:	Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Effective Date:	<b>August 13, 2018</b>
Revision History:	05.04.17 Faculty Senate recommended adoption of new Rules 5.85 through 5.91, re-compiling Rules 5.86 and 5.90 and re-numbering Rule 5.87 as Rule 5.91, (Props. 01 and 03- 16/17); 05.09.17 University Administrative Council recommended adoption and 05.10.17 Chancellor approved. 10.21.15 Board of Regents approved replica of Policies 5.86 and 5.90 as initial Rules 5.86 and 5.90. <b>Prior Revision History of Policy 5.90:</b> 03.06.08 Amendment (FS Proposition 16-07/08) and 05.03.07 Amendment (FS Proposition 18-06/07) proposed, both to be effective 08.01.08, recommended by the Faculty Senate; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 5.86 Not Available.</b>
Cross References:	College and Departmental Promotion and Tenure policy documents; Rule 5.20.20 Assignments-Teaching Load (addresses allocation of effort) Rule 5.98 - Tenure Track and Tenure; For relevant forms, See <a href="http://provost.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/promotion-and-tenure-2/">http://provost.nmsu.edu/faculty-and-staff-resources/promotion-and-tenure-2/</a>

**5.91 - Post-Tenure Review** *[Effective August 13, 2018, the content of this rule (either as it is set forth above or as it may be amended, will be inserted here as Rule 5.91)]*

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## 5.92 - Reassignment of Administrators/Department Heads

Due to the larger scope of responsibility of most administrative positions, the reassignment of an administrator with faculty rank to a faculty position normally results in a reduction of salary. Several factors are considered in making the salary determination, including the level of faculty salaries in the department where the reassignment occurs. Normally, department heads who have less than 4 complete years return to 75 percent of their base salaries (not including department head increment), and department heads who serve 4 or more years return to 80 percent of their base salaries. Again, several factors are considered in making the salary determination, including the level of faculty

salaries in the department where the reassignment occurs.

#### **5.94.10 through 5.94.40 - Research** (See also [Chapter 3 Codes of Conduct Policies](#))

*[Amendments restructuring and revising Policy 5.94 in its entirety, as recommended by the University Research Council on 01.28.11 and by the Administrative Council on 03.09.11, were approved by the Board of Regents on 03.14.11]*

#### **5.94.10 – Addressing Allegations of Misconduct in Research**

- A. Research Philosophy: Research is an important component of every academic activity, and is, therefore, the source of content for quality instructional programs. New Mexico State University recognizes research as essential to the vitality of the university and undertakes the support of research as part of its institutional responsibility. The mission statement expresses the importance of research as one of the university's core functions: *New Mexico State University is the state's land-grant university, serving the educational needs of New Mexico's diverse population through comprehensive programs of education, research, extension education, and public service.*

The university promotes academic inquiry and protects academic freedom for those engaged in it. This includes the support of research and off-campus study as potentially valuable experiences for faculty and students. These experiences may take the form of sabbaticals, internships, intensive study of specialized techniques, and conducting research at specialized facilities. These opportunities offer researchers considerable flexibility in their training and promote valuable contacts among faculty members, students, the university, industry and other research institutions.

- B. Protections in Research Involving Human Subjects: It is the policy of the university to protect the rights, wellbeing, and personal privacy of individuals participating in research projects, while also maintaining a favorable climate for the conduct of scientific inquiry and protecting the interests of the university. The university has established the Institutional Review Board to regulate the participation of human subjects in research, consistent with federal law. (See 5.94.30 D. below.) All research conducted at or by the university, regardless of funding source, shall adhere to the requirements of the Institutional Review Board and the following tenets:

1. The university, including its faculty, staff, contractors and student body shall be responsible for the protection of the rights and welfare of human subjects.
2. No human subject involved in a research activity shall be exposed to unreasonable risk to health or well-being, in order to ensure the subject's physical and mental safety and well-being.
3. All participation by human subjects shall be voluntary; no subject will be coerced in any way to participate in a research project. A request by any subject to withdraw from a research activity shall be honored promptly without penalty or loss of benefits to which the subject is otherwise entitled, within the limits of the research.
4. The confidentiality of information received from subjects in experiments or respondents to questionnaires shall be protected, both during and after the conduct of a research activity, consistent with applicable law.
5. In research which involves more than minimal risk, or which involves substantial stress or discomfort, such risk, stress or discomfort shall be carefully explained in advance to the subject. The researcher(s) shall be satisfied that the explanation has been understood by the subject, and that the written consent of the subject, is obtained and kept as a matter of record. The researcher(s) shall be responsible for ensuring that method used to obtain informed consent (written, audio-recorded, witnessed) is the most appropriate for the participant, and for providing appropriate evidence of informed consent consistent with the approval granted by the Institutional Review Board and with applicable federal law.
6. Research involving special subject populations (e.g., persons under the age of 18, or mentally disabled or disadvantaged persons) may be conducted as long as a qualified guardian signs the consent form.

- C. Protections in Research Involving the Use of Animals: As a land grant institution, it is the university's role to conduct, if not lead, research designed to optimize the use of animals in the service of man, and to advance human and animal welfare. Consistent with applicable law and regulations, the university supports the use of animals in research, education, and as agricultural resources, provided that the usage is reasonably expected to advance knowledge about human or animal welfare. It is the university's policy to meet all federal and state standards

and regulations applicable to animal use.

The university has established the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee to administer policies and procedures regarding university care and use of vertebrate animals. (See [5.94.30 Research Oversight and Risk Management](#) E. below) Any concerns regarding the use or care of animals by the institution should be addressed to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

D. Protection of Sensitive Information.

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 09.13.11; approved by the Board of Regents 10.10.11]*

Research units, including but not limited to the Physical Science Laboratory, receive many sponsored awards in which information provided by the sponsor or generated by or in connection with the research effort may be considered sensitive: classified, controlled unclassified, and/or proprietary. Units keeping or using sensitive information should adopt appropriate procedures for its protection and train faculty, staff, and students whose positions require access to such information. All employees shall comply with applicable laws, university policy, rules and procedures, and contractual agreements regarding non-disclosure of sensitive information. (See Rule [3.65 - Protection of Sensitive Information](#), *NMSU Business Ethics Handbook*, and the Physical Science Laboratory's *Code of Ethics and Standards of Business Conduct*, p. 9.)

## 5.94.10 Addressing Allegations of Misconduct in Research

- A. Definition of Research Misconduct: Research misconduct is academic misconduct, dishonest behavior, or any form of unethical practices involving an act of deception whereby one's work or the work of others is misrepresented. Other terms, such as research fraud or scientific misconduct, are subsumed within the term academic misconduct. Research misconduct is distinguished from honest error and from ambiguities of interpretation that are inherent in the scientific process. The principal element of research misconduct is the intent to deceive others or misrepresent one's work. Research misconduct may also involve wrongful acts or omissions relating to non-compliance with applicable law or regulation, a failure to report known misconduct or retaliation against others involved in the reporting, investigation or correcting misconduct. Research misconduct may take numerous forms such as, but not limited to:

1. Falsification of Data: Fabrication, willful suppression and/or distortion of data with the intent to falsify results.
2. Plagiarism: The use of the work of another without proper acknowledgment.
3. Improprieties of Authorship: Improper assignment of credit, such as excluding other authors, inclusion of individuals as authors who have not made a definite contribution to the work published, or submission of multi-authored publications without the concurrence of all authors.
4. Misappropriation of the Ideas of Others: Unauthorized use of privileged information (such as violation of confidentiality in peer review), however obtained.
5. Violation of Generally Accepted Research Practices: Deceptive practices in proposing, conducting, or reporting research.
6. Material Failure to Comply with Governmental Requirements: Serious, repeated, willful violations of governmental requirements arising from law, statute, regulation, or agreement. Regulations include, but are not limited to, those governing the use of funds, care of animals, human subjects, and biological, chemical, pharmacological, and radiological materials.
7. Inappropriate Behavior in Relation to Research Misconduct: Unjust and malicious accusation(s) of misconduct, failure to report misconduct, withholding or destruction of information or evidence relevant to a claim of misconduct, or malicious retaliation against persons involved in the allegation or investigation of misconduct.

- B. Scope of Rule: This rule applies throughout the university system to faculty, staff and students involved in research and research-related work regulated by federal law or sponsored externally. Such research includes, but

is not limited to, research involving human subjects, vertebrate animals, biohazardous agents and/or recombinant DNA. Research projects involving the surveying of other students, university personnel, or members of the general public fall within the scope of this rule, unless exempted by federal law. Academic misconduct alleged against a student generally will not be covered by this rule, unless it falls within the above scope, and will instead be addressed pursuant to the Academic Misconduct policy housed in the [NMSU Student Handbook](#).

- C. Duty to Report: Individuals with a reasonable factual basis to believe that a researcher has committed an act of research misconduct prohibited by this rule are obligated to report such occurrences to a supervisor not involved in the alleged misconduct. Such reports of suspected research misconduct shall be forwarded to the vice president for research for prompt investigation, and subsequent corrective action and reporting, if warranted by the investigative findings. If the reporter, the supervisor, or the vice president have reason to suspect that a crime may have been committed, the report shall also be made to the NMSU Police or other appropriate law enforcement for a separate and distinct criminal investigation. (*See also* subsections I and J below.)
- D. Preliminary Internal Investigation: If an appropriate oversight committee (Institutional Review Board, Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee, Institutional Biosafety Committee, or Radiation Safety Committee) reports misconduct substantiated by an investigation with factual findings, this shall serve as the internal preliminary investigation. In all other cases, the vice president for research will refer the reported matter to the appropriate college dean and associate dean for research, or equivalents, to conduct a preliminary internal investigation into the alleged misconduct. The investigation will be conducted confidentially.

Within twenty (20) business days from the initial receipt of the report of potential academic misconduct, the evidence and any recommended findings shall be forwarded to the vice president for research. During the preliminary investigation stage, the funding agency will not be notified, except as may be otherwise required by law or written agreement.

- E. Action on Results of Preliminary Investigation: The vice president for research shall consider the evidence and the recommended findings of the preliminary investigation, and initiate further action as follows within twenty (20) business days from the date the evidence and the findings were received.
1. If the vice president for research concludes that no infraction occurred, the matter will be dismissed. This decision, including all supporting documentation, will be reported to the Office of University General Counsel.
  2. If the vice president for research concludes that an infraction occurred, but was not an unanticipated problem, did not involve serious or continuing non-compliance with federal regulations or university policy, rules or procedures, and did not involve a suspension or termination of an approval granted by the appropriate oversight committee, the vice president for research will refer the matter to the college dean or appropriate vice president for disciplinary action or other administrative corrective action, as warranted by the factual findings.
  3. If the vice president for research concludes that the matter may involve an unanticipated problem, a serious or continuing non-compliance issue, or a suspension or termination of an approval granted by the appropriate oversight committee, the vice president for research shall refer the matter for a confidential formal investigation, at which time the funding agency and/or the appropriate federal or state oversight agency will be notified by way of an Initial Report. The Initial Report shall indicate that either follow up reports or a final report, or both, will be forthcoming as soon as practicable under the circumstances.
  4. If the vice president for research concludes that a crime may be implicated, the matter shall be immediately reported to the appropriate law enforcement agency for a separate and distinct criminal investigation.
- F. Formal Investigation: The confidential formal investigation will be conducted by an ad hoc committee to be convened and chaired by the vice president for research. The committee shall consist of the appropriate college dean and associate dean for research or equivalents, the appropriate department head, and three faculty or exempt staff members from the University Research Council, selected by the university research council chair. Substitutions, in the event of conflict of interest, will be made by the vice president for research or the executive vice president and provost, as appropriate. This formal investigation should be completed within two months from the date the committee is formed. The committee shall gather relevant documentation; interview witnesses with relevant testimony, including the person charged with the misconduct; preserve any physical evidence; and

prepare an investigative report summarizing all evidence in the form of factual findings. The final draft investigative report shall be shared with the person charged with the misconduct, and that person shall be given a minimum of five business days to respond.

- G. Action on Results of Formal Investigation: Consistent with the results of the formal investigation, the vice president for research and/or the appropriate college dean or vice president shall take appropriate, university-wide corrective action to ensure that similar incidents do not recur, and shall coordinate with the Office of Human Resource Services regarding disciplinary action, if any, to be taken.
- H. Notifications and Record Retention: All documentation of the preliminary inquiry and formal investigation, if any, shall be maintained in the office of the vice president for research for at least three (3) years and must, upon request, be provided to authorized government personnel. The university shall comply with notification requirements imposed by funding agency regulations and agreements.
- I. Anti-Retaliation: In order to protect the positions and reputations of those persons who, in good faith, report reasonably suspected academic misconduct in research, the university prohibits retaliation in any form to be taken against the reporter or any person who cooperates in the investigative process. A complaint of suspected retaliation will also be cause for the initiation of a separate internal investigation to be conducted in coordination with the Office of Human Resource Services, and if substantiated, will be grounds for disciplinary action, up to and including termination of employment.
- J. False or Unfounded Complaints: If the preliminary or formal investigative report reflects that the complaint of academic misconduct in research was not substantiated, the university will make efforts to restore the reputations of the researcher who was accused of having engaged in misconduct. Additionally, and depending upon the circumstances, the university may initiate a separate internal investigation in the event the investigative report indicates that the initial complaint or any testimony given as part of the internal investigation, may have been intentionally falsified. If deliberate falsification of such a complaint or testimony is substantiated, it will be grounds for disciplinary action against the false reporter, up to and including termination of employment.

#### **5.94.20 [Superseded by Rule 11.05 - Intellectual Property Management]**

#### **5.94.30 Research Oversight and Risk Management**

##### **A. Research Funding and Research Institutes:**

1. **State University Research Fund:** The State University Research Fund is the designated university fund where indirect (facilities and administrative) cost recovery earned by the university is deposited. Funds to support academic research from the State University Research Fund are relatively scarce and must be used in a variety of ways (e.g., to support research, to stimulate new research, to support public service, and to support scholarly endeavors as well as the necessary administration). In general, it is desirable to keep the administrative costs at a minimum and, therefore, make available to the faculty as much support as possible for nonrecurring research expenses. It is the underlying philosophy to use this research support in a flexible manner in keeping with college and department priorities. Encouragement is given to the faculty to secure outside support for research, at the same time recognizing that it is important to provide some support to scholarly pursuits which may not attract outside funding.
2. **University Research Institutes:**
  - a. University Research Institutes are units that primarily perform externally funded research. They are formed by the vice president for research in consultation with the executive vice president and provost. Generally, these units will report to the vice president for research; at the time of creating the institute, the reporting line for the unit shall be determined by the executive vice president and provost and the vice president for research.
  - b. University Research Institutes may be created by the university in anticipation of outside funding. They revert to college status or cease to exist if external funding does not materialize. A University Research Institute may receive some support from the State University Research Fund. Except for the Physical Science Laboratory and the Water Resources Research Institute, University Research Institutes do not directly retain a percentage of indirect cost recovery resulting from their activity.

- c. Upon the recommendation of the vice president for research with concurrence of the executive vice president and provost, a University Research Institute may revert to College Research Institute status, be reorganized, or be dissolved, and the following list modified accordingly. University Research Institutes, all of which currently report to the vice president for research, are listed below.
  - i. Energy Research Laboratory
  - ii. Institute for Applied Biosciences
  - iii. New Mexico Space Grant Consortium
  - iv. Physical Science Laboratory
  - v. Water Resources Research Institute
3. College Research Institutes: College Research Institutes are research units formed at the discretion of a college, reporting to the college as the dean directs, and relying on the college for support. College Research Institutes do not directly retain a percentage of any indirect cost recovery resulting from their activity.

**B. University Research Council:**

*[Amendment to URC Charter (FS Proposition 22-08/09) passed by the Faculty Senate 04.03.09; approved by the Administrative Council 07.14.09; amendment adopted by ratification of the Board of Regents 07.29.09]*

The University Research Council was established to foster research at the university. It serves as an advisory body to the vice president for research and proposes policy and rule updates related to research, which if approved by the vice president for research are taken forward to the president for formal review and approval action. The University Research Council provides leadership in fostering a culture of research and in enhancing the university's distinction in research, scholarship, and creative activities among faculty, staff, and students.

1. Vision: The University Research Council, in concert with the Office of the Vice President for Research, seeks to create and maintain a culturally-diverse and ethically-driven academic environment that promotes excellence in research through a university that:
  - a. Acknowledges and celebrates innovation in research,
  - b. Promotes and nurtures interdisciplinary research and collaborative research partnerships as well as individual scholarly research,
  - c. Sustains and maintains the founding core principles of the university,
  - d. Advances collective representation among faculty, staff, and students to the administration through peer review of university funding programs, and
  - e. Supports the role of research in creating a university experience that enriches the lives of students and helps them to become well-informed individuals, lifelong learners, engaged citizens, and productive employees and employers.
2. Mission: The University Research Council assists the vice president for research in formulating recommendations and policies specifically affecting the university's research community. Formally advisory in nature, the University Research Council provides a forum for internal discussion, initiates the development of policy, rules and procedures on research matters, gathers and disseminates information to the faculty, and provides a faculty voice to the university administration on matters pertaining to research. While it is recognized that research represents only one component of the academic enterprise, the University Research Council focuses on facilitating and enhancing research-related activities at the university.
3. Goals: The University Research Council will work with faculty, administrators, and students to achieve these goals:
  - a. Encourage research and creative activities,
  - b. Improve the institutional environment for research,
  - c. Strengthen the interdependence between research areas and creative activities, and
  - d. Increase public awareness of New Mexico State University research.



4. Duties and Responsibilities: While adaptive to changing priorities facing research endeavors, the University Research Council has the following specific duties and responsibilities:
  - a. Recommend to the Faculty Senate policies it deems appropriate with respect to research activities, facilities, personnel, and patents,
  - b. Consult with and advise the vice president for research on the stimulation of and support for research activities, including policies for investment of funds in university research endeavors,
  - c. Provide strategic research direction to the vice president for research ,
  - d. Assist in the evaluation of research programs within the university, and advise on new research centers and institutes and the performance evaluation of existing centers and institutes,
  - e. Recommend policies that will foster strong and mutually productive relationships among departments and research groups,
  - f. Be an advocate for the faculty on governmental, industrial, and other private sector and foundation support of the research programs of the university,
  - g. Support enhanced mechanisms for faculty to benefit financially from technology transfer and commercial application of research results for the public benefit,
  - h. Facilitate training for faculty on research grant management and indirect cost mechanisms,
  - i. Review and make recommendations to the vice president for research on internal research grants and awards, and,
  - j. Work with the vice president for research in enhancing procedures for submissions and review of research proposals.
5. Structure and Membership: The structure of the University Research Council consists of the complete University Research Council membership, an elected chair and executive committee, and appointed subcommittees established to address specific issues.
  - a. Eligibility for Membership: To be eligible, a faculty member must have at least a 25% allocation of effort assigned to research and creative activity and a successful track record in research and scholarship activity.
  - b. Members: The complete University Research Council membership consists of: the officers of the Council (chair, chair-elect, immediate past chair), two faculty members from each college (three from Arts and Sciences), one faculty representative from the library, one representative from each university research institute reporting to the vice president for research, and one representative from the faculty senate. The vice president for research may appoint additional members to represent specified research activities.
  - c. Term: Members will serve two-year terms on the council, beginning on July 1 of the year of selection, except for the chair-elect (*see below*). The terms of college representatives will be staggered such that one person will be selected each year (two in one year and one the next year from the College of Arts and Sciences). Members are eligible for reappointment. If a member is unable to complete a term, the appropriate college dean or, for university research institutes, the vice president for research will arrange for a replacement to fill the position. Selection procedures for faculty representatives will be determined by the individual colleges.
6. Chair and Other Officers:
  - a. Election: Each year in August or September, the membership will elect a member to serve as chair-elect (who also serves as vice chair) for one year, as chair for the following year, and on the executive committee as past chair for the next year. The member elected as chair-elect will serve a three-year term on the University Research Council beginning on the following July 1. If a college representative is elected as chair-elect, the college will be permitted to select an additional representative to complete the unexpired term. In the event that an officer is unable to complete a term, the membership will elect a member to fill vacancies.
  - b. Responsibilities of the Chair: The chair will be responsible to convene and conduct regular University Research Council meetings. When the chair is unavailable, the chair-elect or another member designated by the chair will assume these duties.
7. Executive Committee:
  - a. Membership: The executive committee shall consist of the chair, chair-elect (who also serves as vice chair), immediate past chair, and faculty senate representative.

- b. Responsibilities: Responsibilities shall include, but not be limited to: preparing the meeting agenda, appointing subcommittees, and delivering charges to the subcommittees.
  - c. Nominating Committee: Early in the spring semester, the Executive Committee will appoint a nominating subcommittee charged with the task of selecting nominee(s) for chair-elect and filling other office vacancies for the coming year.
8. Resource and Administrative Support: The Office of the Vice President for Research will serve as the office of record for the University Research Council.

C. Council of Associate Deans for Research (formerly Council of Research Centers):

The Council of Associate Deans for Research is an advisory group to recommend research policy, rules and procedures and to coordinate operational research procedures among the colleges, university research institutes, and central research administration. It is chaired by the vice president for research. The council is composed of the associate deans for research of each of the colleges, the director of the Physical Science Laboratory, and the university research council chair, who serves in an *ex officio* capacity.

D. Institutional Review Board:

*[Amendments to Institutional Review Board procedures were recommended by the Administrative Council 07.13.10; approved by the Board of Regents 07.20.10]*

Administrative authority for the protection of human subjects at New Mexico State University has been delegated by the president to the vice president for research. The Office of the Vice President for Research oversees the Institutional Review Board, which has been established to regulate university research involving human subjects, consistent with federal law and university policies, rules and procedures. Prior to submitting an application to the Institutional Review Board, principal investigators shall familiarize themselves with Rule 5.94 and all subparts, any supplemental procedures issued by the Institutional Review Board, and guidance available online from the Office of Compliance and the federal Office of Human Research Protections. Procedures may be amended from time to time by the Institutional Review Board with the approval of the vice president for research.

1. Membership:

- a. Institutional Review Board members are appointed by the vice president for research for renewable three-year terms, upon recommendation from, but not limited to, the institutional review board chair and the compliance director. All members of the Institutional Review Board appointed by the vice president for research will be voting members. A list of the current officers and membership of the Institutional Research Board as well as detailed application procedures are available from the Office of Compliance.
- b. The Institutional Review Board chair is appointed by the vice president for research and serves as the link between the Office of the Vice President for Research and the Institutional Review Board. A vice chair will be appointed to conduct business if the chair is unavailable, or has a conflict of interest.
- c. The composition of the Institutional Review Board will consist of individuals sufficiently qualified through their experience, expertise, and diversity, including consideration of race, gender, and cultural backgrounds and sensitivity to such issues as community attitudes, to promote respect for its advice and counsel in safeguarding the rights and welfare of human subjects. The Institutional Review Board will not consist entirely of men or entirely of women, or entirely of members of one profession.
- d. The Institutional Review Board will primarily be composed of representatives from the colleges and departments most concerned with projects involving human subjects. It will include at least:
  - i. one member whose primary concerns are in scientific areas,
  - ii. one member whose primary concerns are in nonscientific areas, and
  - iii. one individual who is not employed by or otherwise officially affiliated with the university and who is not part of the immediate family of a university employee.
- e. If the Institutional Review Board regularly reviews research protocols that involve a vulnerable category of subjects, such as children, prisoners, pregnant women, or handicapped or mentally disabled persons, the Institutional Review Board will include one or more individuals whose background is in protecting the welfare of these subjects.

- f. The vice president for research or his/her designee and the compliance director will be ex-officio non-voting members of the Institutional Review Board. A representative from the Office of the University General Counsel will serve as a non-voting consultant to the Institutional Review Board as necessary.
- g. The Institutional Review Board may, in its discretion, invite individuals with competence in special areas to assist in the review of issues which require expertise beyond or in addition to that available on the Institutional Review Board. These individuals will be non-voting members. Such non-voting members may include, but not be limited to, expert consultants external to the university and/or additional representatives of the university.

2. Functions and Responsibilities:

- a. The Institutional Review Board will assure complete and adequate review of research activities involving human subjects, and will be able to determine the acceptability of proposed research in terms of institutional commitments and regulations, applicable law, and standards of professional conduct and practice.
- b. No member of the Institutional Review Board will participate in the initial or continuing review of any project in which the member has a conflicting interest, except to provide information requested by the Institutional Review Board.
- c. The Institutional Review Board shall recommend to the vice president for research, and review on a continuing basis, university policies and procedures regarding the use of human subjects in research.
- d. The Institutional Review Board shall review and have authority to approve, require modifications to secure approval, or disapprove all research activities involving human subjects or data related to human subjects.
- e. Research activities shall be reviewed by the Institutional Review Board for compliance with established federal regulations related to the protection of human subjects, as issued by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services and the U.S. Food and Drug Administration, and contained in the Code of Federal Regulations 45, Part 46.
- f. Research covered by these regulations that has been approved by the Institutional Review Board may be subject to further appropriate review and approval or disapproval by officials of the university. However, those university officials may not approve the research if it has not been approved by the Institutional Review Board.
- g. The Institutional Review Board shall provide advice and guidance to investigators regarding the protection of the rights and welfare of human subjects.
- h. The Institutional Review Board shall ensure that investigators have been certified in the ethical principles of using human subjects in research.
- i. Where necessary, the Institutional Review Board shall serve as a referral board for complaints from subjects of research.
- j. The Institutional Review Board shall require that information given to subjects as part of informed consent is in accordance with federal regulations as indicated in the Code of federal Regulations 45, Part 46. The Institutional Review Board may require that information in addition to that specifically mentioned in Code of Federal Regulations 45, Part 46, be given to the subjects when, in the Institutional Review Board's judgment, the information would meaningfully add to the protection of the rights and welfare of the subjects. Documentation of that process shall also be required. The Code of Federal Regulations outlining requirements for the protection of human subjects is available by contacting the Office of the Vice President for Research.
- k. The Institutional Review Board shall notify investigators in writing of its decision to approve or disapprove the proposed research activity or of modifications required to secure Institutional Review Board approval. If the Institutional Review Board decides to disapprove a research activity, it shall include in its written notification a statement of the reasons for its decision and give the investigator an opportunity to respond in person or in writing.
- l. The Institutional Review Board shall conduct continuing review of research covered by these regulations at intervals appropriate to the degree of risk, but not less than once per year, and shall have authority to observe or have a third party observe the consent process and the research.
- m. The Institutional Review Board shall have authority to suspend or terminate approval of research that is not being conducted in accordance with the Institutional Review Board's requirements or that has been associated with unexpected serious harm to subjects. Any suspension or termination of approval shall include a statement of the reasons for the Institutional Review Board's action and shall be reported promptly to the principal investigator, to appropriate university officials, and to the federal Office of Human Research Protections.

- n. If a research subject registers a complaint, the investigator shall attempt to relieve the complaint by explanation or by a change of procedure. Written Institutional Review Board approval is required for procedural changes.
- o. It is the responsibility of the Institutional Review Board to determine whether applications that involve more than minimal risk to human subjects are of sufficient scientific merit to answer the proposed research questions or hypotheses.

E. Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee:

1. Membership:

- a. Voting members of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee are appointed by the vice president for research upon recommendation from but not limited to the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee chair and the director of compliance. Alternate members may be appointed by the vice president for research, each to substitute for an absent member. Alternates should receive the same training as members. If they attend a meeting with the primary member, they will not be counted toward a quorum or have voting rights.
- b. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee chair is appointed by the vice president for research, and serves as the committee liaison to that office. The committee chair shall be a continuous appointment by the vice president for research, subject to annual confirmation. A vice chair shall be selected by the committee to conduct business in the absence of the chair, or in place of the chair if and when the chair has an application before the committee or other conflict of interest.
- c. The term of membership on the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee is a twelve-month renewable period. It is not uncommon for members to serve at least two years. The committee chair and the director of compliance will make a recommendation for renewal of membership on the committee to the vice president for research.
- d. The Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee shall include at least five members, at least one of whom is a community member that are not otherwise affiliated with the university. The committee must include a doctor of veterinary medicine with training or experience in laboratory animal science and medicine and program authority and responsibility for activities involving animals at the university, a practicing scientist experienced in research involving animals, a member whose primary work concerns are nonscientific (examples include an ethicist, a lawyer, a member of the clergy), and a community representative who has no other affiliation with the university and has no immediate family affiliated with the university. No more than three members may come from the same college or administrative unit of the university.
- e. The vice president for research or his/her designee, the director of the Office of Compliance, and the biosafety officer will be ex-officio non-voting members of the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee.

2. Functions and Responsibilities: All use of vertebrate animals must be reviewed and approved in advance by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee to ensure the necessity of animal use and high standards of humane treatment. Animal research must be conducted by adequately trained persons using all necessary measures to prevent, minimize and alleviate pain and distress to an animal. Measures will be taken to ensure that no animals in the university's care will experience severe or unrelieved pain and/or distress. All university employees involved in animal use for teaching or research purposes must be certified by the Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee and must complete the occupational health and safety program for animal workers. Details of these requirements can be obtained from the institutional animal care and use committee chair or the director of compliance. The office of record for Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee activities is the Office of Compliance within the Office of the Vice President for Research, which will comply with federal agency reporting requirements.

F. Institutional Biosafety Committee:

- 1. General Principles: The university, through the Office of the Vice President for Research, has established the Institutional Biosafety Committee which oversees the use of biohazardous agents and/or recombinant DNA by university faculty and staff, or at university facilities. University researchers using or planning to use biohazardous agents and/or recombinant DNA methods must submit the scope of their projects to the Institutional Biosafety Committee for approval.
- 2. Definitions:

a. Biohazardous Agents:

- i. Any microorganism (including but not limited to bacteria, viruses, fungi, rickettsiae, or protozoa), or infectious substance, or naturally occurring, bioengineered, or synthesized component of any such microorganism or infectious substance that is capable of causing: (a) death, disease or other biological malfunction in a human, an animal, a plant or another living organism; (b) deterioration of food, water, equipment, supplies, or materials of any kind; or (c) a deleterious alteration of the environment.
- ii. Any toxic material or product of plants, animals, microorganisms (including but not limited to bacteria, viruses, fungi, rickettsiae, or protozoa), or infectious substances, or a recombinant or synthesized molecule (whatever the origin and method of production), which includes any poisonous substance or biological product that: (a) may be engineered as a result of biotechnology; (b) produced by a living organism; or (c) is an isomer or biological product, homologue, or derivative of such a substance.
- iii. Infectious or pathogenic biological agent defined by: (a) CDC as biosafety level (BSL) 2-4 (*BMBL 5th Edition December 2009*), or (b) NIH as risk group (RG) 2-4 agent (*NIH Guidelines September 2009*).
- iv. Regulated biological agent or toxin as identified by the CDC-APHIS National Select Agents Registry Program (NSAR) pursuant to (a) HHS-CDC 42 Code of federal Regulations (CFR) Part 73; (b) USDA-APHIS (9 CFR Part 121) or (7 CFR Part 331); <http://www.selectagents.gov>.

b. Recombinant DNA Molecules:

- i. Nucleic acid molecules constructed outside of living cells by joining natural or synthetic DNA segments to DNA molecules that can be replicated in a living cell.
- ii. DNA molecules that result from the replication of those molecules described above.

3. Membership:

- a. Voting members of the Institutional Biosafety Committee are appointed by the vice president for research upon recommendation from but not limited to the institutional biosafety committee chair and the director of compliance.
- b. The institutional biosafety committee chair is appointed by the vice president for research and serves as the committee liaison to that office. The committee shall select a vice chair to conduct business in the absence of the chair, or in place of the chair if and when the chair has an application before the committee, or other conflict of interest.
- c. The term of membership on the Institutional Biosafety Committee is a twelve-month renewable period. It is not uncommon for members to serve at least two years. The committee chair and the director of compliance will make a recommendation for renewal of membership on the committee to the vice president for research.
- d. The institutional biosafety committee chair is a continuous appointment by the vice president for research, with an annual confirmation from the committee to the vice president for research. The biosafety officer is a continuous position appointment. The biosafety officer is a professional position that reports to the director of compliance.
- e. The composition of the Institutional Biosafety Committee should include at least eight members employed by or otherwise affiliated with the university and two community members that are not otherwise affiliated with the university, with the following expertise and/or job duties:
  - i. recombinant DNA technology,
  - ii. molecular biology,
  - iii. biological safety,
  - iv. public health and epidemiology,
  - v. virology,
  - vi. microbiology,
  - vii. infectious diseases,
  - viii. animal scientist,
  - ix. plant pathogen or plant pest containment principles,
  - x. laboratory technician/non-doctoral, or
  - xi. facilities management.

- f. The community members should represent the interests of the surrounding community with respect to health and protection of the environment and should be knowledgeable in the basic principles of microbiology and recombinant DNA technology, or capable of assimilating these principles within the context of their applicability to the surrounding community and the general public. Individuals with the following expertise and/or job descriptions should be considered:
    - i. officials of state or local public health or environmental protection agencies, or
    - ii. persons involved in medical, occupational health or environmental concerns in the community.
  - g. The Institutional Biosafety Committee may also include ex-officio non-voting members who may be invited to serve when their expertise is required and can supplement the deliberations of The Institutional Biosafety Committee. These members shall include, but not be limited to, biosafety expert consultants external to the university, and/or additional representatives, usually administrative, from such departments as Environmental Health and Safety; Employee Health Services; Research Administration; Office of the University General Counsel; Facilities and Services; and/or Planning, Design and Construction.
4. Functions and Responsibilities:
- a. The Institutional Biosafety Committee is responsible for reviewing all applications submitted by research investigators and their laboratory staff members, teaching faculty, and visiting scientists (collectively defined as PI for principal investigator) whose activities involve:
    - i. any biohazardous agent as defined above which can cause disease in humans,
    - ii. any biohazardous agent which will be introduced into any animal,
    - iii. any non-exempt recombinant DNA molecules (Exempt experiments are defined by NIH Guidelines Section III-F) (NIH Guidelines September 2009),
    - iv. any large scale production of viable organisms containing recombinant DNA, or with the potential to produce toxic or hazardous substances (as defined by NIH Guidelines Section III-D-6 and Appendix K). (NIH Guidelines September 2009), or
    - v. any possession, use, or transfer of the select agents listed on the CDC-APHIS NSAR. (HHS Select Agents and Toxins 42 CFR Part 73: USDA Biological Agents and Toxins 9 CFR Part 121 or Plant Pathogens (7 CFR Part 331).
  - b. The Institutional Biosafety Committee will minimize the risks to the health, safety, and well being of laboratory employees, the public, and the environment regarding the use of biohazardous agents, non-exempt recombinant DNA molecules, and large-scale production of recombinant DNA molecules.
  - c. The Institutional Biosafety Committee recommends policies to guide Principal investigators, the biosafety officer, the Office of Compliance, and Environmental Health and Safety in the administration of the university's Biosafety Program with regard to the acquisition, use, transfer, storage, disinfection, disposal of agents, and emergency response procedures for all biosafety activities. The Institutional Biosafety Committee shall ensure that such activities meet standards of good practice consistent with safety of personnel, the general public, and the environment in ways that best facilitate relevant research or teaching activities at the university.
  - d. The Institutional Biosafety Committee is vested with the authority to comprehensively review, and approve research applications with or without modifications, or withhold approval of all or any part of an application with regard to biological aspects of the research or activity. The Institutional Biosafety Committee may make recommendations for corrective action on protocols.
  - e. If the biosafety officer's review of a suspected or alleged violation of any university policy, rule or procedure, or of any external regulation that involves "biosafety activities" indicates that the violation is of a serious or continuing nature, the biosafety officer will report such to the Institutional Biosafety Committee. The Institutional Biosafety Committee holds the authority to suspend any project in which serious or continuing violations have been reported. The Institutional Biosafety Committee will notify and coordinate with the affected investigator to rectify the situation. If further action is needed, the Institutional Biosafety Committee will inform the Office of Compliance, which will comply with appropriate federal agency reporting requirements.
  - f. Upon request, the Institutional Biosafety Committee shall review and comment on proposed biosafety regulations, including but not limited to federal, state, and local policies. When appropriate, the

- Institutional Biosafety Committee will formulate draft policies and procedures for approval by the vice president for research and other institutional officials as needed.
- g. The Institutional Biosafety Committee shall periodically review the effectiveness of the Biosafety Program and make recommendations for improvements.
  - h. The Institutional Biosafety Committee shall ensure that “biosafety activities that fall within the responsibility and scope of the Institutional Biosafety Committee” that are official university business conducted by a university employee at a non-university facility have been approved by the non-university facility and adhere to the university biosafety requirements.

G. Radiation Safety Committee:

1. General Principles:

- a. The use of radioactive materials and x-ray emitting machines at the university is regulated by federal, state, local and university entities. The Radiation Control Bureau of the New Mexico Environment Department (Bureau) is the primary regulatory authority.
- b. The Bureau issues Radioactive Material Licenses and X-Ray Certificates of Registration that define the conditions for use of radioactive materials and/or radiation producing devices at university facilities.
- c. The university has established the Radiation Safety Committee to serve as a review and approval body for the use of radioactive materials on campus or for university research purposes, and to provide and enforce safety guidelines for the use of radioactive materials or sources and of x-ray generating equipment at the university. University employees responsible for the use of radioactive materials in their research, operations, and/or teaching (whether conducted by employees, students, or others) must submit a proposal of their activities to the Radiation Safety Committee for approval.
- d. No program proposed or acquisition of radioactive materials shall be initiated until the proposal is approved by the Radiation Safety Committee. All staff and students participating in activities involving radioactive materials shall meet certain training requirements specified in the *Radiation Safety Manual*, available at the Environmental Health and Safety web site, and shall work within the permit granted by the Bureau and the Radiation Safety Committee’s guidelines.

2. Membership:

- a. A minimum of three technical members of the Radiation Safety Committee are appointed by the vice president for research upon recommendation from the radiation safety committee chair. The members of the Radiation Safety Committee shall be representative of areas of the university where personnel are using radioactive materials or radiation emitting equipment. The radiation safety officer, a regular position of the Environmental Health and Safety Department, is an official member of the Radiation Safety Committee. All members of the Radiation Safety Committee, including the chair and the radiation safety officer, will be voting members. The radiation safety officer advises the Radiation Safety Committee on every aspect of the radiation safety program.
- b. The radiation safety committee chair is appointed by the vice president for research and serves as the committee liaison to that office. The committee shall select a vice chair to conduct business in the absence of the chair, or in place of the chair if and when the chair has an application before the committee, or other conflict of interest.
- c. Members of the Radiation Safety Committee are appointed for two-year renewable terms. The radiation safety officer is a continuous position appointment. The Radiation Safety Committee may also include ex-officio non-voting members who may be invited to serve when their expertise is required and can supplement the deliberations of the Radiation Safety Committee.

3. Functions and Responsibilities:

- a. The Radiation Safety Committee advises the vice president for research on radiation safety policy, rules and procedures at the university. The Radiation Safety Committee is responsible for reviewing and approving all applications from research investigators and teaching faculty whose activities involve the use of radioactive materials/sources and x-ray generating equipment.
- b. The Radiation Safety Committee is vested with the authority to thoroughly review and make recommendations to the vice president of research regarding:

- i. qualifications of applicants requesting permission to use or supervise the use of radioactive materials or radiation equipment;
  - ii. applicants' training and experience in the context of the plans for the work requested, including consideration of the types and quantities of materials, and the methods of use;
  - iii. all training courses that an applicant, or first-time user, attends to overcome any deficiencies in training; and
  - iv. efforts of each applicant to maintain exposure as low as reasonably achievable (ALARA) when considering the use of byproduct material.
- c. The Radiation Safety Committee will (a) ensure that the users justify their procedures, exposure potential and that individual and collective doses will be ALARA; and (b) encourage all users to review current procedures and develop new procedures as appropriate to implement the ALARA concept.
  - d. The Radiation Safety Committee will delegate authority to the radiation safety officer for enforcement of radiation safety policies and procedures. If the Radiation Safety Committee overrules the radiation safety officer, it will record the basis for its action in the meeting minutes.
  - e. The Radiation Safety Committee must meet at intervals not to exceed 12 months to review radiation policies and procedures and their implementation. A quorum for a meeting would require attendance of the chair, the radiation safety officer, and the committee member whose field of expertise is necessary to assure all safety aspects have been addressed.

#### **5.94.40 Responsibilities and Accountability for Sponsored Project Awards**

##### **A. Administrative Responsibility:**

1. **Principal Investigator Defined:** The principal investigator is the individual responsible for the intellectual direction of a research project and the training of graduate students. This responsibility includes the conduct of the project, fiscal and administrative accountability, and adherence to the requirements of all relevant laws, regulations, policies, procedures and agreements. If a project has multiple investigators (lead principal investigator and co-principal investigators), they shall share the responsibility and accountability for leading and directing the project, both intellectually and logistically.
2. **Eligibility to Serve as a Principal Investigator:** Eligibility to serve as a principal investigator on an externally sponsored award is generally limited to those regular employees of the university including: (a) those with faculty rank, including college faculty and research faculty as well as administrators with faculty rank such as (but not limited to) the president, executive vice president and provost, vice presidents, deans, and associate deans, and (b) research and development technical staff. There may be instances when it is in the best interest of the university to have other persons serve as principal investigators, such as temporary employees, affiliated faculty or emeritus faculty. Exceptions to the requirements that a principal investigator must have both (a) regular employee status and (b) either faculty rank or employment as research and development technical staff may be made with written approval of both the relevant dean or director, and the vice president for research. A student may serve as a co-principal investigator, but may not serve as the lead principal investigator on a project.

##### **B. Sponsored Project Proposal Process:**

1. **Proposal Preparation:** Proposal preparation is the responsibility of principal investigators and their units, working in cooperation with the Office of Grants and Contracts. The Proposal/Award Form or a similar automated system, as designated by the vice president for research, will be used by all principal investigators and project directors seeking externally sponsored project funding. This form will be processed in the early stages of proposal development. This is a mandatory form, and no research proposal will be signed or sent out from the university unless this form is signed by the appropriate administrative officers or designated representatives. Responsibility for proposal preparation includes developing budgets consistent with relevant cost accounting standards and obtaining appropriate certifications, permits (*e.g.*, for drug use), and permissions (*e.g.*, use of humans and animals in research).
2. **Proposal Submission:** Proposal submission is the sole responsibility of the Office of the Vice President for Research. Principal investigators should timely submit funding proposals through their unit to the Office of Grants and Contracts, with sufficient advance notice to allow for their proper review, approval and submission to funding agencies.



- C. Acceptance of Sponsored Project Award: Award documents are received by the Office of Grants and Contracts for final review, negotiation and formal acceptance. Only the vice president for research (or designee) has the authority to accept an award, negotiate and to sign award agreements related to sponsored programs, including amendments, modifications, budget changes, principal investigator changes, and extensions to existing agreements.
- D. Maintenance of Sponsored Project Records: Records of sponsored project awards and related certifications, permits and permissions, as well as of non-financial deliverable reports to sponsors, are maintained by the Office of the Vice President for Research through the Office of Grants and Contracts. This includes coordinating the production, submission and retention of reports and records generated in the closeout of sponsored award agreements. Financial records of sponsored awards and related reports, invoices and financial reports, are maintained by the Office of Administration and Finance, primarily through the Sponsored Projects Accounting Office.
- E. Accountability for Sponsored Award Transactions: Transactions on sponsored project awards shall be approved by the principal investigator and the dean, director, or designee of the college or other unit. The Sponsored Projects Accounting Office, in cooperation with the principal investigators and their respective units, fiscally monitors sponsored awards, reviews and prepares financial reports, and receives and disburses funds.
- F. Accountability for Property Acquired through a Sponsored Project Award: The principal investigator, department head, dean or director, and university property administrator shall be accountable for acquisitions and dispositions of equipment and other property acquired through sponsored project awards. Any such property will be recorded on the university's inventory at a minimum, for property to which the university does not acquire title, until the expiration of the award period. A determination as to whether title to property acquired under sponsored awards vests with the sponsor or with the university at the end of the award period should be included in the award agreement, rather than negotiated at award termination. The university property administrator will be kept informed of any amendment to the initial determination regarding property ownership, so that the university's inventory may be updated and the necessary final property reports prepared.

## 5.96 - Searches for Academic Administrators

*[Amendment (FS Proposition 11-08/09) passed by the Faculty Senate 04.02.09; approved by the Administrative Council 04.14.09; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 09.25.09][Amendment (FS Proposition 04-09/10), passed by the Faculty Senate 11.05.09; ratified by the Board of Regents 02.01.10]*

- A. Guidelines and procedures for a search may be found in the [Search Committee Guidelines](#), copies of which are available in departmental offices or through the Office of Institutional Equity/OIE.
- B. Faculty members shall serve on search committees for academic administrative positions. They will be nominated and elected for this specific purpose.
- C. The executive vice president and provost will inform the chair of the Faculty Senate about nonacademic administrative searches, and the chair may request similar faculty representation.
- D. All academic administrative positions at the department head (or equivalent) or above level, including that of the Chancellor, require a search to be filled permanently.
- E. A search at the department head (or equivalent) or associate dean levels may be done externally or internally.
- F. Searches for all positions at the dean (or equivalent) level must allow external applicants.
- G. Internal candidates, including interims, are allowed to apply for any position.
- H. In all cases where external and internal candidates apply for the same position, these applicants will be treated equally. There is no assumed preference for internal applicants.
- I. The provisions of this rule do not limit the Board of Regents when negotiating a contract for interim president.

**5.98 - Tenure Track and Tenure (Continuous Contract) Amendment (FS Proposition 06-08/09) Passed by the Faculty Senate 01.15.09; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09]**

- A. Tenure Home: Tenure at the university is placed in a specific department/program/community college where the criteria for each individual's tenure are established. Tenure at the community college means at the community college, not on the main campus. There is no obligation to bring the person to the main campus if the person's position ceases to exist at the community college.
- B. Initial Appointment: Excerpts from this manual regarding promotion and tenure will be presented to each new member of the faculty\* prior to appointment and the faculty member's acceptance of an appointment indicates understanding and acceptance of the provisions of the contract as specified in this manual. Information regarding social security, retirement, hospitalization, disability, and life insurance will be presented to each prospective member of the faculty prior to appointment and acceptance of the conditions of employment. The patent policy, rules and procedures for the university staff will be presented to each prospective member of the faculty prior to appointment, and acceptance of the appointment indicates understanding and acceptance of this policy. *See Rule 11.05 - Intellectual Property Management.*
- C. Temporary Contracts (Issued by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost): Contracts which cover an employment period of either 9 months or 12 months are issued as follows:
1. Contracts are issued to full-time tenure-track faculty members.\* Full-time is interpreted to apply to tenure-track faculty members who are released no more than 1/4 time to duties other than academic and/or research programs and/or academic administration. Unless prior approval for exception is obtained from the department head, dean, and executive vice president and provost, it will be considered that all other faculty are less than full-time and occupy non-tenure-track positions.
  2. Nine-month contracts cover the period from the opening faculty meeting in the fall to the date final grade reports are due for the spring semester; 12-month contracts are issued effective July 1 and terminate on June 30 of the following year. Temporary contracts are presumed to end at the conclusion of the stated term. The terms shall be stated in contractual form and a copy retained by the university and the appointee.
  3. New tenure-track faculty reporting for duty after the last Friday in September (12-month employees) or the second Friday in October (9-month employees) will not receive a temporary contract. Instead, the dean will prepare an agreement for the new faculty member's signature covering employment for the remainder of the year (this form to be submitted with the initial Personnel Action Form). The first contract will be issued at the beginning of the next contract period, which will constitute the first year of the probationary period toward tenure.
- \*Interpreted as including all tenure-track and tenured members of the instruction staff and the Agricultural Experiment Station staff; all Cooperative Extension Service state staff members; the Research Centers' staffs; and any others whom the Board of Regents may designate.*
- D. Probationary Period: The probationary period [may also be referred to as the trial, or provisional period] (1 year at a time) for personnel with or without previous experience agreed upon from other institutions of higher education will ordinarily not exceed 6 years. At the discretion of the administration, the trial period may be shortened. Thereafter, there shall be a presumption of permanence in employment and the requirement of cause as indicated below assigned for dismissal.
- E. Nonrenewal of Contracts and Termination of Appointment: In the process of evaluating performance and issuing temporary contracts, it may be necessary not to renew a temporary contract.
1. During the trial period, non-renewal of the contract may be without implication of criticism or specification of cause.
  2. The reason for non-renewal will be stated, if so requested by the faculty member subject to non-renewal. The reason is only to be communicated if requested by the faculty member. The choice of the manner of notification (verbally or in writing) is to be made by the faculty member. The faculty member must request the reason for non-renewal prior to the end of the faculty member's contract.
  3. Prior to non-renewal, the department head, or comparable administrator, must consult with the promotion

and tenure committee of the department before any recommendation of non-renewal is forwarded to the dean. The consultation is to be in the form of a meeting and the department head or comparable administrator must identify the faculty member(s) at risk for non-renewal. In addition, the department head or comparable administrator must provide the committee with all relevant information, to the extent allowed by law, related to the non-renewal.

4. Notification of the non-renewal of short-term or non-continuous appointment is made in writing according to the following schedule:
  - a. for faculty members in their first year of service at this university – 3 months or more before the end date of their contract;
  - b. for faculty members in their second year of service at this university – 6 months or more before the end date of their contract;
  - c. for faculty members who will have 3 or more years of service at this university at the time of nonrenewal – 1 year or more before the end date of their contract.

A Contract Status Form must be processed by the department head for the nonrenewal of a temporary contract prior to the deadlines established for notification. The employee should acknowledge receipt of such notification by dating, signing, and returning the Contract Status Form.

- F. Voluntary Termination of a Temporary Contract: Any staff member who proposes to resign shall give written notice to the administration at the earliest time possible, but in no case later than 30 days after the staff member receives written notification of the terms of the next year's contract, or 3 months prior to the start of the following academic year, whichever is later, except when mutually agreed upon by the individual and the administration. The faculty member should inform the department head in writing. The department head will inform the dean, who in turn will notify the executive vice president and provost. The department head should then submit a terminating Personnel Action Form at the earliest possible date. If death is the reason for termination, payment will be made for all unused annual leave accrued at the time of death to a maximum of 52 working days of leave. If a person listed by the promotion and tenure committee does not wish to be considered for promotion or tenure, the person must so indicate to the department head in writing. However, if the person is in the fifth year of tenure-track service, withdrawal from consideration for tenure must be accompanied by written notice of resignation effective at the end of the sixth year of service (this notice to be received by the department head before the end of the fifth year of service).
- G. Involuntary Termination of a Temporary Contract: See [5.47 Faculty Discipline and Appeal Process](#)
- H. Change to Continuous Contract: The department head initiates the Contract Status Form to accomplish the change from temporary to continuous contract. All recommendations for tenure must be accompanied by notification to the executive vice president and provost from the dean of the result of the faculty committee vote. When tenure is awarded, it is awarded in the unit that initiated the request for tenure (continuous contract). No temporary appointment can become continuous without the official action of the university administration.
- I. Continuous Contracts: A continuous appointment is not a matter of right, but is made after the provisional period has been completed successfully, providing the individual's services are needed. Such an appointment is made by the issuance of a new contract at the time of continuous appointment or shortly thereafter, and the contract becomes the abiding instrument governing employment, except that the terms may be modified from time to time by endorsement. Continuous contracts are issued by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost following receipt of an approved Contract Status Form. Continuous contracts are not reissued until there is a promotion in rank. Each spring an official contract amendment (salary letter) is issued by the president's office which informs the faculty member of final performance evaluation and annual salary for the ensuing year. Once a faculty member has been appointed to a continuous contract, that faculty member will retain continuous contract status even though the faculty member accepts appointment at less than full time.
- J. Transfers: Normally there are four types of transfers of faculty members within various agencies of the university:
  1. A faculty member leaving an instructional/research department to serve in a different instructional/research department. Under these circumstances, the individual may be given credit toward a continuous contract for the years served in the earlier department. With proper departmental and college vote, and the completion of a Contract Status Form by the new department, tenure may be transferred with a faculty member from one department to another.

2. The transfer of a faculty member from a non-instructional division to an instructional division or vice versa. Under these circumstances, years of service in the prior position will not necessarily count toward a continuous contract in the new position. Proven performance in the first position, under these circumstances, might not assure that the individual would be able to render satisfactory professional service in the new area of assignment.
  3. The transfer of a faculty member from the university community college campuses to an instructional division on the main campus or vice versa. Under these circumstances, years of service in the prior position will not necessarily count toward a continuous contract in the new position or assure appointment in an equivalent rank. Proven performance in the community college or main campus position might not assure that the individual meets the rank requirements of the new position.
  4. The transfer of a faculty member from one community college to another: Under these circumstances, the individual may be given credit towards a continuous contract and rank for the years in the previous community college.
- K. Voluntary Termination of a Continuous Contract: The section above on voluntary termination of temporary contracts also applies to continuous contract employees.
- L. Involuntary Termination of a Continuous Contract: See [5.47 Faculty Discipline and appeal Process](#).

## **Chapter 6 -Academic Matters**

(See Also academic policies and procedures contained in the [\*Undergraduate\*](#) and [\*Graduate Catalogs\*](#) and [\*NMSU Student Handbook\*](#))

- 6.05 Academic Units - Creating, Reorganizing, Relocating, Etc.
- 6.10 Academic Units/Programs (Procedures for Changes)
- 6.15 Articulation Agreements
- 6.16 Authorized Absences
- 6.20 Class Cancellation
- 6.25 Class Disruption/Interruption
- 6.26 Credit Hour Calculation; Class Schedules and Catalogs
- 6.30 Commencement
- 6.35 Curricula Changes
- 6.40 Course Material/Textbooks
- 6.45 Course Prefixes
- 6.50 Degree Revocation and Expulsion from University
- 6.55 Academic Rules for Distance Education
- 6.60 Examinations/Tests
- 6.65 General Education Courses
- 6.70 Grade Reports
- 6.75 Honorary Degrees
- 6.80 Independent Studies
- 6.82 Degrees, Majors, Minors and Other Academic Programs of Study
- 6.84 Military Science Coordinator
- 6.86 Registrar
- 6.87 Student Admission and Residency Processes in Relation to Immigration
- 6.88 Summer Session
- 6.89 Transfer Credit
- 6.90 Tutoring Services
- 6.92 Authorization of Course Registration Changes After Standard Administrative Deadline
- 6.93 Embargo of Dissertations or Master's Theses

### **6.05 - Academic Units - Creating, Reorganizing, Relocating, Eliminating** (*See also Rule [2.50 - Namings](#)*)

- A. Definition of Academic Unit: For the purpose of this rule, an academic unit is defined as a college, a department, an undergraduate major, a graduate degree program, or a library, whether these units are located on the main or a community college.
- B. Reviews/Recommendations and Approvals Required: Any proposal to create, reorganize, relocate or eliminate an academic unit must be submitted for review and recommendation by the Faculty Senate, the Academic Deans Council, and the Chancellor to the Board of Regents for their consideration and action.
- C. Initiation of Proposal to Create, Reorganize, Relocate or Eliminate an Academic Unit: Proposals to create, reorganize, relocate, or eliminate an academic unit formally originate with a bill submitted to the Faculty Senate. The proposed legislation shall follow the procedure specified in Faculty Senate Constitution ARTICLE IX Propositions for Consideration of the Constitution of the Faculty Senate, except that no such proposal will be considered as emergency legislation.
- D. Effective Date of Change: If approved, the creation of a department will be effective either January 1 or July 1 following the approval.
- E. Procedure for Implementation: After approvals from the appropriate authorizing bodies are obtained (*i.e.*, Faculty Senate, Academic Deans Council, etc.), the requesting department head/director must submit an Organization Change Request Form to the Office of Human Resource Services for processing. The form must be submitted with all relevant documentation attached no later than November 30 (for January 1 effective date) and May 31 (for July 1 effective date).
- F. Creation of New Colleges: The creation of a new college is a decision based on the weighing of a number of criteria, including those below. An attitude of flexibility, reality, and organizational feasibility should be maintained in applying these criteria. The structure of the entire university, if a new college is formed, is an important consideration.
  - 1. There should be a documented professional need for the college in the state and region.
    - a. Rationale: This can be expressed through increasing student enrollment in programs that would be part of the new college, or an obvious need for professional graduates of the college as expressed by state and local groups who desire to hire these professions.
  - 2. The proposed college should be of a recognized profession or group of disciplines.
    - a. Rationale: The new college should give a desirable added professional recognition and development in the area of the new college.
  - 3. At the outset, the new college shall have a minimum student enrollment of 250 with demonstrated ability to reach an enrollment of 500 within a 3- to 5-year period and a sufficient number of faculty to make it a viable administrative unit within the university.
    - a. Rationale: After several development years, the quantity of faculty and students should be sufficient to lend themselves to a quality of organization, instruction, and service that will provide a viable thrust to the university.

The quality and quantity of the faculty in the proposed college should be capable of maintaining with distinction an academic undergraduate and graduate program.
  - 4. The university must be willing to make the commitment to furnish financial support for an additional college.
    - a. Rationale: This should include an adequate budget to provide for an expanding staff at the college level and funds for additional housing at a professional level.

- G. Changing a Department or Group of Departments into a School: The proposed school should incorporate more than one area of specialization or should offer more than one degree (may include interdisciplinary cooperative efforts or more than one department). The proposed school should be an administrative and support unit with undergraduates and graduate students and an established, nationally recognized teaching and research program. The administrative head of a school may be called a chair, a head, or a director, but this person's administrative level will be equal to that of a department head. The legislation must contain a clearly stated and convincing justification for the name change, and must have support of the department and college faculty and administration.
- H. New Academic Unit: There should be a documented academic/educational need for the academic unit, including but not limited to, an increasing student enrollment or significant employment opportunities for graduates in that field. The new program(s) should be consistent with the mission of the university and the college in which it will be located. There are sufficient faculty and resources to staff the program.
- I. Relocation or Reorganizing an Academic Unit: Proposals to relocate a department must meet all of the following criteria:
1. The relocation will produce a more homogenous set of programs and departments in both colleges.
  2. The relocation will enhance the professional identity of the program or department involved
  3. The relocation will not cause undue hardship for other academic units.
  4. The faculty and administrators directly affected are in agreement.
  5. Such a change will better serve the university community, clients, and/or the mission of the university.
  6. Address the transfer of resources, courses taught, and the faculty rank and tenure (or years to tenure) of those individuals being transferred.
  7. If a unit is being relocated to another college, there should be significant support from the unit being transferred and the unit receiving the transferred personnel/resources.
- J. Elimination of an Academic Unit: Proposals to eliminate an academic unit must meet the following criteria:
1. A significant decline in enrollment, either as measured by number of majors or student credit hours.
  2. The resources are needed by programs or departments with much higher enrollment or student credit hour production.
  3. In evaluating a proposal to eliminate an academic unit, the unit's contribution in the areas of teaching, research, and service shall be considered.
- K. Undergraduate Program Changes: (See [6.35 Curricula Changes](#)) All undergraduate program changes, including those of associate degrees, will be reported by the appropriate college representative at the fall curriculum meeting of the Associate Deans Academic Council. If applicable, adequate library resources and support services should be confirmed.



**6.10 - Academic Units/Programs (Procedures for Change)** (See [Appendix 6-C](#) for flowchart relating to Academic Program/Unit Changes) See also Rule [2.50 - Namings](#).

### **6.15 - Articulation Agreements**

- A. The decision to participate in an articulation agreement with another institution(s) rests with the faculty.
- B. For those articulation agreements that are initiated by the New Mexico Higher Education Department, the administration will appoint a representative to the HED Statewide Articulation Task Force. The representative will consult closely with faculty in individual departments on discipline-specific course equivalencies prior to signing any articulation agreements. Department faculty must approve any changes which affect how credit is awarded in their discipline prior to implementation. Faculty approval is not required if the proposed changes are already reflected in the Course Transfer Matrix established by the Office of the Registrar. (See [Transfer Credit in Undergraduate Catalog](#))
- C. In cases where a change in the current HED Articulation Agreement will affect the university's general education requirements, the representative will consult closely with the General Education Committee prior to signing any articulation agreements. The General Education Committee must approve any changes affecting the structure of the university's general education curriculum prior to its implementation.
- D. For those articulation agreements initiated by a university department or college, the initiating department or college will consult closely with the faculty in individual departments on discipline-specific course equivalencies prior to signing any articulation agreements. Department faculty must approve any changes in how credit is awarded in their discipline prior to implementation. Faculty approval is not required if the proposed changes are already reflected in the Course Transfer Matrix established by the Office of the Registrar. (See [Transfer Credit in Undergraduate Catalog](#))
- E. The Board of Regents endorses the concept of articulation between 2 and 4-year colleges and universities. At the university, the evaluation of transfer students' transcripts has been done by one central office for over 15 years. By centrally evaluating these transcripts, the majority of the problems with respect to articulation have been resolved. In addition, the university has prepared academic transfer guides for all two-year institutions in the state of New Mexico. To promote the continuous efficient, forward progress of students through the educational system of New Mexico, the board endorses practices and matrices which facilitate the intrastate transfer of credit and support the development and implementation of a statewide articulation plan. To this end, students awarded the Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degree from an accredited New Mexico postsecondary institution will be accepted at the junior level\* in baccalaureate degree-granting institutions.

*\*Students will be allowed to register as juniors. They may be required to take lower division course work to fulfill specific baccalaureate degree requirements. This interpretation will be published in catalogs and student transfer guides.*

### **6.16 - Authorized Absences**

Students making satisfactory progress in their classes will be excused from classes when they are representing the university at a university sponsored event (e.g., ASNMSU president represents the university at legislative session, student-athletes competing in university scheduled athletic events, or educational field trips, and conferences). Authorized absences do not relieve the student of class responsibilities. Prior written notice of the authorized absence will be provided to the instructor by the sponsoring department.

### **6.20 - Class Cancellation**

Classes are not to be canceled without prior approval of the appropriate department head and dean.

### **6.25 - Class Disruption/Interruption**

Any disruption or interruption of classes is to be reported promptly to the department head, who will in turn inform the dean and the dean will inform the executive vice president and provost.



## **Rule 6.26 Credit Hour Calculation; Class Schedules and Catalogs**

### **PART 1: PURPOSE**

This Rule establishes how credit hours are calculated.

### **PART 2: DEFINITIONS**

- A. Credit Hour: Conventionally, the "Carnegie" Credit Hour is defined as one Class Hour of contact time (with an expectation of two hours of outside work) per week over a 15 week semester.
- B. Class Hour: A Class Hour must be a minimum of 50 minutes. A class must meet at least 750 minutes a semester for one credit (2250 minutes for the standard 3 credit lecture class).

### **PART 3: REQUIREMENTS RELATING TO CREDIT HOUR CALCULATION**

In accordance with federal guidelines, academic Credit Hours for a course are determined by the amount of time students are engaged with the course content. NMSU's established equivalency for courses bearing academic credit reasonably approximates and is not less than:

- A. One semester hour of credit is awarded for 750 minutes (12.5 hours) of faculty instruction and a minimum of 1800 minutes (30 hours) of independent student work. Students must be engaged in course activities for 2550 minutes (42.5 hours) per Credit Hour (e.g. a fifteen week semester is equivalent to one 50 minute period of instruction and two hours of out-of-class work each week), or
- B. At least an equivalent amount of work, as required in paragraph (1) of this definition for other academic activities as established by the institution, including laboratory work, internships, practicum, studio work, and other academic work leading to the award of Credit Hours.
- C. For hybrid and online courses, which do not meet the faculty contact requirements, credit is awarded based on the equivalent face-to-face course or by assessing the amount of work required by the student.
- D. For laboratory courses or courses that contain laboratories, 2P is equal to 100 minutes of laboratory time for a 15 week term (1P is equal to 50 minutes). For example, a course consisting of 3-cr. (2+2P), would require at least 100 minutes of lecture and 100 minutes of laboratory per week for 15 weeks.
- E. One semester credit of field experience requires a minimum of 40 hours of direct experience. Cooperative education credits and limits are determined by the department overseeing the cooperative education.
- F. For undergraduate research experiences a minimum of 360 minutes per week for 15 weeks is equivalent to 1 credit.

### **PART 4: LISTING OF COURSES IN THE CATALOG(S)**

- A. Use of the Term "Variable": The term variable in the class schedules and catalogs shall be reserved for the following courses only: 599, 600, 699 and 700.
- B. Listing of Credits: Courses showing variable credits X-Y (for example, 1-3) are limited to a maximum of 9 credits. That is, they may be listed for 1-9 credits, but not 1-10. Following the course description or title there should be a statement in regard to the maximum credit which may be taken for any given semester and the total maximum credits.
- C. Published Format: In the published class schedule the word variable following a course shall be applied to those courses in paragraph A. above. Courses referred to in paragraph A. above will be scheduled 1-3, 1-4, etc., according to the maximum credit which may be taken for any given semester.

### **PART 5: APPROVAL OF NEW COURSE OFFERINGS**

- A. Authority of Chair of Associate Deans Academic Council: The chair of the Associate Deans Academic Council may approve the offering of new courses on a one-time-only basis if the courses are to be used in programs with special outside funding, or under the following circumstances:

1. The course responds to a special circumstance that could not be anticipated (*e.g.*, to take advantage of the expertise of someone hired in a professorial chair, such as the Gerald Thomas Chair).
  2. The course responds to specific needs in a grant recently received.
  3. Changes in certification requirements dictate immediate changes in the curriculum.
- B. Review by University Curriculum Committee: College deans are to urge department heads to submit to the University Curriculum Committee special topics courses at the lower division, upper division and (if applicable) graduate levels.
- C. Approval Authority of Associate Deans Academic Council: Associate Deans Academic Council's approval of course changes for the ensuing catalog automatically authorizes scheduling of these courses during the semesters preceding the publication of the catalog, if requested by so indicating on the course change form on the line marked starting date.

#### **PART 6: ADHERENCE TO CLASS SCHEDULE; APPROVAL FROM DEPARTMENT HEAD TO HOLD CLASS AT ALTERNATE LOCATION**

Faculty members will conduct class as listed in the schedule unless they have approval from the department head to meet at an alternate time or location.

Rule Administrator:	Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	05.09.17 Amendment to Rule 6.26 recommended by University Administrative Council; 05.10.17 Amendment approved by Chancellor. [12.09.16 Board of Regents approved repeal of Regents Policy 6.26 from Regents Policy Manual.] 10.21.15 Board of Regents approved replica of Policy 6.26 as initial Rule 6.26. <i>Prior Revision History as Policy 6.26 not available.</i>
Cross References:	

### **6.30 - Commencement**

- A. Ceremony: Two ceremonies may be held at the end of each semester, one ceremony on Saturday morning for three colleges and one Saturday afternoon for the other three colleges. Graduate students will participate with their respective colleges, but all graduate students in each ceremony will sit and be identified together. One honorary degree may be awarded at each ceremony.
- B. Symbolic Commencement: Candidates for degrees sign applications which clearly state that the awarding of degrees is subject to completion of all requirements and cannot be interpreted as a commitment. Commencement ceremonies for the associate degrees awarded by the community colleges will be arranged by the respective community college.
- C. Academic Regalia: Each college may approve distinctive symbols to be worn by the top 10 percent of its graduates at commencement. Only one such symbol may be worn by each graduate. In addition, the student with highest honors in each college may wear a crimson-colored gown. No other symbolic additions to academic regalia are allowed without the approval of the Academic Deans Council.

### **6.35 - Curricula Changes**

- A. All new courses, course changes (description, credit, prerequisite, etc.), and course deletions are approved by the Associate Deans Academic Council, prior to being placed in the catalog or in the Schedule of Classes. This includes courses offered at the community colleges that meet for less than a full semester. A special meeting is called when appropriate to consider interim courses and other course changes approved for review by the chair of the Associate Deans Academic Council. Deadlines for having this information to appropriate offices will be announced and enforced. The chair is empowered to act for the committee on a one-time-only basis in the case of extenuating circumstances.

- B. Although a grade of D is "passing" but "below-average" work, it is recognized that in some courses, and sequences of courses highly cumulative in nature, below-average work is not adequate preparation for the subsequent courses. In such cases the Associate Deans Academic Council may approve a prerequisite specifying "a grade of C or better in the prerequisite course."
- C. A department wishing to initiate a new course, delete a present course, or introduce changes in descriptions, credits, or prerequisites must submit the request to the cognizant dean on the NCR form designed for this purpose. (These forms, commonly called "flimsies," are available in the deans' offices.) Format guidelines for flimsies are also available in the deans' offices.
- D. Summary sheets, in alpha-numeric order by prefix, provide a cover list of changes. (For example, a number change BIOL 116 to BIOL 119; a title change CHEM 199, Intro. to CHEM to Elementary Chem; a credit hour change PE101, 1 cr to 2 cr; a prereq. Change E T 101 to E T 112; a course deletion GEOG 206; or a new course.) Copies of summary sheets and flimsies are distributed by each dean as follows:

	# of summary sheet copies	# of flimsy copies
AGHE	9	9
A&S	24	5
BA&E	6	2
ED	7	4
ENGR	8	2
HSS	2	2
Executive Vice President/Provost	1	1
Catalog Editor	1	1
Graduate School	1	1
Scheduling	1	1
Library	1	

- E. Objections to any change cited on a flimsy are resolved prior to the meeting of the Associate Deans Academic Council. If this is not possible, a written statement must be submitted to the committee chair prior to the day of the meeting. Automatic approval of the committee will be extended to all courses for which there are no written objections. Any dispute regarding a flimsy that cannot be resolved by the Associate Academic Deans Council will be referred to the executive vice president and provost for a final decision.
- F. The recommendations of the Associate Deans Academic Council are reported immediately to the departments by the deans. An approved copy of the NCR form is distributed to the scheduling office, cognizant dean, and the cognizant department head. Courses which have not been offered for 5 years are subject to automatic deletion by the scheduling office. Before initiating deletion, the scheduling director prepares a list of such courses, and departments may request that they be maintained if suitable justification exists.

## 6.40 - Course Material/Textbooks

- A. Course Material: Department heads are responsible for having on file a course outline for each course offered by the department. Each professor is responsible for course content and selection of required materials (textbook(s), supplementary printed material, equipment, supplies) for the course. The professor is obligated to keep course costs to the student as low as possible. The department head is responsible for the approval of bookstore requests, requests for supplementary materials, and for the coordination of requirements for multiple sections. The department head should be cognizant of course costs to students and advise the professors should such costs appear to be excessive.
- B. Textbooks: All textbook orders from faculty must be channeled through the department head for signature and approval and then forwarded to the bookstore manager. The bookstore manager will review departmental requests for textbooks and order as per the department head's request. Order quantities may be increased or decreased by the bookstore manager if previous enrollment or sales history indicates that it is necessary. Department heads must notify the bookstore manager immediately

when additional sections are opened or courses canceled. Faculty will not be allowed to order and/or sell books on or off campus without written approval from the appropriate dean and the bookstore manager. Before a faculty member may require students to buy a textbook or other material authored or coauthored by that faculty member, approval from the department head is required. The department head may convene a committee of department faculty to consider the matter. If the department head is the author/coauthor of the required textbook or other material, a committee of department faculty will consider the matter and make a recommendation to the dean, whose approval will be required. Supplementary materials, published or unpublished, produced by departments or individuals for sale to students will be sold through the university Bookstore or through other vendors who are authorized to purchase such materials from departments only, not from individual faculty members. Payment by the vendors shall be made to the department upon receipt of an appropriate departmental voucher or invoice. Faculty and staff members may request reimbursement from their departments for their expenses.

### **6.45 - Course Prefixes**

- A. Proposals for New Course Prefixes: Colleges or departments may propose new course prefixes through appropriate channels to the executive vice president and provost. It is assumed that the prefix will convey desirable information. New prefixes by the departments may be instituted only if they will be applied to at least 9 credits of course work.
- B. Lower-Division Occupational Education Courses at the University's Community Colleges: All courses taken toward fulfilling requirements for an associate degree and/or individual courses offered for credit at community colleges only will have an OE (Occupational Education) designation. The third and fourth letters will designate the area in occupational education (e.g., WU, Water Utilities; MM, Mid-Management).

### **6.50 - Degree Revocation and Expulsion from University** (See also [Academic Misconduct Policy in NMSU Student Code of Conduct](#))

The Board of Regents recognizes that on rare occasions a degree may be awarded to an individual who, upon review, has not properly completed all requirements for the degree.

- A. Allegations Reported To Dean: Allegations regarding academic misconduct which may result in permanent expulsion or degree revocation shall be brought immediately to the attention of the appropriate dean.
- B. Preliminary Investigation: The dean shall conduct a preliminary investigation with an appropriate professional body within the university.
  - 1. The dean may consult experts in the professional field in which misconduct is suspected. The purpose of this consultation shall be to provide an evaluation of the alleged misconduct.
  - 2. In all cases where such serious academic misconduct is suspected, the dean shall convene a misconduct review panel consisting of the department head of the appropriate department, or if appropriate, Graduate Council chair, the chair of the Faculty Senate, and an administrative officer of the unit in which the suspected misconduct occurred. No one who has participated in any previous decisions relating to the facts underlying the allegations in question may participate on the Review Panel (or on the ad hoc committee, described below). In the event of a conflict of interest, alleged bias against the accused or refusal to serve on the panel, the dean shall appoint a replacement from the senior faculty. This panel shall review the evidence and its evaluation, decide whether a formal charge is appropriate, and advise the dean and the executive vice president and provost.
  - 3. If, after such preliminary investigation, serious academic misconduct which could result in degree revocation is suspected, the dean shall notify the executive vice president and provost.

C. Formal Charges: If so advised, the dean shall:

1. Issue in writing a formal charge, detailing the basis for the charge, to be delivered to the accused as described below.
2. Notify the accused in writing of the formal charge(s), including the factual allegations, in detail, upon which such charge(s) are based. This notice will also inform the accused of the right to appear at a hearing before an ad hoc committee and to present evidence at that hearing. The notice shall inform the accused of the proposed date of the hearing and that, if the allegations are substantiated, the revocation of the accused's degree will be considered as a sanction. In addition, a copy of these procedures shall be included with the notice. This notice shall be delivered to the accused in person or by registered or certified mail, return receipt requested.

D. Ad Hoc Hearing Committee: The ad hoc committee shall be composed of five senior faculty members appointed by the executive vice president and provost. The executive vice president and provost shall designate one member of the committee as the chair. In the event of a conflict of interest, bias against the accused, or refusal to serve on the committee, the executive vice president and provost shall appoint a replacement.

E. Ad Hoc Committee Hearing Process: A hearing shall be held before the ad hoc committee, which hearing shall begin between 20 and 30 working days after the accused has been notified of the allegations, unless an earlier hearing is requested by the accused. The accused may request, and shall be granted, additional time, not to exceed 20 working days, to prepare for the hearing before the ad hoc committee. All hearings and appeals described in this procedure will be closed meetings, unless the accused student or former student requests that they be open to the public.

1. The accused shall be given the opportunity, at least 10 working days before the ad hoc committee hearing, to examine any documentary evidence that may be used in support of the allegations, and to interview any witnesses who will be called in support of the allegations.
2. The accused may be represented by legal counsel, at the accused's expense, who shall be allowed to fully participate in all proceedings following notice of the charge(s) to the accused.
3. The university may designate and appoint an attorney to present the evidence against the accused and to fully participate in all aspects of the proceedings.
4. The hearing by the ad hoc committee and any subsequent proceedings shall be recorded by certified court reporter.
5. All testimony before the ad hoc committee shall be sworn and upon the oath or affirmation of the witness.
6. The burden of proof shall be on the university to prove the charge(s) by clear and convincing evidence.
7. At the hearing before the ad hoc committee, the accused shall be entitled to present witnesses and cross-examine adverse witnesses, and to present such other written or documentary evidence as may be relevant to the charge(s).
8. No formal rules of evidence shall be used by the ad hoc committee. The chair shall control the conduct of the hearing and shall rule on the admissibility of any disputed evidence and may exclude any evidence which, by its nature, would appear to be untrustworthy, irrelevant, or redundant.
9. The ad hoc committee shall present written findings of fact to the dean. These findings shall state whether the charge(s) against the accused were substantiated by clear and convincing evidence and shall also set forth the specific pertinent factual findings established by the evidence. The ad hoc committee shall not make recommendations concerning possible sanctions.
10. The ad hoc committee's findings shall be by majority vote and shall be reported to the dean, in writing, within 10 working days of the conclusion of the hearing.

11. Following the hearing and upon receipt of the formal, written advice of the ad hoc committee, the dean shall decide upon the disposition of the case and, if appropriate, recommend the imposition of sanctions. Within 5 working days of the receipt of the ad hoc committee's report, the dean will forward the record, and the dean's decision and recommendations to the executive vice president and provost.
  12. Within 5 working days following receipt of the disposition and recommendation from the dean, the executive vice president and provost will submit a recommendation as to sanctions, if any, together with the reports of the ad hoc committee and the dean, to the Chancellor.
  13. The Chancellor will make a decision regarding the imposition of any sanction or penalty. This decision shall be rendered within 5 working days following receipt of the recommendation from the executive vice president and provost. The decision shall be delivered to the accused in person or by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested.
- F. Appeal to Board of Regents: The decision of the Chancellor may be appealed, in writing, to the Board of Regents. In the event the accused wishes to exercise such appeal, the accused shall, within 20 days of the date the decision of the Chancellor is mailed to the accused, provide the executive vice president and provost with written notice of appeal to the board. This notice shall be forwarded to the Chancellor. The Chancellor shall then forward the notice, a copy of the Chancellor's written decision, and the record of proceedings, including the evidence presented to the ad hoc committee, to the board. An appeal to the Board of Regents shall be considered by the board at its next regularly scheduled meeting:
1. The Board of Regents shall allow oral arguments by both the general counsel and counsel for the accused, or by the accused, not to exceed 30 minutes in length for each side.
  2. The accused, and general counsel, may present written arguments to the board, by service upon the executive vice president and provost, not later than 10 working days prior to the time that the board will hear oral arguments.
  3. The general counsel for the university shall be allowed to present its argument first, and to reserve any portion of the allotted 30 minutes for rebuttal following the accused's presentation.
  4. The Board of Regents, by majority vote, in open session, may affirm the action of the Chancellor, modify such action, or dismiss the allegations against the accused.
  5. The decision of the Board of Regents shall be reported, in writing, to the accused (by certified or registered mail, return receipt requested) within 30 days following oral argument, with a copy to the ad hoc committee.
  6. The decision of the board shall be final.

## **6.55 - Academic Rules for Distance Education**

### **PART 1: DISTANCE EDUCATION AT NMSU**

Distance Education at New Mexico State University refers to the formal process of delivering instruction via electronic or other media regardless of the location of the student or the instructor. This can be synchronous or asynchronous and can include face-to-face interaction. This definition doesn't apply to dual credit courses.

- A. Distance Education Course Criteria: Courses that meet any one of the following criteria are considered distance education courses.
1. Online courses with greater than or equal to 50% web-based technologies;
  2. Offsite courses that are face-to-face, with or without web-based technologies, offered at a location other than the campus of program origin\*, except a field methods course for a non-DE program;

3. Courses that use interactive television (ITV) to deliver instruction.

*\* Dual Credit courses will not be assessed the Course Delivery Fee.*

- B. Distance Education Program Criteria: A degree, certification, or other credential where more than 50% of the program is delivered via off-site, web-based technologies, or other media will be considered a Distance Education Program.

**PART 2: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES, INCLUDING CAMPUS DISTANCE EDUCATION COMMITTEE(S)**

- A. Campus Distance Education Committee(s): Each campus within the NMSU system will have a distance education committee whose membership is determined by the campus academic officer in consultation with campus faculty. Each campus distance education committee will review and coordinate its campus' distance education activities with their respective campus chief academic officer, and with the distance education director.
- B. Distance Education Director: The distance education director provides oversight, coordination, and support for all aspects of the institution's distance education program and course offerings. This includes but is not limited to professional development, student support, maintaining quality initiatives, and advocating for program development as well as growth.
- C. Executive Vice President and Provost: On behalf of the NMSU system, the Executive Vice President and Provost will coordinate the work of the campus distance education committees, with the committees' respective chief academic officers and with the distance education director.
- D. Faculty Expectations:
  1. In order to maintain the educational quality of all distance education offerings, faculty are expected to have experience teaching online. When appropriate, departments are encouraged to include online teaching experience in the evaluation of applicants for faculty positions. The department head or dean will determine if faculty have or have not demonstrated appropriate experience. Faculty who have not demonstrated appropriate experience are expected to complete the following professional development activities prior to teaching an online course:
    - a. Learning Management System training
    - b. Short course for online teaching
    - c. Applying the Quality Matters Rubric workshop
    - d. Videoconference/ITV training when appropriate.

Faculty are expected to use the institutional learning management system to deliver online course materials. However it is recognized that other web-based tools are sometimes more appropriate for certain types of interaction. The LMS should be the primary tool for interaction, but not necessarily for interactions of every type. (*See Rule 2.80* - Parts 3 and 5 of Rule 2.80).

- E. Administration: Administration will provide opportunities for faculty to continue to develop distance education teaching skills. Faculty teaching online are expected to keep current with new developments in distance teaching and learning. To support this expectation, if distance education courses are offered by a department, then Department, College, and Institution Promotion and Tenure documents must include appropriate credit for distance education course development as well as teaching online.

### **PART 3: FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLES AND RULES APPLICABLE TO DISTANCE EDUCATION PROGRAMS AND COURSES**

- A. Quality and Learning Goals; Prioritization of Distance Education Programs: A fundamental principle for all NMSU courses and programs is that quality and learning goals are consistent regardless of delivery modality. The value of distance education offerings is ultimately achieved through coordinated program offerings that lead to a specified credential. Resources will be prioritized toward offering full distance education programs over individual courses.
- B. Transition from Face-to-Face Delivery to Distance Education Delivery: Programs moving from face-to-face delivery to distance delivery must follow procedures for new programs as outlined in Rule 6.82 (Degrees, Majors, Minors, and other Academic Programs of Study). This rule applies to degrees, majors, minors or certificates that change modality from face-to-face settings or move more than 50% of the program to a distance delivery.
- C. Review and Approval of Newly Proposed Distance Education Programs: New distance education program proposals must be reviewed and approved by the Associate Deans Academic Council. New distance education program proposals must include an analysis of the technical and financial viability of the proposed program that outlines anticipated revenues as well as expenses of the program. Proposals will be reviewed by the Director of Distance Education to evaluate the level of support required by the proposed program.
- D. Assessment of Distance Ed Learning Outcomes: Assessment of distance education programs shall be incorporated into other assessment activities of the academic unit. When a distance education program is also offered face-to-face, assessment of learning outcomes shall be integrated.
- E. Requirements to Offer Online Courses: All NMSU online courses must meet a quality metric, defined by the chief academic officer at each NMSU campus, before being offered. This metric will address standards for course design, branding, and templates. Online courses will be reviewed on a five-year cycle by the college. (*See Rule 6.35 - Curricula Changes*).
- F. Approval of Distance Education Courses: NMSU's four-year campus distance education courses must be approved through the appropriate college and the Director of Distance Education. NMSU's two-year campuses will develop their own course approval process. The work of each campus distance education committee will be coordinated and aligned system wide through the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.
- G. Compliance with NMSU Policies and Procedures: Faculty and staff developing and teaching online courses will be subject to applicable university, college or departmental policies and procedures, including but not limited to the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (ARP). For example, Rule 11.05, Intellectual Property Management and Rule 3.20.28, Conflicts of Commitment.
- H. Course Delivery Fee (CDF): Each campus shall impose a course delivery fee for distance education courses as defined above\*. These fees shall be shared among campus administration, colleges, and units in a manner that supports the mission of the university and distance education.

*\* Dual Credit courses will not be assessed the Course Delivery Fee.*

Rule Administrator:	Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	05.04.17 Amendment recommended by Faculty Senate (Prop 30-16/17) and 05.09.17 by University Administrative Council; 05.10.17 Amendment approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15 BOR approved replicated Policy 6.55 as initial Rule 6.55. <b>No Prior Revision History Available for Policy 6.55.</b>



## 6.60 - Examinations/Tests

- A. Exam Week: Normally, every class meets at least 750 minutes per credit hour. The registrar will schedule the sixteenth week of instruction of each regular semester in 2-hour blocks. These blocks may count toward the 750-minute minimum per credit hour if necessary, or it may exceed the 750-minute rule. In either case, the exam week class time is not optional and must be used for some culminating activity, whether or not the instructor requires a final exam.
- B. Exam Schedule: The examination schedule will be included in the class schedule at registration.
- C. Completion of Fall Semester Prior to Holiday: The fall semester will be completed before the winter holidays.
- D. Length of Examinations During Last Week of Regular Classes: Faculty are not allowed to hold examinations lasting more than one class period during the last week of regular classes. In addition, faculty can only reschedule exams outside of the regularly scheduled exam period with the unanimous consent of the students and permission of the department head.
- E. Student Grievance: Students who feel that their rights have been violated should contact the respective department head.
- F. Maximum of Three Final Exams Per Day: During exam week, a student cannot be required to take more than three exams in 1 day. Instructors of exams that would occur after the third must permit the student to take the exam at another time if the student desires. Any student having more than three examinations scheduled in any 1 day may notify the instructor of the last examination listed and ask for alternate arrangements to be made for examination. If the fourth exam is a departmental exam, the instructor of the third exam will make alternate arrangements. (See [6.88 Schedule of Classes](#) for deadline for notifying instructors.)
- G. Advance Coordination of Final Exams/Term Papers: Each faculty member will be requested by the deans to announce intentions as to final examinations and term papers during the first week of the semester.
- H. Advance Resolution of Final Exam Scheduling Conflicts: Also, the faculty member will request students with problems of scheduling to report them to the office of the college dean.
- I. Priority in Scheduling: A regularly scheduled evening class will have precedence over examinations scheduled in other courses outside the normal class meetings.
- J. Alternate Exam Time: When a conflict occurs, the department scheduling the examination will arrange for students to complete the examination at another time.
- K. Student Review of Final Exam or Term Paper: Students shall be permitted to see any examination or test paper upon request within a reasonable period of time after the conclusion of the test.

## 6.65 - General Education Coursework Required for Graduation

*[Amendment (FS Proposition No. 13-05/06) passed by the Faculty Senate 03.02.06, ratified by the Board of Regents 09.08.06] [Amendments (FS Propositions 25-07/08, 26-07/08 and 27-07/08) passed by the Faculty Senate 05.01.08; ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08] [Amendment (FS Proposition 21 11/12) passed by the Faculty Senate 05.03.12; approved by the Board of Regents 06.21.12]*

- A. General Education Policy Statement: The General Education curriculum required for graduation from New Mexico State University is comprised of the state's common core and the university's Viewing a Wider World courses. See the [NMSU Undergraduate Catalog](#) for specific category requirements, options and required credits that will fulfill both state and university requirements.
  - 1. **Common Core**: The New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED) mandates a lower-division general education common core curriculum. These are accepted in total as a block by

all accredited, public post-secondary institutions within the state of New Mexico. *See* NMSA 1978 §§ 21-1B-1 et seq.

2. Viewing a Wider World: In addition to the state's requirements, NMSU has adopted Viewing a Wider World courses (VWW) as part of its General Education curriculum required of all undergraduate students. *See* NMSA 1978 §21-1B-4 (B). These courses foster intelligent inquiry, abstract logical thinking, critical analysis and the integration/synthesis of knowledge beyond the student's major discipline.
- B. General Education Course Certification Committee: The Board of Regents recognizes and delegates review and certification for the general education courses to the advisory body known as the General Education Course Certification Committee, which reports to the university's chief academic officer, the Executive Vice President and Provost, as follows:
1. Role and Purpose: The General Education Course Certification Committee is recognized as a standing university board within the definition of Regents Policy 1.05.90. It serves as an advisory body to the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost. Its primary charge is to review the courses submitted for inclusion in the General Education curriculum in light of the applicable state or university criteria, and to provide its recommendations to the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost. The committee also develops or reviews proposed procedural guidelines for the General Education course certification process, for consideration by the Office of the Vice President and Provost.
  2. Composition: The General Education Course Certification Committee shall be comprised of one faculty member and one alternate faculty member from each academic college and the library, to be selected by the appropriate dean; two community college faculty members and one alternate community college faculty member, to be selected by majority vote of the community college chief academic officers; and one member and one alternate member from the Faculty Senate. A representative from the Registrar's office and from the Outcomes Assessment office shall also serve on the committee in an *ex-officio* capacity.
  3. Reporting Structure: The committee reports directly to the Executive Vice President and Provost, who will appoint a representative from the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost to serve as chair. The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost shall provide the committee with necessary administrative support.
  4. Meetings: The committee shall meet a minimum of one time per semester. The chair or the Executive Vice President and Provost may call additional meetings as often as necessary for the committee to perform its charge.
- C. General Education Certification:
1. The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, after consideration of the recommendation from the General Education Course Certification Committee, will establish and publish procedural guidelines pertaining to the review of courses proposed for inclusion in the General Education curriculum.
  2. Any NMSU-Las Cruces college or department may propose to create or modify a course for inclusion in the General Education curriculum.
  3. Courses that are part of the state common core are subject to the regulations of the New Mexico Higher Education Department. The Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost is responsible for compliance with these regulations.
  4. Viewing a Wider World courses proposed by the various colleges and departments will be certified or re-certified in accordance with the General Education Course Certification Procedural Guidelines issued by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.

5. Upon receipt of notice of certification, the sponsoring department will process the appropriate course action forms to initiate the process for the course to be officially offered, and published in the appropriate catalog(s).

## 6.70 - Grade Reports

- A. Progress Reporting for 100- and 200- level Courses: All instructors of 100- and 200- level courses will submit a grade that reflects work completed as of the sixth Friday following the date classes begin during the regular 16-week Fall and Spring semesters. Early performance grades for 100- and 200- level courses will be due by 5:00 pm on the Tuesday following the sixth Friday defined herein. This requirement is not applicable to summer terms nor mini-semesters.
- B. Use of Early Performance Grades: Early performance grades shall only be used for student retention efforts.
- C. Deadline to Submit Final Grades: The deadline for submission of final grades will be 5 p.m. on the second working day after the last day of classes at the end of the semester or as assigned by the official academic calendar. Necessary forms will be furnished by the registrar.
- D. Faculty Obligated to Provide Academic Progress Upon Student Request: At the request of the student, the instructor will provide information on progress in the course prior to the last day to drop a course.
- E. Posting of Grades: Protection of Personally Identifiable Information:
  1. Personally identifiable information, such as names, social security numbers and/or Banner I.D. numbers, in whole or in part, shall not be used for the purpose of publicly posting student grades, unless specific written permission (signed and dated) has been obtained from the student prior to grades being posted.
  2. It is permissible to publicly post student grades without consent only if it is done in a manner that is not personally identifiable – *i.e.*, the faculty member assigns a unique identifier to each student for this purpose, and the identifier is kept confidential and known only to the student and the faculty member.

Rule Administrator:	Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	10.21.15: BOR approved replicated Policy 6.70 as initial Rule 6.70. <b><i>Prior Revision History as Policy 6.70:</i></b> 05.08.15 Amendment (FSP 23-14/15) recommended by Faculty Senate and approved by President was approved by Board of Regents. 10.22.07 Amendment (FSP 02-06/07) recommended by Faculty Senate and approved by President was ratified by Board of Regents.

## 6.75 - Honorary Degrees *[Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 10.09.07; adoption of the amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07] [Amendment (FS Proposition 09-11/12A) passed by the Faculty Senate 05.03.12; approved by the Board of Regents 06.21.12]*

- A. Bachelor's: An honorary bachelor's degree may be awarded under the following conditions:
  1. A student who has completed over 85% of the credit hours required by their degree program at the university (or has demonstrated strong effort to complete their degree as determined by the faculty of their degree program) is by accident, serious illness, death, or other unanticipated event permanently prevented from completing their degree at NMSU can be nominated for an honorary bachelor's degree as follows:
    - a. A department head or faculty member initiates the process and seeks departmental approval through the department's normal governance policies (e.g. consensus of majority vote of the faculty).
    - b. The student's home department makes a judgment regarding whether the student made suitable progress toward completion of their bachelor's degree.

- c. If the nomination is approved by the home department, the department head or faculty member then submits the nomination to the Dean of the home college for the student and then, if approved by the Dean of that college, the nomination is submitted to the Provost for approval.
- B. Master's: An honorary master's degree may be granted to an individual who has brought honor to the university or to someone whom the university wishes to honor for that individual's contributions to the university, the state, or the nation.
- C. Professional Degree: An honorary professional degree may be granted to a person who has achieved extraordinary professional distinction. The degree may be awarded under the following conditions:
  1. The individual has made an outstanding professional contribution to his or her field and is recognized for professional achievement; and
  2. The nominee or the nominee's family is willing to accept the degree.
- D. Procedural Consideration for Awarding Honorary Bachelor's/Master's Degrees: The honorary bachelor's degree will be awarded upon recommendation of the major department and the appropriate dean, with the approval of:
  1. Faculty of the appropriate academic department
  2. Executive Vice President and Provost
  3. President of the University
  4. Board of Regents

The degree will be awarded at commencement exercises along with the conferral of earned degrees, or at another appropriate time approved by the executive vice president and provost.

- E. Procedures for Awarding an Honorary Master's Degree:
  1. Nomination Process: A letter of nomination and support material, which should include support letters and/or documents describing the contributions and/or accomplishments of the nominee, is presented to the dean of the appropriate unit through the department head.
  2. Approval Process: All documentation will be submitted for approval to the following officers in the order listed below:
    - a. Faculty of the appropriate academic unit
    - b. Dean of the appropriate unit, upon the advice of an existing or appointed unit-wide committee
    - c. Dean of the Graduate School upon advice of the Graduate Council
    - d. Academic Deans Council
    - e. Executive Vice President and Provost
    - f. President of the University
    - g. Board of Regents
  3. Presentation of Degree: The degree may be presented at a special ceremony or at another appropriate time approved by the executive vice president and provost.
  4. Limitation of Awards: Honorary master's degrees should be limited to not more than two per college or library each year to maintain prestige and distinction of the award.
- F. Procedures for Awarding an Honorary Professional Degree:
  1. Nomination Process: A letter of nomination and support material, which should include support letters and/or documents describing the contributions and/or accomplishments of the nominee, is

presented to the dean of the appropriate unit through the department head.

2. Approval Process: All documentation will be submitted for approval to the following officers in the order listed below:
    - a. Faculty of the appropriate academic unit
    - b. Dean of the appropriate unit upon the advice of an existing or appointed unit-wide committee
    - c. Academic Deans Council
    - d. Executive Vice President and Provost
    - e. President of the University
    - f. Board of Regents
  3. Presentation of Degree/Limitation of Awards: The honorary professional degree may be presented at a special ceremony, or at another appropriate time approved by the executive vice president and provost, and shall be limited in number to one candidate from each college or library per semester.
  4. Distinction from Honorary Doctoral Degrees: These initiatives are separate from the established practice of awarding an honorary doctoral degree at each commencement and are intended to expand public recognition opportunities where it is deemed appropriate and conducive to enhance public relations for the university.
- G. Honorary Doctoral Degrees: Selection of honorary doctoral degree recipients rests with the Board of Regents. The responsibility for seeking qualified nominees for the honorary doctorate degree rests with the Office of University Advancement. Nominations will be sought from the campus community, alumni, and volunteers. No current faculty member or administrator of the university, nor any currently serving elected official, should receive honorary degrees; however, with a unanimous vote of the board, these prohibitions can be overruled. The vice president for university advancement will screen the nominations, provide biographical information, and make recommendations through the Chancellor to the board. The board will make the final selection. The honorary doctoral degree is normally presented during commencement ceremonies.

## 6.80 Independent Studies

Independent studies are for students capable of self-direction, who meets the requirement for the S/U option, *i.e.*, if the students are not eligible for the S/U option, they are not eligible for independent study. Class tickets will not be issued, nor will on-line scheduling unless the student presents a signed Independent Study Permit to the card issuer. Independent study courses are considered part of a faculty member's load. Departments will establish standards for each independent study course offered. The instructor should file a summary of requirements with the department head for each student enrolled in an independent study course before the last day to add or drop a course. Independent study research or reading courses may not be challenged.

## 6.82 - Degrees, Majors, Minors and Other Academic Programs of Study

### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

The following Administrative Rules and Procedures are adopted pursuant to the authority granted in Regents Policy 6.00. They establish the protocols by which degrees, majors, minors, and other academic programs of study shall be developed, reviewed and officially adopted.

### PART 2: RECORDING OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS ON OFFICIAL TRANSCRIPT

- A. The following academic achievements shall be reported on the student's transcript: Degrees, Majors, Minors, Concentrations, Community College Certificates, and Graduate Certificates. These notations are in addition to graduation with honors designations that appear on transcripts.
- B. Other terms used to classify academic credentials shall not be reported on the student's transcript (see Part 3, Section F. below).

### **PART 3: TYPES OF ACADEMIC ACHIEVEMENTS/MINIMUM CREDITS HOUR REQUIREMENTS**

- A. Degrees: An academic rank conferred by the university after successful completion of a required course of study or conferred as an honor on a distinguished individual. NMSU offers Associate, Baccalaureate, Master's and Doctoral degrees. A degree is indicated on the student's transcript.
1. Associate Degree: NMSU awards both designated and undesignated associate degrees following completion of a minimum of 60 credits. Associate degrees are designed to prepare a student to transfer to a baccalaureate program and generally cover the first two years of a four-year degree.
  2. Applied Associates Degree: Applied associate degrees are offered by the system's community colleges and designed for students moving directly to the workforce. These professional programs have a minimum of 60 credits.
  3. Baccalaureate Degree: A baccalaureate or bachelor's degree is designed to provide the student with a broad educational base as well as knowledge in a specific field. The baccalaureate degree requires coursework to satisfy the New Mexico Common Core requirements (35-36 credits), New Mexico State University's Viewing a Wider World requirements (6 credits), and the requirements of the major field of study (see section B).
  4. Master's Degree: A minimum of 30 semester graduate course credits is required for the master's degree. Master's programs involving a thesis include no more than six and no fewer than four credits of thesis. At least 15 credits for the master's degree must be for work in courses in the department in which the student was admitted.
  5. Doctoral Degree: The doctoral degree requires significant scholarly study beyond the master's. The individualized program of study is designed to meet the campus residency requirement and includes a minimum of 30 graduate course credits beyond the master's. If the Doctoral degree requires a dissertation, at least 18-credits of dissertation work must be included. The professional doctoral degree includes a practicum or special project that culminates in a written report which demonstrates a command of the relevant scholarly literature and links it to the specific clinical or practical experience.
- B. Majors: A major is a recognized area of study in which there is an extensive and well-developed curriculum offered at the university, as well as adequate library resources and support services. All majors are indicated on the student's transcript.
1. Associate Major: An associate major, may include courses from more than one department, but as a minimum it must consist of at least 60 credits. Transfer degrees must include the New Mexico Common Core. Additional requirements may be imposed by the State of New Mexico and New Mexico State University or as specified in the Community College's Catalog.
  2. Undergraduate Major: An undergraduate major may include courses from more than one department, but as a minimum it must consist of at least 24 credits within the major field, of which 18 credits must be upper-division courses. Additional requirements may be imposed by the State of New Mexico and New Mexico State University as specified in the Undergraduate Catalog.
  3. Graduate Major: A graduate major may include courses from more than one department, but as a minimum it must consist of at least 30 graduate course credits. Additional requirements may be imposed by the State of New Mexico and New Mexico State University as specified in the Graduate Catalog.
  4. Multiple Major: A student may earn multiple majors. In this case, the student must meet all of the requirements in the same catalog for each major. Courses taken outside of the major fields may be used to fulfill the conditions of any of the majors.

5. **Supplemental Major:** A supplemental major is designed to enhance a student's primary major through interdisciplinary coursework in a closely related field. The minimum requirements for an undergraduate supplemental major are 24 credits taken from the catalog listing for the field of study, of which at least 18 credits must be upper-division (300-499). Of the 24 credits, up to 9 may be courses from the student's major course of study.
- C. **Minors:** A minor is based on courses that encompass a recognized field of study outside the student's major. Departments may require certain courses be a part of a minor and may exclude other courses. Offered minors are listed in the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs. A minor is indicated on the student's transcript.
  1. **Undergraduate Minor:** At a minimum, an undergraduate minor must consist of 18 credits of course work, of which 9 credits are at the upper-division level.
  2. **Graduate Minor:** At a minimum, a graduate minor must consist of at least 9 course graduate credit hours.
- D. **Concentration:** A collection of coursework in an area that is part of a major (see above) program of study. A minimum of 12 credits within the concentration are required, although some majors may require more. At the baccalaureate level, at least 9 of these 12 credits must be numbered 300 or above; at the graduate level at least 9 of these 12 credits must be numbered 500 or above. A concentration will be indicated on the student's transcript.
- E. **Certificates:**
  1. **Community College Certificates:** A Community College may offer two types of certificates: Certificate of Achievement and/or the Certificate of Completion.
    - a. The Certificate of Achievement is a program of study less than 16 credits and is not eligible for Federal financial aid. It must provide employment related and/or career enhancing skills necessary to succeed in a job or a chosen field of study. These courses can be a subset of those required for a corresponding Certificate of Completion or Applied Associates Degree. These certificates are recorded on the student's transcript.
    - b. The Certificate of Completion requires a minimum of 16 credit hours (other Title IV requirements must be met to be eligible for financial aid) and has been approved through the academic review process described below. These courses can be a subset of those required for a corresponding Applied Associates Degree. These certificates are recorded on the student's transcript.
  2. **Graduate Certificate:** Graduate certificate programs require 12-18 credit hours of course work that is interrelated and designed to develop a focused skill or area of expertise but do not culminate in awarding of a degree. Courses that comprise the graduate certificate must be regular approved courses offered by the University and must be numbered 450 or above. A graduate certificate is indicated on the student's transcript.
- F. **Other Non-Transcripted Terms:** Programs may use terms other than those provided in sections A-E, above; however, such terms shall not be Included on a student's transcript and catalog descriptions should make that clear to students. These include, but are not necessarily limited to, the following: Emphasis, Focus, Option, Track, Area, Field, Specialty, Pathway, and Specialization.

#### **PART 4: APPROVAL PROCESS FOR NEW AND REVISED CURRICULAR CREDENTIALS**

The charts attached at [Appendices 6-A](#) and [6-B](#) outline the sequence of approvals required for each type of academic credential. New credentials must include a proposal form. Changes to existing credentials must include a curriculum change form. The latest version of each form is available from the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost. (See <https://provost.nmsu.edu>)

All changes to current credentials must use these procedures. Examples include: name changes, offering more than 50% of a program in a new location, changing the Classification of Instruction Program (CIP) code, or moving a degree to an online only format.

Rule Administrator:	Executive Vice President and Provost
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	02.04.16 Amendment recommended by Faculty Senate (FSP 07-15/16) and 12.13.16 by University Administrative Council and Chancellor. 10.21.15: BOR approved replicated Policy 6.82 as initial Rule 6.82. <i>No Prior Revision History Available for Policy 6.82.</i>

## 6.84 - Military Science Coordinator

- A. Promotion of ROTC Program: The university's Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) program is established as a voluntary course of study. It is the policy of the university to advocate and promote the ROTC, and the ROTC officers on campus shall be given faculty status.
- B. Role of the Dean of the College of Arts and Sciences: The dean of the College of Arts and Sciences serves as the military science coordinator and represents the university administration at various military functions. The dean also approves the faculty members assigned to the Departments of Aerospace Studies and Military Science.
- C. Dismissal from ROTC Programs: When an ROTC department makes a decision to cancel the contract leading to a commission for a student in the advanced ROTC program, the following university procedure will apply:
  1. If the contract is canceled during a semester when the student is currently enrolled in an advanced ROTC course, and the student is demonstrating satisfactory academic performance, the student may be dropped from the course only with the student's approval and with a grade of W.
  2. The student wishing to complete a given advanced course for graduation or for credit, whose contract is canceled during the semester in which the student is enrolled in the course, will be permitted to complete the course, provided the student continues to demonstrate satisfactory academic performance. The course may be completed by continued attendance at classes, or by extra-class arrangements made for individual instruction at the discretion of the professor of military science or aerospace studies. Extra-class arrangements must provide to the student the opportunity to achieve the same grade which could have been received by remaining in class.

## 6.86 - Registrar

The Office of the Registrar cannot provide official academic information to unauthorized persons, nor can it reduce the amount of information obtained in the registration process below what is required by the New Mexico Higher Education Department, state statutes, and the National Center for Education Statistics. In these requirements, the Office of the Registrar follows the minimum recommended by the American Association of Collegiate Registrars and Admissions Officers. Strict adherence to academic policies is an integral part of record integrity. A balance must be maintained between public relations and the responsibilities of record-keeping.

### A. Duties of the Registrar:

1. Record and preserve academic data on all students registered for credit at the main campus and at the community colleges.
2. Determine assignment of resident or nonresident tuition and fees, in accordance with state law and the uniform definition established by the New Mexico Higher Education Department and the Attorney General's Office.



3. Submit reports of official enrollment statistics to the New Mexico Higher Education Department and to the National Center for Education Statistics.
  4. Develop procedures for registration of students in any program in which academic credit is issued.
  5. Coordinate preparation of a schedule of classes for each academic semester or summer session.
- B. Transcript of Credit: Upon written request, the Office of the Registrar will furnish, for a reasonable fee (as approved by the Chancellor and published on the Registrar's website), an official transcript of a student's academic record to the student or designee.
- C. Transcripts: Transcripts will not be furnished without the student's consent if the student is 18 years of age or over, except as requested by a parent claiming the student as a dependent under the definition established by the Internal Revenue Service. If a student is under 18, the parents may request and receive a transcript of the academic records. The Office of the Registrar will also furnish to the student, upon written request, an information copy of the student's academic record. Transcripts, either official or unofficial, may be furnished to university faculty members or professional staff members upon request, with or without the student's permission. Prior to each advisement period, information copies are produced for the advisors.
- D. Release of Student Information: Information concerning a student that is published in the official student directory may be released to anyone requesting such information. This information will be published unless a request to withhold is received by the registrar by the last day of late registration for the fall term (Buckley Amendment - PL 93-380). Information recorded on the academic record page and in the student's file is released according to the procedures covering issuing of transcripts. Information in the student's folder is confidential, and is not released except to those authorized under the Buckley Amendment to PL 93-380 and The Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974. (See [2.90 University Records](#))
- E. Eligibility for Registration: Students under any type of sanction may not register until the sanction is removed by the appropriate office. On-line entry or clearance of sanctions is entered by the university agency involved. Students on scholastic suspension may apply for readmission and register when eligible. Students with disabilities may petition for early registration through the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities Office, Room 100, Garcia Annex.
- F. Statistical Data: Certain statistical data are required from the student in order to furnish data to the New Mexico Higher Education Department, the National Center for Education Statistics, and university officials. Other information required is for identification of student records. Registration of students who refuse to furnish requested data is subject to cancellation.
- G. Establishing Residence Status for Tuition Purposes: This responsibility, delegated to the registrar, is based upon state law and various rulings from the New Mexico Higher Education Department and the Attorney General's Office. The general counsel may be consulted by the registrar in cases where legal advice seems warranted. Determination is made by the registrar on the basis of information and affidavits submitted by the student. The burden of proof is on the student, and the final decision will be made by the university. Information on residence requirements may be obtained from the Office of the Registrar. The admissions office determines residency for tuition purposes for first-time applicants.
- H. Release of Registration Statistics to the Press: Final or near final registration statistics are released by the registrar through the vice president for student affairs and enrollment management to the associate vice president for university communications and marketing services, who in turn furnishes such figures to the media. Such release is not made until the close of registration. Any university official may release final enrollment figures after they are published.
- I. Recording Academic and Demographic Data on the Academic Record: Office of the Registrar updates and corrects data entered by admissions on the student's record at the time of matriculation. The following data are entered: last name, first, middle/maiden; date of birth; college or school to which admitted; degrees granted from the university; date of degrees; major field; minors; other institutions attended, and credits granted; high school last attended; admission status; and social security number

or alternate identification number. Also recorded on the undergraduate academic record page, upon approval by the academic dean, are allowable credits from military service, challenged courses, CLEP, or ACT. Such credit will be treated as transfer credit without a grade, will count toward graduation, and may be used in fulfilling curriculum requirements as specified by the student's academic college.

- J. Registration: Eligible students may reserve courses in the offices of the academic deans or on-line by computer, as determined by the academic calendar. Subsequent schedule changes may be made on the dates published in the Schedule of Classes. Students with disabilities may petition for early registration through the Office of Services for Students with Disabilities, Room 100, Garcia Annex. Eligible students may complete registration by mail, phone, Web, or in person by making a minimum down payment to the Office of University Account Receivable. Students who reserve classes but fail to complete registration by the published deadline will be disenrolled from all classes. At the close of the drop/add/late registration period, students who have not made the required payment will be disenrolled from all classes and may not attend until the next scheduled session.
- K. Academic Scheduling: (See [6.26 Scheduling Course](#))
- L. Grade Reporting to the Registrar: Faculty members report grades for students in their classes, through the department head and dean, on forms furnished by the registrar. It is the responsibility of the faculty member to submit these grades according to regulations and dates recommended by the Faculty Senate and approved by the president. Subsequently a list of grades assigned is sent to each instructor for verification.
- M. Justification of I: An I Grade Information Form shall be sent to the dean's office with instructor's grade sheet for each I grade assigned. Forms are available in the offices of the academic deans.
- N. Procedures for Approval of Degree Candidates:
  1. Three days (1 day in summer) after final grades are recorded on-line, the Office of the Registrar will furnish each academic dean a list of degree candidates, showing the results of the final record check.
  2. The deans' offices will confirm candidates who have met all requirements, and delete those who have not.
  3. The deans will certify graduation for the candidates listed.
  4. The Office of the Registrar will furnish the executive vice president and provost a list of approved degrees after the deans' certifications are received. The official graduation date will be the date degrees are approved by the executive vice president and provost.
  5. The Office of the Registrar will record degrees approved and mail diplomas to graduates.

#### **REVISION HISTORY:**

06.08.16 Amendment to Section B. of Regents Policy 6.86 approved by provisional authority of Chancellor;  
06.27.16 Amendment ratified by Board of Regents.

### **6.87 - Student Admission and Residency Processes in Relation to Immigration Status**

*[Policy adoption approved by Administrative Council 09.13.05; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 09.08.06]*

The rules and regulations for establishing student residency for tuition purposes are defined by the New Mexico Higher Education Department which is authorized by the Constitution of the State of New Mexico and state statutes.

- A. All international students entering the United States on a non-immigrant student visa will apply for admission through the Office of International Admissions Program located in Garcia Annex. Consult the Undergraduate Catalog section on Foreign Students for specific restrictions and procedures ([NMSU Undergraduate Catalog](#)).

1. Any non-citizen entering an institution of higher education on a non-immigrant visa (*i.e.*, student, diplomatic, visitor or visiting scholar), including spouses and dependents, shall be classified as a non-resident for tuition purposes.
- B. All legal immigrants (permanent residents), partially documented, undocumented or refugee students, who have attended a secondary educational institution in New Mexico for at least one year and have either graduated or received a general education development (GED) certificate in New Mexico, will apply for admissions through the Office of Undergraduate Admissions located in the Educational Services Building.
  1. Legal immigrants or refugees must present documentation of their status to the Office of Admissions and Office of the Registrar.
  2. Students meeting requirements may be eligible for in-state tuition as determined by the Office of the Registrar in accordance with the State of New Mexico Higher Education Department ([hed.state.nm.us](http://hed.state.nm.us)).
  3. Students eligible for in-state tuition may be eligible for state-funded financial aid.

### **6.88 - Summer Session** (*See also* Rule [5.30 - Compensation-Summer](#))

Summer teaching at the university is considered a privilege and not a right. Departments will use the following guidelines in determining summer teaching assignments within the department's FTE summer allocation:

- A. Priorities: 1) The first priority must be student and program needs. As resources permit, courses needed by the students to complete programs in a timely fashion should be offered. 2) After student needs, continuing tenured and tenure-track faculty will have priority in teaching assignments.
- B. Development of Departmental Policy: Departments will have the flexibility to develop their own policies after priorities #1 and #2 above have been met. The departmental policy must be written and available to all departmental faculty and other interested parties. The departmental policy must adhere to existing university policies, rules and procedures related to summer teaching (*e.g.*, generally, faculty members will be employed in one 6-week period only).
- C. Allocation as Relates to Department Heads: No summer session faculty allocation is used for 12-month department heads who teach in the summer.
- D. Schedule: Two 6-week sessions will be scheduled between the end of the spring semester and the beginning of the fall semester. Colleges and departments offering courses numbered 450 and above, designed primarily to meet the needs of teachers have permanent approval to offer courses on a 5-week schedule. During the first summer session, the 5-week option schedule begins after the first week of instruction. In the second summer session, the 5-week option schedule ends after the fifth week of instruction. It is recognized that students may be registered in both 5-week and 6-week courses. Graduate students in a combined registration may not register for more than 6 credits.
- E. Faculty Teaching-Normal: Because the summer schedule must be prepared well in advance, and summer funding is always uncertain, early agreements regarding summer teaching must be identified as tentative. No actual commitment is made until approvals are completed on an E-Hire Form Permission to Offer section). Full load for 6 weeks is 4.5 semester credits or equivalent. (For community college faculty the full load for 6 weeks is 6 semester credits or equivalent.)
- F. Salary for Summer Session: (*See* Rule [5.30 Compensation - Summer](#))

### 6.89 - Transfer Credit

- A. Faculty Decision: The decision to award a student credit for work completed at another institution rests with the faculty.
- B. Registrar's Duties: The registrar will maintain a data base of commonly transferred courses from other institutions and their NMSU equivalents.
- C. Four Year Review of Departmental Equivalents: Every 4 years faculty from each department will have the opportunity to review the equivalents from their department and make changes to the data base.
- D. Transferred Courses Not in Registrar's Data Base: Transferred courses that are not in the data base will be individually evaluated by the Office of the Registrar. If uncertain about which NMSU course is equivalent, the registrar will consult with the faculty in the relevant department.
- E. Transfer Credits from Non-Accredited Institutions: Transferred credits from non-accredited institutions will be evaluated by faculty from the relevant department after the student has shown acceptable performance at NMSU for two semesters.
- F. Responsibility of Student to Provide Documentation to Facilitate Determination of Transferability: It is the student's responsibility to provide departmental faculty with sufficient materials to determine which of the department's courses is equivalent to the credits being transferred. The determination whether a course is from an accredited institution will be based on where the course was actually taken. (For example, a course taken at a workplace for which college credit was later awarded by an accredited institution would be treated as credit from a non-accredited institution.)

### 6.90 - Tutoring Services

- A. Approvals: All tutors paid from university funds will be recommended by the head of the department in which the course is taught. In addition, approval must be obtained from the dean of the college. Graduate students must also obtain the approval of the dean of the Graduate School.
- B. Requirements for Providing Tutorial Services: Additional requirements for tutorial services are outlined in the [NMSU Student Employment Handbook](#).
- C. Employment of Graduate Assistants, Fellows and Trainees: Graduate assistants, fellows, and trainees may be employed as tutors. Such employment must be shown to be free of conflict of interest and must be consistent with policies governing supplemental appointments of such students. (See [NMSU Graduate Catalog](#))
- D. Hourly Tutoring Rates: (See the [NMSU Student Employment Handbook](#). For exceptions to published rates for graduate students, contact the dean of the graduate school.)

### 6.92 - Authorization of Course Registration Changes After Standard Administrative Deadline

- A. Purpose: To establish conditions under which exceptions to the university's standard administrative deadlines for course withdrawals (drops) will apply.
- B. Scope: This rule applies throughout the NMSU System, at each of the university's campuses.
- C. Policy Administrator: This rule will be implemented and enforced by the NMSU college deans and the vice president for academic affairs at each of the university's community colleges, in coordination with the Office of the Registrar.
- D. Definitions:

1. **Academic Appeals Board:** Within each college of the university, the library, and each community college campus, an academic appeals board will be appointed by the associate dean for academics or the community college academic vice president to hear student appeals. The appeals board will consist of three faculty members and two students.
- E. **Policy Statement:** A student may be permitted to drop/withdraw from a course after the semester or other enrollment term's administrative deadline has passed in accordance with the following:
1. The student, or person authorized to act on behalf of the student, submits the petition to the Office of the student's dean (based on the student's major), no later than one year after the end of the semester or summer term of the pertinent enrollment, unless extenuating circumstances as determined by the Academic Appeals Board justify waiver of such one year time limitation. (*See Procedures hyperlinked from Section F.*)
  2. The petition alleges with documentation any of the following situations:
    - a. The student was physically prevented from dropping or withdrawing due to illness, injury, or personal emergency of the student or a member of the immediate family;
    - b. The student was given misinformation as to the correct deadline for dropping a course or withdrawing from the university;
    - c. The student never attended the class, nor submitted assignments, nor completed examinations;
    - d. The student was performing military duties, including but not limited to a scheduled deployment;
    - e. Other circumstances beyond the control of the student prevented the student from meeting the drop/withdrawal standard administrative deadline.
  3. The petition is processed in accordance with the Procedures issued by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost, including a right to appeal from the determination of the course academic associate dean.
  4. If the petition is granted, the student will receive a "W" grade unless the course instructor and the academic associate dean believe that an "I" grade is appropriate.
  5. Cancellation of the enrollment will only be appropriate in cases where the student did not attend any class sessions during the semester (or other enrollment term) under review.
- F. **Procedural Guidelines:** See the Executive Vice President/Provost's website at [provost.nmsu.edu](http://provost.nmsu.edu) for the applicable procedures.

**REVISION HISTORY:**

Amendment (FS Proposition 22-14/15) approved by Board of Regents 05.08.15.

### **6.93 - Embargo of Dissertations or Master's Theses**

*[Policy (FS Proposition 16-08/09) passed by Faculty Senate 04.02.09; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09]*

New Mexico State University permits the embargo of dissertations or master's theses under certain conditions as described in this rule.

- A. **Definition:** An embargo of a thesis is defined as a delay in the release of the dissertation or master's thesis for a specified amount of time (non-renewable).
- B. **Routine Processing by Library:**

Unless a request for embargo is approved, dissertations or master's theses will be routinely processed by the Library. [NMSU Library: Embargo](#) NMSU permits the embargo of dissertations or master's theses under the following conditions:

1. To protect information of commercial value

2. To protect a patent application
  3. To protect intellectual property rights associated with publication of content
  4. To honor a pre-existing contractual agreement; or
  5. To protect individual rights to privacy because of the thesis subject or when cultural respect is being infringed.
- C. Procedure To Request Embargo: To apply, the requestor must submit a Master's Thesis and Dissertation Embargo Request Form to the Graduate School office with the Thesis-Dissertation Intake Form.
1. The completed Master's Thesis and Dissertation Embargo Request Form must be signed by:
    - a. Student
    - b. Dissertation Advisor(s)
    - c. Department Head
    - d. Dean of College or Designee
    - e. Dean of Graduate School
  2. Conditions: The following conditions will apply if an embargo is granted:
    - a. The bibliographic information (author, title, abstract, metadata, etc.) of the copy held by the NMSU Library will be publicly accessible in the library catalog.
    - b. The embargoed dissertation or master's thesis will automatically be made available upon the embargo expiration date.
    - c. An approved embargo period shall be twenty-four months and non-renewable.

## **Chapter 7**

### **Human Resources-Employee Benefits**

- 7.03 Deferred Compensation (457 Program)
- 7.04 Domestic Partners
- 7.05 Educational Opportunities for Employees and Their Families
- 7.08 Employee Assistance Program
- 7.09 Flexible Spending Account
- 7.10 Holidays (New Mexico State University Official)
- 7.11 Identification Cards
- 7.15 Group Medical Insurance
  - 7.15.05 Group Medical Insurance
  - 7.15.10 Group Dental Plan
  - 7.15.20 Group Term Life Insurance
  - 7.15.25 Group Long-Term Disability Insurance
  - 7.15.30 Supplemental Life/Voluntary Life Insurance
  - 7.15.35 Voluntary Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance
  - 7.15.40 Vision Insurance
- 7.20 Leaves - Generally
  - 7.20.05 Leaves - Absence for Purpose of Course Registration
  - 7.20.10 Leaves - Absence for Purpose of On-Campus Interview
  - 7.20.15 Leaves - Absence for Purpose of Voting
  - 7.20.25 Leaves - Annual
  - 7.20.30 Leaves - Compassionate
  - 7.20.32 Leaves - Domestic Abuse
  - 7.20.35 Leaves - Educational (With and Without Pay)
  - 7.20.40 Leaves - Employees Funded from External Sources
  - 7.20.42 Leaves - Faculty Care Leave
  - 7.20.45 Leaves - Family and Medical
  - 7.20.50 Leaves - Jury and Witness
  - 7.20.55 Leaves - Military (Regular Employees)
  - 7.20.60 Leaves - Professional (Without Pay)
  - 7.20.65 Leaves - Records
  - 7.20.70 Leaves - Sabbatical
  - 7.20.75 Leaves - Sick
  - 7.20.80 Leaves - Sick Leave Bank
  - 7.20.85 Leaves - Without Pay
- 7.23 New Employee Orientation
- 7.24 Pre-Tax Premium Plan
- 7.25 Recreational Facilities
- 7.26 Retirement, Educational
- 7.27 Re-Employment of Retirees

- 7.30 Social Security (FICA)
- 7.34 Tax Sheltered Annuities
- 7.35 Tickets (Athletic) for Faculty/Staff
- 7.40 Unemployment Compensation
- 7.41 United Fund Contribution
- 7.42 United States Savings Bonds
- 7.45 Workers' Compensation Benefits and Other Assistance



### **7.03 -Deferred Compensation (457 Program)**

*[Amendment ratified by Board of Regents 10.22.07] [Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 02.09.10; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.20.10][Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11]*

- A. Eligibility to Participate: This Rule authorizes eligible employees to elect participation in the university's voluntary deferred compensation program. All employees are eligible to exclude a portion of their salary, within IRS prescribed limits, from their current taxable income and invest those contributions in a university approved deferred compensation plan.
- B. Payroll Deduction: Method of Contribution: Contributions are made via payroll deduction.
- C. Supplemental to ERB: The employee's contribution to an approved deferred compensation program may be in addition to the New Mexico Educational Retirement Account, the New Mexico Alternative Retirement Program and Tax Sheltered Annuity (403b) contributions.
- D. Selection of Program: Employees may choose from a list of approved companies that offer 457 programs for the university.
- E. Cessation of Coverage: The employee's deferred compensation contributions cease when an employee terminates employment, retires, completes a Salary Reduction Agreement to cancel participation to the program or when contributions have exceeded annual maximums permitted by the IRS. The university will set all 457 contribution amounts with a maximum allowed by the IRS, unless otherwise instructed by the employee on the salary reduction form.

### **7.04 - Domestic Partners**

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 03.11.14; approved by the Board of Regents 04.03.14]*

- A. Purpose: To ensure equal employment and educational opportunities to all employees at New Mexico State University; to provide HR benefits to qualified domestic partners.
- B. Scope: This Rule applies throughout the NMSU system.
- C. Rule Administrator: The Office of Human Resource Services administers this Rule.
- D. Definitions:
  - 1. Qualified Domestic Partner: A qualified domestic partner is each member of qualified domestic partnership, defined as two individuals who live together in an exclusive relationship of indefinite duration, who have satisfied the requirements reflected in the "Affidavit of Domestic Partnership", available on the NMSU Benefit Services website.
- E. Rule Statements:
  - 1. All qualified domestic partners, and their eligible dependents, shall be provided the same services and benefits as those provided to legally recognized spouses and their dependents, unless expressly prohibited by law. Eligible dependents for benefit purposes are defined on the NMSU Benefit Services website based on benefit type.
  - 2. All benefit policies that affect employees, legally recognized spouses and their families shall also apply to employees, domestic partners and their families, such as insurances and tuition benefits.
  - 3. The value of tuition and insurance benefits provided to the domestic partner is considered taxable income to the employee by the Internal Revenue Service and is subject to social security, federal, and state income tax withholding.

- F. Related Procedures and Forms: In accordance with Regents Policy and Rule 1.10, the policy administrator may issue supplemental procedural guidelines and/or forms. Such procedures shall not conflict with this Rule, and are intended to facilitate the implementation, application, and enforcement of this Rule. Such procedures and forms shall be posted on the NMSU Benefits website.

## **7.05 - Educational Opportunities For Employees and Their Families**

*[Amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07] [Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 07.08.08; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08][Amendments approved by Administrative Council 11.10.09 and 02.09.10; adoption of amendments ratified by the Board of Regents 07.20.10][Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 04.12.11, approved by the Board of Regents 05.06.11] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13] ][Amendment recommended by the Faculty Senate 10.02.14; approved by the Board of Regents 01.30.15]*

New Mexico State University encourages all eligible employees to engage in life-long learning to enhance their careers by taking advantage of the program below:

- A. Tuition Remission: With appropriate administrative approval from the current employer/supervisor, regular employees and non-regular employees in a term appointment are entitled to take course(s) at the university's main and community colleges totaling no more than 6 credit hours (supported by regular I & G funding) each fall and 6 credit hours each spring semester without a charge of tuition or the fees included in the tuition rate. No more than a total of 8 credit hours may be taken at the university's main and community colleges during the summer session. This does not include challenged or nontraditional courses for which the university does not receive formula funding, nor any reciprocal agreements the university might have with other higher education institutions.
1. The legal spouse or domestic partner of the eligible employee may also take the tuition-free courses. Credits not used by the employee may be used by the spouse/qualified domestic partner. The tuition free courses taken by the employee and spouse/domestic partner must not exceed 6 credit hours for the fall and spring semesters, and must not exceed 8 credit hours during the summer session. This benefit is not transferable to another university employee who is eligible for a free course.
  2. Employees who take a course during working hours may be required to make up the time spent away from the work station (or take annual leave) unless enrollment is a requirement for continued employment.
  3. All courses may be subject to social security federal and state tax withholdings.
  4. Staff and spouses/domestic partners who enroll fulltime will be subject to the full-time tuition rate unless the free credit hours reduce their full-time hours below the full-time tuition rate.
  5. Other fees not included in the tuition rate (*e.g.*, fees particular to a given course, late registration fees, graduation fees, thesis fees, etc.) are not included in the waiver. To see a complete list of other fees, please refer to the university college catalog.
- B. Registration: Registration follows the same procedures governing all students. Requests for Tuition Remission will be submitted electronically. Changes to class schedules require a new request to be submitted to ensure the class or classes are covered by the tuition benefit. This benefit does not apply to individuals holding graduate assistantships.
- C. Approvals and Resolution of Conflicts of Interest: When university faculty or exempt staff members enroll in a program to earn a graduate degree at this university, a potential for conflict of interest may arise as a result of the dual role as student and as a faculty or staff member. Persons in this status must demonstrate that the potential for conflict of interest will not compromise the quality of their program of study. Approval of cognizant department heads and deans will be required. Such programs are approved on a case-by-case basis by the dean of the Graduate School with the concurrence of the provost. When appropriate, the dean may confer with the Graduate Council about the potential for

conflict of interest in such programs. The graduate dean may require a specific representative on such a graduate committee, possibly including off-campus representatives, as a condition for approving programs.

- D. Retiree Benefits: Retirees of NMSU are eligible for tuition remission benefits. A Retiree Tuition Remission form must be completed and submitted to the Office of Human Resource Services department each semester or summer session the retiree chooses to participate in this benefit. Changes to class schedules require a new form to be completed and submitted to ensure the class or classes are covered by the tuition benefit. Retiree spouses/qualified domestic partners are eligible to take one class if the retiree does not take any classes in the session/semester. Surviving spouses of retirees are not eligible for this benefit. See Rule [7.26 Retirement, Educational](#) for further details.

E. Dependent Children Reduced Tuition Program:

1. The program provides a 50% discount on tuition and the fees included in the tuition rate for eligible full-time and part-time students. Other fees not included in the tuition rate (e.g., fees particular to a given course, late registration fees, graduation fees, thesis fees, etc.) are not included in the discount. To see a complete list of other fees, please refer to the university college catalog.
2. Biological children, adopted children, and legally dependent stepchildren, under age 25 and unmarried, of regular employees, non-regular employees in a term appointment and of official university retirees, are eligible to participate in this program.
  - a. The student's status and the employee's employment status on the university census date (third Friday of the semester or last day to add or register for summer session courses) will determine participation eligibility.
  - b. If the employee's status changes before the census date, the student will no longer be eligible and the charges will be recalculated.
  - c. If the student reaches his/her 25th birthday before the census date, the student will no longer be eligible and the charges will be recalculated.
3. Dependents assessed the New Mexico tuition rates will receive a 50% reduction in tuition with this benefit. Dependents assessed non-resident tuition rates will receive a benefit equivalent to 50% off the New Mexico tuition rates.
4. Students must be enrolled in undergraduate or graduate courses (eligible for undergraduate or graduate tuition) on the main campus or any one of the community colleges.
5. A student enrolled in more than 18 credit hours will be charged the normal overload rate for any credits over 18.
6. Courses eligible for a grade will be included in this program; audited courses and challenged credits will be excluded.
7. The Office of Financial Aid will be informed of a student's participation in this program. A reduction of the student's financial aid package may result from the reduced tuition. Information on the possible effect of this program on the student's financial aid package should be obtained from the student's financial aid advisor.
8. All eligible dependents enrolled with New Mexico State University or its community colleges will automatically be granted the benefit upon request, except those receiving the Lottery Scholarship or who otherwise do not meet the eligibility criteria.

- F. Recognition of Employees Earning Degrees: Half-time or greater regular staff employees and faculty with above-average job performance who earn degrees from an accredited institution of higher education during their employment will be rewarded in appropriate ways whenever possible. Guidelines for this program are:

1. An employee will receive recognition only once for each type of degree awarded (i.e., associate's, bachelor's, master's, and doctorate). An employee shall not receive an increase for earning a lower degree than already held. An employee may only receive an increase for earning the same level degree as already held if the degree is directly related to the position and no increase has been previously awarded.

2. The salary increases will be effective on the first day of the month following award of the degree, or on the first day of the month in which a degree increment request is received by the Office of Human Resources Services, whichever is later.
3. Degree increments will not be paid on a retroactive basis.
4. Employees who have met the above criteria will be eligible for a salary increase of:
  - a. 5 percent of their current salary, not to exceed \$1,000, for an associate degree.
  - b. 5 percent of their current salary, not to exceed \$1,200, for a bachelor's degree.
  - c. 5 percent of their current salary, not to exceed \$1,400, for a master's degree.
  - d. 5 percent of their current salary, not to exceed \$1,600, for a doctorate.
5. This Rule does not apply to faculty who were hired at salaries comparable to others in the department who already have doctorates.

### 7.08 - Employee Assistance Program

The Employee Assistance Program (EAP) is a confidential counseling and referral service available to provide support to all university employees. Employees will not be required to use leave benefits for participation in the EAP sessions conducted on campus. EAP sessions offered off campus will require the employee to use available leave in accordance applicable administrative rules and procedures.

EAP information can be found through the Benefit Services wellness website at <http://benefits.nmsu.edu/wellness/>

Rule Administrator:	HRS-Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	10.11.16 amendment recommended by University Administrative Council; 10.11.16 Chancellor approved. 06.27.16 Board of Regents approved changes in Benefits. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 7.08 as initial Rule 7.08 <b><i>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.08 not available.</i></b>

### 7.09 - Flexible Spending Account

- A. Description of Flexible Spending Account: Flexible Spending Accounts allow employees to set aside dollars from their paycheck on a pre-tax basis in order to be reimbursed for out-of-pocket health care and child care expenses for themselves and their eligible dependents as defined by IRS codes.
- B. Eligibility and Deadline to Enroll: Effective July 1, 2016, regular and non-regular term appointment employees who work at least a .75 FTE are eligible for this plan within the first 31 days following their hire date, with the plan becoming effective the first day of the month following receipt of the enrollment form in the Office of Human Resources. If an employee does not return a completed and signed enrollment form to the Office of Human Resource Services department within their first 31 days of employment, they will not be eligible to participate in the plan until the next open enrollment period. Eligible employees also include any employee continuously enrolled in this benefit from June 30, 2016.
- C. Periodic Open Enrollment: Open enrollment occurs during the fall of each year with any changes or new enrollments becoming effective January 1<sup>st</sup>. During open enrollment eligible employees who are not currently enrolled in the plan may enroll and employees currently enrolled in the plan must complete paperwork to continue the plan.
- D. Changes to Plan: Employees may only make changes or new enrollments to their plan outside of the open enrollment period within 31 days after a change in status occurs. The proper forms must be executed with the Office of Human Resource Services department within the 31-day period. Examples of a change in status include but are not limited to:
  1. Marriage

2. Divorce
  3. Legal Separation
  4. Childbirth
  5. Adoption of child
  6. Death
  7. Loss of prior coverage
  8. Loss of dependent status
- E. Account Balance After Change to Plan: If a change in status occurs and an employee elects to reduce or cancel coverage, the employee may not reduce or cancel coverage to a point where the total plan year account balance is less than the amount of funds already reimbursed for the employee. An employee's account balance after a change has been made during a plan year will be calculated by adding any balance (including a negative balance) remaining in the employee's account immediately preceding the change, to the newly elected plan year election amount for the remainder of the plan year in which the change in status took place.
- F. Cancellation of Plan/Refunds: If coverage is cancelled, no refund of contributions will be made and no claims incurred after the last day of the month in which the change in status occurred will be eligible for reimbursement.
- G. Contributions During LWOP Status: While on leave without pay, employees are responsible for continuing to make contributions to the plan. If contributions are not made, the plan can be cancelled for the remainder of the plan year. The employee will only be eligible to rejoin the plan during the next open enrollment period held in the fall of each year with the plan becoming effective January 1<sup>st</sup>.
- H. Issues Upon Separation From Employment: If an employee separates employment from the university, coverage will continue until the last day of the month in which they were employed and claims incurred during that time may be submitted for payment no later than 90 days following the plan year. Employees are allowed to continue the coverage following separation through COBRA.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 BOR approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.09 as initial Rule 7.09. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.09:</b> 06.11.13 amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 approved by Board of Regent. 06.10.08 amendment approved by Administrative Council; 07.15.08 adoption of amendment ratified by Board of Regents. Amendment ratified by Board of Regents 10.22.07.

## 7.10 - Holidays (New Mexico State University Official)

[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13] (See also Rule [8.20 Compensatory Time, Overtime, and Holiday Pay](#))

- A. Eligibility for Holiday Pay, Generally: Regular employees and non-regular term employees both full-time and part-time on a prorated basis are eligible for holiday pay. Certain situations and/or employee status may disqualify an employee from receiving holiday pay (See subsections D-G below).
- B. Official Holidays: The university recognizes the following holidays:
- Martin Luther King, Jr. Day
  - Spring Holiday (1 day)
  - Memorial Day
  - Independence Day
  - Labor Day
  - Thanksgiving Day
  - Friday following Thanksgiving Day
  - Winter Break (approximately a week ending with New Year's Day)

- C. Observance of Holiday: When a holiday falls on a Saturday, the preceding Friday is observed; when a holiday falls on a Sunday, the following Monday is observed. If the beginning of the Winter Break (Christmas Eve Day) falls on a weekend, the preceding Friday is observed and if the end of the Winter Break (New Year's Day) falls on a weekend, the following Monday is observed.
- D. Holiday Preceded or Followed by Unexcused Absence from Work: Any eligible employee shall forfeit payment for any holiday if the employee has an unexcused absence on the last regular work day preceding such holiday or on the first regular work day following such holiday.
- E. Employees on Leave Without Pay Status: Employees on leave without pay are not entitled to holiday pay. An employee returning from leave without pay must be on the job at least one day for each day of the holiday period immediately before and after the holiday.
- F. Issues Upon Separation from Employment:
1. To be eligible for holiday pay, any employee who voluntarily terminates with less than 5 years of regular service on or after a holiday must have worked one day (immediately following the holiday or holiday period) for each day of the holiday period. Leave will be considered as time worked only for those employees continuing permanent employment with the university.
  2. Employees with 5 or more consecutive years of regular service may retire or terminate on December 31 and be eligible for all holiday pay in December.
  3. If regular employees with 5 or more years of service retire or terminate after December 31 they must work and be physically present one day (immediately following the holiday period) for each day of holiday pay to be received. Leave will not be considered as time worked.
- G. Issues Relating to Date of Initial Hire:
1. Any regular staff, 12-month faculty or non-regular term employee hired after the first Monday in December will be eligible for holiday pay on Christmas Day and New Year's Day only.
  2. A staff employee's first day of work may not begin on a holiday.

## **7.11 - Identification Cards**

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]*

- A. Permanent ID Cards: Regular and term employees are issued a permanent identification card.
- B. Temporary ID Cards: Non-regular temporary employees will be issued temporary identification cards. Other persons eligible for identification cards include campus ministers (and associated persons) and affiliated faculty/staff.
- C. Issuance Procedures: Employees may have their pictures taken at the ID Card Services in Corbett Center and receive their printed NMSU ID card with a valid picture ID.
- D. Proof of ID Card Required: The identification cards are required for admittance into the Activity Center, Natatorium, for ticket discounts, library privileges and to obtain a parking permit.

**7.15.05 through 7.15.40 - Insurances** (See [Chapter 9 Facilities - Transportation Services](#) for Mexico trip coverage and [Chapter 1 Governance - Board of Regents](#))  
[Amendments ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07][Amendments approved by the Administrative Council 06.10.08; adoption of amendments ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08]

### **7.15.05 - Group Medical Insurance**

- A. Eligibility: The university offers group medical insurance for all eligible employees.
1. Effective July 1, 2016, eligible employees are defined as those employees working at least .75 FTE in a regular, nine-month, or term appointment position.
  2. Optional dependent coverage is also available to eligible employees.
  3. Nine -month regular employees will receive full benefits, except for unemployment compensation, during the off employment period provided they return to employment the following academic year.
  4. Eligible employees also include any employee continuously enrolled in this benefit from June 30, 2016.
  5. Employees working in a position less than a .75 FTE; temporary employees; graduate assistants; other student employees; and Cooperative Extension Service employees with federal appointments are not eligible to participate in the group policy.
- B. Effective Date of Coverage: Coverage is optional and is available from the date of eligible employment. Coverage is effective the first pay period after 30 days of employment. Coverage may begin on the first or sixteenth day of the month. Employees must complete and return an enrollment form to the Office of Human Resource Services department within 31 calendar days of their regular date of employment to receive this benefit.
- C. Enrollment Procedures: Coverage is not automatic. Within the first 31 calendar days of employment, each eligible employee must either enroll in or waive coverage under the policy by completing an enrollment form. Details of coverage and provisions of the medical plan are available in the plan Benefit Summary.
- D. Premium Payments: Premium payments are made by payroll deduction. The university pays a percentage of the premium for the employee and, if the employee's dependents are enrolled in the plan, a percentage of their dependent premium also. Premium payments begin the pay period in which coverage begins. Note: A full fiscal year of premiums (July-June) will be deducted over 18 paychecks (August - May) for 9 month faculty/staff.
- E. Coverage Changes: An employee is responsible for requesting changes to insurance coverage by completing and submitting appropriate forms in order to adjust premiums. When an employee experiences a change in status, the employee has 31 calendar days from the date of the status change to contact the Office of Human Resource Services to make coverage changes.
1. A change in status includes, but is not limited to:
    - a. Marriage
    - b. Divorce
    - c. Childbirth or adoption
    - d. Loss of prior coverage or gain of new coverage
    - e. Dependent no longer meeting insurance eligibility rules due to age
  2. All status changes which result in an insurance coverage and/or premium change will be effective

the day following the date of the change in status, except in the following cases:

- a. For a newborn or placement of child(ren) through adoption - the coverage becomes effective the date of birth or date of placement.
  - b. For divorce or legal separation - the change is effective the day the legal documents are filed with the appropriate court.
  - c. For dependent children who lose eligibility due to age - the change is effective at the end of the month in which the dependent reaches 26 years of age.
3. All changes that affect premiums will result in a full premium being deducted for the pay period in which the change takes place.
- F. Coverage during Disability: If any employee is terminated because of total disability, coverage may be continued in certain circumstances. Refer to the COBRA section of the medical plan Benefit Booklet for details.

G. Coverage after Retirement:

1. Employees hired on or after July 1, 2016 are not eligible for the retiree health insurance benefit.
2. An employee who was hired before July 1, 2016 and who officially retires from the university and receives a monthly benefit from the Educational Retirement Board immediately upon termination of employment (those eligible under the Alternative Retirement Plan must meet eligibility rules and immediately begin receiving a benefit) may elect to continue medical insurance after retirement, providing the employee had been covered under the plan for the prior 10 consecutive years and worked in a regular employment status.
3. Time while enrolled as an employee or as a spouse of an active employee will be counted toward the 10 years, provided there is no gap in coverage during the 10 year period.
4. Coverage as the spouse of a retiree will not be credited toward the 10 years.
5. The university continues to pay a percentage of the premium. When a retiree or dependent becomes age 65 and/or eligible for Medicare, all medical coverage will be moved to the Medicare Carve-Out Plan, which includes a Medicare Part D prescription plan. If the retiree or dependent enrolls in a Medicare Part D prescription plan outside the university retiree plan, they will no longer be eligible to access prescription or medical coverage through the retiree medical plan.
6. The university reserves the right to unilaterally increase, decrease or discontinue coverages, plan provisions, and premiums.
7. Details regarding coverage, eligibility and restrictions are available through the Office of Human Resources.

H. Dependent Coverage after Retirement:

1. Dependents of employees hired on or after July 1, 2016 are not eligible for the retiree health plan.
2. The following rules shall apply with respect to dependents of retirees who are eligible for the retiree health insurance benefit described above:
  - a. Spouses and dependent children of eligible retirees covered at the time of retirement may continue coverage after retirement.
  - b. New spouses of retirees acquired after retirement may be added to the plan under certain circumstances. In order to add a new spouse, an enrollment form must be completed. The new spouse may not be added until 1 year after the date of marriage; the retiree must still be living and have medical insurance coverage at the end of the 1 year waiting period and must enroll the new spouse within 31 days of the 1 year marriage anniversary. New spouse coverage begins the first day of the month following the 1 year waiting period, provided the appropriate



forms have been completed and received by Benefit Services. There will be no university contributions to the new premium, and the retiree will be responsible for paying 100 percent of the premium for the new spouse's coverage. The new spouse will be eligible for surviving spouse benefits.

- c. New dependent children acquired after retirement may not be added to the plan, unless he child is a newborn or a newly adopted child.
- d. A retiree who rescinds retirement, returns to full-time employment, and later retires, may only continue coverage for dependent children who have been covered as a dependent for at least 10 years. Time covered under the retiree as an active employee will count toward the 10 years.
- e. If coverage is discontinued by the retiree for self or any covered dependent (including spouse), retiree and/or dependent may never re-enroll.
- f. Surviving spouse of a deceased retiree may continue coverage until re-marriage if he/she pays 100 percent of the premium.
- g. Surviving dependent children of a deceased retiree may continue coverage until they no longer meet the rule of a dependent child under the medical plan by paying 100 percent of the premium. If coverage is terminated or dependents are removed from the plan for any reason, enrollment in the plan at a later date is prohibited.

I. Coverage during Leave without Pay (LWOP): During periods of leave without pay, medical insurance may be continued at the option of the employee.

- 1. Continued coverage will not exceed the length of time agreed upon with the individual vendor agreements.
- 2. Arrangements for timely payment of premiums must be made with the Office of Human Resource Services and the Office of University Accounts Receivable. If the employee is on LWOP for a full pay period the employee is responsible for both the university's and employee's portions of premium (except FMLA LWOP, Professional LWOP and Educational LWOP).
- 3. Failure to make full payment of premiums may result in cancellation of coverage. If coverage is not continued or is cancelled during any leave without pay period, the employee will be required to re-apply for coverage through the open enrollment process or with a qualifying event. This does not apply if the employee was approved for FMLA, in which case, the employee may be reinstated immediately upon return to work, provided the employee requests coverage from the Office of Human Resource Services within 31 days from the date of return.

J. Coverage after Termination (12-Month Faculty and Staff): Coverage ceases at midnight on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month if employment terminates between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. If an employee terminates employment between the 16<sup>th</sup> and last day of the month, coverage ceases at midnight on the last day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. The policy contains continuance in compliance with state and federal law. Complete information on these procedures is available in the Office of Human Resource Services.

K. Coverage after Termination (9-, Month Faculty and Staff): When employees or faculty members do not return the next academic year, only dental and medical coverage will remain in effect until June 30<sup>th</sup>. All other insurances stop at the end of the pay period in which their regular employment ends. *See the health insurance carrier's Benefit Booklet for details.*

L. Medical Plan Provisions: Details on the medical plan provisions are contained in the medical insurance carrier's Benefit Booklet.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 BOR approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.15.05:</b> 06.11.13 amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 approved by Board of Regents.

### 7.15.10 - Group Dental Plan

- A. Eligibility: The university offers group dental insurance for all eligible employees. Effective July 1, 2016, eligible employees are defined as those employees working at least .75 FTE in a regular, nine-month, or term appointment position. Optional dependent coverage is also available to eligible employees. Nine -month regular employees will receive full benefits, except for unemployment compensation, during the off employment period provided they return to employment the following academic year. Eligible employees also include any employee continuously enrolled in this benefit from June 30, 2016.

Employees working in a position less than a .75 FTE; temporary employees; graduate assistants; other student employees; and Cooperative Extension Service employees with federal appointments are not eligible to participate in the group policy.

- B. Effective Date of Coverage: Coverage is optional and is available from the date of eligible employment. Coverage is effective the first pay period after 30 days of employment. Coverage may begin on the first or sixteenth day of the month. The employee must complete and return an enrollment form to the Office of Human Resource Services department within 31 calendar days of their regular date of employment to receive this benefit.
- C. Enrollment Procedures: Coverage is not automatic. Within the first 31 calendar days of employment, each eligible employee must either enroll in or waive coverage under the policy by completing an enrollment form. Details of coverage and provisions of the dental plan are available in the plan Benefit Summary.
- D. Premium Payments: Premium payments are made by payroll deduction. The university pays a percentage of the premium for the employee and, if the employee's dependents are enrolled in the plan, a percentage of the dependent premium also. Premium payments begin the pay period in which coverage begins. Note: A full fiscal year of premiums (July-June) will be deducted over 18 paychecks (August - May) for 9 month faculty/staff.
- E. Coverage Changes: An employee is responsible for requesting changes to insurance coverages by completing and submitting appropriate forms in order to adjust premiums. When an employee experiences a change in status the employee has 31 calendar days from the date of the status change to contact the Office of Human Resource Services to make coverage changes.
1. A change in status includes, but is not limited to:
    - a. Marriage
    - b. Divorce
    - c. Childbirth or adoption
    - d. Loss of prior coverage or gain of new coverage
    - e. Dependent no longer meeting insurance eligibility rules due to age
  2. All status changes which result in an insurance coverage and/or premium change will be effective the day following the date of the change in status, except in the following cases:
    - a. For a newborn or placement of child(ren) through adoption – the coverage becomes effective the date of birth or date of placement
    - b. For divorce or legal separation - the change is effective the day the legal documents are filed with the appropriate court
    - c. For dependent children who lose eligibility due to age - the change is effective the end of the month in which the dependent reaches 26 years of age.
  3. All changes that affect premiums will result in a full premium being deducted for the pay period in which the change takes place.

- F. Coverage after Retirement or Termination (12-Month Faculty and Staff): Coverage ceases at midnight on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month if employment terminates between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. If an employee terminates employment between the 16<sup>th</sup> and last day of the month, coverage ceases at midnight on the last day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. The policy contains continuance provisions. Complete information on these procedures is available in the Office of Human Resource Services.
- G. Coverage After Retirement or Termination (9 Month Faculty and Staff): When an employee or faculty member does not return the next academic year, only dental and medical coverage will remain in effect until June 30<sup>th</sup> (all other insurances stop at the end of the pay period in which their employment ends). The policy contains continuance in compliance with state and federal law.
- H. Coverage during Leave Without Pay (LWOP): During periods of LWOP, dental insurance may be continued at the option of the employee. Continued coverage will not exceed the length of time agreed upon by the individual vendor agreements. Arrangements for payment of premiums will be made with the Office of Human Resource Services and the Office of University Accounts Receivable. If the employee is on LWOP for a full pay period, the employee is responsible for both the university's and employee's portions of premium (except FMLA LWOP, Professional LWOP and Educational LWOP). Failure to make full payment of premiums may result in cancellation of coverage. If the coverage is not continued or cancelled during the leave without pay period, the employee may re-enroll during the next scheduled open enrollment period.

Rule Administrator:	HRS-Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 BOR approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.15.10:</b> 06.11.13 amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 approved by Board of Regents.

### 7.15.20 - Group Term Life Insurance

- A. Eligibility: The university offers group life insurance for all eligible employees. Effective July 1, 2016, eligible employees are defined as those employees working at least .75 FTE in a regular, nine-month, or term appointment position. Nine -month regular employees will receive full benefits, except for unemployment compensation, during the off employment period provided they return to employment the following academic year. Eligible employees also include any employee continuously enrolled in this benefit from June 30, 2016.

Employees working in a position less than a .75 FTE; temporary employees; graduate assistants; other student employees; and Cooperative Extension Service employees with federal appointments are not eligible to participate in the group policy.

- B. Enrollment Procedures: At the time of employment, each new eligible employee must either enroll in or waive coverage under the policy by completing an enrollment form. Employees must enroll in or waive coverage within the first 31 calendar days of employment. If an employee does not complete an enrollment or waiver form within 31 calendar days of eligible employment, the employee will automatically waive their right to life insurance and will be subject to approval by the life insurance carrier for coverage to begin.
- C. Effective Date of Coverage: Coverage is optional and is available from the date of eligible employment. Coverage is effective the first pay period after 30 days of employment. Coverage may begin on the first or sixteenth day of the month. Employees must complete and return an enrollment form to the Office of Human Resource Services within 31 calendar days of their regular date of employment to receive this benefit without late enrollment provisions.
- D. Premium Payments: Premium payments are made by payroll deduction, and the university pays a

percentage of the premium. Premium payments begin the pay period in which coverage begins. Note: A full fiscal year of premiums (June-July) will be deducted over 18 paychecks (August-May) for 9 month faculty/staff.

- E. Change of Beneficiary: Employees are asked to keep the Office of Human Resource Services notified of any name change or beneficiary change.
- F. Coverage During Disability: If an employee is totally disabled, the employee may request a waiver of premium from the insurance company. If granted, the insurance will remain in force without payment of premium for the length of the disability or until age 70, whichever comes first.
- G. Coverage After Retirement: When an employee officially retires from the university with at least 10 years of consecutive regular service the employee may elect to continue and pay for coverage under this policy up to a scheduled maximum; however, double indemnity provisions for accidental death and dismemberment are canceled for all insurance carried into retirement. If coverage is terminated for any reason, enrollment at a later date is prohibited.
- H. Coverage During Leave Without Pay (LWOP): During periods of LWOP, life insurance may be continued at the option of the employee. Continued coverage will not exceed the length of time agreed upon by the individual vendor agreements. Arrangements for payment of the premiums will be made with the Office of Human Resource Services and the Office of University Accounts Receivable. If premiums are not paid coverage will end as of the last date premiums were paid. If coverage is not continued or is canceled during leave without pay, the employee will be required to re-apply for coverage as a late enrollee upon return to work. Reinstatement of coverage is not automatic and is subject to approval from the carrier. If the employee is on LWOP for a full pay period the employee is responsible for both the university's and employee's portion of premiums (except FMLA, Professional LWOP and Educational LWOP).
- I. Coverage After Termination: There is a conversion privilege which allows a terminated employee to convert the group policy to an individual policy without medical examination. Application must be made to the insurance carrier within the 31 calendar days following termination of employment. Retired employees may also exercise the conversion privilege on the remaining portion of the coverage not carried into retirement. Forms are available in the Office of Human Resource Services. Coverage ceases at midnight on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month if employment terminates between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. If an employee terminates employment between the 16<sup>th</sup> and last day of the month, coverage ceases at midnight on the last day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid.
- J. Death Claims: When an employee dies, the Office of Human Resource Services will be available to meet with the beneficiary to explain the policy and process claim requests.
- K. Discontinuing Coverage: An employee who discontinues coverage and then wishes to re-enroll in the future will be required to submit evidence of insurability (a medical examination at the employee's expense may also be requested). Reinstatement of coverage is not automatic it is subject to approval or disapproval by the university's insurance carrier.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 BOR approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.15.20:</b> 06.11.13 Amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 approved by Board of Regents.

### 7.15.25 - Group Long-Term Disability Insurance

- A. Eligibility: The university offers group long-term disability insurance for all eligible employees. Effective July 1, 2016, eligible employees are defined as those employees working at least .75 FTE in a regular, nine-month, or term appointment position. Nine -month regular employees will receive full benefits, except for unemployment compensation, during the off employment period provided they return to employment the following academic year. Eligible employees also include any employee continuously enrolled in this benefit from June 30, 2016.

Employees working in a position less than a .75 FTE; temporary employees; graduate assistants; other student employees; and Cooperative Extension Service employees with federal appointments are not eligible to participate in the group policy.

- B. Effective Date of Coverage: Coverage is optional and is available from the date of eligible employment. Coverage is effective the first pay period after 30 days of employment. Coverage may begin on the first or sixteenth day of the month. Employees must complete and return an enrollment form to the Office of Human Resource Services department within 31 calendar days of their regular date of employment to receive this benefit without late enrollment provisions.
- C. Enrollment Procedures: At the time of eligible employment new employees will be required to complete an enrollment form to either enroll in or waive coverage within the first 31 days of employment. If an employee does not complete an enrollment or waiver form within 31 days of eligible employment, then the employee will automatically waive his/her right to long-term disability coverage and will be subject to approval by the long-term disability carrier for coverage to begin.
- D. Premium Payments: Premium payments are made by payroll deduction, and the university pays a percent of the premium. Premium payments begin the pay period in which coverage begins. Note: A full fiscal year of premiums (July-June) will be deducted over 18 paychecks (August-May) for 9 month faculty/staff.
- E. Application for Benefits: When an employee is disabled, it is the employee's responsibility to notify the Office of Human Resource Services. The Application for Disability and a Physician's Statement of Disability must be completed and returned directly to the insurance carrier for processing to request benefits to be paid under this program, along with the Employer Statement. The Employer Statement can be requested from the Office of Human Resource Services. The long term disability carrier will not process incomplete applications.
- F. Pending Approval for Claims: The employee can request to be placed on paid leave if sick leave or annual leave are available or request to be placed on leave without pay while the carrier processes the application. If the application is denied, then employment may be terminated if the employee is unable to return to work.
- G. Employees on Long-term Disability: Employees who qualify and receive a long-term disability benefits will:
1. Use all remaining sick and annual leave to offset long-term disability benefits. Total compensation, to include annual/sick leave and long-term disability benefits, may not exceed the employee's regular rate of pay unless a minimum disability benefit is being paid by the carrier.
  2. If still employed at the time of approval for disability payments, be placed on extended leave without pay for up to one year from the date the disability benefits are effective. If the employee is able to return to work within one year from the date disability benefits are effective, when possible, the university will assist the employee in finding an appropriate position for which they are qualified during the first 90 days after becoming eligible for employment. If an appropriate position is not available or the employee refuses the offered position, the employee may be terminated.
  3. Be required to submit a copy of their certificate of continued disability to the insurance company

as required by the policy.

4. Retire or terminate at the end of one year, and in order to retain other applicable insurance benefits during that year, the employee must pay premiums like any other employee on LWOP.
  5. If the employee qualifies and decides to retire, the employee may continue medical insurance the same as any other retiree, provided the medical benefits remained in effect during the leave of absence.
- H. Coverage After Retirement or Termination: Coverage is not available after retirement or termination. Coverage ceases at midnight on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month if employment terminates between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. If an employee terminates employment between the 16<sup>th</sup> and last day of the month, coverage ceases at midnight on the last day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid.
- I. Coverage During Leave Without Pay: During periods of leave without pay employees have limited access to continue long term disability coverage and should consult with the Office of Human Resources for details.
- J. Discontinuing Coverage: An employee who discontinues coverage and then wishes to re-enroll in the future will be required to submit evidence of insurability as specified by the carrier and may include a medical examination at the employee's expense. Reinstatement of coverage is not automatic and is subject to approval or disapproval by the university's insurance carrier

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 BOR approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.15.25:</b> 06.11.13 amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 approved by Board of Regents.

### 7.15.30 - Supplemental Life Insurance/Voluntary Life Insurance

- A. Eligibility: The university offers supplemental voluntary life insurance for all eligible employees. Effective July 1, 2016, eligible employees are defined as those employees working at least .75 FTE in a regular, nine-month, or term appointment position. Optional dependent coverage is also available to eligible employees. Nine -month regular employees will receive full benefits, except for unemployment compensation, during the off employment period provided they return to employment the following academic year. Eligible employees also include any employee continuously enrolled in this benefit from June 30, 2016.

Employees working in a position less than a .75 FTE; temporary employees; graduate assistants; other student employees; and Cooperative Extension Service employees with federal appointments are not eligible to participate in the group policy.

- B. Effective Date and Enrollment Procedures: Coverage is optional and is available from the date of eligible employment. Coverage is effective the first pay period after 30 days of employment. Coverage may begin on the first or sixteenth day of the month. Employees must complete and return an enrollment form to the Office of Human Resource Services department within 31 calendar days of their date of employment to receive this benefit without late enrollment provisions. Enrollment in the Voluntary Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance plan is required to participate in this benefit.

If enrollment is within the first 31 calendar days of eligible employment, employees may receive guaranteed issue for coverage up to established limits. For coverage amounts over the guaranteed issue or enrollment forms received after 31 calendar days of eligible employment; evidence of insurability is required. The insurance carrier will determine if the employee, spouse and/or dependent child(ren) are approved for amounts of coverage requested.

- C. Premium Payments: Premium payments are made by payroll deduction. Premium payments begin the pay period in which coverage begins. Note: A full fiscal year of premiums (July-June) will be deducted over 18 paychecks (August-May) for 9 month faculty/staff. The policy contains a waiver of premium provision which allows for waiver of premium payments during a period of disability without reduction of insurance coverage.
- D. Coverage After Retirement or Termination: There is a conversion privilege which allows a retired/terminated employee to convert the group policy to an individual policy without medical examination. Application must be made to the insurance carrier within 31 calendar days following the date of retirement or termination of employment. Coverage ceases at midnight on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month if employment terminates between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. If an employee terminates employment between the 16<sup>th</sup> and last day of the month, coverage ceases at midnight on the last day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 BOR approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <b>Prior History as Policy 7.15.30</b> ; 06.11.13 amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 approved by Board of Regents.

### **7.15.35 - Voluntary Accidental Death and Dismemberment Insurance**

*[Amendment recommended by University Administrative Council 06.14.16; approved by the Chancellor 06.21.16; approved by the Board of Regents 06.27.16] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]*

- A. Eligibility: The university offers voluntary accidental death and dismemberment insurance for all eligible employees. Effective July 1, 2016, eligible employees are defined as those employees working at least .75 FTE in a regular, nine-month, or term appointment position. Optional dependent coverage is also available to eligible employees. Nine -month regular employees will receive full benefits, except for unemployment compensation, during the off employment period provided they return to employment the following academic year. Eligible employees also include any employee continuously enrolled in this benefit from June 30, 2016.

Employees working in a position less than a .75 FTE; temporary employees; graduate assistants; other student employees; and Cooperative Extension Service employees with federal appointments are not eligible to participate in the group policy.

- B. Premium Payments: Premium payments are made by payroll deduction. Premium payments begin the pay period in which coverage begins. Note: A full fiscal year of premiums (July-June) will be deducted over 18 paychecks (August-May) for 9 month faculty/staff. The policy contains a waiver of premium provision which allows for waiver of premium payments during a period of disability.
- C. Effective Date and Enrollment Procedures: Eligible employees may enroll at any time as there is continuous enrollment under this plan; however, enrollment in the Voluntary Life Insurance is required to participate in this benefit. Coverage is effective the same date as the Voluntary Life Insurance plan.
- D. Cessation of Coverage: Coverage ceases at midnight on the 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month if employment terminates between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. If an employee terminates employment between the 16<sup>th</sup> and last day of the month, coverage ceases at midnight on the last day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 BOR approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <i><b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.15.35: 06.11.13 amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 approved by the Board of Regents.</b></i>

### 7.15.40 -Vision Insurance

- A. Eligibility: The university offers vision insurance for all eligible employees. Effective July 1, 2016, eligible employees are defined as those employees working at least .75 FTE in a regular, nine-month, or term appointment position. Optional dependent coverage is also available to eligible employees. Nine -month regular employees will receive full benefits, except for unemployment compensation, during the off employment period provided they return to employment the following academic year. Eligible employees also include any employee continuously enrolled in this benefit from June 30, 2016.

Employees working in a position less than a .75 FTE; temporary employees; graduate assistants; other student employees; and Cooperative Extension Service employees with federal appointments are not eligible to participate in the group policy.

- B. Effective Date of Coverage and Enrollment Procedures: Coverage is optional and is available from the date of eligible employment. Coverage is effective the first of the month after 30 days of employment. Employees must complete and return an enrollment form to the Office of Human Resource Services within 31 calendar days of their date of employment to receive this benefit without late enrollment provisions.
- C. Premium Payments: Premium payments are made by payroll deduction, and the employee pays 100% of the premium. Premium payments begin the pay period in which coverage begins.
- D. Coverage Changes: An employee is responsible for requesting changes to vision coverage by completing and submitting appropriate forms in order to adjust premiums. When an employee experiences a change in status, the employee has 31 calendar days from the date of the status change to contact the Office of Human Resource Services to make coverage changes.
1. A change in status includes, but is not limited to:
    - a. Marriage
    - b. Divorce
    - c. Childbirth or adoption
    - d. Loss of prior coverage or gain of new coverage
    - e. Dependent no longer meeting insurance eligibility rules due to age or marriage
  2. All status changes which result in an insurance coverage and/or premium change will be effective the first day of the month following the date of the change in status.
  3. All changes that affect premiums will result in a full premium being deducted for the pay period in which the change takes place.
- E. Coverage After Retirement or Termination: Coverage ceases at midnight on the 15th day of the month if employment terminates between the 1<sup>st</sup> and 15th day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. If an employee terminates employment between the 16th and last day of the month, coverage ceases at midnight on the last day of the month, provided the applicable premium for the pay period has been paid. The policy contains continuance in compliance with state and federal law.
- F. Coverage During Leave Without Pay: During periods of leave without pay vision may be continued at the option of the employee. Continued coverage cannot exceed the length of time agreed upon by the individual vendor agreements. Arrangement for payment of premiums will be made with the Office of



Human Resource Services and the university Accounts Receivable Office. If premiums are not paid coverage will end as of the last date premiums were paid. If coverage is not continued or is canceled during leave without pay, the employee will be required to re-apply for coverage as a late enrollee upon return to work. Reinstatement of coverage is not automatic and is subject to approval from the carrier. If the employee is on LWOP for more a full pay period the employee is responsible for both the university's and employee's portion of premiums (except FMLA, Professional LWOP and Educational LWOP).

- G. Discontinuing Coverage: An employee who discontinues coverage and then wishes to re-enroll in the future will be required to follow late enrollment requirements.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 BOR approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <i><b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.15.40:</b></i> 06.11.13 amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 approved by Board of Regents.

## 7.20.05 through 7.20.85 - Leaves

### 7.20 – Leaves - Generally

- A. FMLA and Faculty Care Leave requests are administered by HRS-Benefits. Other requests for leave will be considered by a supervisor with primary consideration given to the requirements of the job. Requests should be made in writing in advance whenever possible.

Regular staff, regular 12 month faculty and non-regular employees in a term appointment are eligible to accrue leave. Part-time (less than .50 FTE) employees, temporary employees, graduate assistants, and other student employees are not eligible to accrue leave. Regular full and part time nine-month faculty accrue paid Faculty Care Leave.

- B. All leave may only be used or paid in accordance with an employee's official FTE.
1. Exempt employees are required to submit approved leave taken to their supervisor each month via Employee Self Service.
  2. Non-exempt employees are required to submit approved leave taken to their supervisors each pay period via Employee Self Service.
  3. All exempt and non-exempt employees who earn leave may view their leave balances via Employee Self Service (the official leave tracking program of the university).
  4. Exempt employees who ordinarily work more than 40 hours a week may be given flexibility in reporting leave of one-half day or less.
  5. Faculty leaves normally do not exceed 1 year and, if exception is granted, are not normally extended beyond the second year.
  6. Faculty periods of sabbatical, educational, and personal leave (with or without pay) normally do not count toward eligibility for tenure and/or promotion decisions. Professional and other types of leave periods may count toward such eligibility upon agreement among the faculty member, the department, and the administration.
  7. Twelve-month faculty accrue and report annual and sick leave as usual while on sabbatical or educational leave. Any leave at less than half pay does not accrue leave.
  8. Exempt employees may only accrue leave based upon their designated FTE regardless of the number of hours worked, and may not be placed on leave without pay for less than 8 hours in a work day (except when the Family Medical Leave Act applies).

9. Nonexempt employees will accrue leave on an hourly basis not to exceed the maximum accrual rate for their designated FTE regardless of the number of hours worked, and may be placed on leave without pay for less than 8 hours in a work day.
- C. Employees will accrue leave while on annual, sick, jury duty or compassionate leave.
- D. Supervisors are responsible for establishing and maintaining the appropriate leave records.

**Revision History:**

Amendment recommended by Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by Board of Regents 06.20.13.

Amendment provisionally approved by Chancellor 08.17.15; ratified by Board of Regents 10.21.15.

**7.20.05 - Leaves - Absence for Purpose of Course Registration**

Annual leave will not be charged against an employee who is registering for a tuition-free course as a part of the university's benefits program.

**7.20.10 - Leaves - Absence for Purpose of On-Campus Interview**

Annual leave will not be charged against an employee who is requested to interview for another university position.

**7.20.15 - Leaves - Absence for Purpose of Voting**

On Election Day, any registered voter may be absent from employment for 2 hours for the purpose of voting between the time of opening and the time of closing the polls. The appropriate supervisor may specify the hours during this period in which the voter may be absent. This does not apply to employees whose work day begins more than 2 hours subsequent to the time of opening the polls or ends more than 3 hours prior to the time of closing the polls. This Rule applies to city, county, state, and national elections.

**7.20.20 Leaves - Absence, Unauthorized (Staff)**

*[Repealed 08.08.17]*

Rule Administrator:	Human Resource Services
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	08.08.17 Repeal of Rule 7.20.20 recommended by University Administrative Council; 08.08.17 approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 7.20.20 as initial Rule 7.20.20. <i>Prior Revision History as Rule 7.20.20 not available.</i>

**7.20.25 -Leaves - Annual** (*See also* [Rule 5.45.10 - Department Heads-Leaves](#))

- A. Effective July 1, 2016, regular full-time 12-month employees and non-regular full-time term employees who were employed at NMSU on or before June 30, 2016, and remain continuously employed, shall accrue annual leave at the rate of 20 working days (160 hours) each year.
- B. Regular full time 12-month employees and non-regular full-time term employees employed on or after July 1, 2016, shall accrue annual leave in accord with the following schedule and terms:
  1. During the first four years following the most recent date of hire, eligible employees shall accrue annual leave at the rate of 12 working days (96 hours) each year.
  2. During years five through nine of continuous employment, calculated from the most recent date of hire, eligible employees shall accrue annual leave at the rate of 17 working days (136 hours) each year.
  3. After nine full years of continuous employment, calculated from the most recent date of hire, eligible employees shall accrue annual leave at the rate of 20 working days (160 hours) each year.
  4. Any leave accrual change will be effective in the first full pay period following the employee's

work anniversary date.

- C. Regular and term appointment employees who have a job FTE of less than 1.0 FTE and non-faculty employees who have a 9-month appointment shall accrue annual leave on a prorated basis commensurate with the provisions stated in subsection A or B above, depending upon the date of the employee's most recent hire.
- D. Leave will be earned from the first day of employment and may be used as it is earned.
- E. Hours worked over 40 hours per week do not accrue either annual or sick leave.
- F. Up to 240 hours accumulated annual leave may be carried forward each July 1, and may be paid upon termination of employment for regular employees only. Effective June 30, 2017, leave accrued in excess of 240 hours at the close of business on June 30 of each year shall be forfeited. Non regular term appointment employees will forfeit all unused accrued leave on July 1, and upon termination of term appointment.
- G. In the case of death, the maximum payment for unused leave shall be 400 work hours.
- H. It is the responsibility of the employee/director/department head to ensure that the use of annual leave is programmed in advance and used so the employee will not lose any leave.
- I. An employees pay can be docked for a voluntary day off if they do not have a leave balance to cover (*see 8.15 Compensation*).
- J. Annual leave for regular employees will be transferred with the employees from one department to another.
- K. Regular staff employees who convert from regular to temporary status may be paid for unused annual leave as stated above.
- L. Regular faculty employees who convert from 12-month status to academic 9-month status may be paid for unused annual leave not to exceed 240 hours, prorated for less than full-time FTE.
- M. Regular employees who are terminating may request terminal leave (with administrative approval) in lieu of lump sum payment and will not accrue leave during terminal leave unless they return to permanent work status.
- N. Employees who are retiring may accrue leave during terminal leave.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 BOR approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.20.25:</b> 06.11.13 amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 approved by Board of Regents.

### **7.20.30 - Leaves - Compassionate**

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 08.24.10; approved by the Board of Regents 09.17.10] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]*

In the event of the death of a member of the immediate family, an employee is allowed a leave with pay, not to be charged against sick or annual leave, of up to 3 regular working days in order to attend the funeral or to handle affairs immediately associated with the death. For purposes of this Rule, "immediate family member" includes spouse, a domestic partner as defined in Rule [7.04 Domestic Partnerships](#), a child, parent or legal guardian, a sister or brother, a grandparent, or a grandchild. Such familial relationships created by

law are also included (i.e. mother/father in law; half or step siblings).

### **7.20.32 - Domestic Abuse Leave**

*[Policy adoption recommended by the Administrative Council 08.24.10; policy adopted by the Board of Regents 09.17.10]*

In compliance with NMSA 1978, §§ 50-4A-1 *et seq*, the New Mexico Promoting Financial Independence for Victims of Domestic Abuse Act (“NMPFIVDAA”), the university offers domestic abuse leave for up to fourteen (14) days per calendar year.

A. Definitions: The definitions provided or cross referenced within the NMPFIVDAA shall apply, including but not limited to:

1. “Domestic Abuse” is defined by state law, and means:
  - a. an incident of stalking or sexual assault whether committed by a household member or not;
  - b. any incident by a household member against another household member consisting of or resulting in physical harm, severe emotional distress, bodily injury or assault, a threat causing imminent fear of bodily injury by any household member, criminal trespass, criminal damage to property, repeatedly driving by a residence or work place, telephone harassment, harassment, harm or threatened harm to children as set forth above; and
  - c. Domestic abuse does not mean the use of force in self-defense or the defense of another.
2. “Employee” means any person employed by NMSU.
3. “Family member” means a minor child of the employee or a person for whom the employee is a legal guardian.
4. “Order of Protection” means a court order granted pursuant to the Family Violence Protection Act.
5. “Retaliation” means adverse action against an employee, including threats, reprisals or discrimination for engaging in the protected activity of taking domestic abuse leave.

B. Authorized Leave/Impact on Other Benefits:

1. Domestic abuse leave for purposes of this Rule is leave taken due to the domestic abuse of an employee or an employee’s family member, including but not limited to: obtaining or attempting to obtain an order of protection or other judicial relief from domestic abuse, meeting with law enforcement officials, consulting with attorneys or victim advocates, attending court or other administrative agency proceedings.
2. Unless the employee opts to use accrued sick or annual leave, compensatory time or other available paid time off, the domestic abuse leave shall be leave without pay.
3. The university shall not withhold pay, health insurance coverage or another benefit that has accrued to the employee when an employee takes domestic abuse leave.
4. Time taken for domestic abuse leave will not be included in calculating eligibility for benefits.

C. Notice: When an employee must take domestic abuse leave under emergent circumstances, the employee or the employee’s designee shall give notice to the supervisor or employer within 24 hours. Otherwise, employees shall provide as much notice as possible under the circumstances.

D. Verification Documentation: Employees must provide the Office of Human Resource Services with verification of the leave in a timely fashion. The verification may be:

1. A copy of a police report indicating that the employee or family member was a victim of domestic abuse;

2. A copy of an order of protection or other court evidence produced in connection with an incident of domestic abuse; however, the provision of such documentation shall not constitute a waiver of confidentiality or privilege; or
3. A written statement signed by the employee's attorney, district attorney, district attorneys' victim advocate, or prosecuting attorney stating that the employee or employee's family member is scheduled to appear in court in connection with an incident of domestic abuse.

E. Confidentiality and Limited Disclosure:

1. The university shall not disclose verification documentation or information contained therein, and shall maintain confidentiality of the fact that an employee or employee's family member was involved in a domestic abuse incident, that the employee requested or took domestic abuse leave, and that the employee made any written or oral statement about the need for domestic abuse leave.
2. The university may disclose such information only when the employee consents or when a court or administrative agency orders the disclosure, or when otherwise required by state or federal law.

F. Retaliation Prohibited: The university shall not penalize or in any other way retaliate against an employee for requesting or taking domestic abuse leave.

### **7.20.35 - Leaves - Educational (With and Without Pay)**

A. Educational Leave With Pay: After 5 years of satisfactory service, leave with partial pay may be requested by any full-time faculty member on regular appointment with rank of instructor or above (including exempt staff with faculty rank in the Cooperative Extension Service), normally for the purpose of taking coursework toward a degree, professional licensure or certificate which is related to the individual's university job assignment. If granted, the recipient of such leave shall be required to sign a supplementary contract agreeing to return to the employing university unit and to serve for a minimum of 2 years. Failure to do so would require immediate full refund of all salary paid by the university during the leave. Normally, no individual may receive more than one such leave with pay. In the case of a non-tenured faculty member, time used for educational leave (with or without pay) will not apply toward the probationary period. The time granted for educational leave with pay will not normally exceed the time allowed for a sabbatical leave. The following options apply:

1. One semester at no reduction in annual salary.
2. One full academic year at half salary. (Those within 5 years of retirement may wish to request full salary for 1 semester or a 6-month period and personal leave without pay for the other half.) Semester II (spring) of 1 year and Semester I (fall) of the following year, at 1/4 annual salary for each semester of leave.

B. Educational Leave Without Pay: Any regular full-time exempt staff member or faculty member on regular appointment with rank of instructor or above is eligible for and may request an educational leave of absence without pay after 3 years of service, normally for the purpose of taking coursework toward a degree, professional licensure or certificate which is related to the individual's university job assignment. If the leave is approved, all annual leave should be used before the educational leave without pay begins. The individual's sick leave balance at the beginning of the leave remains on hold during the period of the leave. The university will contribute the employer's portion of insurance premiums during the leave period. A faculty member on educational leave without pay, on continuous or temporary contract, will be required to notify the department head in writing 90 days before the educational leave without pay terminates, or 30 days after notification of salary and position, whichever is later as to the date of return to academic service on the faculty. In the absence of such notification, the department head may immediately initiate proceedings for termination of the contract.

## **7.20.40 - Leaves - Employees Funded from External Sources**

The Chancellor is authorized to develop and implement alternative leave, holiday, compensation, and insurance programs for groups of employees whose salaries are funded from external sources.

## **7.20.42 - Leaves –Faculty Care Leave**

### **PART 1: PURPOSE**

This Rule authorizes university administration to establish a paid leave benefit for regular nine-month faculty to be used for absence from work caused by an FMLA qualifying event.

### **PART 2: DEFINITIONS**

- A. Eligible Faculty are regular full time and part time nine-month faculty who do not otherwise accrue annual leave or sick leave.
- B. FMLA: The federal Family Medical Leave Act, 29 U.S.C. 2601 et seq
- C. FMLA qualifying events are as defined in the Family Medical Leave Act, which is posted on the Human Resource Services' website at <http://benefits.nmsu.edu>.

### **PART 3: AUTHORIZATION OF FACULTY CARE LEAVE PROGRAM**

The university will offer a paid leave benefit entitled “Faculty Care Leave”, subject to the following rules:

- A. Eligible faculty working full time (1.0 FTE) will accrue four hours of paid Faculty Care Leave per pay period (equating to nine days per full academic year). Eligible faculty working less than full time will accrue Faculty Care Leave on a pro rata basis commensurate with their job FTE.
- B. Eligible faculty may accrue up to a maximum of eight hundred hours (100 days) of Faculty Care Leave.
- C. Eligible faculty employed prior to effective date of this Rule will receive Faculty Care Leave accrual credit commensurate to their length of service with NMSU, up to ten years of service.
- D. Faculty Care Leave may only be used during the faculty member's nine month academic employment period, when absence from work is due to a FMLA qualifying event.
- E. No payment will be provided for accrued Faculty Care Leave balances upon separation from NMSU service nor upon death.
- F. Nine-month faculty will not be eligible to participate in the Sick Leave Bank.
- G. Faculty in 12-month positions who transfer into nine-month faculty positions will have accrued sick leave, up to 800 hours, converted to a Faculty Care Leave balance.
- H. Faculty in nine-month positions who transfer into a 12-month leave eligible position will be allowed to maintain their Faculty Care Leave accrued balance for use in their new position.

### **PART 4: PROCEDURES FOR IMPLEMENTATION AND OTHER GUIDANCE**

- A. Regardless of the availability of accrued Faculty Care Leave, faculty members may be eligible for FMLA leave, as provided by law. (*See Rule 7.20.45 – Leaves – Family and Medical*). FMLA leave will be unpaid, to the extent that the amount of leave taken exceeds the available Faculty Care Leave balance.

- B. A faculty member who is unable to work due to their own medical condition will be allowed to use accrued Faculty Care Leave beyond the 12 work weeks allowed under FMLA. Medical documentation will be required in such cases.
- C. Faculty with health conditions that fall within the definition of “disability” under the Americans with Disabilities Act should consult with the ADA Coordinator within the Office of Institutional Equity to determine whether they may be eligible for additional leave as a reasonable accommodation of that disability.
- D. Faculty members are required to notify their department head on every occasion during the nine-month academic employment period when they are unavailable to work.
- E. Department heads/supervisors must notify [fmlla@nmsu.edu](mailto:fmlla@nmsu.edu) when a faculty member is unavailable to work for more than 3 consecutive working days or when the supervisor has knowledge a faculty member may have a need for Family Medical Leave.
- F. FMLA will be designated and Faculty Care Leave will be used for qualifying events as of the 6th work day that the faculty member is unavailable to work. (Time off of less than 6 work days will be paid as regular work time.)
- G. Human Resource Services – Benefits Services must review and approve all leave taken for qualifying events under the federal Family and Medical Leave Act and will communicate with the faculty member’s department head regarding approval and usage details.
- H. Leave without Pay (LWOP) is available for faculty members whose Faculty Care Leave is exhausted to cover the duration of their FMLA leave.
- I. University administrators shall not discourage faculty from taking advantage of their FMLA rights or the Faculty Care Leave benefit. Faculty members who wish to consider alternative work schedules or alternative work locations, in lieu of taking all or part of the legally protected FMLA leave, may initiate discussion of such options with their department heads. If an agreed upon proposal for such alternative arrangements is approved by the college dean, then upon documentation of the faculty member’s voluntary consent to the alternative arrangements, and final approval by the Provost, the alternative arrangements may be implemented.
- J. Academic departments will be responsible for making arrangements to cover the workload of any faculty member on FMLA or Faculty Care Leave. Faculty members on FMLA or Faculty Care Leave cannot be asked to perform any work while on leave.
- K. All paid time off for Faculty Care Leave will be paid from departmental salary budgets (and will not result in salary savings).

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	Applies to Regular Nine Month Faculty throughout the NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	August 17, 2015
Revision History:	11.08.16: Amendment recommended by University Administrative Council and approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.20.42 as initial Rule 7.20.42. <b><i>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.20.42: 10.21.15 Policy ratified by Board of Regents. 08.17.15 Policy adopted provisionally by Chancellor.</i></b>

## 7.20.45 - Leaves - Family and Medical

- A. Purpose: To provide eligible employees with leave, in compliance with the Family and Medical Leave Act of 1993 (FMLA), as amended.
- B. Scope: This Rule applies to eligible employees throughout the NMSU System.
- C. Rule Administrator: The Office of Human Resource Services, Benefit Services administers this Rule, in coordination with supervisory personnel.
- D. Definitions:
1. Eligible Employee: Any employee who has been employed by NMSU at least twelve (12) months (need not be consecutive), and who has worked at least 1,250 hours during the twelve month period immediately preceding the commencement of the leave.
  2. FMLA Leave: job-protected leave from work allowed for certain qualifying events specified by the FMLA.
- E. Rule Statements:
1. NMSU provides job-protected leave for the period of time allowed and under the conditions established by the FMLA. The Department of Labor provides guidance on FMLA qualifying events and conditions at <http://www.dol.gov/whd/fmla/>.
  2. FMLA Leave is unpaid except when taken concurrently with accrued sick leave or accrued annual leave. Employees holding accrued sick leave must take sick leave concurrently with FMLA Leave until accrued sick leave is exhausted. Employees who do not have accrued sick leave may elect to take accrued annual leave concurrently with FMLA leave or may choose to be placed on leave without pay.
  3. FMLA leave may be taken intermittently or on a reduced schedule when medically necessary, or as otherwise required by the FMLA. Intermittent leave to bond with a child after childbirth or adoption will be considered upon request and allowed except where such leave is unduly disruptive to the operations in the department where the employee works.
  4. Employees should consult with NMSU's Human Resource Services Benefit Services for guidance on all FMLA matters, including benefit continuation options, and must contact Benefit Services as soon as the employee is aware of an event that may qualify the employee for FMLA leave.
- F. Procedural Guidelines and Cross References: Human Resource Services, Benefit Services, is authorized to issue procedural guidelines to facilitate the administration of this Rule, which shall either be published in this section or posted at <http://benefits.nmsu.edu/leave-holidays/fmla/> . See also: <http://www.dol.gov/dol/topic/benefits-leave/fmla.htm> and <http://www.dol.gov/whd/regs/compliance/posters/fmlaen.pdf> .

### REVISION HISTORY:

Amendment approved by Administrative Council 06.10.08; ratified by Board of Regents 07.15.08.  
Amendment approved by Administrative Council 11.10.09; ratified by Board of Regents 07.20.10.  
Amendment recommended by Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by Board of Regents 06.20.13.  
Provisionally amended by the Chancellor 04.16.15; ratified by Board of Regents 07.21.15.



**7.20.50 - Leaves - Jury and Witness**

*[Amendment recommended by Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by Board of Regents 06.20.13]*

- A. **Jury Duty:** In order for university employees to fulfill their civic responsibility as jurors, regular full-time and part-time employees and non-regular employees in a term appointment may be granted leave for this purpose.
1. Employees are not required to report for work after serving 8 hours of jury duty during the day. If service is less than 8 hours in a day, employees will return to work for the remainder of their 8-hour shift (or may request annual leave).
  2. Jury duty is that service and time spent away from a university job as a result of a subpoena or notice issued by the court and counts as time worked.
  3. Department heads are authorized to grant jury duty leave upon the presentation of a subpoena or notice issued by the appropriate court.
  4. The university will pay regular employees who serve such duty their normal salary for each regular work day of service, not to exceed 8 hours per day.
  5. Non-regular employees will not receive compensation; however, they may be reimbursed through or by the appropriate court.
  6. A copy of a written statement furnished the employee by the court indicating the number of days or hours served should be furnished to the supervisor. It is the responsibility of the employee to keep the supervisor informed of the anticipated time to be spent away from the job.
  7. Employees must use annual leave or leave without pay for jury duty/witness service in a jurisdiction other than that of their primary work locale, with the exception of employees residing in El Paso and working in Las Cruces.
  8. Regular employees may not receive any form of compensation from state courts other than mileage.
  9. All employees may receive compensation while serving on federal juries.
- B. **Court Witness:**
1. University employees, as do all citizens, have the right, and on occasion the obligation, to serve as witnesses in a court of law. As such, they are not representative of the university, but are private citizens. Their conduct in the case of court appearances as private citizens should, however, reflect well on the community of university scholars.
  2. Eligible employees shall be granted annual leave, or placed on leave without pay if ineligible for leave, for time spent testifying as a witness.
  3. The employee should provide the supervisor with a copy of the subpoena.
  4. University employees who are plaintiffs in any legal action against the university must use annual leave or leave without pay for all time spent in activities related to such action.
  5. University employees appearing on behalf of the university or as a representative of the university in any legal action, to include depositions or witness testimony, will not be required to use annual leave or leave without pay for such purposes unless the employee receives a witness fee.

### 7.20.55 - Leaves - Military (Regular Employees)

- A. Military Training Leave: In accordance with state law, NMSU provides paid training leave for its employees who are members of organized units of the Army or Air National Guard or Army, Air Force, Navy or Marine Reserves, in amount not to exceed 15 days annually when they are ordered to active duty training with such organized units. Such leave shall be in addition to other leave or vacation time with pay to which such employees are otherwise entitled. (*See* NMSA 1978, §20-4-7)
- B. Employment Status: Employees that are mobilized or volunteer for active duty status will be placed on leave without pay until the date of discharge or release from active duty status at which time the employee will return to regular employment.
- C. Military Leave of Absence: The following under the Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) conditions will apply:
1. The employee must hold a job other than temporary job. (The job need not be permanent.)
  2. The employee must leave employment for the purpose of going on active duty.
  3. The employee must not remain on active duty longer than 5 years, unless the period beyond 5 years is active duty during a war or declared national emergency or active duty in support of a critical mission. Service beyond 5 years required to complete initial period of obligation service from which a person by no fault of their own is unable to obtain release within the 5 year limit.
  4. The employee must be discharged or released from active duty under honorable conditions.
  5. The employee must apply for re-employment as follows:
    - a. If the period of military service was less than 31 days, the service member must report to the university not later than the beginning of the first full regularly scheduled work period on the first full calendar day following completion of the period of service plus 8 hours, after a period allowing for safe transportation from place of service to residence.
    - b. If the period of military service was more than 30 days but less than 181 days, the service-member must apply for re-employment not later than 14 days after military service is completed, or the next full calendar day when such application becomes possible. A copy of a DD214 must be submitted with the application for re-employment.
    - c. If the period of military service was greater than 180 days, the service-member must apply for re-employment not later than 90 days after service is completed. A copy of a DD214 must be submitted with the application for re-employment.
    - d. In all cases above, if the member through no fault of their own the employee cannot re-apply for employment within the time periods listed above, they must report back to work as soon as possible.
  6. If a fitness for duty exam is required before a service member can return to work, regardless of the time the employee was on active duty, the service member must report to the university no later than first full regularly scheduled work period on the first full calendar day following completion of the period of service plus 8 hours, after a period allowing for safe transportation from of service to residence.
  7. Discharge will not occur without cause for a period of time based on the period of military service: 6 months if the military service was 30-181 days; 1 year if the service was more than 180 days in length.
  8. If a service member incurs or aggravates a disability while on active duty, the member has up to 2 years from the date the member is hospitalized or convalescing due to apply for re-employment. The time will be extended to accommodate a circumstance beyond the member's control that would make the reporting within the 2 year period impossible or unreasonable.

D. Other Considerations Relating to Military Leave:

1. Employees may, but are not required, to use annual leave during their active duty status.
2. Employees are not entitled to use military leave if they are mobilized or volunteer for active duty.
3. Military leave may only be used for training purposes.
4. Employees may continue insurances during the leave-without-pay period by paying 100 percent of the total premiums (both employee and employer shares). Any employee called to active duty who discontinues insurance coverages during the leave-without-pay period may be placed immediately back on the plans upon return to employment without providing evidence of insurability.
5. Injuries/illnesses sustained during the active duty period will not be covered by the university health plan. These conditions would be covered by the Veterans Administration.
6. An attorney general's opinion, rendered after the passage of this law, points out that it does not pertain to temporary employees.
7. Dates for such leave must have prior administrative approval within the department and retained with internal leave records.
8. Annually is defined as federal fiscal year.

**7.20.60 - Leaves - Professional (Without Pay)**

- A. Eligibility: After 3 years of service and with the approval of appropriate department head and administrators, any regular full-time exempt staff member or any faculty member of regular appointment with rank of instructor or above may submit an application for professional leave without pay, normally not to exceed 1 year, for the purpose of undertaking some project that will directly benefit the university and the person's professional development. These benefits must be detailed in the application.
- B. Use of Accrued Annual Leave: If the leave without pay is approved, all annual leave should be used before the professional leave without pay begins.
- C. Non-Accrual of Leave During Period of Professional Leave Without Pay: Annual and sick leave do not accrue during professional leave without pay.
- D. Professional Leave Absence is Unpaid: All days, including legal holidays, in the period between the date the professional leave commences and the date the employee returns to work are taken without pay.
- E. Insurance Premiums Contribution by NMSU: The university will contribute the employer's portion of insurance premiums during the leave period.
- F. Performance Evaluation: In cases where the individual enters a contract with a state or federal agency, such agreements must provide for a calendar-year evaluation to be prepared by the appropriate supervisor in that agency and forwarded to the appropriate department head or supervisor.
- G. Effect on Tenure Process: Periods of professional leave without pay normally will not apply toward the probationary period for tenure. All conditions of professional leave without pay, including the status of the individual upon return to the university and (if appropriate) the effect of this period on tenure and promotion eligibility, must be in writing prior to the leave period.

### 7.20.65 - Leaves - Records

Supervisors are responsible for tracking and approving annual leave, and sick leave usage for all persons reporting directly to them. The official leave tracking program of the university is Employee Self Service. The annual leave record will be forwarded with the Personnel Action Form when an employee terminates or is placed on leave without pay.

### 7.20.70 - Leaves – Sabbatical

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]*

- A. Purpose: The purpose of a sabbatical leave is to promote professional growth and increased competence among faculty members by subsidizing significant study and research, creative work, or some other program which is judged to be of equivalent value and which cannot be accomplished during the fulfillment of normal academic duties and responsibilities. All departments and colleges including community colleges are encouraged to participate fully in the sabbatical program.
- B. Qualifications and Options: Application for sabbatical leave may be made by any tenured full-time faculty member (above the rank of instructor) with at least 12 regular semesters of full-time service at the university without a sabbatical. A faculty member who is in the last year of the probationary period may be considered for sabbatical leave if a favorable decision on tenure has already been made. Sabbatical leave may be taken in conjunction with earned annual leave, personal leave, or educational leave without pay. Personal leave and educational leave without pay must comply with university policies. In instances where, for good and sufficient institutional reasons, a sabbatical leave is delayed (not to exceed 2 years), the faculty member will become eligible for a succeeding sabbatical leave after an equivalently reduced period. A faculty member should be given as much notice as possible if a sabbatical leave cannot be approved for the time frame requested. Sabbatical leave is available under the following options:
1. One semester at no reduction in annual salary.
  2. One full contract year at 60 percent salary (Those within 5 years of retirement should consult the Employee Benefits Office about the possible negative impact on the retirement benefit formula.)
  3. Semester II (spring) of 1 year and Semester I (fall) of the following year, at 30 percent annual salary for each semester of leave.

When a person has served as both a 9-month and 12-month employee in the 6-year period immediately prior to the requested sabbatical, the amount of time allotted for the sabbatical will be prorated. A faculty member employed on a continuing basis on a 12-month contract may take a 6-month leave at full salary or a 12-month leave at 60 percent salary.

- C. Applications: Sabbatical leave will not be granted automatically upon the expiration of the necessary period of service. Rather, a qualified faculty member shall, normally at least 6 months in advance of the leave, submit an application and proposed leave program to the department head or chair, with evidence of research, creative activity, or other academic achievement, including publications, to support the program of work which is planned for the sabbatical period. Also, this program shall give reasonable promise of accomplishing the major purpose of the leave. Request for a sabbatical leave should be accompanied by a detailed explanation of the benefits to the faculty member, university, and the state resulting from the sabbatical leave. For main campus faculty, the approval of the cognizant dean, is required. For community colleges, the approval of the division dean, CAO and CEO are required. In addition to the work plan, the leave application should include: (1) a statement regarding choice of options; (2) departmental verification that during the applicant's absence, teaching, research, and service duties can be managed by the department; (3) a statement concerning compensation to be received during the leave. A faculty member on sabbatical leave at full pay usually will not take other paid employment during the leave; and (4) a clear statement of the benefit of the proposed leave to the university. A person on sabbatical at 60 percent time usually will not take more than 40 percent time employment. However, it is recognized that such employment may be necessary for or enhance the

leave. In such cases, a request to take compensated employment should be included in the proposal submitted and must have administrative approval. The evaluation of an application should be based on whether the planned program satisfies the aims and goals explicitly set forth in the Purpose statement above. These aims and goals may be independent of geographical location of the leave activities and, therefore, the place of the faculty member's residence during leave should be only one factor in considering the merits of the application. However, to ensure that the sabbatical experience provides opportunities not otherwise available to the main campus faculty member, the sabbatical period will normally include a component of study/work away from the home institution.

- D. Related Conditions: Time toward each new sabbatical begins immediately after return to full-time service regardless of the semester of return. The sabbatical leave will not adversely affect salary increases or promotions. Institutional participation in faculty retirement and group insurance will be continued for staff on sabbatical leave with pay. A faculty member on sabbatical leave may request, through the department head, travel support for participation in professional meetings. Consideration will be given if the faculty member is an officer of the professional organization or is to participate in some other significant way. Educational or other leaves are excluded as time counted toward eligibility for sabbatical leave. Twelve-month faculty will accrue annual and sick leave (at 60 percent for those on 60 percent pay) and will report annual and sick leave as usual.
- E. Departmental Implementation: Long-range department plans should consider the necessity of, and provide for, temporary absences for sabbatical leave. The initial leave discussions and concomitant management of duties is primarily a matter for discussion and approval by the concerned department. However, in transmitting the final leave request to the dean and provost, the department head should provide assurance that all student needs will be served by the department during the faculty member's absence. In some departments, the absence of one faculty member might place an undue load on the other department members. After a department has taken every step possible to plan for sabbatical leaves, it should submit its proposal to the dean for consideration. The administration will attempt to accommodate these special cases.
- F. Procedures:
1. At least 6 months prior to the requested leave period (exceptions to be considered on a case-by-case basis), application for sabbatical leave is submitted to the department head on a Request for Leave Form and includes the supporting materials detailed in the Application section.
  2. Preliminary approval is obtained when signatures of the department head, cognizant dean, dean of the Graduate School are affixed to the Request for Leave Form. For community college faculty, preliminary approval is obtained when signatures of the department chair, division dean, CAO and CEO are affixed to the Request for Leave Form. A supplementary contract, stipulating that the faculty member is obligated and agrees to return to the university to serve a period of 1 year, and failure to do so would require immediate full refund of all salary paid by the university during the leave, is prepared and sent to the faculty member. Upon receipt of the signed supplementary contract, final approval of the leave is granted and the faculty member is notified.
- G. Post Sabbatical Obligations: Sabbatical leaves will be approved only with the clear understanding that at the completion of the sabbatical and/or supplemental leave, the faculty member will return to the university for a period of service of 1 year. Failure to do so will require immediate full refund of all salaries and benefits costs paid by the university during the sabbatical, and repayment for any annual leave accrued and used during the extended leave. Within the first semester upon return from the sabbatical, the main campus faculty member shall submit to the provost, through the department head and dean a full report of the research, creative work, publications, or other results of the period of leave. This final report should contain a brief summary of the proposal, including a review of the objectives, as well as a summary of what was accomplished. An explanation should be given in the event that some objective(s) were not met. This report will be incorporated in the faculty member's annual written report and may be used in the annual performance evaluation process. The dean will forward the report with both the dean's and department heads comments to the provost regarding the overall value of the sabbatical to the faculty member and to the university and indicating the extent to which the sabbatical plan was accomplished. Community College faculty will submit a similar report to the Campus President through their immediate supervisor.

## **7.20.75 - Leaves - Sick**

### **A. Twelve-Month Exempt and Nonexempt Employees:**

1. Regular full-time employees shall be granted 12 working days of sick leave a year. This is prorated for half time or more employees.
2. Non-regular employees are not eligible for sick leave.
3. Leave will be earned from the first day of employment and may be used as it is earned.
4. Hours worked over 40 hours per week do not accrue either annual or sick leave.
5. Employees may accrue and bank 100 working days (800 hours) of accumulated sick leave (prorated for less than full-time employees and for any partial months by annual 9-month employees). On July 1 every year, any employee who has accumulated more than 100 working days of sick leave will have the sick leave balance reduced to 100 days.
6. A department may require supporting documentation for any usage of sick leave any time abuse of sick leave is suspected. Any grant of sick leave in excess of 3 consecutive working days should be supported by a medical certificate or other evidence administratively acceptable. Abuse of sick leave may be grounds for immediate dismissal.
7. Annual leave will be applied (if available) against sick leave in excess of the allotted sick leave days, but sick leave will not be applied against annual leave in any case.
8. Sick leave accrued after July 1, 2016, will have no cash value and will not result in a payout benefit.
9. Those employees who accrued more than 600 hours of sick leave prior to July 1, 2016 will retain the sick leave payout benefit that was in place on June 30, 2016, but only with respect to those hours accrued prior to July 1, 2016. This sick leave payout benefit shall be referred to as a "grandfathered" benefit. Any employee with a grandfathered sick leave payout benefit who terminates, retires or converts from a 12-month pay base to an academic faculty pay base will be paid, in accordance with the formula in effect on June 30, 2016, for any then remaining grandfathered sick leave benefit (calculation based on the lesser of the leave balance on July 1, 2016 or the leave balance on the date of separation). The formula in effect on June 30, 2016 stated: payment will be made at a rate of 50 percent of the employee's straight-time hourly salary, multiplied by the number of sick leave hours accrued over 600, to a maximum of 200. The payment may not exceed 50 percent x hourly rate x 200. (According to Educational Retirement Board rules, this payment will not be included in the 5-year average salary used for the retirement benefits calculation.)
10. Sick leave will be transferred from one department to another with the employee.
11. Sick leave may be used when the employee's absence is reasonably required for the treatment of or recovery from illness or injury. Sick leave may also be used when the employee's absence is reasonably required as the result of pregnancy, childbirth, or a medical condition related to pregnancy or childbirth. Sick leave may be used when the employee's presence is reasonably required for the care of dependents during illness or recovery from injury. For this purpose, dependents are defined as spouse, children, or immediate family members any of whom normally reside in an employee's household and who are dependent upon the employee for support and maintenance. A physician's statement may be required to support the usage of sick leave for the employee or dependents. Employees on Family and Medical leave must use any available sick leave concurrently with Family and Medical leave, pursuant to Rule 7.20.45. An employee will not be compensated for a missed day from work if the employee does not have accrued paid leave available.

### **B. Nine-Month Staff Employees: Regular nine-month staff employees may earn 9 days of sick leave a**

year (8.00 hours per month worked, prorated based on job FTE). Annual leave or sick leave for regular nine-month staff employees may be used only during the regular employment period they are scheduled to work each fiscal year. Leave is prorated for less than full-time eligible employees.

C. Nine-Month Faculty Employees: *[Superseded by Rule 7.20.42 - Faculty Care Leave.]*

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 Board of Regents approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.20.75:</b> 08.17.15 Chancellor provisionally amended; 10.21.15 Board of Regents ratified. 04.16.15 and 06.24.16 Chancellor provisionally amended; 07.21.15 Board of Regents ratified. 06.11.13 Amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 Board of Regents approved.

## 7.20.80 - Leaves - Sick Leave Bank

- A. This program establishes a Sick Leave Bank for eligible participating university employees affected by a personal medical emergency, and who have insufficient paid sick or annual leave to cover required work absences. Only university employees who are eligible to accrue sick and annual leave may elect to participate in the Sick Leave Bank benefit.
- B. A personal medical emergency is defined as an unusual and catastrophic medical or immediate family medical emergency that is likely to require an employee's absence from duty for a prolonged period of time and to result in a substantial loss of income because of the unavailability of paid leave.
- C. Only those items allowable under the university Sick Leave Rules are covered by the Sick Leave Bank.
- D. The bank allows employees to share the risk of severe circumstances by donating to a common pool of leave.
- E. Members of the pool are required to enroll in the long-term disability insurance program as a protection against income loss while recovering from a severe medical condition. The long-term disability policy covers total disability after a waiting period of 135 consecutive calendar days or 100 work days.
- F. The maximum a recipient can receive from the Sick Leave Bank is 70 days per personal emergency with no more than one withdrawal from the bank per fiscal year or per personal emergency. No more than 70 days can be withdrawn for a particular medical condition.
- G. Employees would be wise to maintain a balance of at least 30 days of combined sick and annual leave to cover them during the first 30 days of personal emergency or total disability. The Sick Leave Bank does not provide for the first 30 days of the personal emergency; these are the responsibility of the employee and are covered by the employee's sick and annual leave or leave without pay.
- H. Program requirements and application procedures are maintained on the web pages for the Office of Human Resource Services.

### REVISION HISTORY:

Provisionally amended by the Chancellor 04.16.15; ratified by Board of Regents 07.21.15.

Provisionally amended by the Chancellor 08.17.15; ratified by Board of Regents 10.21.15.

**7.20.85 - Leaves - Without Pay** (See [7.20.35 Leaves - Educational](#) and [7.20.60 Leaves - Professional](#))  
[Amendments ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]

- A. Leave without Pay (LWOP) for a period up to 90 calendar days may be requested by an employee and either approved or disapproved by the director/department head. Refer to Section [7.20.45 Leaves – Family and Medical](#) – for leave without pay granted in accordance with the Family and Medical Leave Act.
- B. Requests for LWOP in excess of 90 days should be requested by the employee to the department head/director. If the department head/director recommends approval, the request is forwarded through the dean or vice president to the Office of Human Resource Services for consideration. Circumstances in individual cases will determine if such leave will be granted.
- C. An employee who is granted a leave of absence without pay must make arrangements through the Office of Human Resource Services to pay the full cost (employer and employee) of insurance premiums and make timely payments to university accounts receivable (See [7.20.35 Educational](#) and [7.20.60 Professional](#) Leaves without pay for payment requirements). Employees who do not make timely premium payments by the last day of the month are subject to having their coverage cancelled.
- D. Annual and sick leave do not accrue during LWOP.
- E. All days, including legal holidays, in the interim period between the date LWOP commences and the date the employee actually returns to work are taken without pay. For exempt employees, leave without pay will begin on the first eight hour day and end on the last eight hour day of the leave period. Any partial days, taken immediately before or after the official LWOP period, shall be deducted from leave accrued upon return.
- F. An appointing authority may involuntarily place an employee on leave without pay if approved by the Office of Human Resource Services and executive vice president and provost.
- G. LWOP (including LWOP due to educational leave) will not be granted to an individual who has annual leave unless specifically approved by the executive vice president and provost, except under the Family and Medical Leave Act.

**7.23 - New Employee Orientation**

[Amendments ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]

- A. All benefit eligible employees are encouraged to either attend a New Employee Orientation group session or review the orientation information and handouts on the NMSU benefits web site within 31 days of employment.
- B. It is the employing department's responsibility to provide employees with benefits enrollment information within their first 31 days of eligible employment, and to notify employees of their option to either attend a New Employee Orientation group session or review the orientation information.
- C. The online information is available on the NMSU benefits web site.

Employees who do not enroll within established deadlines for the university insurance plans are subject to late enrollment provision, when applicable.



## 7.24 - Pre-Tax Premium Plan

The Pre-Tax Premium Plan allows employees enrolled in the university's health and dental insurance programs to decrease their taxable income by the amount of the employee portion of premiums. This plan is subject to guidelines set forth by the United States Internal Revenue Service. Employees must either enroll in or waive coverage within their first 31 days of employment. If an employee does not complete a form to either enroll in or waive coverage, the employee will waive their right to enrollment in the plan and will not be allowed to enroll until the next open enrollment period held in the spring of each year. Employees may make changes to their coverage (including termination of the plan) during the open enrollment period held in the spring of each year with changes going into effect on July 1. Enrollment in this plan limits the employee's ability to add, change or delete coverage in the health and dental insurance programs. See the benefit booklet provided in the Employee Benefits Office for more information.

## 7.25 - Recreational Facilities

The facilities of the Department of Human Performance, Dance and Recreation are open to all faculty/staff/students under the administration of the Intramural Office (Activity Center). (See the Intramural Office for more information)

## 7.26 - Retirement, Educational (See also Rule [5.55 - Emeritus Status](#))

*[Amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 08.13.13; approved by the Board of Regents 08.19.13]*

- A. Purpose: To clarify retirement benefits offered and/or required of university employees by the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board (NM ERB).
- B. Scope: This Rule applies throughout the NMSU System.
- C. Rule Administrator: The Office of Human Resource Services administers this Rule, consistent with the New Mexico Retirement Act, and guidance from the NM ERB.
- D. Definitions: (See Also Rule 7.27, Section D.)
  - 1. NM ERB" refers to the state of New Mexico's Educational Retirement Board, the statutorily authorized administrator of the New Mexico Educational Retirement Act, NMSA 1978, 22-11-1 through 22-11-55, which governs the retirement rights of eligible employees.
- E. Rule Statement(s):
  - 1. Membership: As a condition of employment, all eligible employees are required to participate in the Educational Retirement and Disability Plan for educational institutions in the state of New Mexico as administered by the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board (NM ERB). Certain employees may qualify to participate in an Alternative Retirement Plan (an optional defined-contribution plan). Eligible employees have a limited period of time from the date of hire to exercise this option. While the alternative retirement plan is distinct from the defined benefit plan (directly administered by the NM ERB), retirees under the alternative retirement plan are still considered NM ERB retirees. Details regarding this option are available by contacting the Office of Human Resource Services, or at the NM ERB Website. Employees who are not eligible to participate include the following:
    - a. NM ERB retirees who are re-employed under the NM ERB's Return to Work Exception and earn (per fiscal year) LESS THAN the greater of (i) \$15,000, or (ii) an amount equal to 0.25 FTE (i.e. 25% of the full-time equivalency) of annual salary of the position in which the retiree works after retirement;
    - b. All employees, whether retired or not, who work .25 FTE or less per fiscal year and have not chosen to work under the NM ERB's Return to Work Program;
    - c. All students enrolled in any public school, grades 1-12;
    - d. Student employees (including graduate assistants);

- e. All personnel of the Cooperative Extension Service who are on federal appointment are required to participate in the Federal Civil Service Retirement Program. This group consists of county extension agents, extension home economists, and state office (supervisory) personnel who have the option of exempting themselves from membership in the New Mexico Educational Retirement Plan. This option must be determined by the employee within the first 6 months of employment by the university, after which time the employee may not exempt themselves, but may revoke the exemption;
  - f. Public Employee Retirement Act (PERA) retirees who have not rescinded their PERA retirement.
  - g. Employees deemed exempt prior to July 1, 1971; however, such employees may revoke their exemption at any future date by completing the necessary forms.
- 2. Contributions and Withdrawals: Contributions are made according to the New Mexico Educational Retirement Act, and the NM ERB rules/regulations. Employees may withdraw their contributions upon termination of employment.
- 3. Request for Retirement and Options Elections: Approximately 3 months prior to the desired retirement date, the employee should contact the Office of Human Resource Services to complete appropriate retirement application forms. The NM ERB will send the employee information regarding benefits to be received. The Office of Human Resource Services will provide information explaining the benefits available after retirement.
- 4. NMSU Retiree Benefit Eligibility: An employee will be considered eligible for certain university retirement benefits if the following criteria are met: (The university reserves the right to unilaterally increase, decrease or discontinue all or any retiree benefits and/or charges associated with available benefits.):
  - a. An employee has at least 10 continuous years of service, in the status of regular employee at .5 FTE or more, without a break in service during the 10 years prior to the date of retirement, and receives NM ERB benefits immediately upon termination of employment;
  - b. An employee is eligible for retirement under NM ERB rules/regulations at the time of termination of employment at the university.
  - c. An employee of the Cooperative Extension Service must be eligible for and receive federal retirement.
- 5. Benefits Offered by NMSU to NMSU Retirees: The following is a list of the university-provided, nontransferable benefits available to eligible NMSU retirees, and if indicated (\*), to their spouse or domestic partner:
  - a. Discounted admission to various Music Department concerts, plays, Natatorium, Activity Center and Tennis Center\*
  - b. Discount Rates for Athletic Events (Season tickets only)\*
  - c. Discount Rates for the NMSU Golf Course\*
  - d. Receipt of university General Publications\*
  - e. Library privileges
  - f. Bookstore 10 Percent Discount (Some Exclusions Apply)\*
  - g. Parking Permit (Subject to fees, depending on date of retirement)
  - h. Remission of Tuition and Fees Up Through a Full Load of Classes (Spouse may enroll for one free course if the retiree is not enrolled\*)
  - i. Dependent Tuition Waiver
  - j. University E-mail Address
- F. Procedural Guidelines and Forms: Consistent with Regents Policy 1.10 and Rule 1.10, the Assistant Vice President for Human Resource Services may promulgate and post supplemental guidelines and/or required forms, to facilitate implementation, application or enforcement of this Rule.

## 7.27 - Re-Employment of NM ERB Retirees

- A. **Purpose:** To clarify the terms and conditions under which the New Mexico Educational Retirement Board (“NM ERB”) retirees may be re-employed by NMSU subsequent to retirement and how that re-employment may affect retirement benefits. This Rule is governed by NMSA 1978, § 22-11-25.1 and the NMERB’s Rules 2.82.5.15 and 2.82.2.11, which may be accessed at <http://www.nmcpr.state.nm.us/nmac/> [Note: from the New Mexico Administrative Code website, click as follows: “Browse Compilation”; Title 2 (Public Finance); Chapter 82 (Educational Retirement); 2.82.5 (Retirement Benefits); Rule 2.82.5.15 (Return to Work) and Rule 2.82.2.11 (Employees Excluded from Coverage)]. Retirees should also refer to the NM ERB’s website at [NMERB](#) for updates.
- B. **Scope:** This Rule applies throughout the NMSU System.
- C. **Rule Administrator:** The Assistant Vice President for Human Resource Services administers this Rule; however, it is the responsibility of each NM ERB retiree to individually coordinate with the NM ERB regarding ERB approval of eligibility for re-employment, as well as to monitor the employee’s compliance relating to earnings and FTE percentage in order to avoid or minimize any adverse impact to retirement benefits.
- D. **Definitions:**
1. “ARP” refers to the “Alternative Retirement Plan”, also sometimes referred to as the defined contribution plan, one of the two types of retirement plans administered by the ERB. *To avoid confusion between the acronym for the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU (also the “ARP”), this term (Alternative Retirement Plan) will be used in lieu of ARP.*
  2. “DCP” refers to the “Defined Contribution Plan”, one of the two types of retirement plans administered by the ERB, and sometimes referred to as the “Alternate Retirement Plan”.
  3. “DBP” refers to “Defined Benefit Plan”, one of the two types of retirement plans administered by the ERB.
  4. “FTE” refers to “full time equivalency”. FTE typically refers to the number of hours, days, classes, etc. required for a position to be considered full time. FTE may vary between positions and retirees should check with their department head to confirm what the FTE is for a particular position.
  5. “Fund” “Fund” refers to the Educational Retirement Fund.
  6. “LAU” refers to “local administrative unit” also known as an NM ERB covered institution and for purposes of this Rule typically means NMSU as the educational employer.
  7. “Layout” refers to the 12 month period in which the retired member must not have rendered service of any nature whatsoever to a local administrative unit (NM ERB covered institution). This includes all employment whether full time or part time, substitute teaching, performing duties as a volunteer, which would otherwise be, or in the past have been performed for the local administrative unit by a paid employee or independent contractor, services rendered as an independent contractor, or services as an employee of an independent contractor. The 12 month layout is a pre-requisite for participation in NM ERB’s Return to Work program.
  8. “NM ERA” refers to the state of New Mexico’s Educational Retirement Act, Sections 22-11-1 through 22-11-55, NMSA 1978.
  9. “NM ERB” refers to the state of New Mexico’s Educational Retirement Board, the statutorily authorized administrator of the NM ERA, which governs the retirement rights of eligible employees.
  10. “NM ERB Retiree” includes both defined benefit plan retirees and alternative retirement plan retirees.

E. Rule Statement(s): NM ERB retirees may be re-employed by NMSU consistent with New Mexico law and NM ERB rules and regulations, as they may be amended from time to time. In the event of a conflict between this Rule, and the NM ERA or NM ERB rules/regulations, the latter shall govern.

1. Return to Work Program: The New Mexico Return to Work Program permits qualified NM ERB retirees to return to work, without limitations being placed on annual earnings or on the FTE percentage.
  - a. For employees who retired *after* January 1, 2001:
    - i. The NM ERB retiree must not work for NMSU (or any other LAU) for 12 consecutive months; and
    - ii. Prior to the date of re-employment, the retiree/prospective employee must have submitted a notarized Return to Work application to the NM ERB, and have received NM ERB approval, verifying the retiree's eligibility to participate in the Return to Work program.
  - b. For employees who retired *before* January 1, 2001, and since that time have not voluntarily suspended their retirement benefits, or were not required to suspend their benefits (e.g. worked less than .25 FTE and/or earned less than \$15,000 per fiscal year):
    - i. The 12 consecutive month layout requirement does not apply; and
    - ii. Prior to the date of re-employment, the retiree/prospective employee must have submitted a notarized Return to Work application to ERB, and have received ERB approval, verifying the retiree's eligibility to participate in the Return to Work program.
  - c. For employees who retired *before* January 1, 2001, and since that time have voluntarily suspended their retirement benefits or were required to suspend their retirement benefits:
    - i. Retirees must have had a 12 consecutive month period in which they did not work for a NM ERB institution; and
    - ii. Retirees/prospective employees must not have rendered services in any capacity to a local administrative unit for an additional ninety (90) consecutive days prior to returning to employment under the Return to Work Program. The 90 day period shall not include any part of a summer, winter, or spring break period or vacation or sick leave.
    - iii. Prior to the date of re-employment, the retiree/prospective employee must have submitted a notarized Return to Work application to the NM ERB, and have received NM ERB approval, verifying the retiree's eligibility to participate in the Return to Work program.
2. No Service Time or Refundable Contributions:
  - a. Consistent with NMSA 1978, § 22-11-25.1 C., Return to Work Program retirees shall continue to receive retirement benefits, but shall not be entitled to acquire service credit, nor to acquire or purchase service credit in the future for the period of the retired member's reemployment.
  - b. Consistent with NMSA 1978, § 22-11-25.1 E., both the Return to Work retiree, and NMSU shall pay to the fund an amount equal to the amount of the member contributions that would have been required under NMSA 1978 § 22-11-21 if the re-employed member had been a non-retired employee. Contributions paid pursuant to this section shall not be refunded to the employer or to the employee.
3. Return to Work Exception: As described below, the NM ERB does not consider limited employment with an LAU to fall within the Return to Work Program.
  - a. ERB retirees, which includes both DBP and DCP retirees, may work for an LAU without satisfying the Return to Work Program requirements if the retiree earns **less than** the greater of (i) \$15,000 or (ii) an amount equal to 0.25 FTE (i.e., 25% of the full-time equivalency) of annual salary of the position in which the retiree will work after retirement (the "Return to Work Exception," a/k/a "Greater of 0.25 FTE or \$15,000 Return to Work Exception"). See Rule NMAC 2.82.2.11 (B). (The earnings limit is calculated on a fiscal year basis from July 1 to June 30). (Retirees working under the .25 FTE provision, whether from the Defined Benefit Plan or the Alternative Retirement Plan must be working **.25 or less** than a Full time

Equivalency.) A retiree who works under the Return to Work Exception is not required to apply for the Return to Work Program and will not have to pay member contributions. Time worked under the Return to Work Exception does not qualify for the 12 consecutive month break in service or layout required for the Return to Work Program. **If the retiree's earnings exceed \$15,000 or the retiree's workload exceeds 25% of what is considered full time employment, the retiree no longer is eligible for the exception and must return to active status and pay contributions (non-refundable) at the rates established for active members.** *See Also* Subsections E. 5. b. and c. below.

- b. As indicated above, Alternative Retirement Plan retirees may work for an LAU pursuant to the NM ERB's Return to Work Exception. Retired Alternative Retirement Plan participants who exceed the limitations of the Return to Work Exception will be required to pay contributions (non-refundable) at the rates established for active members as required by NMSA 1978 § 22-11-25.1 (E). *See Also* Executive Director's Policy Regarding Contributions By Retirees Working Pursuant to the Return to Work Program, [Return to Work Contribution](#). *See Also* Subsections E. 5. b. and c. below.
4. Consequences for Violation of NM Educational Retirement Law:
    - a. If a NM ERB retiree returns to employment without first completing twelve consecutive months of retirement or otherwise fails to complete other requirements for the Return to Work Program, the retiree's retirement benefits may be immediately suspended, and the retiree will also be required to pay the fund a sum equal to the retirement payments received while the retiree was ineligible, plus interest at the rate set by the Educational Retirement Board.
    - b. Retirees under the Alternative Retirement Program who return to work also must comply with the Return to Work Program or the Return to Work Program Exceptions. See Section 22-11-25.1 (E) NMSA 1978 of the Educational Retirement Act and all applicable NM ERB Return to Work rules, including Rule NMAC 2.82.5.15 and Rule NMAC 2.82.2.11 (B). *See Also* Executive Director's Policy, [Return to Work Contribution](#).
    - c. Before the retiree's monthly retirement benefits will be resumed, the retiree member must certify to the NM ERB that the retiree has ceased the employment that would violate the Return to Work rules.
    - d. If the retiree member desires to re-qualify for the Return to Work program, the retired member shall complete the required minimum break in service.
  5. Additional Requirements for Re-Employment of NM ERB Retirees:
    - a. Upon re-employment under the NM ERB Return to Work program, NM ERB retirees, which includes both DBP and DCP (Alternative Retirement Plan) retirees, shall provide to the Office of Human Resource Services, a copy of the approval granted by the NM ERB, finding the retiree eligible for participation in the Return to Work program.
    - b. Upon re-employment, and in accordance with the state's rule on the Return to Work exception, NM ERB retirees, which includes both DBP and DCP (Alternative Retirement Plan) retirees, shall be limited **to less than** the greater of (i.) \$15,000 or (ii) an amount equal to the 0.25 FTE (i.e., 25% of the full-time equivalency) in a fiscal year. **It shall be the responsibility of the retiree to ensure that the NM ERB Return to Work Exception limits are not exceeded; NMSU will not be responsible for any administrative consequences imposed by the NM ERB in the event that the limitations of the exception are exceeded.**
    - c. NM ERB retirees, which includes both DBP and DCP (Alternative Retirement Plan) retirees, who work for more than one local administrative unit covered by ERB are obligated to inform each employer about all NM ERB-covered jobs. The law requires the earnings of all NM ERB-covered jobs to be combined in the determination of whether the retiree complies with the Return to Work Exception limit on earnings and/or the 0.25 FTE. NM ERB retirees who earn more than the applicable limits or who work more than 25% of the full time equivalency (FTE), will be returned to active status in the Defined Benefit Plan, **even if the retiree originally retired under the Alternative Retirement Plan.** To avoid disruption in receipt of retirement benefits, the NM ERB retiree should ensure that the salary earned and the percentage FTE worked do not exceed the limits set by the NM ERB. *See* Subsection E. 5. b. above.
    - d. NM ERB retirees shall be subject to the same hiring policies and procedures as other

prospective applicants, if re-employed, including the competitive hiring process required for certain positions. However, NM ERB retirees returning to faculty positions may only be employed as college non-contract faculty.

- e. NM ERB retirees who are hired in a regular or non-regular term position will accrue the same number of annual leave days per fiscal year (prorated based on FTE) as regular employees. All earned annual leave must be used or forfeited by June 30th of every fiscal year. Retirees will not be paid any annual leave upon termination of employment with the university.

Rule Administrator:	HRS- Benefits
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 University Administrative Council recommended; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved; 06.27.16 Board of Regents approved change in Benefits. 10.21.15: Board of Regents approved Policy 7.15.05 as initial Rule 7.15.05. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.27:</b> 08.13.13 Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council; 08.19.13 Board of Regents approved. 06.11.13 Amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 06.20.13 Board of Regents approved. 10.22.07 Amendment ratified by Board of Regents.

### 7.30 - Social Security (FICA)

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13] (See also Rule [2.65 Social Security Numbers](#) and [2.90, University Records](#))*

University employees, except those with federal appointments or non-resident aliens with tax treaty exceptions, are covered by social security. Student and graduate student employees who maintain part-time enrollment are generally exempt from Social Security and Medicare tax under the IRS Student Exemption Regulation. Payment is made by monthly payroll deduction at a rate set by law, with a matching contribution by the university. (Current rates may be obtained from the Office of Human Resource Services.) Each applicant must possess a social security card in order to be employed. If an applicant does not have a social security card or requests the use of a name that is different in any way from the name on the card, it is the responsibility of the applicant to have the matter corrected at the nearest Social Security Administration Office.

### 7.34 - Tax Sheltered Annuities

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]*

The university provides voluntary tax sheltered annuities. This program allows all employees to exclude a portion of their salary, within certain limits, from their current taxable income by electing to have their employer invest an amount in retirement annuities. No employer contributions are made to the plan. The program is in addition to the New Mexico Educational Retirement Account, the New Mexico Alternative Retirement Program and 457 contributions. Employees may choose from a list of approved companies that offer Tax Sheltered Annuity programs for the university. Employees may also choose within the approved company which accounts they would like their contributions to be distributed to. Employees may elect participation in the tax sheltered annuity plans at any time during the year. Contributions end when an employee terminates employment, retires, completes a Salary Reduction Agreement canceling contributions or when contributions have exceeded annual maximums established by the Internal Revenue Service.

### 7.35 - Tickets (Athletic) for Faculty/Staff

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 10.09.12; approved by the Board of Regents 10.15.12] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13] (See [2.05 Athletics](#))*

The Athletics Department provides season tickets at reduced rates in reserved sections for football and basketball to university regular faculty and staff and non-regular employees in a term appointment. Each employee is eligible to purchase a maximum of six football and four basketball season tickets at reduced rates. The same privileges afforded the university employee shall be extended to official university retirees and their surviving spouses. All employee and retiree tickets are for the use of the member and family and

are not transferrable. The cost of tickets for retirees and their surviving spouse is 1/3 the highest cost ticket. Tickets are only issued on a season basis. Both employee and retiree tickets are subject to taxation.

#### **7.40 -Unemployment Compensation**

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.11.13; approved by the Board of Regents 06.20.13]*

- A. Unemployment compensation is paid for by the university on a self-insured basis.
- B. Former employees may file for unemployment benefits at a local employment office in any state.
  - 1. Student employees are not covered under unemployment compensation.
  - 2. Nine-month employees are not eligible during the off-employment period.
- C. When an employee has filed for benefits, the university is notified. This notification should be sent to the Office of Human Resource Services, but may be sent directly to the department. In this case, it should be sent immediately to the Office of Human Resource Services as the notification of filing must be answered within 5 days. The supervisor may be contacted to verify reasons for the employee no longer being employed.
- D. All claims will be reviewed and contested by the university on a selective basis if the stated reason for no longer being employed is other than a layoff or temporary status (discharged through no fault of the employee) and no penalty has been assessed.
- E. Payment of benefits is determined by the Department of Labor.

#### **7.41 - United Fund Contribution**

Annually, in the fall, the university participates in the United Fund campaign drive. The purpose of this program is to afford the university's employees (regular employees only) an opportunity to participate, either by cash contribution or payroll deduction, at one time and not be subjected to multiple solicitations throughout the year.

#### **7.42 - United States Savings Bonds**

A regular employee may participate in the savings bond payroll deduction program. Enrollment is optional and forms must be completed and returned to the Office of Human Resource Services. (See the Office of Human Resource Services for more information.)

#### **7.45 - Workers' Compensation Benefits and Other Assistance**

##### **PART 1: PURPOSE**

This Rule explains the workers' compensation benefits made available by state law and the university assistance available to eligible employees as they transition back to work. It also explains the distinct roles and responsibilities of the injured worker, supervisory and management personnel, and the university's Worker's Compensation Specialist, as they relate to requirements of the New Mexico's State Risk Management, Workers Compensation Division. The Rule also clarifies what happens in the event an employee is not able to return to work and perform the essential functions of the job, as well as clarifies that retaliation against a person who has utilized this benefit is prohibited.

##### **PART 2: DEFINITIONS**

- A. Compensable Injury or Illness: Compensable Injury or Illness means an on the job injury or illness compensable under the N.M. Workers' Compensation Act.
- B. MMI: MMI means the maximum medical improvement reasonably medically expected to occur after a compensable injury or illness.



- C. Modified Duty Assignment: Modified Duty Assignment is a temporary assignment to modified job duties that the employee is qualified to perform, to accommodate temporary medical restrictions caused by a compensable injury or illness and is intended to help transition the employee back to work.
- D. Qualified Employee: Qualified Employee is any NMSU employee temporarily unable to perform the duties of the employee's current job classification as a result of a compensable injury or illness, and typically who has not yet reached MMI.

### **PART 3: WORKERS' COMPENSATION BENEFITS, GENERALLY**

- A. Benefits Payable: The benefits payable to an employee with a compensable injury or illness include payment for medical, surgical, and drug expenses, as well as weekly compensation after the first seven (7) days of disability or the first 40 hours of work. If the period of injury or illness lasts for more than four (4) weeks from the date of injury, compensation benefits will be allowed from that initial accident date.
- B. Combined Workers Compensation and Accrued Leave Benefits: Employees may offset their weekly workers' compensation benefit with their sick/annual leave. Total compensation, to include annual/sick leave and workers' compensation benefits, may not exceed the employee's regular rate of pay.
- C. Maximum Leave of Absence Period: The university will place the employee on paid leave or leave without pay, as appropriate, during the period the employee is receiving payment from the Workers' Compensation carrier up to a maximum of one (1) year. The department may fill the position with a temporary employee, and is not required to hold the original position open permanently.
- D. Continuing Benefits After All Leaves Exhausted: Once all accrued paid leaves have been exhausted, an injured employee unable to return to work may retain health and other insurances offered through NMSU by paying the total insurance premium(s) due, in accordance with HRS Rules governing Benefits. *See* Benefits Rules in the ARP, Chapter 7 or call 575-646-8000.
- E. Consequences after One Year Leave of Absence or after three Months from reaching MMI: The options available to the injured employee after one year, or after 3 months, if the employee has reached maximum medical improvement, are the following:
  - 1. The employee may accept employment in a position for which the employee is qualified and able to perform the essential job functions, if a position is available.
  - 2. The employee may retire, if qualified, under the rules of the Educational Retirement Board.
  - 3. The employee may resign or be separated from service in accordance with the university's procedures when an employee is not able to perform the essential functions of the job. In the event an involuntary separation from service is proposed, the university will notify the NM Risk Management Division, Workers Compensation Department before proposing such action to the employee.

### **PART 4: WORKERS COMPENSATION CLAIMS PROCESSING**

- A. Employee Reports any On-The-Job Accident, Injury or Occupational Disease: The employee must report all on-the-job accidents, injuries or exposures immediately to the employee's supervisor by completing and submitting the [Notice of Accident or Occupational Disease Disablement Form](#), whether or not medical care seems to be needed.
- B. Supervisor or Workers Compensation Specialist Completes First Report of Injury or Illness: The employee's supervisor/or workers compensation specialist will complete the [Employer's First Report of Injury or Illness Form](#).
- C. Injured or Ill Employee Completes Medical Release: The employee will complete an Authorization to Release Medical Information and a Claims Explanation Form when the injury requires any form of medical treatment.



- D. Supervisor Completes Required Forms: The employee's supervisor must ensure the [Employer's First Report of Injury or Illness Form](#) is completed and sent to the workers compensation specialist within 24 hours of the injury or illness, or as soon as practicable under the circumstances. The supervisor most immediately responsible for the operation must complete the [NMSU Supervisor Accident Investigation Report or equivalent](#), whether or not medical care is rendered. The investigation shall be initiated as soon as possible, but within two working days. A copy of the investigative report shall be furnished to the investigator's immediate supervisor for signature and then submitted to Environmental Health and Safety.
- E. Benefits in Event of Missed Work: When an employee is injured, the employee will be placed on sick leave or leave without pay if the injury is severe enough to cause a loss of work time. Pursuant to university rules, which are subject to change by the Board of Regents, sick leave is not required to be taken to visit the Campus Health Center (CHC), nor for the day of injury. Sick or other available accrued leave will be charged for all off-campus doctor visits and/or physical therapy. Leaves continue to accrue as long as the employee is on leave and receiving a paycheck.
- F. Payment of Workers Compensation Benefits: New Mexico Risk Management will send the Worker's Compensation checks to the injured worker unless otherwise instructed by the Workers Compensation Specialist. The employee will retain the compensation check, which is sixty six and two thirds percent (66.6%) of the weekly wage at time of injury.
- G. Investigative Follow Up Required: Regardless of whether the injury or illness required medical care, supervisors must gather the facts relating to accident or incident as soon as possible, and generally should be within three business days. The [NMSU Supervisor Accident Investigation Report](#) form should be utilized and routed through the next level supervisor or Department Head to Environmental Health and Safety. Environmental Health and Safety will evaluate the adequacy of the actions taken to avoid reoccurrence of loss within thirty days from receipt. When a more complex investigation will be required due to the nature or severity of the incident, the personnel investigating or the timelines may be extended by the Executive Director of Environmental Health and Safety in consultation with the Office of General Counsel.

#### **PART 5: RETURN TO WORK; MODIFIED DUTY PROGRAM; REASONABLE ACCOMMODATION; AND INVOLUNTARY SEPARATION**

- A. Temporary Assignment to Modified Work Duties: The university will assist qualified employees as they transition back into the workforce by providing a modified duty assignment for a temporary period as may be feasible. Modified duty assignments may require job duties outside the employee's usual job description or work unit. This authorization to assign employees to modified job duties does not require nor authorize the creation of a distinct job classification. Assignment to modify duty assignment will be done in coordination with the university's Workers Compensation Specialist to ensure that sound claims management procedures have been accomplished, and that legal mandates have been met. Vacant positions resulting from job related injuries or illnesses shall not be filled, except by temporary employment unless one of the two following situations exists:
1. If there is a documented medical diagnosis or evidence that an employee with a job-related injury or illness has reached maximum medical improvement or that the employee's impairment or condition is permanent and that the employee cannot perform the essential functions of the particular job. *No employee will be terminated from employment because of a job-related injury or illness or physical circumstances resulting from a job-related injury or illness unless the university has provided advance notice to the state risk management division.*
  2. If there is a critical need and that need cannot be satisfied with temporary employment, and the employer has made a "good faith" effort to do so.
- B. Determination of Availability of Modified Work Assignment within Home Department or Home Division: The modified duty assignment will be determined by way of a coordinated effort between the Workers Compensation Specialist, the employee's immediate supervisor, and the Dean, Vice President or equivalent or designee.

- C. Determination of Availability of Modified Work Assignment Within NMSU System: If there is no modified duty opportunity within the home department or home division, the Workers Compensation Specialist will coordinate with the appropriate personnel in the offices of Human Resource Services and Institutional Equity to ascertain whether or not a modified duty assignment or other reasonable accommodation is available outside the division, within the university system under the ADA Petition for Accommodation process.
- D. Position Funding: The home department and/or division is responsible for continuing to fund the injured or ill employee's job position while the employee is assigned to temporary modified duty, unless otherwise arranged by authorized university personnel.
- E. Length of Modified Duty Assignment: Modified duty assignments generally will be of less than ninety (90) days duration, but may be extended with the approval of the university's Workers' Compensation Specialist, with concurrence of the appropriate supervisor and vice president, dean or equivalent administrator. The fact that the university has provided a temporary assignment to modified job duties should not be construed as reasonable for purposes of a permanent accommodation under the ADA accommodation process.
- F. Consequences for Declination of Offer of Modified Duty Assignment or Other Lack of Cooperation: An employee who declines an offer of a modified duty assignment or otherwise fails to cooperate with reasonable requests or directives relating to the university's efforts to accommodate the injury and assist the worker in transitioning back to work, may result in a loss of workers compensation benefits or in involuntary separation from employment based on inability to perform the essential functions of the job, in accordance with the university's rules and subject to the requirement to provide advance notification to the New Mexico State Risk Management Division, Workers Compensation Division. *See* Part 4, H. 1. above.

## **PART 6: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. Employee Responsibilities: Employees subject to this rule shall:
1. Demonstrate ethical and honest conduct with regard to a workers compensation claim and benefits, including following all procedures and complying with all reasonable requests and directives from NMSU officials.
  2. Follow all medical advice and treatment prescribed by the employee's medical providers.
  3. Return to full time employment at the expiration of the period for the modified duty assignment period, provided that the medical documentation supports a finding that the employee's condition will permit the employee to perform the essential functions of the job, with or without reasonable accommodation.
  4. If the employee is not medically expected to be able to perform the essential functions of the job held prior to the compensable injury or illness, the employee may at any time seek assistance from the Office of Institutional Equity to discuss options for a reasonable accommodation.
- B. Employer Responsibilities: The employer NMSU entity of the injured or ill employee shall:
1. Coordinate with the employee, the university's workers' compensation specialist, the employee's health care provider and/or assigned Workers Compensation adjuster, in consultation with the Office of Human Resource Services, as necessary, to identify a suitable modified duty assignment.
  2. Protect the privacy of the injured employee, including maintenance of confidentiality of any medical information and documentation.
  3. The employee's supervisor will ensure that the employee's leave records are computed accurately based on the amount of compensation paid, and will reconcile all leave records with the university's Workers' Compensation Specialist.

4. Refrain from any action or failure to act that reasonably could be construed as retaliation against an employee who avails themselves of the workers compensation benefits provided by the university through the State. Also, any university supervisor or manager who reasonable suspects retaliation shall report it immediately to the university's Worker's Compensation Specialist.
  5. Communicate to and cooperate with the university's Workers Compensation Specialist about all issues pertaining to employees who receive workers compensation benefits, including but not limited to monitoring the work performance of the employee assigned to modified duty to determine the continuing need for modified job duties.
  6. With the approval of the university's Workers' Compensation Specialist and concurrence from the appropriate vice president, dean or equivalent administrator, the supervisor may extend the modified duty assignment by thirty (30) calendar days, or until next medical follow-up appointment, provided modified duty remains available.
- C. Responsibilities of the Office of Workers' Compensation Specialist: The Office of Workers' Compensation Specialist shall:
1. Serve as a coordinator between the NMSU entities, the injured or ill employee, and the state workers' compensation insurance pool with regard to compensation, medical care, available modified duty assignments and return to work issues.
  2. Protect the privacy of the injured employee, including maintenance of confidentiality of any medical information and documentation, sharing only with authorized university and NM State Risk Management personnel.
  3. Assist the employee qualified to return to work or modified duty with issues arising during the transition back to the work force, as well as with other issues such as including coordination with the employee's supervisor regarding the amount of leave charged to supplement the employee's paycheck, as well as the amount that may continue to accrue.
  4. If at the end of the modified duty assignment and/or at upon the employee reaching MMI, if the employee cannot perform all functions of the regular job, the workers' compensation benefits specialist will refer the employee to the Office of Institutional Equity for assistance with regard to filing for a reasonable accommodation under the ADA Petition for Accommodation process.
  5. In the event of a report of suspected retaliation against an employee who is accessing workers compensation benefits, shall immediately report to the Assistant Vice President of Human Resource Services for investigation and corrective action, as may be appropriate.

Rule Administrator:	Office of Workers' Compensation Specialist
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	08.09.16 UAC recommended approval; 08.09.16 Chancellor approved. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 7.45 as initial Rule 7.45. <b><i>Prior Revision History as Policy 7.45:</i></b> 12.13.11 amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 01.30.12 approved by Board of Regents. 10.22.07 amendments approved by Board of Regents.

## **Chapter 8**

### **Human Resources-Staff**

- 8.05 Area/Shift Differentials
- 8.10 Career Development/Apprenticeship Training
- 8.15 Compensation
  - 8.15.05 Multi-lingual Pay
  - 8.15.10 Employee Recognition Program
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  - 8.20.05 On-call Pay
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- 8.25 Consulting (Exempt Staff)
- 8.30 Disciplinary Action/Involuntary Termination
- 8.40 Hiring
- 8.50 Staff Performance Evaluation/Probationary Period
- 8.55 Promotion and Reclassification (Exempt and Nonexempt Staff)
- 8.60 Resignations
- 8.70 Transfers
- 8.75 Workweek

## 8.05 - Area/Shift Differentials

- A. Shift Differential Pay (Nonexempt): Work schedules are divided into three, 8-hour shifts in any 24-hour work day. Normally, the daytime shift receives the base rate of pay; the second shift (swing) receives a \$.10 per hour pay differential; the third shift (graveyard) receives a \$.40 per hour pay differential. Any granting of differentials other than those specified must have specific approval of the Office of Human Resource Services. Payment is reported on Form 302 for employees rotating shifts. A Personnel Action Form is used for non-rotating shift employees. The comment section of the Personnel Action Form should note the base salary and shift differential separately. In order to be eligible for a shift differential, an employee's normal work schedule must extend more than 3 hours into the swing or graveyard shift. An employee is eligible for shift differential pay only for those hours extending into the swing or graveyard shift.
- B. Area Differential Pay: Occasionally, employees are sent on temporary duty to locations outside their normal work area. When the cost of temporary lodging and food exceeds the normal per diem rate, the supervisor may request a temporary adjustment to the employee's base pay during the absence to compensate for this loss. Such requests should be submitted to the Office of Human Resource Services. Adjustments in the in-hire rate for nonexempt employees to a rate above the entry rate to compensate for areas or positions in which the university's entry level salary is not competitive may be considered by the Office of Human Resource Services.

## 8.10 -Career Development/Apprenticeship Training

- A. Creation of Trainee Position: When qualified applicants are not available to fill a position, or the employing department desires to establish a trainee position, the director/department head, (in cooperation with the Office of Human Resource Services) may develop a job development program that will provide an opportunity for the individual to become qualified for a position. Normally, the salary schedule for the trainee will not be less than 80 percent of the minimum non-probationary salary for the position and will provide for periodic incremental increases.
- B. Apprenticeship Training (Applicable to recognized apprenticeship programs only): Apprenticeship programs may be submitted for approval by the Office of Human Resource Services.
- C. Preference in Hiring: Apprentices who have satisfactorily completed the training may be promoted to the first available position for which they are qualified without competitive advertising with prior approval by the Office of Human Resource Services. All apprentices assigned to the university through federal, state, or local programs may be placed on temporary employment status. Prior to the end of the employment period, the employee will receive a performance evaluation report and either be terminated or granted a regular appointment.

## 8.15 - Compensation Policies

*[Amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 12.13.11; approved by the Board of Regents 01.30.12]*

- A. Salary Schedule:
1. **Exempt Employees**: Entry salary for exempt employees is determined in accordance with the exempt salary schedule by direct negotiation between the employee and the supervisor with prior approval of the appropriate dean, director, vice president, or executive vice president and provost and the Office of Human Resource Services.
  2. **Nonexempt Employees**: New employees are normally hired at entry level of the appropriate grade. With justification and prior approval appropriate dean, director, vice president, or executive vice president and provost and the Office of Human Resource Services, certain applicants may be hired at 5 percent or 10 percent above the entry level dependent upon experience. Employees hired above entry level are not eligible for an end of probation increase. Adjustments may be made to the in-hire rate for positions or in areas that require a higher rate to be set competitive with the local market. (See [8.05 \(B\) Area Differential](#).) The salaries of all employees occupying nonexempt

positions are based on the grade as set by the current salary schedule and the university job classification specification. No employee shall be paid less than the minimum for his or her grade in the salary schedule. Classification specifications are standardized descriptions of the characteristics, duties, and minimum qualifications for a group of positions. The qualifications statement in each classification specification establishes minimum requirements that are to be met by an individual before being considered for appointment or promotion. Combinations of education and experience are specified in the classification specification. Other combinations, if deemed equivalent by the Office of Human Resource Services, may qualify an individual for appointment or promotion. Employees may be required by their supervisor to perform duties outside the general skill level of their classification specification on a temporary basis. A supervisor who determines that the standard classification specification does not accurately describe a position should initiate reclassification action ([See 8.55 Promotion and Reclassification](#)).

3. **Temporary Nonexempt Employees:** A temporary employee is normally hired at the entry level of the appropriate grade and remains at the in-hire rate unless the salary schedule changes. If the salary-scale changes, the salary is adjusted in accordance with the new scale. If the salary scale does not change, the employee may be awarded the appropriate base adjustment. Temporary employees are paid on an hourly basis. The E-Hire Form must specify a termination date that does not exceed 12 months. Temporary employees are not eligible for insurance coverage, benefits or holiday pay. The Notice of Employee Separation Form, employment application/resume, and I-9 Form accompany the appointing E-Hire Form, attached to the transmittal form.
  4. **Temporary Exempt Employees:** Compensation is in accordance with the exempt salary schedule and may be negotiated between supervisor and employee with prior approval of the Office of Human Resource Services and/or the executive vice president and provost. The supervisor makes salary recommendations at the time the position is requested. ([See 8.20 Comp Time/Overtime](#)) Exempt temporary employees are not eligible for insurance coverages, benefits or holiday pay. The appointing E-Hire Form must specify a termination date not to exceed 12 months and should contain a brief explanation of the work to be performed and salary calculation. The Notice of Employee Separation Form, resume and I-9 Form should accompany the E-Hire Form, attached to the transmittal form.
- B. **Wage Increases For Nonexempt Employees:** Nonexempt employees shall receive a 5% wage increase effective on July 1, 2007; an additional 5% wage increase effective on July 1, 2008; and an additional 5% wage increase effective July 1, 2009. Except as otherwise provided by legislative appropriation, wage increases shall be administered each year as follows:
1. All eligible employees whose base salary is less than \$30,000 prior to the increase shall receive a full 5% wage increase.
  2. For eligible employees whose base salary is \$30,000 or more prior to the increase, a percentage of the wage increase – 90% in 2007, 70% in 2008, and 70% in 2009 – shall be added to each eligible employee's salary as a cost of living base adjustment. Organizational units shall be allocated a block of funds for the remaining percentage of the wage increase – 10% in 2007, 30% in 2008, and 30% in 2009 – for performance adjustments to such eligible employees, to be distributed at the unit's discretion as justified by performance evaluation ratings.
  3. The following employees shall not be eligible for any wage increase:
    - a. employees hired after the preceding March 31.
  4. The following employees shall not be eligible for a performance adjustment:
    - a. employees hired after the preceding January 1;
    - b. employees on Long Term Disability (LTD) or Leave Without Pay (LWOP) status for six (6) months or more during the preceding review period;
    - c. employees with a "needs improvement" or "unsatisfactory" overall performance rating on the preceding performance evaluation.

5. All wage increases are contingent upon the specific appropriation of funds by the Legislature for such increases, which shall be implemented if the specific appropriations are granted.
- C. Salary Adjustments for Exempt Employees: Salary adjustments and period of assignment will be approved on an individual basis by the Office of Human Resource Services and the executive vice president and provost. Adjustments will be in accordance with the promotion Rule outlined below.
- D. Temporary Assignment to a Position of Another Level:
1. Higher classification: An employee who is temporarily assigned to a higher position for a period in excess of 1 calendar month may be assigned a salary in the higher grade in accordance with the rules for promotion (*See [8.55 Rate of Pay for Promotion](#)*) from the first day of the assignment. To be assigned to the grade, the employee must meet minimum qualifications for the position. If there are no qualified employees, the duties will be reassigned to other employees.
  2. Lower or lateral classification: The employee will not receive any adjustment in pay.
  3. Temporary assignments: Temporary assignments will not normally exceed 1 calendar year.
- E. Rate of Pay on Demotion (Voluntary or Involuntary):
1. Nonexempt Employees: When a nonexempt employee is demoted or accepts a position at a lower grade level, a salary rate will be received in the lower salary range that is 5 percent above the entrance level; or the following percentage decrease, whichever is less of a reduction:
    - a. 5 percent if the demotion is one grade.
    - b. 8 percent if two or three grades.
    - c. 15 percent if four grades.
    - d. 5 percent per grade thereafter.
  2. Exempt Employees: Recommendations for exempt salary rates should be submitted to the Office of Human Resource Services for approval by the executive vice president and provost.
- F. Rate of Pay on Voluntary Lateral Transfer to the Same Grade: Whenever an employee makes a lateral transfer, there is normally no change in salary.
- G. Rate of Pay for Promotion, Equity or Base Adjustment:
1. Nonexempt Employees (Non-probationary): The new base salary for nonexempt employees on a promotion will be:
    - a. 5 percent if promotion is one grade.
    - b. 8 percent if two or three grades.
    - c. 15 percent if four or more grades.
    - d. 5 percent above entry level of new grade, whichever is greater.
  2. Exempt Employees: Exempt employees may receive an internal promotion, equity or base adjustment salary increase of from 0 to 15 percent or to entry of the new salary level with prior approval of the executive vice president and provost. Internal promotions should not normally exceed a two-level increase. Equity adjustments may be considered dependent upon availability of funding for exempt employees. Internal and external market comparisons are reviewed when considering equity adjustment requests.
  3. Nonexempt to Exempt: A nonexempt employee being internally promoted to an exempt position may receive a salary increase of from 0 to 15 percent or to entry of the new salary level with prior approval of the Office of Human Resource Services and the executive vice president and provost.

H. Rate of Pay on Reclassification (Non-probationary):

1. Nonexempt Employees:

a. The new base salary on reclassification to a higher grade will be:

- i. 5 percent, if one to three grades;
- ii. 10 percent, if four or more grades;
- iii. up to 15 percent, if from nonexempt to exempt; or
- iv. 5 percent above entry level of new grade, whichever is greater.

b. A nonexempt employee reclassified to an exempt position may receive a salary increase of from 0 to 15 percent or entry of the exempt level with approval of the Office of Human Resource Services and the executive vice president and provost. Reclassification to the same grade level will not affect the salary. An adjustment in classification by the Office of Human Resource Services which results in change of grade or elimination of title may or may not result in a salary change. Decisions regarding such changes will be made on a case-by-case basis.

2. Exempt Employees: Exempt employees may receive a salary increase of 0 to 15 percent or to entry of the new salary level with prior approval of the executive vice president and provost. Reclassifications will not normally exceed two levels.

I. End of Probation Salary Adjustment (Nonexempt Regular Employees Only): Upon satisfactory completion of the initial probationary period, a new nonexempt employee may receive a 5 percent salary increase. Employees hired above the entry level will not receive an increase. Supervisors complete a Personnel Action Form and performance evaluation to implement the change from probationary to regular status. The salary increase will be effective 6 months following the employee's employment date or upon completion of the probationary period.

J. Retroactive Pay Adjustment: Retroactive payment may be made back to the day of the calendar month in which the general pay adjustment was approved. Example: an employee was granted a pay adjustment effective April 26 but, due to an error, the proper amount was not paid. The error was discovered on June 15. The retroactive adjustment may be made back to April 26, the date the adjustment was approved. Salary adjustments may not pass beyond fiscal year dates without specific approval of the assistant vice president for human resource services. If an employee is overpaid due to an administrative error, the employee will be responsible for reimbursing the university the total overpayment.

K. Meal Periods - Rest Breaks: A normal work day shall consist of 8 hours of work with a minimum of one-half hour and a maximum of 1 hour of non-work time granted for a meal period. Periods of less than 1 hour meal time and specific eating on the job arrangements must be approved by the department head or director. A 15-minute break period is allowed during each 4-hour work period. Non usage of break periods may not be used to make up time spent away from work. Break times cannot be accumulated.

L. Three-Year Longevity Increase: Nonexempt employees who satisfactorily complete their initial 3 consecutive years of service will be awarded a 5 percent increase effective on the employee's anniversary date. Temporary or occasional employees are not eligible for the 3-year service award. Prior service with a break in employment in excess of 5 working days is not credited toward the 3 years of service. Leave without pay will not be included as service time.

M. Service Increase: Regular nonexempt employees may be awarded a service increase upon satisfactory completion of 10, 15, 20, 25 and 30 years of regular consecutive service. The increase will be effective on the first day of the month after the anniversary date (i.e.; if the anniversary date is January 13, the award will be effective February 1). The increase will be \$750 after 10 years; \$850 after 15 years; \$1,000 after 20 years; \$1,300 after 25 years; and \$1,500 after 30 years to be prorated for less than full



time employees). The increase may not be retroactive and will be subject to satisfactory performance as documented on the performance evaluation form.

- N. Daily Maximum Hours of Employment: No employees, other than fire fighters, law enforcement officers, dispatchers, or farm or ranch hands, whose duties require them to work longer hours, or employees primarily in a standby position shall normally be required to work more than 16 hours in any 24-hour period, except in emergency or special situations.
- O. Deductions from Pay: Improper deductions from an employee's pay are prohibited. Full day suspensions without pay are allowed for exempt employees. Suspensions must be related to conduct. Supervisors must obtain prior approval from the appropriate dean or vice president/vice provost and the assistant vice president for human resource services. An exempt employee's pay can be docked for a voluntary day off if leave is unavailable to cover the time. Refer to FMLA Rule [7.20.45 Leaves - Family and Medical](#) for allowable partial day docking. (See Rule [8.30 Disciplinary Action/Involuntary Termination](#) and Rule [4.05.11 Appeals/Grievances](#))

### **8.15.05 Multi-lingual Pay**

*[Amendment approved by the Board of Regents 10.22.07]*

In facilities or offices where the employer deems it necessary to have on staff multi-lingual employees to facilitate communications with members of the public, and employees on staff assigned to the facility are available and capable of fulfilling such need, the university may designate a sufficient number of employees in the assigned work force to perform such duties and such employees shall be entitled to a differential in the amount of \$.10 per hour

### **8.15.10 Employee Recognition Program**

*[Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 07.08.08; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08]*

- A. Rule Statement: New Mexico State University recognizes the most important and valuable asset any organization has is its employees. In appreciation for the dedication and accomplishments of staff members, the Employee Recognition Program (ERP) is established to reward and recognize those who demonstrate the professionalism and behaviors consistent with the mission of NMSU and to celebrate achievements that have an exceptional impact on the organization. Departments, colleges and divisions are encourage to develop their own programs to complement established university -level\* programs.

This program is exclusive of merit/performance adjustments provided during the annual salary process.

\* Established University - Level Employee Recognition Programs:

- Patricia Christmore Faculty Teaching Award
- Fort Bliss Federal Credit Union Award
- Ralph B. Crouch Award
- Donald Roush Award
- Robert L. Westhafer Award
- Frank Bromilow Staff and Teaching Awards
- University Research Council Award
- Stephen W. and Robert E. Roberts Memorial Staff Award
- Dr. Dennis Darnall Award
- El Paso Energy Award

Additional university-level Employee Recognition Programs may be developed by the Office of Human Resource Services with approval by executive administration. Programs will be designed to recognize exceptional accomplishments for faculty and staff subject to specific achievement within specified criteria directly attributable to faculty and staff members.

To ensure fairness and equity, all ERP's must include an application and/or nomination/

recommendation process, defined selection criteria and a process which includes the review and recommendation of a group or a committee. If a donor serves on the committee for which his/her donation is under consideration, the donor must be in the minority of the representation on the committee in order to avoid tax consequences.

All employees must have an equal opportunity to compete for bonuses and awards based on the eligibility criteria of an approved program. The Office of Human Resources will review and approve all departmental ERP's, with the exception of awards provided from donated funds. Because of the university's status as a public employer, tax issues and state regulations, rewards are defined as either a **bonus** or an **award**.

Exceptions to the following guidelines must be approved by the Office of the Executive Vice President and Provost.

B. Bonus: A bonus is defined as recognition for exceptional performance of duties and responsibilities above and beyond the normal scope of an employee's assigned duties and responsibilities. A bonus is a one-time payment that is paid from instruction and general (I&G) finds, state appropriations and/or any appropriate restricted or unrestricted funding source. The following guidelines apply to departmental bonus programs:

1. A minimum of \$100.00 (net) up to a maximum of \$500.00 (net) may be provided for any individual payment.
2. More than one recipient per department and/or division may receive a bonus depending upon the availability of funding and eligibility.
3. Bonuses paid from restricted/unrestricted funds must comply with the granting agency guidelines.
4. Applicable taxes will be deducted from the gross amount.
5. Bonuses will be processed using a One Time Payment Request.

C. Award: An award is recognition of an exceptional achievement, work ethic and/or service which significantly contributes to an organizational unit. Awards may be paid from any appropriate restricted or unrestricted funding source and/or donated funds. The following guidelines apply to departmental bonus programs:

1. There are no dollar restrictions for awards provided from donated funds.
2. A minimum of \$100.00 (net) up to a maximum of \$500.00 (net) may be provided for any individual recipient of an award paid from restricted/unrestricted funds.
3. More than one recipient per department and/or division may receive an award depending upon the availability of funding and eligibility.
4. Awards paid from restricted/unrestricted funds must comply with the granting agency guidelines.
5. To avoid the appearance of a conflict of interest, services or merchandise (or certificates for such) from vendors or other non-university businesses shall not be solicited or accepted as donations by departments for use as awards. As state employees are not entitled to receive gifts, certificates for such awards shall be called "award certificates".
6. If donated funds are the source of an award, the Office of University Advancement must be consulted prior to the presentation of the award.
7. Awards paid from restricted/unrestricted funds and donated funds are taxable and are processed through a One Time Payment Request.

NMSU encourages nomination of faculty and staff for external (non-NMSU) awards. These awards are subject to the granting agency's criteria and guidelines and will not require a central office review.

### **8.15.15 Hardship Differential Pay**

*[Policy approved by the Administrative Council 07.11.06; policy adoption ratified by the Board of Regents 09.08.06]*

A. Rule Statement: Hardship differential pay is extra compensation occasionally paid to employees assigned to work for a fixed period of time on a specific project to meet an objective, and under extraordinary working conditions.

B. Procedural Guidance:

1. Management should attempt to schedule staff and faculty such that excessive overtime and hardship to the employee is avoided; the hardship differential pay addresses those situations where this cannot be avoided.
2. Extraordinary working conditions include situations when the employee is required to work an inordinate number of hours beyond the normal forty (40) hour work week, or to work under unusually risky and/or hazardous conditions, or to work away from home through a holiday. Such working conditions should not be the norm, and payment of extra compensation is justified due to the significant hardship placed on the employee during the period of time necessary to meet the work objective.
3. In order to receive hardship differential pay, the appropriate dean, vice president or designee and the Office of Human Resource Services must approve it in writing.
4. The amount of the hardship differential pay will be a differential over and above the employee's regular salary, to be paid for the duration of the project.
  - a. Hardship differential pay will be included in the calculation of overtime compensation for nonexempt employees.
  - b. The differential for exempt and faculty employees shall not exceed their regular base rate of pay.

### **8.20 - Compensatory Time, Overtime, and Holiday Pay** (See also [Chapter 4-Hiring-Definitions-Employees Exempt](#))

*[Amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 10.22.07]*

- A. Employees Exempt from Overtime: Any individual employed in a bona fide executive, administrative, or exempt capacity, as defined by the Fair Labor Standards Act, may be exempted from compensatory time or payment of overtime. Employees so exempted shall be termed exempt. All other categories will be termed nonexempt. Exempt/nonexempt status will be determined by a review of the specific description of duties for the position in question. Positions having like classifications may receive different exempt/nonexempt classifications based on the specific duties and responsibilities required. The Office of Human Resource Services may be contacted for information regarding exempt/nonexempt status on any position.
- B. Overtime Administration: A director/department head may prescribe reasonable periods of overtime work to meet the needs of an operation. A nonexempt employee may only work more than 40 hours a week after having obtained prior approval or instructions from the appropriate supervisor. Complete records of overtime for employees will be maintained in each department or office.
- C. Overtime Payment: Nonexempt employees as defined by the Fair Labor Standards Act (See [Chapter 4 Human Resources - General - Hiring Definitions](#)) are eligible to be compensated or given compensatory time for overtime. Upon election by the employee, overtime work may be compensated in the form of overtime pay or compensatory time off. Normally, employees who are eligible for payment of overtime will not work in excess of a 40-hour week. To prevent a backlog, workloads should be adjusted by determining needs sufficiently in advance so that temporary help may be hired. The university has no

contractual obligation to pay overtime or approve compensatory time. If it becomes necessary for nonexempt employees to work more than 40 hours in a week, the following will apply:

1. All regular, non-exempt, employees shall be paid for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours during a work week at the employee's regular rate of pay and at an additional 0.5 times for the overtime hours worked or be paid for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours during a work week at the employee's rate of pay and earn comp time at an additional 0.5 times the overtime hours worked.
  2. When regular, part-time, employees are required to work more than their normal scheduled hours, but less than 40 hours per week, they will be paid for additional hours (at straight time rates) up to a total of 40 hours in a work week. All time worked in excess of 40 hours is subject to the provisions in #1 above.
  3. When temporary employees are required to work more than their normal scheduled hours, but less than 40 hours per week, they will be paid for additional hours (at straight time rates) up to a total of 40 hours in a work week. All time worked in excess of 40 hours shall be paid at the employee's rate of pay and at an additional 0.5 times the overtime hours worked.
- D. Holiday Pay: Any nonexempt employee required to work on one of the official holidays and who does not receive a day off in lieu of the holiday, may be compensated at one and a half times the regular hourly rate in addition to the holiday pay regardless of the number of hours actually worked during the normal work week. If compensatory time, in lieu of payment, is granted for work performed on a holiday, it shall be granted at the rate of one and one half times the number of hours worked regardless of the number of hours actually worked during the normal work week. An employee whose normal work schedule does not include a day designated as an official university holiday may receive a day off in lieu of the holiday during the same work week in which the holiday falls. Payment for a holiday, annual leave, sick leave, administrative leave, compensatory time, or compassionate leave will be considered as hours worked only during a work week in which an official university holiday occurs. Otherwise, in order to be paid at the overtime rate, actual hours worked must be in excess of 40 hours for an employee's work week. If holiday hours and actual hours worked exceed 40 hours in a workweek, calculation of overtime hours will exclude holiday premium hours already compensated.
- E. Overtime Reporting: Nonexempt employees eligible for payment of overtime who are required to work in excess of 40 hours per week will report overtime hours worked on the university Compensation Overtime Report at the end of the pay period. The method for computing overtime is stated on the form.
- F. Compensatory Time (Comp Time): The purpose of compensatory time is to provide an alternative to cash payment of overtime. A nonexempt employee may only work more than 40 hours a week after having obtained prior approval or instructions from the appropriate supervisor.
1. Upon election by the employee, overtime work may be compensated in the form of compensatory time off. When such form of compensation is elected, the employee shall be paid for all hours worked in excess of forty (40) hours during the work week (hereinafter "overtime hours") at the employee's regular hourly rate of pay and earn comp time at an additional .5 times the overtime hours worked. The university shall designate two (2) opportunities each year for employees' to elect to receive comp time for overtime hours worked, to be effective on January 1 and July 1.
  2. The date to be taken as comp time off shall be scheduled by agreement between the supervisor and the employee. Supervisory approval for the use of comp time shall not be unreasonably withheld. A supervisor may direct that an employee use accrued comp time.
  3. A maximum of one hundred and twenty (120) hours of comp time may be accrued in a fiscal year. Comp time earned for overtime and reported by the payroll deadline shall be accrued at the next regularly scheduled pay day. An employee may request payment of accrued comp time at any time, which shall then be paid at the next regularly scheduled pay day. All comp time must be used or paid by the end of each fiscal year or prior to transfer or termination.

### **8.20.05 On-call Pay**

*[Policy approved by the Board of Regents 10.22.07]*

The university may assign an employee to on-call status in accordance with the following:

- A. On-call Status: An employee is assigned to on-call status in circumstances where the time expended will not constitute compensable hours worked under the Fair Labor Standards Act shall be paid "on call" pay in the amount equal to \$1.00 per hour for each hour of assigned on-call status.
- B. Unrestricted Call-back Status: On-call pay shall not be paid to employees who are placed on stand-by status and who are provided with a pager, cell phone or other electronic device and required to return to work site as soon as practical from the time contact is made, so long as the employee is not required to remain in any specific geographical area or required to return to work within a specific time period. Employees on such status may decline to return to work if contacted, without penalty, discipline or other reprisal if they acknowledge they are not fit to report to duty.

### **8.20.10 Call-back Pay**

*[Policy approved by the Board of Regents 10.22.07]*

On-call employees who are required to return to work, or those other employees who are called back to work on a regularly scheduled on-duty day after going off-duty or who are called to work on a regularly scheduled off-duty day, shall be guaranteed a minimum of two (2) hours of pay for the actual time worked at the applicable straight time or overtime rate. For employees called back to work, paid time shall commence at the time the employee begins travel to report for work and ends at the completion of the call-back assignment.

### **8.25 - Consulting (Exempt Staff)**

- A. Exempt employees whose full-time duties and responsibilities are similar to those of faculty may be granted consulting privileges subject to prior approval of the appropriate supervisors through the executive vice president and provost. The terms and conditions of these privileges are contained in [Rule 5.32 - Consulting - Faculty](#).
- B. Other exempt employees who engage in any form of paid consulting, contracting, retail, or wholesale activity not directly related to their university responsibilities normally will do so only on their own time.
- C. Outside activities during a normal duty day should have prior approval by a supervisor and be accomplished on an annual leave or compensatory time basis.
- D. No paid outside activity may be pursued which would create the appearance of a conflict of interest with university responsibilities or which would reflect unfavorably on the university. Outside activities will not be allowed when they prevent an employee from accomplishing regularly assigned duties.
- E. With prior approval from the appropriate supervisor and cognizant dean/director/vice president, exempt employees may engage in job-related service or professional activities outside the university without taking annual leave (such as serving on an accrediting team or holding a professional office). The activity must be of benefit to the university and support the goals of higher education. University employees working on government contracts that require accounting for all direct and indirect time, and all sick leave, holiday, and annual leave time, will be required to comply with record keeping systems that meet government audit requirements. Full accountability of all paid time is the general norm for this type of organization. University facilities, equipment, personnel or supplies which are not freely available to the general public will not be used in consulting without proper arrangements for reimbursement. (See Also Rule [5.15.40, Section P, "Exempt Staff Hired as Part-time Faculty"](#))

**8.30 - Disciplinary Action/Involuntary Termination** (See also Rule [4.05.11 for appeal procedures](#)) [Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 09.09.08; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09]

- A. Inability to Perform Essential Job Functions: A supervisor may, after having obtained the approval of the appropriate dean/vice president and the Office of Human Resource Services, require an employee to be examined by a medical doctor (or other health provider) for the purpose of determining the employee's ability to perform essential job functions. The cost of the examination will be borne by the university. An employee may be terminated if unable to perform the essential job functions of a position.
- B. Absence Without Authorization: A staff employee who is absent from work without proper authorization or notification for a period of 1 working day or if less than 1 working day for more than one occurrence, may be terminated. Such action will be considered as just cause for termination and processed as an involuntary termination. If subsequent investigation and information reveals extenuating circumstances, the employee may use annual leave, sick leave, or leave without pay for the days absent and may be subject to other disciplinary action.
- C. Disciplinary Action (Non-Probationary Regular Employees): The supervisor may request action appropriate to the nature and severity of the offense or unacceptable performance and has the following options available. Items #2, #3, and #4 require prior approval from the Office of Human Resource Services.
1. Oral Reprimand or Warning: Supervisor prepares a memorandum of record for departmental file.
  2. Written Reprimand, Warning, or Notification of Unacceptable Performance: Supervisor prepares a memorandum to the employee, obtains approval from the Office of Human Resource Services, and forwards a copy to the Office of Human Resource Services for inclusion in the employee's file.
  3. Suspension or Demotion: (See Rule [8.30 \(G\) Termination and Just Cause](#)) Suspension of exempt employees will be for a minimum of 1 working day within a work week.
  4. Involuntary Termination: (See Rule [8.30 \(G\) Termination and Just Cause](#)).
- D. Immediate (Temporary) Removal: The appointing authority may, with approval of the appropriate dean or vice president, and Office of Human Resource Services, immediately remove and place an employee on administrative leave with pay. This action may be taken when it is in the best interest of the university or it is necessary to remove an employee from the work site. Requests to place an employee on involuntary leave without pay must be submitted to the Office of Human Resource Services.
- E. Termination of Involuntary (Probationary, Temporary and Emergency Hires): Probationary, temporary, occasional and emergency hire employees may be terminated without cause by providing at least 24 hours notice. The termination of any such employee requires the prior approval of the appropriate dean or vice president and assistant vice president for human resource services. Probationary, temporary, occasional, or emergency hire employees have no entitlement or expectation to continued employment during or beyond the probationary or appointment period.
- F. Termination - Demotion and Suspension (Involuntary) of (Non-Probationary Regular Employees): A supervisor may, after obtaining prior approval of the appropriate dean or vice president and the assistant vice president for human resource services, terminate, demote, or suspend an employee for just cause. All such actions will be submitted to the Office of Human Resource Services for review and prior approval. Normally, exempt employees will be given at least 10 working day's notification of the proposed action. Nonexempt employees will receive at least 5 working days. However, the supervisor, with prior approval of the cognizant dean or vice president, and Office of Human Resource Services, may immediately remove and place an employee on administrative leave with pay during the notification period. (See Rule [8.30 \(D\) Immediate \(Temporary\) Removal](#)) After obtaining the necessary approvals, the supervisor may issue a notice of proposed disciplinary action. The notification will

contain the following:

1. The type of action being proposed.
2. The specific acts resulting in the proposed action.
3. The effective date of the proposed action.
4. A summary of the information used in support of the proposed action.
5. A statement that the employee may respond to the action and allegations in writing or request a review hearing within 2 working days of receipt of the notice of proposed action.
6. A statement that if the employee does not respond to the proposed notice or request a review hearing, the proposed action will become final and effective on the proposed date.
7. A statement that a post-action grievance may be filed with the Office of Institutional Equity/OIE and Employee Management Services Office within 15 working days of receipt of the proposed notice (if the employee does not chose to respond to the notice or request a review hearing) or within 15 working days of receipt of the notice of final determination.

Should an employee respond in writing to the proposed notice and not request a review hearing, the supervisor will consider the employee's response and issue a final determination, after consultation with the Office of Human Resource Services. Should an employee request a review hearing, the immediate supervisor (or designee) of the individual issuing the proposed notice, and a representative of the Office of Human Resource Services, will meet with the employee within 2 working days of the employee's request. The employee may bring a representative to the hearing. If the representative is an attorney, the employee must so inform the human resources representative to allow the university time to arrange for its general counsel to be present at the hearing. The university reserves the right to have the general counsel present at any and all hearings. A final determination will be issued by the immediate supervisor (or designee) of the individual issuing the proposed notice, after consultation with the Office of Human Resource Services. Time limits specified may be changed should requests be made and/or circumstances warrant a revision.

- G. Just Cause (Non-Probationary Regular Employees): Employees may be terminated, demoted, or suspended for just cause which may be generally described as any conduct, action, or inaction, arising from, connected with, or impacting on the employee's work, whether on or off duty, that is inconsistent with the employee's obligations to the employer; or conduct reflecting a disregard of the employer's interests, policies or procedures. Just cause includes, but is not limited to, inefficiency, unacceptable performance, incompetence, misconduct, negligence, insubordination, or conviction of a felony or misdemeanor under the provisions of the Criminal Offender Employment Act (Section 28-2-1, *et seq.*, NMSA 1978).

Although impossible to cite an all-inclusive list of actions which constitute just cause, examples include but are not limited to:

1. Falsification of documents.
2. Threatening, assaulting, or abusive behavior towards a supervisor, student, employee, guest or customer of the university.
3. Sexual harassment of an employee, student, guest or customer of the university on or off campus which may explicitly or implicitly affect an employee's performance or unreasonably interferes with a person's employment or academic endeavors.
4. Jeopardizing the safety or health of an employee (including one's self), student, guest or customer of the university.

5. Dishonesty or intentional fabrication of events.
6. Negligent, incompetent, inefficient or unacceptable performance of duties.
7. Willful disregard of reasonable directives or policies or a defiant attitude of noncompliance toward regulations, directives or policies applicable to an employee.
8. Conduct that interferes with the efficient operation of the university.
9. Inability or unwillingness to perform the duties required of a position.
10. Possession or use of alcohol or illicit drugs, reporting to work under their influence, or being under their influence while on the job.
11. Possession of drug paraphernalia or stolen property.
12. Conviction or admission of a felony or certain misdemeanors.
13. Careless, negligent, improper, unauthorized, or malicious use of, or theft of, property, equipment, or funds.
14. Abuse of privileges.
15. Failure to report for work or to timely report justifiable reason for absence to the department head or immediate supervisor.
16. Repeated tardiness or poor attendance.
17. Misconduct which adversely affects the interest or reputation of the university or its employees.
18. Any repetition of offenses which resulted in a reprimand, warning, demotion, notification of unacceptable performance or suspension.
19. Job abandonment.

#### **8.40 - Hiring** (See Rule [4.30, Hiring](#); Rule [5.15 - Faculty Appointments](#))

#### **8.45 – Layoffs and Recall**

*[Relocated to Chapter 4-See Rule 4.45]*

#### **8.50 - Staff Performance Evaluation/Probationary Period**

##### **PART 1: PROBATIONARY PERIOD-REGULAR EMPLOYEES**

- A. Probationary Status: The probationary period is an essential part of the employment process and shall be used as an assessment period for employees and supervisors. Probationary employees have no entitlement or expectation to continued employment during the probationary period. During the probationary period, an employee may be terminated with or without cause and without recourse to the pre- or post-action grievance procedures, except in cases alleging discrimination. Probationary employees may be terminated by providing at least 24 hours' notice after having obtained approvals from the assistant vice president for human resource services and the appropriate dean or vice president, as provided in Rule 8.30, E. A probationary employee may also resign without notice at any time during the probationary period.
- B. Length of Probationary Period: The length for each probationary period served shall be the first 6 months of employment with NMSU for regular nonexempt employees, and the first 12 months of employment with NMSU for regular exempt employees. Time served in a non-regular hire status does



not apply towards completion of the initial probationary period.

## **PART 2: SUBSEQUENT PROBATIONARY PERIOD(S) –EXEMPT EMPLOYEES**

Exempt employees who voluntarily accept a new job, a promotion or a transfer within NMSU will serve an additional probationary period and are subject to the terms in Part 1. The length of the subsequent probationary period shall be the same as defined above, unless adjusted pursuant to Part 3.

## **PART 3: ADJUSTMENT TO LENGTH OF PROBATIONARY PERIOD(S)**

- A. NMSU System Wide Extension of Probationary Status: The length of the initial probationary period for all staff employees may be extended when deemed necessary by the Chancellor during times of planning for significant budget reductions or other financial uncertainty. Notification shall be made through the Office of Human Resource Services at the direction of the Chancellor and may be effective immediately.
- B. Individual Extension of Employee Probationary Status: The director/department head may exercise discretion to request an extension of the initial or subsequent probationary period when an employee's performance demonstrates a need for additional time to acquire the skills required for the job. Requests to extend a subsequent probationary period should be submitted in writing 2 weeks prior to completion of the probationary period, supported by a performance evaluation, and forwarded to the Office of Human Resource Services for consideration.
- C. Early Completion of Second or Subsequent Probationary Period: The director/department head may request an adjustment to the length of an exempt employee's second or subsequent probationary period. There may be cases in which employees demonstrate exceptional qualities that would permit reduction of the probationary period.

## **PART 4: PROBATIONARY PERIOD EVALUATION REPORT – NONEXEMPT EMPLOYEES**

Prior to completion of the probationary period, the supervisor completes the Performance Evaluation Form (See Rule [5.86 - Performance Evaluation](#)), and forwards it through channels to the Office of Human Resource Services for inclusion in the employee's personnel file. A Personnel Action Form should accompany the evaluation report if the employee is a new hire and was hired at the entry level. Normally evaluations with outstanding marks are reserved for employees who have consistently, over a period of time demonstrated outstanding performance.

## **PART 5: SALARY ADJUSTMENT FOR SUCCESSFUL COMPLETION OF PROBATION- NONEXEMPT EMPLOYEES**

See ARP-Rule 8.15 – Compensation at Section I.

## **PART 6: PERFORMANCE EVALUATION COMPLETION SCHEDULE**

An evaluation should be completed:

- A. After completion of a probationary period for nonexempt employees (may also be used for the annual evaluation if completed in December, January or February).
- B. Annually for purposes of allocating merit increases.
- C. Any time a supervisor considers an evaluation necessary.
- D. Upon transfer of an exempt employee to a new organizational unit.

**PART 7: PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – NONEXEMPT STAFF**

1. Evaluations will be made on the official Nonexempt Performance Evaluation Form.
2. The form will be completed by the immediate supervisor and then reviewed and signed by the appropriate second level supervisor prior to discussion with the employee. The employee will be provided with a copy of the completed form within 10 working days of the supervisor's signature.
3. The evaluator should discuss the evaluation with the employee to avoid the possibility of misinterpretation. (This discussion should occur after the reviewer has signed the form.)
4. The employee may discuss the rating with the reviewer prior to the evaluation being forwarded to the Office of Human Resource Services or being filed.
5. If the employee does not agree with the evaluation and does not want to go through a formal appeal procedure, the employee may prepare an addendum to the evaluation to be placed in the employee's personnel file within 15 working days after receipt of the evaluation form containing all necessary signatures.
6. In the event that a supervisor is not able to evaluate due to lack of longevity in the position or lack of knowledge about the employee, the supervisor may designate a responsible official to complete the Performance Evaluation Form. If this is done, the supervisor must co-sign the evaluation form with the designated official.
7. The employee's current supervisor is responsible for completing the evaluation process and may consult with previous supervisors of the employee in assigning evaluation scores.

**PART 8: PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – EXEMPT STAFF**

- A. Each major administrative unit should utilize a form approved by the assistant vice president for human resource services or the university approved form.
- B. All exempt employees will be evaluated at least once a year. If performance becomes a concern, interim evaluations may be administered.

**PART 9: PERFORMANCE EVALUATION – APPEALS**

An employee appeal may be forwarded in writing to the assistant vice president for human resource services within 15 working days of receipt of the evaluation form containing all necessary signatures. The appeal should state specifically what area(s) of the evaluation are being appealed and why. The Office of Human Resource Services will review the appeal and attempt conciliation. (See [Chapter 4 Human Resources - General - Appeals](#)). Performance evaluations with overall ratings of unsatisfactory, needs improvement or does not meet expectations may be appealed using the grievance procedure.)

Rule Administrator:	Office of Human Resource Services
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	06.14.16 UAC recommended approval; 06.21.16 Chancellor approved. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 8.50 as initial Rule 8.50. <b><i>Prior Revision History as Policy 8.50: 04.27.15 Provisionally amended by Chancellor; 07.21.15 Ratified by Board of Regents. 09.09.08 Amendment approved by Administrative Council; Ratified by Board of Regents 07.29.09. 10.22.07 Amendment ratified by Board of Regents.</i></b>

### **8.55 - Promotion and Reclassification** (See also Rules [8.15 Compensation](#) and [8.10 Career Development/Apprenticeship Training](#))

#### **A. Internal promotion criteria for regular employees includes:**

1. The promotion should be within a major organizational unit, such as a college or vice president's area. Employing departments are encouraged to notify all employees in the organizational unit of the promotional opportunity.
2. The salary increase on promotion will be in accordance with the Rule [8.15 Compensation](#). Nonexempt promotions of four or more grades and exempt promotions of three or more levels may require advertisement.
3. New employees will not normally be considered for a promotion outside their current department until they have completed their initial probationary period. Requests for exception must have the written release of the current supervisor and approval of the Office of Human Resource Services.
4. The employee must meet the minimum qualifications for the higher level position.
5. In E-Hire Form should be submitted after the Office of Human Resource Services has determined that the employee meets all qualifications for the new position. The employee should be notified only after approval is received from the Office of Human Resource Services.
6. The department that the employee is leaving initiates and forwards an E-Hire Form and leave records to the hiring department.
7. Equal Employment Opportunity/Affirmative Action commitments will be considered during promotions.

#### **B. Reclassification of Positions:** The level and/or grade of positions are determined by the Office of Human Resource Services as authorized by the executive vice president and provost. The Office of Human Resource Services may direct, through the executive vice president and provost, that duties be added, taken away or reassigned from existing positions in order to correspond with currently authorized levels and/or grades.

##### **1. Nonexempt Staff Positions:**

- a. A supervisor requesting to make significant changes in the duties and responsibilities of a position may prepare a Position Description Questionnaire detailing the characteristics, duties, responsibilities and minimum qualifications of the position in question. After obtaining the comments and signatures of the employee when appropriate, the department head/director, and the dean/vice president, the supervisor should forward the completed Position Description Questionnaire to the Office of Human Resource Services for a reclassification review.
- b. A regular non-probationary employee who has reason to believe a position is misclassified may request a classification review. The Position Description Questionnaire will be sent through channels to the Office of Human Resource Services. Supervisors should comment on the Position Description Questionnaire and forward through channels.
- c. Reclassification requests will be considered three times per year. Requests submitted in June, July, August, and September will be reviewed in October and effective in November. Requests submitted in October, November, December, and January will be reviewed in February and effective in March. Requests submitted in February, March, April, and May will be reviewed in June and effective in July.
- d. Reclassification requests of new or vacant positions are considered upon submission.
- e. The director/department head and/or the employee may appeal the reclassification review decision to the assistant vice president for human resource services within 15 working days of receiving notification of the decision.
- f. The decision of the assistant vice president for human resource services may be appealed within 15 working days to the executive vice president and provost, whose decision is final.

- g. A nonexempt reclassification action which results in an upgrade of more than 3 grades is normally advertised except when there is no interim career grade or is specifically exempted by the Office of Human Resource Services. Reclassification of a position does not, however, guarantee promotion of an incumbent employee. If the incumbent does not have the experience, knowledge, skills or ability to perform the responsibilities of the reclassified position, the incumbent will be considered for transfer.
- h. When a position is changed to a classification with a lower grade, the incumbent may be considered for transfer to an appropriate vacant position.
- i. The employee's probationary status will not change.
- j. Reclassification requests to change a position from nonexempt to exempt status may be submitted in accordance with the procedure outlined below for exempt positions.

## 2. Exempt Staff Positions:

- a. A supervisor requesting to make major changes in level, title, responsibilities, or salary range of an exempt position may submit an exempt Position Description Questionnaire and a request in memorandum form through the Office of Human Resource Services to the executive vice president and provost for review and consideration.
- b. A regular exempt non-probationary employee who has reason to believe a position is misclassified may request a classification review.
- c. The director/department head and/or the employee may appeal the reclassification review decision to the assistant vice president for human resource services within 15 working days of receiving notification of the decision.
- d. The decision of the assistant vice president for human resource services may be appealed within 15 working days to the executive vice president and provost, whose decision is final.

## 8.60 - Resignations

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 03.09.11; approved by the Board of Regents 03.14.11]*

- A. Notice Required for Resignation from the University: A nonexempt employee who desires to separate from university employment should submit a signed resignation statement to the appointing authority two (2) weeks prior to the intended resignation date.

Exempt employees should give thirty (30) days written notice prior to termination.

If the employee resigns by phone or is otherwise not available to submit a letter/notice of resignation, the supervisor should document all relevant information and forward to the Office of Human Resource Services in accordance with applicable procedures.

- B. Notice Required for Intra-NMSU Career Moves: Employees who have accepted another position within NMSU should provide the notice referenced above to the department the employee is leaving, unless an alternative arrangement can be reached between the former supervisor and the new supervisor.
- C. Impact of Resignation to Benefits: All benefit coverages cease at midnight of the last day of the pay period in which the employee's separation from service date falls. Employees will be responsible for payment of the benefit premiums, if the employee's final paycheck is not large enough to cover the benefit deductions to maintain coverage through the last day of the pay period.
- D. Withdrawal of Resignation/Reinstatement of Benefits: At the discretion of the Office of Human Resource Services, in consultation with the appropriate supervisor and/or administrative staff, a resignation from an employee otherwise in good standing may be permitted to be withdrawn.

In the event a resignation is permitted to be withdrawn, employment benefits, including but not limited to seniority and accrued leave, may be reinstated, provided no more than five (5) business days have passed from the date of official cessation of benefits.

The decisions by the Office of Human Resource Services relating to requests to withdraw a resignation

or for reinstatement of benefits may not be appealed.

### **8.70 - Transfers**

- A. The university reserves the right to transfer or assign employees throughout the university as workloads and administrative judgment deem necessary.
- B. Two appointing authorities may laterally transfer, voluntarily or involuntarily, a nonexempt employee from a position in a classification and grade to another position in the same grade within a major organizational unit, such as a college or division with approval of the assistant vice president for human resource services.
- C. To cross college or division lines, a request must be made in writing to the assistant vice president for human resource services.
- D. Exempt employees may be laterally transferred voluntarily or involuntarily throughout the university with prior approval from the assistant vice president for human resource services and executive vice president and provost.
- E. The employee's education and experience should correspond with those required by the position being transferred to.
- F. A salary adjustment will not normally be awarded if the position to which employee is transferred is similar in overall duties and responsibilities.
- G. An E-Hire Form, leave records, and performance evaluation form will be submitted after approval for transfer has been obtained.
- H. Requests for transfer, initiated by nonexempt employees, will be made on a Transfer Request Form obtained in the Office of Human Resource Services. Each request will be evaluated by the merits of the situation.
- I. Employees with overall needs improvement or unsatisfactory ratings are ineligible for transfer consideration.
- J. Employees serving any type of probationary period may not transfer outside of their organizational unit without obtaining a written release from their current supervisor.

### **8.75 - Workweek** (See also Rule [8.20 Compensatory Time/Overtime](#))

All nonexempt full-time personnel who are paid an annual salary on a monthly or bi-monthly basis shall be required to work 40 hours per week.

## **Chapter 9**

### **Facilities and Services**

- 9.04 Facilities and Services
- 9.05 Campus Planning
- 9.10 Capital Projects
- 9.15 Funding and Costs
- 9.20 NMSU Real Estate
- 9.25 Maintenance and Repair of Community Colleges and Off-Campus Sites
- 9.30 Miscellaneous
- 9.33 Vehicle Assignments
- 9.34 Fleet Asset Management Program
- 9.35 Transportation Services-Rental
- 9.50 Use of Facilities and Space Management
- 9.50.10 Use of Facilities - Pan American Center/Corbett Center - Special Events/University Activities

## 9.04 - Facilities and Services

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11]*

Facilities and Services is funded by the state and by NMSU for the operation and maintenance of Instruction and General Space ("I & G"). It exists to provide courteous, responsive, cost-effective campus service by providing a broad range of campus support services. Its core mission is the management, operation, repair, renovation, and construction of the fixed physical assets of the university. All construction activity on university-owned facilities is mandated by state law to be done in accordance with applicable building codes. Should Facilities and Services become aware of any activity or work which does not meet building codes, that activity or work will be removed and the responsible department will bear the cost of all required remedial actions. In order to coordinate these construction activities and to protect the interests of the university, all contractors performing construction (as defined by the Construction Industries Division) on facilities owned by the University shall obtain the express permission from Facilities and Services. Only those entities licensed and acceptable to the Construction Industries Division and to the NMSU Facilities and Services shall be allowed to perform construction-related activities. Some construction projects may also require approval of the Higher Education Department and the State Board of Finance.

## 9.05 - Campus Planning (Master Plan)

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11]*

Facilities and Services is charged with the responsibility for the development and maintenance of facility master plans for the main campus. In addition, Facilities and Services coordinates and assists the community campuses in the development of their master plans. All Master Plans must be submitted to and adopted by the Board of Regents.

## 9.10 - Capital Projects

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11]*

- A. Authority of Facilities and Services: Facilities and Services is charged by the Board of Regents with the responsibility to plan, manage, and oversee all capital outlay construction projects for all locations within the university system. In addition, Facilities and Services will be responsible for any work which is competitively bid for a construction activity (as defined by the Construction Industries division).
- B. Authority Reserved to the Board of Regents: All capital projects that fall under the following categories must be submitted to the Board of Regents for approval: (1) purchases of real property unless otherwise delegated pursuant to Rule 9.20; (2) any project which results in the addition of square footage, whether from the construction of a new facility or of building addition or of purchase or portable buildings; (3) any proposal to issue bonds; (4) any alteration or site improvement over \$300,000 for an institution with an FTE enrollment of over 1,500; and (5) any demolition of an existing building.
- C. Capital Projects Construction Contract Award: The Board of Regents authorizes the senior vice president for administration and finance (or designee) to act on its behalf to award construction contracts to the lowest responsible bidder consistent with applicable New Mexico or federal law. Any increase that causes the total project budget to exceed 10% of the amount originally budgeted shall be resubmitted to the Board of Regents for approval prior to authorizing the additional expenditure.
- D. Selection of Architects, engineers, landscape architects and surveyors: In order to assist the senior vice president for administration and finance in the selection of an architect and/or engineer for a capital outlay project, a Selection Committee established by Facilities and Services will solicit inquiries and screen potential firms through a Request for Proposal (RFP). This process shall be in accordance with New Mexico Procurement Code (13-1-28 through 13-1-199 NMSA 1978). The members of the Selection Committee will send individual evaluation sheets to the associate vice president for facilities and services for the three most qualified firms. The associate vice president for facilities and services will review the assessments of the Review Committee members and develop a final tabulation sheet, which will be available for public review. The associate vice president for facilities and services will then select a firm to design the capital outlay project with approval from the senior vice president for administration and finance.

The Board of Regents authorizes the university administration to select professional design firms to design small public works projects on campus. A small public works project shall be defined as one with fees between \$50,000 and \$100,000. The selection of these firms shall be through the same procedure as above and the number of firms selected shall be in accordance with NMSA 13-1-153 and NMSA 13-1-154. Utilization of services under these

awards shall be administered through a University Professional Service Contract for each project and approved by the director of procurement services and risk management and the assistance vice president for facilities and services or their designee(s). These firms will be selected through the same procedure as detailed above and in accordance with New Mexico Procurement Code (13-1-28 through 13-1-199 NMSA 1978).

Architects and engineers may also be employed for small maintenance remodel projects via Professional Service Contracts as specified in the New Mexico Procurement Code (13-1-28 through 13-1-199 NMSA 1978) when approved by the director of the Procurement Services Office and the associate vice president for facilities and services.

The Board of Regents authorizes the university administration to negotiate architect's and/or engineer's fees in all cases. The senior vice president for administration and finance, in coordination with the associate vice president for facilities and services, reserves the right to terminate any capital project contract for nonperformance of duties.

## 9.15 - Funding and Costs

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11]*

Facilities and Services is funded by the state and by NMSU for the operation and maintenance of Instruction and General (I&G) Space. Most routine maintenance services to I&G space are provided without charge by Facilities and Services, while as a general rule, non-routine maintenance activities are charged back to the customer. Services paid for by the NMSU entity that occupies the space are called billable services. Upon request, Facilities and Services will provide estimates for billable work. All services rendered in support of non-I & G buildings are billable. Services rendered in support of I & G buildings may or may not be billable, depending on the type of service. Facilities and Services publishes a detailed schedule of those services that are provided as well as a [schedule of billable services](#). Each year the State of New Mexico allocates funds to be used for the renovation, repair, and remodeling of I & G buildings and infrastructures at the university (BRR funds).

## 9.20 - NMSU Real Estate

*[Amendment superseding former 9.20 (Lands) approved by the Administrative Council 06.13.06; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 09.08.06] [Amendment to 9.20 A. (3) approved by the Administrative Council 05.09.08; adoption of amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.15.08] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11][Amendment recommended by the Regents' Real Estate Committee 11.02.11; approved by the Board of Regents 12.09.11][Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 02.14.11; approved by the Board of Regents 03.12.12][Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 04.09.13; approved by the Board of Regents 05.10.13]*

For the purposes of this rule, "NMSU real estate" is defined as all land owned or leased by NMSU. For purposes of this rule, a real estate "transaction", means any easement, lease, right-of-way, memorandum of understanding, letter agreement, use agreement, license agreement or other agreement that may increase NMSU's risk of liability or affect the use of, or interest in, NMSU real estate.

### A. Authority of the Board of Regents:

1. Titleholder: Legal title to all NMSU real estate (land, buildings, air rights, water rights and mineral rights) is vested in the Board of Regents, without regard to the academic or administrative entity that occupies or otherwise uses the real estate.
2. Authority to Convey Property: The title to all property belonging to the university is vested in the Board of Regents as a corporate body. NMSA 1978, § 21-3-4. Pursuant to NMSA 1978, § 21-1-20, the Board of Regents is authorized to buy, sell, lease, or mortgage realty and take such other action, in the best interests of the university.
3. Retention of Authority: The Board of Regents specifically reserves the authority to review and take action with regard to all transactions permanently affecting NMSU real estate, including all sales and acquisitions and encumbrances. The board delegate's authority and responsibility to the Chancellor or designee to review, approve and execute the following types of real estate transactions:
  - a. Real estate transactions involving a term of less than ten (10) years, including any options to extend; and



- b. Real estate transactions not to exceed a total university cost liability (excluding operating expenses) of \$100,000 per year; and
- c. Real estate easements which grant a specific, limited use of real property for a term not to exceed ten (10) years. Such uses shall include agreements relating to access, utilities installations, data/telecommunications facilities, rights of way, ingress, egress, sanitary sewers, pipelines and drainage.

**B. General Policy Regarding NMSU Real Estate:**

1. Collaboration between NMSU Offices: The Office of Real Estate shall serve as coordinator for the academic and administrative units for all real estate transactions. Contacts from non-university entities regarding real estate shall be directed to the Office of Real Estate.
  - a. Each proposed real estate transaction of any type or nature shall be initiated by consultation with the director of the Office of Real Estate. Such consultation shall occur as early as possible in the planning process, in order to maximize the university's bargaining position, and in order for the Office of Real Estate to better provide the academic or administrative unit with guidance regarding the nature of the transaction and estimated time and cost needed for completion.
  - b. After the initial consultation with the Office of Real Estate, the academic and administrative units may make general inquiries and conduct general discussions with third parties; however, all official negotiations with property owners, developers, landlords, realtors, brokers and other third parties shall be conducted on behalf of the university by the Office of Real Estate.
2. Philosophy: NMSU is expected to preserve, enhance and maximize the productivity of its real estate assets. It is the policy of the university to preserve adequate land area for all foreseeable academic and support needs and to utilize to the best possible advantage to the university all land areas surplus to the academic and support needs.
3. Purpose: NMSU real estate, consisting of land, buildings, air rights, water rights and mineral rights, shall be acquired, used or disposed of consistent with the university's mission, strategic master planning efforts, and within approved budgets.
  - a. NMSU property shall not be made available for individual use or gain.
  - b. Acquisitions and gifts of interests in real estate shall not create excess risk of liability or financial exposure, shall support the university's mission, and are subject to acceptance by the Board of Regents.
  - c. NMSU real estate may only be sold or otherwise disposed of after determination by the affected department, the cognizant dean or vice president that it is in the best interest of the university, recommendation from the Regents' Real Estate Committee, if any, and approval from the Board of Regents, as well as compliance with other state requirements.
4. Oversight of Physical Property: Academic and administrative units are responsible for ensuring that the real estate and/or space occupied by, or assigned to, them is being used in accordance with university policy, rules and procedures.
2. Minimization of Risk of Liability: The risk of loss to the university shall be minimized with each real estate transaction. Each real estate transaction shall therefore be conducted in accordance with procedures established by the Office of Real Estate, and consistent with finance, purchasing, and other state law requirements.
3. Deposit and Use of Proceeds: Proceeds derived from the sale, lease or consideration for NMSU real estate interests are restricted and will be used for nonrecurring capital outlay items which are typically not funded from traditional sources. Specific proposals will be presented to the Board of Regents for approval before any commitments are made against these funds.
4. Effect on Title: Easements, leases, rights-of-way and other real estate transactions that may encumber NMSU's real estate shall:
  - a. Be limited to the specific purpose requested; and

- b. Be limited to the minimum amount of land necessary for the proposed operation; and
  - c. Be limited to the shortest term that will accommodate the proposed operation; and
  - d. Be based upon fair market value or appraisal comparables to ensure that the university receives adequate consideration, if applicable.
8. Periodic Needs Assessments: Facilities and Services, the Office of Space Management, and the Office of Real Estate shall coordinate to conduct periodic reviews of real estate with the college and library deans, vice presidents, vice and associate provosts and directors to ensure their real estate needs are being met, and to identify any changes that may need to be made.

C. Responsibilities of NMSU Office of Real Estate:

1. The University's Representative for Real Estate Transactions: NMSU entities shall collaborate-rate regarding, and the Office of Real Estate shall oversee real estate transactions on behalf of the university. Such transactions include, but are not limited to:
  - a. Leases of real estate (regardless of ownership),
  - b. Acquisition and disposal of real estate or interests therein,
  - c. Enhancement and development of NMSU real estate,
  - d. Easements (regardless of ownership),
  - e. Rights-of-Way (regardless of ownership),
  - f. Memorandums of Understanding (relating to real estate),
  - g. Temporary Use Agreements, and
  - h. Access Agreements.
2. Coordination with Other University Departments: The Office of Real Estate shall ensure that each real estate transaction is reviewed by the affected department or administrative unit, and the cognizant dean or vice president; the Office of Administration and Finance, including the Procurement Services Office and Facilities and Services; and the Office of the University General Counsel prior to presenting for review to the Chancellor or designee and approval by the Board of Regents. The Office of Real Estate may develop and require routing forms and checklists for this purpose.
3. Lead Negotiator and Preparer of Documents: Consistent with the legal opinion of the Office of the University General Counsel, and in coordination with the head of the affected academic or administrative unit, the director of the Office of Real Estate shall negotiate and prepare all real estate transactions for approval and signature by the Board of Regents.
4. Repository of Original Documents: The Office of Real Estate shall be responsible for the proper retention and safe storage of original real estate documents.

## **9.25 - Maintenance and Repair of Community Colleges and Off-Campus Sites**

Facilities and Services provides maintenance and minor modification support, on a reimbursable basis, to any community college or off-campus site. Due to distances involved, most of that support is limited to the Las Cruces area.

## **9.30 - Miscellaneous**

- A. Energy Conservation: Every building, both new construction and remodeled facilities will be designed to be energy efficient, using a minimum of electric power, steam, chilled water, and natural gas, and still provide the necessary interior environment to function successfully.
- B. Landscaping: In the planning of new campus construction, consideration will be given to preserving trees and shrubs growing on the construction site.
- C. Performance Bond Requirements for Contracts on Jobs Under \$20,000: For all building projects where the total expenditure will be less than \$20,000, no surety bonds shall be required of the contractor. In lieu thereof, should the contractor not desire to provide a performance bond, the contractor shall provide the Procurement Services Office with the following:

1. A guaranty of the performance of work executed by all principals, partners, owners, and shareholders of the contractor. The guaranty shall be on a form approved from time to time by the Procurement Services Office.
  2. At least one of the following, in an amount not less than half of the total contract price:
    - a. A certified check from a bank or savings and loan doing business in New Mexico payable to the Board of Regents. This check shall either be held by or cashed by the university without interest due the contractor.
    - b. An irrevocable letter of credit from a bank or savings and loan doing business in New Mexico in favor of the Board of Regents.
  3. In all such contracts where bonds are provided as set forth in this rule, at least 50 percent of the monies due the contractor shall not be paid by the university until after completion satisfactory to the university.
- D. Plaque Information: The names of regents and governors for inclusion on plaques are those serving at the time of the construction contract signing. In order to affix any plaque, particularly one of historical significance, to a university building, the approval of the central administration is required.

### 9.33 - Vehicle Assignments

*[Policy approved by Administrative Council 7.14.09; adoption of the policy ratified by the Board of Regents 07.29.09][Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 06.08.10; approved by the Board of Regents 07.20.10]*

It is the intent of NMSU to own and operate the fewest number of motor vehicles as possible to achieve the mission of the university without creating a hardship for any college, NMSU entity, or process. Accordingly, these Vehicle Assignment Rules focuses on the most effective and efficient utilization of university-owned vehicles.

#### A. Definitions and Terms:

1. **Daily Vehicle Assignment**: A university vehicle under the exclusive control of an employee for the purpose of performing assigned work duties and responsibilities during the workday but generally not authorized for take-home use.
2. **NMSU Entity Vehicle**: A university vehicle not assigned to an employee or part of the Transportation Services' Vehicle Fleet.
3. **Limited Vehicle Assignment**: A university vehicle under the exclusive control of an employee for the purpose of performing assigned work duties and responsibilities and authorized for take-home use limited to commuting.
4. **Police/fire Mission-Critical Vehicle**: Consists of emergency vehicles which include fully-equipped and clearly marked police and fire vehicles. When used for undercover work, this will include unmarked law enforcement vehicles. These vehicles will remain on campus during non-working hours unless prior authorization has been obtained.
5. **Vehicle Commuting**: The use of a university vehicle for traveling between the employee's home and the designated place(s) of work.

#### B. Vehicle Assignment Requirements:

1. The NMSU entities and their respective employees are responsible for ensuring the operation and maintenance of university vehicles is in compliance with the University's Fleet Asset Management Program, including the [Vehicle Use Procedures](#).
2. Assignment of a university vehicle must be for the convenience of the university and not for the convenience of an employee. Personal use of a university vehicle, including vehicle commuting, is not allowed unless otherwise allowed per these Vehicle Assignment Rules.
3. Individual vehicle assignments shall be limited to the following: Daily Vehicle Assignment, Limited Vehicle

Assignment or Police/Fire Mission-Critical Vehicle Assignment.

4. Eligibility for Daily Vehicle Assignment is restricted to employees meeting at least one of the following criteria:
  - a. Drive more than 6,000 business miles per year.
  - b. Position duties require daily travel to multiple destinations more than 10 miles from the employee's primary place of business.
  - c. Position duties require the routine transport of at least two (2) or more employees.
  - d. Position duties require the routine transport of specific equipment, materials, and tools necessary for the completion of assigned tasks.
5. Eligibility for Limited Vehicle Assignment is restricted to employees meeting the requirements of Daily Vehicle Assignment AND whose position duties routinely require travel directly to a remote site from his/her home at least two (2) times per week.
6. Police/Fire Mission-Critical Vehicles will only be operated during working hours by authorized operators. With prior approval, police and fire vehicles may be used for commuting and/or personal purposes when the assigned employee is required to respond to emergencies at the time of the vehicle is in use. Such anticipated commuting and/or personal use must be clearly outlined and approved on the Vehicle Assignment Authorization Form.
7. All University-owned vehicles must be returned to campus or the designated place of work when the assigned employee will be on leave for more than five (5) days. Any requested exception to this requirement must be clearly outlined and fully approved on the Vehicle Assignment Authorization Form.
8. When employees need to travel on university business and an NMSU entity vehicle is not available or appropriate, vehicle rental arrangements can be coordinated through the Office of Transportation and Parking Services or from a commercial rental agency. In addition, the Business Procedures Manual at Section 5.C. 05.55 addresses reimbursement of mileage for use of personal vehicles for conducting university business.
9. NMSU entity vehicles will be kept to a minimum.

C. Compliance and Approval Responsibility:

1. Employee vehicle assignments must be approved by the employee's dean/vice president and the senior vice president for administration and finance. Such approval shall be initiated by completing and submitting a Vehicle Assignment Authorization form available at: [Vehicle Assignment Form](#).
2. The executive vice president and provost and the senior vice president for administration and finance will establish a maximum number of vehicles authorized for each NMSU entity. Purchase Requisitions which will increase the NMSU entity's assigned vehicles in excess of the authorized number will be denied.
3. Contract employees are exempt from this Rule as contractual arrangements for these employees are handled on an individual basis.
4. When a university-owned vehicle is operated away from campus in a commuting or other personal capacity, the assigned vehicle operator will be required to submit the appropriate paperwork for determination of the taxability of the personal use. Refer to BPM Section 7.05 regarding personal use of university vehicles.
5. The Office of Treasury Services will be responsible for determining the appropriate valuation method to be used for tax reporting purposes. Such determination will be made at the time the vehicle assignment is approved and noted on the Vehicle Assignment Authorization Form.
6. No less than once a year, the Office of Transportation and Parking Services will provide the senior vice president for administration and finance with a vehicle listing including assignment type, annual mileage and eligibility status for continued assignment. Employees no longer eligible for a previously approved vehicle assignment will receive written notification.

### 9.34 - Fleet Asset Management Program

*[Policy approved by the Administrative Council 09.13.05; adoption of the policy ratified by the Board of Regents 09.08.06][Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 06.08.10; adoption of amendment approved by the Board of Regents 07.20.10] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11]*

- A. Scope: The NMSU Fleet Asset Management Program is applicable to all NMSU entities within the NMSU system, with regard to vehicles registered to NMSU and licensed by the State of New Mexico.
- B. Responsible Administrator: The director of transportation and parking services administers this Program throughout the NMSU System, as outlined below.
- C. Definitions:
  - 1. “Vehicle” refers to any vehicle or device that is propelled by an internal combustion engine, electric or other power that is used or may be used on the roadway for the purpose of transporting persons or property, including connected trailers.
  - 2. “NMSU Entity” refers to a department or other administrative unit within an NMSU college or campus, including but not limited to the library, extension service, and experiment stations. Private not-for-profit corporations affiliated with NMSU for fundraising, research, public service, or student activity purposes, while possibly subject to follow applicable NMSU policy, rules and procedures to maintain their recognized status, are not “NMSU entities”.
- D. Related Policies and Procedures:
  - 1. [Vehicle Assignment Rule 9.33](#);
  - 2. New Mexico State University Business Procedures Manual, “Procurement Services Office Chapter 4, Section 45. Vehicles
  - 3. [NMSU Vehicle Use Procedures](#)
- E. Fleet Management Rules:
  - 1. Authority and Responsibilities: The director of transportation and parking services is responsible for planning, coordinating, implementing, and enforcing the Fleet Asset Management Program. Responsibilities include, but are not limited to:
    - a. Serving as the central point of contact for NMSU fleet management, reporting vehicle data, responding to inquiries about vehicles, processing addition/replacement requests, and ensuring compliance with federal, state and university policies and procedures, as they relate to the vehicles operated by the university;
    - b. Coordinating fleet management decisions regarding acquisition and replacement, maintenance and repair, utilization, and vehicle disposal;
    - c. Reviewing reported inappropriate use of university vehicles;
    - d. Reviewing departmental vehicles surrendered for either, interdepartmental transfer or disposal by the NMSU property office;
    - e. Maintaining current information relating to manufacturer recall notices, safety issues, industry “best practices” and responding in order to maintain safety.
  - 2. Acquisition and Use: The purchase or acquisition of vehicles shall be consistent with the purchasing or other applicable law or regulations of the State of New Mexico. In order to facilitate the university’s mission, the following methods are offered to obtain vehicles:
    - a. Vehicle Purchases. All new or used vehicle acquisitions will be made by the Procurement Services Office, after approval by the director of transportation and parking services.

- b. An NMSU entity interested in the purchase or acquisition of a new vehicle will prepare and submit a completed [Vehicle Acquisition Request](#) form to the director of transportation and parking services that includes the following:
    - i. Signature approval by the vice president or dean responsible for the unit or department where the vehicle will be assigned;
    - ii. Explanation of the purpose(s) and proposed use of the vehicle;
    - iii. Type of vehicle required;
    - iv. Identification of the vehicle to be traded in or replaced, if applicable;
    - v. Location where the vehicle will be placed into service.
  - c. The director of transportation and parking services will review the request and ensure the overall authorized number of university fleet vehicles is not exceeded by the acquisition.
  - d. Surplus/Excess Vehicles: The director of transportation and parking services will review and approve requests to acquire surplus vehicles through the State Surplus Office or directly from other state agencies prior to acquisition.
    - i. An NMSU entity interested in acquisition of a surplus/excess vehicle will prepare and submit a completed [Vehicle Acquisition Request](#) form to the director of transportation and parking services.
    - ii. The director of transportation and parking services will review the request and ensure the overall authorized number of university fleet vehicles is not exceeded by the acquisition.
    - iii. Acquisition of vehicles through Federal Excess Property programs must follow the same process as surplus/excess vehicle acquisition. Vehicles acquired through Federal Excess Property Programs remain the property of the federal government and are on loan to the college or unit authorized to acquire federal excess property. This property is governed by federal regulation and the sole responsibility of the college or unit to which it is assigned.
    - iv. The director of transportation and parking services is responsible for ensuring the evaluation of all newly acquired vehicles to assess their condition, road worthiness, and safety. The director will forward appropriate recommendations, as may be necessary, for repairs and/or to ensure the vehicle complies with university standards prior to possession by the NMSU entity.
    - v. All costs for the vehicle acquisitions, to include screening, transportation costs, and associated maintenance costs, will be borne by the department or unit where the vehicle is assigned.
  - e. Vehicle Rental: To satisfy the university's short-term vehicle requirements, the Office of Transportation and Parking Services operates a rental fleet of vehicles which originate on the Las Cruces campus.
  - f. Interdepartmental Transfers: All interdepartmental vehicle transfers shall be approved in advance by the director of transportation and parking services. NMSU Entities interested in an intra-university transfer or acquisition shall submit a completed [Vehicle Acquisition Request](#) form to the director of transportation and parking services.
  - g. If the acquisition is approved by the director of transportation and parking services, the acquiring department will then complete an [Inventory Change Form](#) and forward it to the Office of Administration and Finance. The Office of Administration and Finance will forward the form to the director of transportation and parking services, who will arrange for the inspection of the vehicle, and for any additional action needed.
3. Vehicle Replacement Criteria: The director of transportation and parking services will review, modify or establish, as appropriate, vehicle replacement criteria using industry best practices, including life-cycle cost analysis, in order to develop cost effective replacement of vehicles.
4. Alternative Fuel Program: The State of New Mexico mandates that seventy-five percent (75%) of all vehicles purchased or leased by state agencies or institutions of higher education be capable of using an alternative fuel or are a hybrid (gas/electric) type of vehicle. *See* NMSA 1978, § 13-1 B-3(A). It is the responsibility of the director of transportation and parking services to report on compliance with these state requirements, as well as with any applicable federal requirements.
5. Maintenance: A preventative maintenance program is paramount to protecting the university's fleet



investment and ensuring the university's vehicles are managed in a safe, cost-effective manner. The director of transportation and parking services will establish maintenance schedules defined by the manufacturer or in accordance with industry accepted practices. Each department is responsible for following the prescribed preventative maintenance schedule for each vehicle assigned to that department.

### **9.35 - Transportation Services-Rentals**

*[Amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 9.08.06] [Amendment approved by the Administrative Council 06.08.10; adoption of the amendment ratified by the Board of Regents 07.20.10]*

- A. Availability of Rental Vehicles: Rental vehicles are available through the Office of Transportation and Parking Services. These vehicles are provided for university-related business, and are to be driven only by university employees, students, agents of the university, or volunteers, in the performance of their duties. All operators shall have in their possession an appropriate, current class license to operate a motor vehicle in the State of New Mexico, and an NMSU Driving Permit as issued by the Office of Environmental Health and Safety.
- B. Driver/Passenger Qualifications: Authorized drivers are those who have met the requirements as set forth in Section III of the University's [Vehicle Use Procedures](#). Passengers are limited to university employees, students participating in authorized trips, and invited guests engaged in university related activities. Students who are not university employees, that drive a university vehicle, must be affiliated with a university chartered organization and involved in a university-related event.
- C. Driver Responsibilities: Responsibility for the safe and appropriate use of state vehicles is delegated by the Office of Transportation and Parking Services to the driver who signs for the vehicle on the rental agreement. This includes ensuring that any additional drivers are in compliance with Section III of the [Vehicle Use Procedures](#) and familiar with the rental policies.
- D. Insurance: State employees are covered by workers compensation as drivers or passengers. It is important to note that all non-employee drivers or passengers, to include "volunteers" have no insurance coverage to include medical payments while in a state owned vehicle. Persons desiring such coverage need to make appropriate arrangements if their personal insurance policies do not provide it. All authorized drivers are protected by state liability coverage.
- E. Mexico Trips: Any trip into Mexico MUST be fully insured by a Mexican Insurance Company prior to ANY travel across the border, including Juarez. Mexican insurance must be obtained and a copy presented to Office of Transportation and Parking Services.

### **9.50 -Use of Facilities and Space Management**

- A. Academic Purpose: Classrooms and other academic space at the university will be used primarily for academic purposes for the benefit of an academic program.
- B. Limited Non-Academic Use: Under limited circumstances, academic areas may be used for non-academic purposes. The goals of the organization wishing to use the facilities must be consistent with the mission and goals of the university. Large-scale events or those with liability concerns might require the presence of an organizational advisor and/or liability insurance. Building use fees may be charged as follows: (1) recognized university organizations will not be charged a fee; (2) not-for-profit organizations may be charged a minimal fee; and (3) for-profit ventures will be charged a fee.
- C. Personal Gain and Competition with NMSU Prohibited: University facilities may not be used to teach students for private gain or in programs which compete directly with university-supported programs.
- D. Keys and Locks: Employees of Facilities and Services are instructed not to open locked doors for any individual. The locksmith shop will respond and open doors upon confirming the identification of the requestor and securing permission from the department head. Any new keys will be delivered to the department head for issuance.
- E. Use of Community College Facilities: The community college campus executive officers are responsible for assigning space in the following priorities: academic instruction, continuing community education sponsored by the community college, student organizations, and community organizations. The campus executive officers are authorized to refuse use of the facilities on a case-by-case basis and charge a user fee as deemed necessary.

- F. Space Management: It shall be the policy of the Office of Space Management to provide the data and analysis to ensure that all space owned by the Board of Regents of NMSU is being used to its full potential and allocated fairly. Any proposed or requested change in how space is allocated between colleges and/or any other major administrative unit must be forwarded to the Office of Space Management and to Facilities and Services for analysis and recommendation as part of the approval process.

### **9.50.10 Use of Facilities - Pan American Center/Corbett Center**

- A. The director of special events is responsible for management, operation and supervision of events conducted in the Pan American Center and also serves as the advisor to, and manager of, the ASNMSU concert and cultural programs.
- B. The Pan American Center is designed to accommodate athletic events, concert and theatrical presentations, public assemblies, commercial events, conventions and other special events. Use of the facility may involve rental or service fees, and requests for space should be directed to the Office of Special Events.
- C. As a matter of policy, Pan American Center does not lend or provide its furnishings and equipment to others for outside use except in those cases where specific equipment is intended for use on a rental basis.
- D. All entertainment held on campus by the ASNMSU, other student organizations, or the university itself, with contractual agreements in excess of \$2,000, shall be negotiated and coordinated through the director of special events or the advisors of ASNMSU, in cooperation with the organization advisor and officers. Such agreements of \$2,000 or less may be coordinated and negotiated by the organization advisor in cooperation with the director of campus activities. In all cases, contractual agreements for live entertainment shall be processed through the appropriate staff member noted above to the assistant vice president for auxiliary services, who is the only designated authority to sign such contracts on behalf of the university. Legal review necessary to any contract shall be initiated by the assistant vice president for auxiliary services.
- E. The university police department shall evaluate and approve/disapprove requests for special activities to be held on property under the control of the Board of Regents.
- F. All requests, exceptions, and interpretations of this rule will be managed by the chief of police (or designee), including determinations of staffing, traffic patterns, and special precautions.
- G. All costs incurred because of the event shall be charged back to the sponsor of the event.
- H. The decision of the chief of police may be appealed to the assistant vice president for human resource services. The decision of the assistant vice president for human resource services in these matters will be final.

### **9.55 - Utilities**

*[Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11]*

Facilities and Services oversees the acquisition, production, distribution, and management of most campus utility systems. These include domestic water, sanitary sewer, electric power, chilled water, steam, geothermal water, natural gas, and emergency power. The utility costs for Instructional and General purpose space are funded by the State of New Mexico and by NMSU via I & G appropriations. All other facilities and utility consumers are expected to reimburse the university for the cost of providing the utilities used.

- A. Utility Connections: Utility systems are integral to the well being of the campus. No modification or connection to a utility distribution system is authorized unless approved by the executive director for operations in Facilities and Services and either accomplished by or directly supervised by Facilities and Services.
- B. Utility Locates:
  - 1. In accordance with the New Mexico legislation (SFL/SB 415), anyone excavating or preparing plans for excavation on NMSU property shall request a utility locate a minimum of 2 working days prior to commencing excavation, in order to ensure all locators are informed of the locate request with sufficient time allowed to make their locates. Therefore, the time limit does not commence until both parties listed above



- are notified. Anyone excavating or preparing plans for excavation are required to provide information regarding the commencement, extent, and duration of the excavation work.
2. The utility locate performed and communicated shall be considered valid for 5 days. If excavation has not commenced within that time, a request for a relocate shall be made in accordance with the above.
  3. A minimum of 18 inches must be maintained between any marked utilities and the cutting edge or point of any mechanical excavating equipment.
  4. Existing utilities must be protected during the excavation. The owners of any utilities damaged or dislocated during the excavation work must be notified prior to backfilling. The owners must also be notified of any tracing tape or tracing wire damaged or dislocated during the excavation work, prior to backfilling.
- C. Utility Outages: Facilities and Services will normally provide 2 weeks' notice for all planned utility outages that impact campus facilities. Any activity that will require an outage must be requested in accordance with Facilities and Services procedures. On some occasions, emergency situations may require an unplanned utility outage and Facilities and Services will repair the situation and restore utility service as soon as is possible.
- D. Utility Tunnels: The university owns an extensive network of utility tunnels that exist for the sole purpose of providing a conveying utility systems to and from campus facilities. Access to those tunnels must be specifically approved by the executive director of operations (or designee) at (575) 646-2101. The tunnels are potentially dangerous spaces and safety regulations shall be followed by any person that enters these areas. Any installation of additional equipment or devices in the university utility tunnel system shall receive prior written approval from the executive director of operations in Facilities and Services.

## 9.60 - Wayfinding and Signage

*[Policy approved by the Administrative Council 11.14.06; adoption of policy ratified by the Board of Regents 07.20.10] [Amendment recommended by the Administrative Council 07.27.11; approved by the Board of Regents 08.22.11]*

- A. Purpose: To establish parameters for a unified graphic design to be used on all signage at NMSU's Las Cruces campus, in order to provide a sense of welcome, security and comfort to students and visitors as they navigate the campus.
- B. Rule Administrator: This Rule is administered by Facilities and Services.
- C. Rationale and Objectives:
1. The goals of the NMSU Wayfinding and Signage Program are to implement a cohesive graphic identity throughout the entire Las Cruces campus by Facilities and Services. The look and style of the signs applied uniformly and accurately will create a positive first impression by displaying graphics that will assist students and first-time visitors with navigating the campus and by providing them with a sense of welcome, security and comfort.
  2. This document establishes parameters and provides guidelines that will maintain a unified look for all signage on campus. Collaboration and participation by interested parties (administrative staff, architects, sign designers, interior designers, campus project managers, etc) will ensure that the system remains uniform and cohesive. The design of the signage will incorporate the guidelines from the branding initiative.
  3. The Wayfinding and Signage Program is all encompassing. It includes directional signs from roadways, to parking, to pedestrian activities, to buildings and ultimately to final destinations. The guidelines serve the entire Las Cruces campus and will be applied to new construction as well as modifications to existing buildings.
  4. Roadway signage will emphasize the main campus entrances and clearly identify visitor information destinations. Parking lots will be clearly marked, and campus maps and directories will be strategically placed at pedestrian entry paths adjacent to parking lots.
- D. Required Architectural Signage: Campus buildings will have architectural signage as follows:

1. Building Identification/dimensional letters - with the official name of the building as approved by the Board of Regents placed near the main entrance(s). Address numerals may also be utilized (numerals only). All letters on buildings will be a standard size as noted in the signage guidelines.
2. Building Identification/freestanding sign - with name of building, one name per building, as defined by the Naming Committee, placed near the main entrance or near the primary walkway to the main entrance in instances when the front door is obscured or when there is no appropriate location on the architecture for dimensional letters. One line of descriptive text may also be applied to the sign when needed or feasible, as defined by the Naming Committee. Address, with numerals and street name only, may also be applied to the sign panel. Signs may be single sided when parallel to the building or double faced when perpendicular to approaching traffic.
3. Building Directories/wall mounted - Tenants and sub-tenants of buildings will be listed on building directories as shown in the signage guidelines. Facilities and Services will provide information and assist building managers with implementing the directory signage through the NMSU Sign Shop. Directories are recommended in lobbies of buildings at primary entrances on the first floor or ground level. Secondary directories, such as floor directories and/or elevator lobby directories, can provide further opportunity to guide visitors and provide tenant information.
4. All appeals pursuant to this Rule should be directed through the university architect to the Campus Planning Committee.

## **Chapter 10**

### **Administrator and Supervisor Roles and Responsibilities**

*(In Transition - Content Not Available)*

#### **NMSU Policy System in Transition:**

*The framework which organizes and houses the university's various policies and procedures is being modified, to clarify between Regents Policies, housed in the Regents Policy Manual, and the operational policies and procedures, housed in the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, Student Handbook and Business Procedures Manual. We appreciate your patience as we transition, and apologize for any inconvenience or confusion this may cause.*

## **Chapter 11**

# **Research and Intellectual Property Management**

### **11.05 Intellectual Property Management and Commercialization**

## 11.05 - Intellectual Property Management and Commercialization

### PART 1: PURPOSE

The IP Office assists NMSU faculty and students throughout the NMSU System to make their greatest scholarly, economic, and social impact through their inventions by the prudent and timely management of intellectual property as described in this Rule. This Rule implements Regents Policies 11.05 and 5.00 B. 13. , establishes IP ownership rights and the processes for IP protection, commercialization and technology transfer.

### PART 2: DEFINITIONS

When used in this Rule the following definitions will apply:

- A. Assignee: The designated party to whom a right or property is legally transferred. For the purposes of this Rule, Assignee refers to Arrowhead Center, Inc. (AHC Inc.), which serves as the university's authorized Assignee for the protection, management and commercialization of University IP.
- B. Conflict of Interest: The actual or perceived impairment of the exercise of objective, unbiased judgment regarding a university employee, placing into question whether or not the employee is acting in the best interest of the university or the best interest of the employee or another private third party.
- C. Copyright: The intangible property right granted by federal statute to an original work, fixed in a tangible form of expression. Copyright provides the owner with the exclusive right to reproduce a work, to distribute it by sale or otherwise, to display or perform it publicly and to prepare derivative works.
- D. Copyrightable Materials: Include the following: (1) books, journal articles, texts, glossaries, bibliographies, study guides, laboratory manuals, syllabi, tests, and proposals; (2) lectures, musical or dramatic compositions, unpublished scripts; (3) films, filmstrips, charts, transparencies, and other visual aids; (4) video and audio tapes or cassettes; (5) live video and audio broadcasts; (6) programmed instructional materials; (7) mask works; (8) research notes, research data reports, and research notebooks; and (9) other materials or works such as Software, Apps, or computer programs which qualify for protection under the Copyright laws of the United States (*See 17 U.S.C. 102 et seq.*) or other protective statutes whether or not registered thereunder.
- E. Earnings: Monetary proceeds received by the university from the sale or licensing of IP (e.g. royalties or other form of payment). Earnings do not include: (1) research or development funding, or (2) reimbursements to the university or its Assignee.
- F. Elect Title: A determination that the IP is eligible for patent, and has potential marketability, in addition to a willingness on the part of NMSU to protect and manage the IP through the term of the IP life. The process for electing title includes completion of the requisite documentation by all parties formally allocating the IP rights between the Inventor and NMSU.
- G. Expenses: The funds expended or encumbered by NMSU or by its Assignee for the evaluation, protection and management of the IP, including but not limited to: NMSU administrative fees, legal fees, and marketing costs. Expenses do not include costs incurred to develop the invention.
- H. Individual IP: Intellectual Property in which the university has no ownership interest. Examples of Individual IP include: Individual IP is that conceived and developed outside the course and scope of employment, without university resources and without corporate, federal or other sponsorship. Individual IP may also include instructional material, scholarly or artistic work created by academic personnel within the course and scope of their employment, if no more than Limited Permitted Use of NMSU resources are used in its development. (*See Part 6, Section A.*) Individual IP also includes University IP, which the university has released from any claim of ownership. (*See Part 6, Sections B. 2. and C. 5.*)
- I. Intellectual Property (IP): Potential patentable and copyrightable materials, Trademarks, Trade Secrets, and Software whether or not formal protection is sought. IP includes, and is not limited to, books, articles, plays, films, audio and video works, written lectures, works of art, musical compositions, laboratory manuals,

demonstration devices, computer programs, apps, inventions, devices, methods, tangible properties and materials, chemical compounds, new materials or processes, instruments, and rights covering these items, such as Patents, Copyrights, and Trademarks.

- J. Invention: All original, novel useful processes, machines, compositions, and other scholarly and artistic creations. Invention also encompasses the application of new solutions to meet unexpected or new requirements, unarticulated needs, or actual market demands, which result in more effective products, processes, services, technologies or business models and are thus more readily available to markets, governments and society.
- K. Invention Disclosure Form (IDF): A written notice of Invention to the IP Office. An IDF confidentially discloses the Inventor's Invention, whether or not work for hire, so that options for protection and commercialization can be evaluated and pursued.
- L. Inventor: The faculty member, student, employee, staff member, or other university personnel who develops an Invention. IP may have more than one Inventor; "Inventor" referred to in the singular throughout this Rule also refers to multiple Inventors of one Invention, collectively.
- M. Know-How: Expert skill, information, or body of knowledge that imparts an ability to cause a desired result, is not readily available, and is confidentially held. Know-How may include tangible material (such as blueprints, formulas, instructions, patterns, specifications and Trade Secrets) or intangibles (such as manufacturing practices, marketing concepts, quality control and testing techniques) which are not common knowledge.
- N. Limited Permitted Use: The use of NMSU resources permitted in connection with the production of instructional materials, scholarly or artistic work, which is limited to the reasonable use of an employee's regularly assigned office or studio space; telephone, computer, printer or similar items used to produce work for NMSU.
- O. Net Earnings: For purposes of calculating the amount to be distributed, is the amount of Earnings remaining after the repayment of all Expenses.
- P. Patent: The right granted under federal statute to the owner of an invention that is novel, useful and not of an obvious nature, to exclude others from producing or using the invention for a limited period of time.
- Q. Patentable Materials: Includes the following: a process, a machine, a manufacture, or a composition of matter (such as new chemical), a method, operation or series of actions intended to achieve some end or result; a device or apparatus, a thing that is made or built by a human being (or by a machine); a patentable compound of material composed of two or more different substances. Items other than Software which reasonably appear to qualify for protection under the patent laws of the United States (*see 35 U.S.C. 101 et seq.*) or other protective statutes, including Novel Plant Varieties and Patentable Plants, whether or not patentable thereunder.
- R. Sponsoring Agency: An external public or private entity responsible for funding the research and development or other efforts associated with Copyrightable or Patentable Materials.
- S. Trademark: Includes all Trademarks, service marks, trade names, seals, symbols, designs, slogans, or logotypes developed by or associated with any NMSU entity. (*See 17 U.S.C. 1127*) A Trademark is a distinctive symbol, logo, picture, sound or word used to distinguish and identify the origin or description of products. A Trademark may also include distinctive and unique packaging, color combinations, building designs, product styles and overall presentations. A Trademark provides the owner with the exclusive right to use it on the product it was intended to identify and often on related products. Service-marks receive the same legal protection as Trademarks but are meant to distinguish services rather than products.
- T. Trade Secret: Information including, but not limited to, technical or nontechnical data, a formula, a pattern, a compilation, a program, a device, a method, a technique, a drawing, a process, financial data, financial plans, product plans, or a list of actual or potential customers or suppliers which: (i) derives economic value, actual or potential, from not being generally known to, and not being readily ascertainable by proper means by, other persons who can obtain economic value from its disclosure or use; and (ii) is the subject of efforts that are reasonable under the circumstances to maintain its secrecy.

- U. University IP: Intellectual Property owned by NMSU. Examples of University IP include Works for Hire, unless otherwise excepted by this Rule (*See Part 6, Section A.*) and an invention produced using NMSU resources beyond Limited Permitted Use.
- V. Work for Hire: Intellectual Property created within the Inventor's course and scope of employment with NMSU. A work is a work for hire only if it is prepared by an employee within the scope of employment (as hired to develop); or it is specially ordered or commissioned from an independent contractor pursuant to a written agreement as defined by statutory categories.

### **PART 3: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES**

The following entities are directly involved in IP, commercialization and technology transfer transactions, and are charged with the responsibilities noted:

- A. Arrowhead Center, Inc. Arrowhead Center, Inc. (AHC Inc.) is a 501 (c) (3) corporation established by the NMSU Board of Regents, consistent with the University Research Park and Economic Development Act. Among other activities and responsibilities, AHC Inc. is responsible for technology commercialization activities related to University IP.
- B. Intellectual Property Office (IP Office): The IP Office is a unit within the Office of the Vice-President for Economic Development (VPED) which protects, manages, and assists with the commercialization of inventions, consistent with this Rule.
- C. Inventor: An inventor is the source of the innovation that drives the processes under this Rule. Each Inventor is required to work through their department head or equivalent and/or Vice President or Dean with the IP Office to ensure compliance with this Rule and laws and regulations applicable to IP development, protection and commercialization. This begins with filing the Invention Disclosure Form and preliminary consultation with the IP Office, signing requisite documents, and other evaluation, protection, and commercialization activities.
- D. Human Resource Services: Human Resource Services (HRS) is responsible for assisting the academic and other departments by providing all NMSU employees with a copy of this Rule, as it may be amended, upon hire, and for obtaining an acknowledgment in writing that they have received it and that they will abide by it.
- E. Intellectual Property and Commercialization Board: The Intellectual Property and Commercialization Board (IPAC) was established in March, 2014 by the Chancellor. The IPAC consists of NMSU administrators, staff, and researchers from various colleges, offices, and disciplines, and at least one representative from Arrowhead Center, Inc. *See List of University Boards* and associated Charter. The IPAC is authorized:
  - 1. To make recommendations to the IP Office and Vice President for Economic Development concerning NMSU IP protection and commercialization issues, including but not limited to IP policy, rules and procedures; budget; and promotion of the IP Office.
  - 2. To serve as a hearing body to assist in the resolution of grievances on IP topics, disputes and ownership and to issue findings and recommendations to the Vice President for Economic Development.
  - 3. After evaluation of the market and commercial potential of disclosed Inventions, the IPAC votes to make a recommendation to the VPED on the issue of whether NMSU, through its Assignee, should Elect Title to the disclosed IP. The IPAC may also make other recommendations relating to the pursuit of IP protection and commercialization activities.
- F. Office of Grants and Contracts: The Office of Grants and Contracts is responsible for working with faculty, staff, and students in establishing and executing contracts and agreements related to IP and technology commercialization (e.g., non-disclosure agreements [NDAs] and confidentiality agreements [CDAs]). The Office of Grants and Contracts is also responsible for reviewing and, if necessary, instituting changes to contracts or agreements proposed by external partners in IP and technology commercialization-related activities.
- G. University General Counsel. University General Counsel is responsible for working with the IP Office and outside patent counsel in the management of NMSU IP, which may involve dispute resolution. University

General Counsel is also responsible for processing NMSU Trademark applications and maintaining awarded Trademarks, with the exception of Trademarks affiliated directly with the New Mexico Department of Agriculture and Arrowhead Center, Inc.

#### **PART 4: SYNOPSIS OF PHASES AND STEPS INVOLVED IN IP MANAGEMENT**

Observations, experiments or other activities by members of the academic university community often lead to Inventions. Some of these Inventions have potential for commercial development. The IP Office assists with the protection, commercialization of these Inventions and their transfer into the marketplace. This happens in six steps, within three primary phases: 1. Research and Disclosure, 2. Evaluation and Protection, and 3. Commercialization and Licensing. New Inventions may go through all phases and steps in the process, or for a variety of reasons, the IP management process may stop, change or end at any step.

##### Phase 1- Research and Disclosure:

**Step One: Consultation with the IP Office:** The Inventor, with their department head or equivalent and/or Vice President or Dean, or with their supervisors' approval, discusses the invention with staff from the IP Office, before public disclosure, to discuss publishing, making public disclosure, IP protection, the technology transfer process, and whether the invention is Work for Hire. Also the parties will consider and discuss preliminary tasks relating to patent eligibility and possibilities for commercialization and to explore options for moving Inventions from campus to market. If other parties will be affected by the potential future distribution of net earnings, they will be included in the conversation before decisions are finalized or action commenced. Public Disclosure of an Invention may jeopardize the ability and eligibility to protect the IP. (*See Part 5*)

**Step Two: Formal Submission of IP:** The Inventor submits information about the IP in a legal document called the Invention Disclosure Form (IDF) to the IP Office for evaluation. (*See Part 5*)

##### Phase 2 - Evaluation and Protection:

**Step Three: Determination of IP Ownership:** The IP Office evaluates the Invention Disclosure Form and, in consultation with the appropriate dean or equivalent and other party who may be affected by a potential future distribution of net earnings, makes the preliminary determination relating to IP ownership. (*See Part 6*)

**Step Four: Election of Title:** The IP Office evaluates the Invention's eligibility for protection, the market potential, and maintains the IP documentation file. The IPAC receives and reviews the IP documentation, hears from the Inventor, and makes a recommendation on Election of Title. The Vice President for Economic Development considers the IPAC's recommendation, the IP documentation file, position of the Inventor, and issues a written determination indicating whether or not NMSU will Elect Title. (*See Part 6*)

**Step Five: IP Protection:** The IP Office takes steps to obtain legal protection and initiates opportunities to commercialize the IP. (*See Part 6*)

##### Phase 3 - Commercialization and Licensing:

**Step Six: Commercialization:** The IP Office executes the technology transfer process, manages and administers the legal, financial and business documentation, and distributes Net Earnings generated from commercializing the University IP, when realized. (*See Part 7*)

#### **PART 5: PHASE 1 - RESEARCH AND DISCLOSURE**

The first phase of the technology transfer process is Research and Disclosure. This Part addresses what each Inventor must do once it is realized that the Inventor's work has led to an Invention which may require IP protection.

- A. Step 1 - Consultation with the IP Office: The first step within the Research and Disclosure phase is for the Inventor, their department head or equivalent and/or Vice President or Dean and any other party affected by the potential future distribution of net earnings to contact the IP Office. Communication with the IP Office staff is the first step to determining if the research has led to an Invention, with discussion of disclosing the Invention, public disclosures, funding of the research, determining ownership, eligibility for protection and the Inventions commercialization potential.



- B. **Step 2 - Formal Submission of IP:** An Invention Disclosure Form is the written notice of Invention to the IP Office that begins the formal technology transfer process. The Invention Disclosure Form confidentially discloses the Invention in its entirety so that options for protection and commercialization can be evaluated and pursued. Submission of the Invention Disclosure Form, signed by the Inventor and appropriate supervisors, begins the formal process.
1. **Submission of IP:** All University IP must be submitted for evaluation to the IP Office by the Inventor. Any uncertainty about whether IP is University IP should be resolved by submitting the IP for evaluation. Submission should be done using the appropriate form and in accordance with the guidelines posted at [www.IP.nmsu.edu](http://www.IP.nmsu.edu). IP Office staff will examine the disclosed materials in a timely manner and respond to Inventor to avoid a delay in publication or disclosure (as appropriate).
  2. **Multiple Inventors:** Where multiple inventors have participated in the development of University IP, they each must sign an agreement specifying their relative contributions on a percentage basis. Where individual inventors cannot agree on their relative percentage contributions, the dispute resolution process will be utilized, in order to determine in advance the collective and individual percentages of the IP. (*See Part 8*)
  3. **University Assistance with Individual IP:** Individual IP may be submitted to the IP Office to explore the feasibility of the university assisting with the protection and commercialization of the IP. If the university agrees to provide such assistance, the Inventor shall assign their rights in the IP to the university, and such IP shall become University IP, and processed in the same manner as any other University IP.

## **PART 6: PHASE 2- EVALUATION AND PROTECTION**

The second phase of the technology transfer process is Evaluation and Protection. This Part addresses determination of ownership rights, Election of Title and initiation of processes to protect the IP.

### A. **Step 3: Determination of IP Ownership:**

1. **Factors Relevant to Ownership Determination:** The determination of IP ownership hinges in large part on whether or not the Invention is Work for Hire, falls within the exception to Work for Hire set forth in this subsection, or is Individual IP. To determine this, the terms and conditions of the Inventor's employment, and the extent to which NMSU resources, personnel, or facilities were used in the development of the Invention will be examined. Considerations may also include external funding sources and any agreement related to the creation of the IP. An invention produced as a Work for Hire is University IP, unless it is a Copyrightable Material developed by academic personnel that is an instructional material, or other artistic or scholarly work developed using no more than Limited Permitted Use of NMSU Resources, in which case, the invention will be not be considered a Work for Hire, and will be recognized as Individual IP. (This shall be referred to as the exception to the Work for Hire rule.) The following is provided as guidance, with additional information and guidance available at the IP Office:
  - a. **University IP:** Except as otherwise provided in this Rule, if any one of these three criteria are met, the IP will be University IP:
    - i. The IP was developed during the university employee's regular work hours;
    - ii. The IP was developed with university resources beyond Limited Permitted Use, or
    - iii. The IP was developed as part of the university employee's job duties for the university.
  - b. **Contract Considerations:**
    - i. **Grants and Contracts:** Ownership of IP developed as a result of projects funded by a contract or grant properly executed by NMSU will be determined in accordance with the terms of the contract or grant.
    - ii. Individual or Third Party IP rights recognized in an agreement executed by the Board of Regents, the Chancellor, or the Executive Vice President and Provost prior to the effective date of this Rule will remain in force and effect.
    - iii. Commencing with the effective date of this Rule, No agreement purporting to bind the university with regard to IP ownership, including but not limited to grants and consulting agreements, will be valid unless the IP Office has reviewed and provided a recommendation to the VPED, and the VPED

is a signatory to the Agreement, along with the proper university official per the Signature Authority Table (*See* Regents Policy 1.30)

c. Consulting Activities (*See Also* Rules [5.32 - Faculty Consulting](#) and [8.25 Consulting -Exempt Staff](#))

- i. IP developed by a member of the faculty or by an exempt staff member (1) during that person's approved consulting activities and (2) without the use of university resources beyond the Limited Permitted Use will be Individual IP.

d. Instructional Materials:

- i. Generally, Copyrightable Materials developed with no more than Limited Permitted Use of NMSU resources, for courses offered by NMSU, will be Individual IP.
- ii. Copyrightable Materials created at the request of the university under a specific contract or for supplemental pay (e.g. development of distance learning courses) will be University IP.

e. Student Work:

- i. Copyrightable or Patentable Materials developed by a student to earn credit in university courses, or otherwise to satisfy university degree requirements, will be Individual IP, unless development Expenses covered by NMSU substantially exceed the amount of the course lab fees.
- ii. IP developed by a student pursuant to research activities performed under a university research contract or grant, or for which the student is compensated by the university (student employment) will be University IP, or may be third party IP as provided by contract or grant.

f. Artistic, Literary and Scholarly Works:

- i. Generally, Copyrightable Materials developed without more than Limited Permitted Use of NMSU will be Individual IP. Examples include books, articles, and other publications, works of art, literature and music recordings.
- ii. Copyrightable Materials developed pursuant to a university research contract or grant, or for which the employee is separately compensated by the university (contract or supplemental employment) will be University IP, or may be third party IP as provided by contract or grant.

g. Works for Hire: Works for Hire, unless excepted as described above, will be University IP.

2. **Procedures:**

- a. The IP Office in consultation with the Inventor and the appropriate supervisors will consider the facts relating to the disclosed IP and render a determination of IP ownership in accordance with this Rule. The determination may be contested by any involved party. (*See Part 8*)
- b. Once IP ownership has been determined and is not subject to any pending internal grievance or appeal, the parties will execute the appropriate documentation to release claim of ownership consistent with the determination:
  - i. In the case of a determination of Individual IP, NMSU will not assert any claim to the IP, which provides the Inventor full authority to use or dispose of the Individual IP without further university involvement.
  - ii. In the case of a determination of University IP, the Inventor will release any claim to the IP which might be asserted by the Inventor, and will provide NMSU and its Assignee full authority to use or dispose of the University IP. The Inventor will be involved throughout the technology transfer process to protect and commercialize the IP.

- B. Step 4: Election of Title: The eligibility of the Invention for IP protection, the commercial potential of the Invention and whether NMSU will Elect Title to the Invention is also determined within the second phase of the technology transfer process (Evaluation and Protection). The following procedures apply:

1. The IP Office, in coordination with the Inventor, evaluates the eligibility for IP Protection. Inventions that are eligible for protection and have the potential for commercialization will be presented to IPAC for evaluation and recommendation regarding Election of Title.
  2. The IP Office and/or the Inventor present the disclosed IP and pertinent facts to the IPAC. The Inventor may excuse, without stating any justification, one member of the IPAC for any reason. If the Inventor or the IP Office believes that any member of the IPAC has an actual conflict of interest, and the Inventor has already excused a member, that issue will be resolved separately. IPAC Board members must be able to serve in an objective and impartial manner, which may involve the recusal of a member with a conflict or the excusal by the VPED and replacement of that member with a designee.
  3. The IPAC will evaluate the commercial potential of University IP at or after the presentation by the IP Office and Inventor. The IPAC will issue its recommendation to the VPED on the issue of whether the university should Elect Title to the University IP.
  4. The VPED is not bound to the recommendation of the IPAC. The VPED will issue a written determination indicating whether or not the university will Elect Title, and if the determination is not consistent with the recommendation of the IPAC, will explain the basis for the determination.
    - a. If the VPED finds that there is adequate potential for commercial application of the technology or finds that there is a potential market for the licensing of the IP, the VPED will Elect Title.
    - b. If the VPED finds there is not adequate potential for either licensing or commercialization, but an academic college or other NMSU entity support Election of Title based on academic value of the disclosed IP, then the Inventor and the Inventor's Dean or equivalent will contact the IP Office to initiate the process to fund the Election of Title.
  5. If the VPED determines not to Elect Title, the VPED is authorized to release to the Inventor, on behalf of NMSU, any claim that might be asserted by the university to the IP. This does not apply in the instance of federally sponsored research, in which case the university's rights are transferred to the Sponsoring Agency. In such cases, the Inventor may request assignment of rights from the Sponsoring Agency.
- C. Step Five: IP Protection or Subsequent Return of the IP: Also within the second phase of the technology transfer process (Evaluation and Protection), NMSU through the IP Office will protect the IP. There are several manners in which IP can be protected including but not limited to the application of Patents, Copyrights, Trademarks, and Trade Secrets through protection granting agencies such as the United States Patent and Trademark Office and the United States Copyright Office.
1. Formal Assignment by Inventor: The Inventor will retain authorship or inventor rights, which will be recognized on the patent or copyright, but must assign ownership rights to the University IP to NMSU and its Assignee as part of protection and commercialization processes. The Inventor will execute an assignment document provided by the IP Office to protect the IP, and will cooperate in all matters relating to the IP so that the university or its Assignee is able to pursue legal protection, technology transfer and commercialization.
  2. Return by NMSU to Inventor of the Elected IP: If at least two (2) years have passed from the date the university determined it would Elect Title, or the university or its Assignee, along with the Inventor has not been successful in reaching its goals, or is not willing to expend the resources necessary to develop the IP, then the Invention may be released to the Inventor(s) to protect and commercialize.
    - a. An Inventor interested in protecting and commercializing the Invention, may engage in an agreement with the university for release of ownership rights and any financial obligations associated with the IP.
    - b. The Inventor may request that the university and its Assignee return their rights in such IP to the Inventor.
      - i. Such requests must be submitted in writing to the VPED and the IP Office.
      - ii. If the university and its Assignee have no plans to commercialize, the VPED shall relinquish the university's claim and assign its rights in such IP to the Inventor or Sponsoring Agency.

- iii. If the university or its Assignee can demonstrate progress with pursuing legal protection and/or commercialization, such request may be denied, or an agreement may be reached relating to reimbursement of the university for its Expenses prior to relinquishing its claim.

## **PART 7: PHASE 3 – COMMERCIALIZATION AND LICENSING; DISTRIBUTION OF EARNINGS**

### **A. Step 6: Commercialize:**

1. The move to establish a new company or work with an existing business is a joint decision made by the IP Office and the Inventor.
2. The IP Office will manage and administer the associated legal, financial and business aspects relating to IP protection, commercialization and technology transfer for current, non-expired IP protected Inventions.
3. The IP Offices utilizes a variety of sources and strategies to identify potential licensees and commercialize Inventions. Sometimes existing relationships of the Inventor, other researchers, and IP Office staff are useful in commercializing an Invention. Inventor active involvement dramatically improves the chances of matching an Invention to an outside company.
4. The process of commercialization may begin with a license agreement that protects NMSU's rights to ownership and enables a third party to bring the Invention to the public.
5. Distribution of Net Earnings: Net Earnings received from the terms of a License or other Agreement will be distributed to the Inventor and to the University as follows:
  - a. Earnings will first be used for recovery of all Expenses incurred by the university or its Assignee to protect, manage, and commercialize the IP (including legal, management and marketing fees and any grant awarded to the Inventor for development of their IP).
  - b. Net Earnings when realized will be used to repay direct costs incurred by the Inventor for producing the material under any material transfer agreement.
  - c. Net Earnings will be distributed as follows: the Inventor will (collectively) receive fifty percent (50%) of Net Earnings and the university will receive 50%.
  - d. The Net Earnings received by the university will be further distributed with 33.3% assigned to the Inventor's college or appropriate division, 33.3% to the Inventor's department, or appropriate division; and 33.3 % to the Office of the Vice President for Research (OVPR).
  - e. Where more than one inventor contributed to the development of the IP, the Inventor's share (50%) of the Net Earnings shall be distributed to each individual inventor according to their relative percentage contribution to the development of the IP, as previously established.
  - f. Where IP was developed with contributions from individual inventors from more than one college, division, or department, the portion of the college and department shares set forth above will be further divided in proportion to the respective individual inventor's relative percentage contribution.

## **PART 8: DISPUTE RESOLUTION**

The following section establishes the process by which disputes relating to intellectual property rights or ownership at NMSU will be resolved.

- A. Dispute Resolution Process: Any party with a claim or complaint relating to IP management must utilize this Rule's dispute resolution process. The IPAC will convene to hear parties' complaints as provided in this Rule. Examples of types of issues which may be submitted to it include but are not limited to: ownership rights, distribution of funds, and decisions about the pursuit or non-pursuit of legal protection or commercialization.
- B. Initiation of Complaint: A Complaint Resolution Request form must be completed and turned in to the IP Office. The form must provide the reason for the request, the name of requestor, the details of complaint and requested

resolution. A copy of the Complaint must also be sent by the complainant to the employee's dean or equivalent or to the student's supervising faculty, as appropriate.

- C. Administrative Hearing: The IPAC serves as the official hearing body, which hears from the parties, reviews the evidence presented and assertions made by the parties, and renders findings and recommendations to the Vice President for Economic Development. Consistent with this Rule, the IPAC may establish additional procedures to more specifically address mediation and/or hearing procedures for the orderly presentation and resolution of matters brought to it. When the IPAC convenes a dispute resolution hearing, the follow procedures will apply:
1. The IPAC chair will provide the parties at least ten business days' notice of the hearing date and time, and members of the hearing panel by name and job position or role in the university community. Each complainant shall be given an opportunity to excuse a member from the hearing panel, for cause or no cause. Should a complainant believe there remains a conflict of interest on the part of any remaining member of the IPAC, the provisions of No. 4 below will apply.
  2. The IPAC will conduct an informal hearing within 30 business days (unless this time limit is extended by the IPAC, with notice to the parties) from the date the request for a hearing is submitted by the aggrieved party. The hearing will be audio- recorded.
  3. The IPAC will review the documentation or other evidence provided by each party, convene a hearing to allow the parties to present, and render written factual findings and separate recommendations, if any.
  4. The IPAC will conduct a fair hearing, which includes resolution of ethical issues which might be raised concerning a member of the IPAC. Such issues (e.g., conflict of interest on the part of a member of the IPAC) should be raised and resolved prior to the hearing or as soon as it is brought to the IPAC's attention. In the event of an actual or perceived conflict, the affected IPAC member will recuse him or herself. If the IPAC member will not voluntarily recuse, the IPAC will hear from all parties and the member accused of the conflict, and vote regarding whether or not the IPAC reasonably could serve impartially and fairly in the matter at issue.
  5. The IPAC will follow any additional hearing procedures it may adopt, and maintain order during the hearing process. In the absence of any additional written procedures to this Rule, the chair shall maintain order. Procedural questions raised by any participant will be decided by the IPAC after hearing the position of each party on the issue in contention, discussion and deliberation amongst the IPAC members. The IPAC may meet apart from the parties to deliberate on the procedural question and may consult by phone with General Counsel. The decision on the procedural question will be decided by a vote of the IPAC after re-convening the hearing with all parties.
  6. The hearing will be audio-recorded; the audio recording becomes part of the dispute resolution record, along with the complaint resolution request; position statement from respondent, if any; other documentation or evidence tendered by the parties for the IPAC's consideration; and the findings and recommendations by the IPAC. The IPAC will not consider evidence outside of the hearing. Trade Secret or other confidential proprietary information or other disclosed IP which merits heightened protection from public disclosure will be labeled as such in the record.
  7. To ensure impartiality, the IPAC members must not communicate with either party or associated supervisor before or at the hearing unless through the chair and with both parties present.
  8. The IPAC members are expected to respect the privacy of the parties, and the confidentiality of the disclosed IP, and will not discuss the matters in dispute with third parties, except for university officials with a legitimate need to know. The parties and their supervisors are subject to these same requirements.
  9. Absent the need for a time extension being required for extenuating circumstances, with notice to the parties, the IPAC's findings and recommendations will be provided to the VPED within 15 business days from the date of the hearing.

- D. Issuance of Determination: The VPED will review the findings and recommendations, the record from the hearing, and issue a decision to the parties, with a copy to the University General Counsel. The decision will inform the parties of their right to appeal the decision to the Office of the Chancellor within ten business days from receipt of the decision.
- E. Right to Appeal; Appeal Procedures and Final Decision: The decision of the VPED may be appealed by either party. A written request for appeal, attaching a document outlining the basis for the appeal, must be submitted to the office of the Chancellor, with a copy to all parties, the VPED and the University General Counsel, within ten business days from receipt of the VPED's decision. Any party may submit a response to the appeal document within ten business days from receipt of the copy of the request for appeal. The Chancellor's review will be based on the written and audio recorded record, the argument of the parties contained in the written submissions. A final decision will be within thirty business days from date the Office of the Chancellor received the responses to the appeal and the record (to be provided by the IPAC chair), whichever is later, which time deadline may be extended based on scheduling or other circumstances, with notice to the parties.

Rule Administrator:	Vice President for Economic Development
Scope:	NMSU System
Effective Date:	02.16.17 ( <i>rule revision superseded former Rule 5.94.20 - IP and Patents</i> )
Revision History:	02.02.17 rule revision recommended by Faculty Senate (FSP 25-16/17); 02.14.17 recommended by University Administrative Council; 02.16.17 approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15: BOR approved Policy 5.94.20 as initial Rule 5.94.20. <b>Prior History as Policy 5.94.20:</b> 03.09.11 Administrative Council recommended Amendment; 03.14.11 BOR approved.
Cross References:	Regents Policy 5.00, Faculty and Academic Administrators; Regents Policy 11.05, Intellectual Property Management

## **Chapter 12**

### **Physical Assets Management**

***(In Transition - Content Not Available)***

#### **NMSU Policy System in Transition:**

*The framework which organizes and houses the university's various policies and procedures is being modified, to clarify between Regents Policies, housed in the Regents Policy Manual, and the operational policies and procedures, housed in the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, Student Handbook and Business Procedures Manual. We appreciate your patience as we transition, and apologize for any inconvenience or confusion this may cause.*

## **Chapter 13**

# **Financial Resource Management**

### **13.10**      **Investment Management**



## 13.10 – Investment Management

### PART 1: INTRODUCTION AND OBJECTIVE

This Rule provides the regulatory framework and procedural requirements applicable to the university's investment transactions, including prudent investment of cash balances, and maximization of the efficiency of the university's cash management system. The manager of banking, investment, and tax (investment manager) will perform investment management responsibilities outlined in this Rule. Except for non-discretionary funds defined in Part 3, the goal of the university's investment program is to achieve a rate of return on investments at least equal to the average rate of return on the one-year U.S. Treasury bill for the reporting period, or other appropriate performance measures as determined by the senior vice president for administration and finance (SVPAF).

### PART 2: PERMITTED AND PROHIBITED INVESTMENTS

- A. Permitted Investments: Permitted Investments are only those securities and deposits specifically authorized by statute and not contrary to §6-10-10 and §§46-9A-1 through 46-9A-10 NMSA 1978, other investment statutes, existing bond covenants or any other externally placed restrictions. The investment manager may invest cash balances not required for immediate disbursement, including non-discretionary bond proceeds in specific types of money market accounts, in the following investments subject to acceptable underlying investment grade ratings in Part 6:
1. Cash at Banks, Savings and Loan Associations or Credit Unions whose deposits are insured by an agency of the United States;
  2. Securities issued by the United States government;
  3. Securities issued or guaranteed by United States government agencies or Government Sponsored Enterprises (GSE);
  4. Corporate Bonds issued by corporations that are organized and operating in the United States;
  5. The Local Government Investment Pool;
  6. Securities issued by the State of New Mexico, its agencies, institutions, counties, municipalities, school districts, community college districts or other subdivisions of the state, or as otherwise provided by law;
  7. Securities issued by states other than New Mexico or governmental entities in states other than New Mexico;
  8. FDIC-insured Bank CD's; or
  9. Repurchase agreements. Repurchase agreements involve the sale of a security combined with an agreement to repurchase the same security at a higher price at a future date.
    - a. Repurchase agreement transactions are subject to the following restrictions:
      - i. Transactions will be conducted only with approved dealers, the fiscal agent bank, approved counterparties under a secure lending arrangement, or the master custodial bank;
      - ii. Counterparties will have an Investment Grade Rating as provided in this rule;
      - iii. Transactions with any single counterparty will not exceed 35% of total repurchase agreements (see Part 7); and
      - iv. The maximum term of any repurchase agreement will be one (1) year.
    - b. Securities accepted as collateral for repurchase agreements will be subject to the following **additional** restrictions:
      - i. Securities placed as collateral for repurchase agreements, with maturity under ten (10) years, will be priced at 102% of market value, plus accrued income;
      - ii. Securities with a final maturity of 10 years or greater placed as collateral for repurchase agreements will be priced at 103% of market value, plus accrued income;
      - iii. Agency mortgage-backed securities placed as collateral for term repurchase agreements with a maturity longer than seven days will be priced at 105% of market value, plus accrued income;

- iv. Term repurchase agreements with a maturity date that is longer than seven days are required to have daily pricing of collateral; and
  - v. Only treasury and agency securities will be utilized as collateral for repurchase agreements.
- B. Prohibited Investments: To provide for the safety and liquidity of funds, the following investments are prohibited:
- 1. Short Sales;
  - 2. Whole Loan Mortgage Obligations;
  - 3. Reverse Repurchase Agreements, except under a securities lending arrangement;
  - 4. Inverse Floating Rate Notes;
  - 5. Equity Securities; or
  - 6. Swaps and Derivatives.

### **PART 3: NON-DISCRETIONARY FUNDS**

Non-discretionary funds are externally restricted to specific types of investments. They include, but are not limited to: bond proceeds; endowments managed by the university; and other sponsored project or gift funds with specific investment requirements.

- A. Compliance with External Restrictions: All non-discretionary funds will be invested in compliance with accepted external restrictions.
- B. Permitted Investment of Non-Discretionary Funds: Except as may be prohibited by law, non-discretionary funds may be invested in:
- 1. Obligations, the interest on which is excluded from gross income of the recipient for federal tax purposes, and any other instrument which does not constitute investment property under section 148 of the Internal Revenue Code, as amended from time to time, which is rated in any of the three highest major Rating Categories by any nationally recognized rating agency; or
  - 2. Any other investment specifically permitted by bond resolution authorizing the issuance of the bonds or other securities or set forth in a resolution, escrow agreement or trust agreement, relating to the bonds or other securities.

### **PART 4: INVESTMENT MANAGEMENT RESPONSIBILITIES**

- A. Delegation of Authority to Manage University's Investment Program: Responsibility for the day-to-day management of the university's investment program is delegated through the SVPAF to the treasury services department of that unit. The manager of the treasury services department shall act as the investment manager for the university.
- B. Responsibilities of Investment Manager: The investment manager shall:
- 1. Monitor cash flow and select investments to meet anticipated cash requirements, and provide adequate liquidity to meet university obligations.
  - 2. Manage the university's investment portfolio, including all purchases, sales and trading activities to meet the university's portfolio objective. Portfolio management includes responsibility for timely deposit and safekeeping of all cash balances of the university, and the direct responsibility for placing specific investments with financial institutions in accordance with this rule.
  - 3. Recommend investment guidelines to the SVPAF and designees, including recommended investment maturities.
  - 4. Present short-term and long-term investment recommendations for new monies to the associate controller.

5. Prepare a comprehensive set of reports designed to keep the SVPAF and designees fully apprised of all investment transactions and current status of the university's investment portfolio.
6. Maintain a system of internal controls to guarantee the integrity and security of the university's investment portfolio and cash balances.
7. Analyze continually the risk/reward relationships existing in the marketplace with particular emphasis given to the following factors when selecting a specific security for inclusion in the university's portfolio:
  - a. Relative Yield-to-Maturity: comparison of return available from alternate investments for comparable maturity dates.
  - b. Marketability: analysis of relative marketability of alternate investments in case of forced sale and/or possibility of future trade.
  - c. Intermarket Yield Analysis: analyze the spread relationship between sectors of the market, e.g., Treasury Bill vs. Discount Notes, to take advantage of yield differentials.
  - d. Yield Curve Analysis: analyze the slope of the yield curve to determine most attractive maturities for earning maximum return with minimum risk.
  - e. General Economic and Interest Rate Outlook: review and analyze current literature on interest rate projections to assist in timing transactions and selecting appropriate maturities.

## **PART 5: MATURITY RESTRICTIONS**

- A. The investment portfolio shall remain sufficiently liquid to meet all operating requirements that may be reasonably anticipated. This is accomplished by structuring the portfolio so that securities mature concurrent with cash needs to meet anticipated demands (static liquidity). Furthermore, since all possible cash demands cannot be anticipated, the portfolio should consist largely of securities with active secondary or resale markets (dynamic liquidity).
- B. The investment manager will not commit any discretionary funds to maturities longer than ten (10) years from the date of purchase.
- C. Funds will only be committed to maturities longer than five (5) years from the date of purchase if directly related to a specific capital or other long-term project.
- D. Investment of non-discretionary funds will reflect maturity dates not to exceed the final maturity dates established within the funds' restrictive purposes.
- E. The following maturity limits shall apply to investment portfolio:

<b><u>Allowable Securities</u></b>	<b><u>Maturity Limits</u></b>
Certificates of Deposit	3 Years
Municipal Bonds	3 Years
Repurchase Agreements	1 Year
All Other Securities	5 Years

## **PART 6: DIVERSIFICATION**

- A. **Diversification Requirement:** The investment manager will diversify its use of investment instruments to avoid incurring unreasonable risks inherent in over-investing in specific instruments, individual financial institutions or maturities.
- B. **Parameters for Investments:** With regard to the Investment Type table below: 1) the university's investment portfolio shall be structured within the parameters of the tolerance level amounts noted, and 2) with the exception of U.S. Treasury securities and authorized pools, and in accordance with the issuer limits, no more than 50% of the total investment portfolio will be invested in a single security type or with a single financial institution or at a single maturity.

<b>Investment Type</b>	<b>Quality Criteria</b>	<b>Tolerance Level Amount</b>	<b>Issuer Limits (within corresponding tolerance level)</b>
US Treasuries	Full faith and credit of United States	100% of portfolio	Unlimited
U.S. Government Agencies guaranteed by full faith and credit of the U.S.	Full faith and credit of United States	100% of portfolio	Not to exceed 50%
U.S. Government Agencies (non-full faith and credit)	Limited to Investment Grade Ratings defined in this rule	50% of portfolio	Not to exceed 50%
FDIC-insured Bank CD's	Within the current FDIC insurance limit	100% of portfolio	Within the current FDIC insurance limit
Corporate Bonds	Limited to Investment Grade Ratings defined in this rule	20% of portfolio	Lesser of 5% or \$5M
Municipal Securities	Limited to Investment Grade Ratings defined in this rule	25% of portfolio	Lesser of 5% or \$5M
Repurchase Agreements	Limited to Investment Grade Ratings defined in this rule	50% of portfolio	35% per counterparty

C. Investment Grade Ratings: The following are the acceptable underlying Investment Grade Ratings:

<u>Rating Agency</u>	<u>Long-Term</u>	<u>Short-Term</u>
Standard & Poor's	A to AAA	A-1
Fitch	A to AAA	F1
Moody's	A2 to Aaa	P-1

D. Issuer Credit Rating Limits: The following are the Issuer Credit Rating limits which shall apply to investment portfolio:

Short Term Credit Rating	A-1, P-1, F1, MIG-1 or better
Long Term Credit Rating	A/A2 or better

## **PART 7: BOND SALE**

A. Bond Sale: Bonds shall not be sold prior to maturity subject to the following exceptions:

1. A bond with declining credit may be sold early to minimize loss of principal.
2. A bond swap that would adjust the portfolio (quality, yield, or duration) in a manner that would allow it to better fulfill the investment objectives. A bond swap is a debt swap involving the exchange of a new bond issue for similar outstanding debt.
3. Liquidity needs of the portfolio require that the bond be sold.
4. When a bond call is imminent and the early sale of the bond results in the bond being sold at a premium.

B. Loss Recordation: In many yield pickup transactions (particularly when interest rates are rising), a book loss must be recorded at the time of the sale of the owned investment. It is the policy of the university to charge the loss against the interest income account, recognizing that this loss will be fully recovered, and an incremental gain will be earned, over the life of the original investment.

## PART 8: SAFEKEEPING AND COLLATERALIZATION

- A. Safekeeping Receipts: All investment securities, other than local financial institution Certificates of Deposit purchased by the university, will be held in the university's name by a third-party custodian approved by university administration. All transactions will be evidenced by safekeeping receipts.
- B. Collateralization: Deposit-type securities will be collateralized in accordance with the collateral policy of the State of New Mexico's Board of Finance.

## PART 9: AUTHORIZED FINANCIAL DEALERS AND INSTITUTIONS

- A. Authorization of Financial Institutions and Security Broker/Dealers: The investment manager will maintain a list of financial institutions authorized to provide investment services. In addition, a list will be maintained of approved security broker/dealers selected by credit-worthiness. These may include primary dealers or regional dealers that qualify under Securities and Exchange Commission Rule 15C3-1 (uniform, net capital rule) and a member of FINRA and SIPC.
- B. Annual Review of Financial Institutions and Security Broker/Dealers: An annual review of the financial condition and registrations of qualified dealers and institutions will be conducted using FINRA Broker Check services by the investment manager. A current audited financial statement is required to be on file for each financial institution and broker/dealer with which the university deposits and invests monies.
- C. Local Preference: The investment manager may give preference to investment with local dealers and institutions within the guidelines of this Rule. Investment with out-of-state dealers and institutions will require prior approval of the SVPAF or designees.

## PART 10: INVESTMENT POOLS AND INTEREST ALLOCATION

- A. Pooling of Investments and Monthly Accrual of Earnings: Except as noted below, the investments of the university (including amounts held in interest-bearing demand and time deposits) are pooled in order to determine a weighted average monthly interest earnings rate. In order to compute this rate, all such investment earnings are accrued monthly, including amortizing premiums and crediting discounts on short and long-term investments.
- B. Allocation of Monthly Interest Earnings: The monthly earnings on these pooled investments are allocated to various university accounts in accordance with externally mandated requirements (e.g., bond resolutions) and other internal designations. Nothing herein shall prohibit separation of bond proceeds, reserve funds, or other non-discretionary funds from the pooled investment fund. The SVPAF approves all such internal designations. The allocation is based upon the monthly cash balance in each of these university funds, with the remaining balance of the pooled earnings being allocated to the unrestricted current fund.
- C. Percentage of Cash Balance Invested; Discretion of SVPAF: Under this method, all of these designated university funds (other than the current unrestricted fund) will be presumed to have 100% of their cash balances invested in the pooled investment account, unless the SVPAF determines that lesser percentage is to be utilized for a given fund.
- D. Separation of Investment Accounts; Discretion of SVPAF: At the discretion of the SVPAF separate investment accounts may be set up at external institutions and utilized to adequately monitor the earning of certain university funds. These separate funds are also restricted to investments that are permitted under this Rule.

Rule Administrator:	Office of the Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance.
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Cross References:	Regents Policy 13.10 - Investment Management
Revision History:	10.19.16 BOR approved Regents Policy 13.10, superseding former Policy 2.37 - Investments, and effectuating new Rule 13.10, which amended Rule 2.37 - Investments, as recommended by UAC on 10.11.16 and approved by Chancellor. 10.21.15 BOR approved Policy 2.37 as initial Rule 2.37. <i>Prior Revision History as Policy 2.37 not available.</i>

## **Chapter 14**

### **Business Operations**

14.69                      University Related Travel Guidelines

#### **NMSU Policy System in Transition:**

*The framework which organizes and houses the university's various policies and procedures is being modified, to clarify between Regents Policies, housed in the Regents Policy Manual, and the operational policies and procedures, housed in the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, Student Handbook and Business Procedures Manual. We appreciate your patience as we transition, and apologize for any inconvenience or confusion this may cause.*

## Rule 14.69 - University Related Travel Guidelines

### PART 1: PURPOSE

This rule provides requirements and restrictions applicable to all domestic and international travel by NMSU students, faculty and staff for university academic and business purposes.

### PART 2: REQUIREMENT FOR ADVANCE APPROVAL

All university related travel must be approved prior to travel by the relevant supervisor or the administrator who is responsible for the source of funding. Departments and units within the university may establish their own procedures and requirements for pre-approval. All required approvals must articulate the university academic or business purpose for the travel. Travel reimbursement may be denied for travel undertaken or travel expenditures incurred without the requisite advance approval(s). In addition, all international travel must be coordinated through the Office of International and Border Programs in accordance with Rule 16.69.

### PART 3: REIMBURSEMENT FOR TRAVEL EXPENSES

To qualify for travel reimbursement, students, faculty and staff undertaking university funded travel must comply with the applicable travel rules, including the requirements for international travel described in Rule 16.69 - University Related International Travel. The [NMSU Business Procedures Manual](#) establishes the amount and types of reimbursements available, the directives and procedures to be followed in requesting travel advances and reimbursements, and other travel related regulations.

Rule Administrator:	Senior Vice President for Administration and Finance
Scope:	NMSU System
Effective Date:	
Cross References:	Business Procedures Manual Section 5C; Rule 16.69 - University Related International Travel; Rule 16.70 Education Abroad
Revision History:	09.12.17 amendment approved by Chancellor. 12.11.15 BOR repealed Policy 2.69.1 - International Travel, Generally from Regents Policy Manual by BOR; 10.21.15 BOR approved replication of Policy 2.69.1 - International Travel, Generally as initial Rule 2.69.1 <b><i>Prior History as Policy 2.69.1 - International Travel, Generally not available</i></b>

## **Chapter 15**

# **Information Management and Data Security**

### **15.50    [Management of Health Information – HIPAA Compliance](#)**



## 15.50 – Management of Health Information – HIPAA Compliance

### PART 1: INTRODUCTION

The Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996 (HIPAA) and the regulations promulgated thereunder cover health plans, health care clearinghouses and health care providers who conduct certain financial and administrative transactions electronically. In New Mexico, all information contained in an individual's medical record is confidential and cannot be disclosed without consent of the individual, except in certain circumstances. (NMSA 1978 § 24-14-26 and §24-14-27). As directed by Regents Policy 2.90, Information Data Security, New Mexico State University ("university" or "NMSU") adopts this rule for the protection of the privacy relating to health information of university students, employees and their dependents, in compliance with HIPAA and applicable regulations, as well as applicable related state law.

### PART 2: DEFINITIONS

- A. Covered Component: Covered Components are the categories corresponding to HIPAA's covered entity designations, by which the NMSU entities are designated to require compliance with HIPAA. (*See Part 3*)
- B. Health Information: Health Information includes anything in any form or medium created or received by a health care provider, health plan, public health authority, employer, life insurer, school or university, or health care clearing house that relates to the past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; or the past, present or future payment for the provision of health care to an individual.
- C. HIPAA: HIPAA is the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act of 1996, which mandates significant change in the laws and regulations governing the provision of health benefits, the delivery and payment of health care services and the security and confidentiality of Individually Identifiable and Protected Health Information. As used in this Rule, HIPAA will also include the regulations promulgated under the authority of the Act.
- D. HIPAA Privacy Officer (HPO): The HPO is the individual responsible for the development and implementation of HIPAA policies and procedures for NMSU and who is the primary contact for receiving complaints and is able to provide further information about matters covered by the Notices of Privacy Practices.
- E. HIPAA Security Officer (HSO): The HSO is the individual responsible for the development and implementation of the policies and procedures required by the HIPAA Security Rules for NMSU.
- F. Hybrid Entity: A Hybrid Entity is a single legal entity that has some units performing functions that meet the definition of a covered entity under HIPAA (Covered Component under this Rule), and others that do not.
- G. Individually Identifiable Health Information: Individually Identifiable Health Information is information in any form or medium that identifies or reasonably can be used to identify the individual and relates to the: past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual; provision of healthcare to the individual; or past, present or future payment for the provision of health care.
- H. Notice(s) of Privacy Practices: Notice(s) of Privacy Practices refers to the document that specifies how a covered health care provider or covered health plan uses and discloses Protected Health Information and the rights of individuals related to this information.
- I. NMSU Entity: NMSU Entity, sometimes also referred to as "unit", is a general term which may refer to a college, a department or any other individual administrative unit within the NMSU System, including but not limited to agricultural experiment stations. Private not-for-profit corporate entities recognized to be affiliated with NMSU for fundraising, research, public service, or student activity purposes, while subject to certain NMSU policies and procedures to maintain recognized status, are not considered "NMSU entities", and if located on NMSU premises, are referred to as "External Entities".
- J. Protected Health Information (PHI): Protected Health Information (PHI) is Individually Identifiable Health Information in any form or medium maintained or transmitted by an NMSU entity within one of the Covered Components. PHI includes: (1) demographic information collected from an individual; (2) medical history; (3) information relating to the past, present or future physical or mental health or condition of an individual that is identifiable; (4) the provision of health care to an individual or the payment for the provision of health care; (5)

results of physical examinations, blood tests, x-rays; and (6) results of other diagnostic and medical procedures. PHI excludes “de-identified information,” defined as health information that does not identify an individual and with respect to which there is not reasonable basis to believe that the information can be used to identify an individual.

- K. Research: Research as used in this Rule is a systematic investigation, including research development, testing, and evaluation, designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge. See 45 CFR 164.501. Please note, an NMSU entity within one of the Covered Components may always use or disclose for research purposes health information which has been de-identified (in accordance with 45 CFR 164.502(d), and 164.514(a)-(c) of the Rule).

### **PART 3: HIPAA HYBRID ENTITY DESIGNATION AND NMSU COVERED COMPONENTS**

- A. Designation as Hybrid Entity: Some of the university’s educational and business activities are covered under HIPAA law and regulations, and most are not. NMSU hereby designates itself as a hybrid entity.
- B. NMSU Covered Components: NMSU has three Covered Components: 1) the Health Care Provider component, which contains departments that provide health-related services, 2) the Health Plan component, which includes certain plans within the university that are determined to be covered by the HIPAA law and regulations, and 3) the Administrative Support Component, which performs support functions on behalf of the Health Care Providers and Health Plan components. The NMSU Covered Components recognized at the time of adoption of this Rule are as follows:
1. Health Care Provider Component:
    - a. Campus Health Center
    - b. Counseling Center
    - c. Social Work Services
    - d. Sports Medicine/Athletic Training Center
    - e. Speech and Hearing Center
    - f. Emergency Medical Response (Police and Fire)
    - g. Counseling and Educational Psychology (CEP) Center
    - h. Family Resource Center (unit of ACES)
    - i. Student Accessibility Services
    - j. Student Clinics (Main, DACC, or branch campuses) Dental, Nursing, EMS, Allied Health, etc.
  2. Health Plan Component:
    - a. NMSU Benefits Office
    - b. International Programs Student Health Insurance
  3. Administrative Support Component: Administrative Support Units are only subject to HIPAA to the extent that they perform support functions of behalf of the Health Care Providers and Health Plan components and must access protected health information in performing those functions.
    - a. Information Technology Services
    - b. Accounts Receivable
    - c. Internal Audit
    - d. Office of General Counsel
    - e. Office of Institutional Equity
    - f. Purchasing and Risk Management
    - g. Environmental Health and Safety
    - h. University Research
- C. In the event that an NMSU employee or office not identified as a NMSU Covered Component above has a need to access protected health information, for the duration of a project or longer, the responsible administrator for

the unit must contact the HIPAA Privacy Officer for guidance to ensure compliance with this Rule and with HIPAA.

#### **PART 4: PRIVACY NOTICES AND CONSENT**

Each health care provider component will distribute Notices of Privacy Practices to participants in health care services and participants in research provided or conducted by NMSU. The privacy notices will include a consent to participate in the health care services or research.

#### **PART 5: DESIGNATION AND DUTIES OF HIPAA PRIVACY AND HIPAA SECURITY OFFICER**

As required by HIPAA, NMSU designates the IT Compliance Officer as the HIPAA Privacy Officer (HPO) and the Chief Information Security Officer as the HIPAA Security Officer (HSO) (collectively referred to as the HIPAA Officers). These positions may perform other tasks and duties on behalf of the university, but must have the duties and responsibilities designated to ensure compliance with HIPAA as part of their job descriptions. The HPO and HSO will be responsible for facilitating compliance with this Rule by developing, implementing and maintaining a university system wide HIPAA Compliance Program. To ensure comprehensive coverage of the program, the HIPAA Officers should collaborate and coordinate efforts with the University's Compliance Oversight Committee as well as with other relevant university departments. The HPO and HSO may also create and maintain a website dedicated to providing HIPAA compliance related training and other resources and guidance for the university community.

- A. HIPAA Privacy Officer (HPO): The HPO will have sufficient authority and resources to fulfill the duties determined to ensure compliance with HIPAA and be responsible for privacy matters related to HIPAA. (Privacy §164.530(a) - Personnel designations) The HPO's responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. Develop and implement HIPAA privacy forms and operational policies;
  2. Receive, investigate and appropriately handle privacy complaints;
  3. Coordinate privacy and security efforts across the university system to ensure adequate development of the HIPAA Compliance Program;
  4. Monitor, report and initiate changes to university policies and procedures in relation to local, state and federal statutes, regulations and ordinances that may affect the HIPAA Compliance Program;
  5. Coordinate delivery of related HIPAA privacy and security training and ensure compliance for training determined to be mandatory for employees of the university;
  6. Investigate and respond to HIPAA related complaints and incidents in accordance with the established policies and procedures related to HIPAA security and privacy;
  7. Provide guidance and support to units and programs that have components that must comply with HIPAA.
  8. Conduct periodic HIPAA privacy compliance reviews; and
  9. Provide annual or regular reports to the university's Compliance Oversight Committee related to HIPAA violations and remedies.
- B. HIPAA Security Officer (HSO): The HSO will have sufficient authority and resources to fulfill the duties determined to ensure compliance with HIPAA and be responsible for security matters related to HIPAA. (Security §164.308(a)(2) - Assigned Security Responsibility) The HSO's responsibilities will include, but are not limited to, the following:
1. Develop and implement HIPAA information security forms and operational policies;
  2. Coordinate with each component unit regarding HIPAA privacy and security compliance efforts;
  3. Ensure each component unit develops internal operating guidelines relating to appropriate handling and safeguarding of HIPAA data;
  4. Ensure component units operate in a HIPAA compliant manner and perform regular risk assessments relating to the adequate protection of protected health information;
  5. Ensure component unit staff are provided with regular HIPAA training;

6. Retain required documentation that demonstrates the university's compliance with the HIPAA law and regulations; and
7. Conduct periodic HIPAA security compliance reviews.

#### **PART 6: RESEARCH COMPLIANCE**

- A. Investigators who wish to use PHI for research purposes must obtain a signed authorization from each participant. Institutions are required to establish a "Privacy Board" to review and approve requests for waivers of authorization for use and disclosure of PHI for research purposes. At NMSU, the Office of Institutional Compliance's Institutional Review Board (IRB) serves as the Privacy Board.
- B. All research involving PHI must be reviewed and approved by the IRB, including disclosure of research data involving PHI. The IRB will ensure researchers comply with the requirements of this rule and its procedural guidelines. Pursuant to federal law, all institutions governed by HIPAA must train their employees regarding PHI. NMSU provides online training for new employees and annual training updates for existing employees.
- C. NMSU employees involved in human subject research must complete IRB training through the Collaborative Institutional Training Initiative (CITI). CITI is a web-based training package on issues relating to human subjects research. The CITI module "Research and HIPAA Privacy Protections" is required for IRB training, but it does not replace any other HIPAA training required by NMSU.

#### **PART 7: DATA BREACH NOTIFICATION, REPORTING AND HANDLING**

- A. The HIPAA Breach Notification Rule, 45 CFR §§ 164.400-414, requires HIPAA covered entities, including those within Hybrid Entities, to provide notification following a breach of unsecured protected health information.
- B. All NMSU employees, students or other affiliates upon becoming aware of a potential data breach/compromise relating to health information, must report such incidents to a HIPAA Officer. The HIPAA Officers are responsible to ensure proper handling, investigation, documentation and reporting to ensure overall HIPAA compliance. The Officers will ensure at minimum proper:
  1. Communication to NMSU senior officials regarding actual data compromises and breaches;
  2. Investigation, documentation and handling of incidents in collaboration with the Offices of University General Counsel, Human Resource Services and other university departments as appropriate;
  3. Submission of notices of actual data breaches to the U. S. Secretary of Human Health Services (HHS) Secretary as required by HIPAA (e.g. data breaches affecting 500 or more individuals require notification of the media per HHS guidelines; breaches affecting fewer than 500 individuals requires notification to HHS);
  4. Notification to affected individuals in collaboration with University Communications; and
  5. Retention of appropriate documentation for each data breach/incident.

#### **PART 8: HIPAA TRAINING**

- A. HIPAA requires NMSU to train all workforce members with access to health information about the University HIPAA administrative policies, rules and procedures. The NMSU entities within the above listed Covered Components must provide comprehensive training to staff regarding their respective operational privacy policies and procedures required to carry out their functions in compliance with HIPAA law and regulations. Each covered NMSU entity must ensure the appropriate training is received by all staff, including new and existing employees, volunteers, trainees or others whose conduct is under the control of the entity. Follow-up training is expected to occur annually.
- B. To ensure compliance with the HIPAA training requirement, all NMSU employees will be required to take annual HIPAA compliance training, which may be offered pursuant to Rule 3.19.25 - Mandatory Employee Training and Other Professional Development Opportunities. Official training logs and certificates will be kept in the SABA training system maintained by Human Resource Services, Center for Training and Professional Development.

Rule Administrator:	Chief Information Officer
Scope:	NMSU System
Effective Date:	April 11, 2017
Revision History:	04.11.17 Rule recommended by University Administrative Council; 04.11.17 approved by Chancellor.

## **Chapter 16**

### **Safety and Risk Management**

- 16.20      Unmanned Aircraft Systems (a/k/a Drones)
- 16.69      University Related International Travel
- 16.70      Education Abroad

## 16.20 – Unmanned Aircraft Systems (aka “Drones”)

### PART 1: PURPOSE

The following regulations are established to provide mechanisms for the safe operation of UAS as part of academic, research, and public safety; to ensure the protection and safety of university students, employees, and guests; and to maintain privacy rights of those on university premises.

### PART 2: DEFINITIONS

For purposes of this Rule, the following Definitions will apply:

- A. Drone: This is a lay term frequently used to describe an unmanned aircraft system.
- B. Federal Aviation Administration (FAA): The federal body with licensing and regulation authority over operation of aircraft in public airspace, to include the registration and licensing of aircraft and pilots.
- C. Pilot: The person responsible for all aspects of the flight, to include the control of the unmanned aircraft system. The pilot must have appropriate licensure as may be required by federal aviation laws, regulations, and rules.
- D. Unmanned Aircraft System (UAS): This is the compilation of all people, parts, and equipment necessary to fly an unmanned aircraft system. This includes the pilot, spotters, remote control transmitters, collision avoidance sensors, and the actual aircraft. Both remotely operated fixed wing and rotary wing aircraft systems are included in this definition.

### PART 3: RULES AND PROCEDURES FOR USE OF UAS WITHIN THE NMSU SYSTEM

- A. Restrictions on Purchase of UAS with NMSU Funds: No UAS, nor component thereof, may be purchased with university funds until an analysis has been completed to determine whether existing university aircraft or equipment can meet the need. Any aircraft purchased with university funds shall, upon receipt, be submitted for inspection to the Physical Science Laboratory subject matter experts for a safety evaluation and registration. All registrations submitted for aircraft purchased with university funds shall list the owner as “Board of Regents, New Mexico State University”. Regardless of the dollar amount of the purchase, the acquisition of an UAS with university funds must be reported to the Director of Purchasing in order to obtain risk management coverage prior to any operation of the UAS.
- B. Authority to Fly UAS: An unmanned aircraft system shall not be flown from, land on, or be flown within, property or facilities owned or controlled by the Board of Regents unless it fits within one of the following authorized categories, and is flown in accordance with the criteria established.
  - 1. **Academic programs as a student/participant**: This category applies when the UAS is used in furtherance of teaching students enrolled in educational programs at the university. The Dean of the College or Community College Vice President for Academic Affairs, with concurrence of Community College President where the program is housed must approve the use of UAS for each course where the UAS are utilized; approvals may be renewed on a semester by semester basis in the same manner as for the initial approval. The Rule Administrator will maintain a list of pre-authorized locations, listing the requirements for use of each, to facilitate the approval of each request associated with an academic program. Students enrolled in these courses may be authorized by the appropriate faculty member or academic administrator to construct and/or to fly an unmanned aircraft as a “recreational” user in accordance with current rulings by the FAA, so long as they are not benefitting monetarily from such operation. Students in classes utilizing UAS shall receive appropriate instruction on safe operation prior to being allowed to pilot an unmanned aircraft. It is recommended that students learn how to adequately control an unmanned aircraft inside an appropriate building prior to being allowed to fly outside as part of the course, and that flying take place in designated locations. Authorization for students to utilize UAS only extend to the specific class or program activities authorized, and do not grant a right to fly outside of those parameters. Anyone requesting to use a location

other than a location pre-authorized on a semester by semester basis for a course or program, must receive advance permission on a daily basis by completing an Activity Registration Form. *See Section C. below.*

2. **Teaching:** Faculty utilizing UAS as part of their teaching duties (either to demonstrate to students, or to teach the students how to build or fly) must be properly licensed through the Federal Aviation Administration and hold a certificate of authorization appropriate to the aircraft being operated if they operate the controls on an unmanned aircraft that is being flown outside. If an unmanned aircraft is flown inside a building, the faculty member does not need to have a license from the FAA, but must have demonstrated skill and proficiency in the safe operation of the unmanned aircraft. *See Section B. below.*
  3. **Research:** Researchers who operate UAS indoors must do so in a manner that ensures safety for anyone in the area and that does not create a hazard for life safety systems (e.g., fire sprinkler heads that might be hit and damaged). Researchers who operate UAS outdoors must either meet the requirements for operation as a recreational user (as defined by the FAA), or must have the appropriate pilot license and certificate of authorization. Prior to utilizing UAS in research activities, written authorization must be received from the Vice President for Research. Such authorization must be specific to the research project, and does not extend to other projects or uses.
  4. **Public Safety:** UAS may be utilized by properly trained and credentialed members of the university police and fire departments when used to ensure public safety, manage an emergency, or investigate an incident. During any such operations, safeguards shall be in place to ensure the safety of those in the area, as well as to minimize violations of privacy. Public safety personnel operating UAS on behalf of the university shall be required to complete an appropriate training program that has been vetted and approved by the Physical Science Laboratory subject matter experts.
  5. **Infrastructure Inspection:** UAS may be utilized for the inspection of university facilities and infrastructure upon the written authorization of the Associate Vice President for Facilities and Services, and in coordination of the Physical Science Laboratory. The safety and licensing requirements applicable to each circumstance must be met.
  6. **Commercial:** Commercial operation of UAS (where there is any form of financial remuneration or compensation as a result of the operation) may only take place when written permission has been granted by the Rule Administrator, as well as the Director of Campus Activities, the Physical Science Laboratory, and the manager(s) of any facility where the flight operation will take place. All FAA requirements must be met prior to commercial flight being authorized.
  7. **Recreation:** Recreational use of UAS, other than as noted above for students/participants of a sanctioned university class or program, are not generally allowed on or over lands owned and controlled by the Board of Regents. A request for permission to fly recreationally for a single date may be made by submitting a request to the Director of Campus Activities, who will coordinate with the appropriate university officials to review the request. Individuals flying under such permission are restricted to the scope and terms of the authorization, and may be required to demonstrate proficiency, insurance coverage, air worthiness, and a safety plan prior to being allowed to conduct a flight.
- C. Procedure to Request Authorization: A request to fly an UAS for one of the above reasons must be made in writing to the Director of Campus Activities, utilizing the Activity Registration Form. This is in addition to any other requirements noted for the specific categories. Requests should be made at least 10 business days prior to the planned activity.
- D. Coordination with PSL Required to Apply to FAA: Certificate of Authorization: When a certificate of authorization from the FAA may be necessary for a university student, faculty, or staff member, it shall be coordinated with the Physical Science Laboratory. No application may be submitted to the FAA on behalf of the university nor any of its subunits unless such coordination has taken place and approval for the application has been received.



- E. **Exceptions to Application of this Rule:** Requests for any exception from this Rule’s requirements may be submitted in writing to the Director of Campus Activities, who will grant or deny the request in a letter decision to the requesting party, after consultation with the appropriate administrators from the Physical Science Laboratory, subject matter experts as necessary, facility managers, and Rule Administrator. Requests will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis. Exception requests which are granted will be for a specific period of time, and will be documented. The Determination issued by the Director of Campus Activities may be appealed in writing to the Executive Vice President and Provost, who will issue a final Decision after review of the written materials submitted by the requesting party and by the Director of Campus Activities.

Rule Administrator:	Associate Vice President, Facilities and Services
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	December 13, 2016
Revision History:	12.01.16 Adoption of Rule recommended by FS (FSP Prop 12-16/17) and 12.13.16 by University Administrative Council and Chancellor.

## **Rule 16.69 – University Related International Travel**

### **PART 1: PURPOSE**

Due to heightened risks associated with international travel, and in the interest of the safety and security of university students and personnel, the university requires additional information and imposes additional procedural requirements for its students, faculty, staff and affiliates who travel abroad.

### **PART 2: DEFINITIONS**

- A. **NMSU Entity:** NMSU Entity, sometimes also referred to as “unit”, is a general term which may refer to a college, a department or any other individual administrative unit within the NMSU System, including but not limited to agricultural experiment stations. Private not-for-profit corporate entities recognized to be affiliated with NMSU for fundraising, research, public service, or student activity purposes, while subject to certain NMSU policies, rules or procedures to maintain recognized status, are not considered “NMSU entities”, and if located on NMSU premises, are referred to as “External Entities”.
- B. **University Related International Travel:** Travel that is at least one of the following:
1. funded by any NMSU entity in whole or in part;
  2. within the course and scope of employment of the participant as approved by the relevant supervisor;
  3. organized by any NMSU entity approved through International and Border Programs; or
  4. An essential component of an academic credit-bearing course at NMSU.

### **PART 3: ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES OF INTERNATIONAL AND BORDER PROGRAMS**

- A. International and Border Programs is the repository on behalf of the institution for the information relating to NMSU students, faculty, staff and affiliates traveling abroad. International and Border Programs is responsible for managing the application and enrollment process for Education Abroad programs, and the processing of requisite forms and other documentation indicating that the pre-requisites for all international travel by NMSU students and personnel have been met. This role facilitates IBP’s ability to monitor the global location for NMSU faculty, staff and students and to provide resources, support, or assistance as may be needed.
- B. The requisite forms and procedural guidance are made available at <https://ibp.nmsu.edu/>.
- C. To assist with risk management and other issues, the associate provost of International and Border Programs may call on representatives from across the NMSU system to convene as an advisory committee as needed to provide review and recommendation on specific issues.

## **PART 4: PROCEDURES FOR UNIVERSITY RELATED INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL**

### **A. Related Travel Rules:**

1. Travelers should review the university's general rules regarding travel. (*See* Rule 14.69 - Academic and Business Travel; NMSU Business Procedures Manual, Section 5C.).
2. If the travel is for participation in an Education Abroad program, the traveler should follow the application and enrollment process set forth in Rule 16.70 - Education Abroad, which will satisfy the requirements of this rule through the coordination between the Office of Education Abroad and International and Border Programs.

### **B. Prior to commencing international travel, participants must complete the Travel Authorization Forms provided by International and Border Programs, indicating the appropriate administrative approvals. The following guidelines are to assist the traveler in understanding the manner in which International and Border Programs will process Travel Authorization Forms:**

1. Participants must review and acknowledge that they understand that international travel involves heightened risks to personal safety, requires compliance with laws and regulations of the destination which may be quite distinct from U.S. laws, and that they have read the U.S. State Department's website for the destination, which may include Travel Alerts, Travel Warnings and other "Country Specific Information". *See: [Travel.State.Gov](https://travel.state.gov)*. If the proposed international travel involves a destination subject to a Travel Alert or Travel Warning, additional protocols apply. (*See* Part 5 below).
2. All NMSU employees and students undertaking University Related International Travel must purchase the required insurance (*See* NMSU Business Procedures Manual 5C. 10.)
3. Using the forms provided by International and Border Programs (<https://ibp.nmsu.edu/>), the participant must identify the specific program, all destinations, and travel start and end dates. Additionally, if personal travel is planned immediately prior or following the University Related International Travel, the dates and destinations for such personal travel must also be identified.
4. The relevant supervisor or administrator responsible for the source of funding must approve and sign the completed travel forms prior to submission to International and Border Programs.

## **PART 5: TRAVEL TO DESTINATIONS SUBJECT TO TRAVEL ALERTS OR TRAVEL WARNINGS**

Significant travel risk exists when the U.S. Department of State issues Travel Alerts or Travel Warnings about a particular foreign country, region, state, city or locale. University Related International Travel to destinations subject to such Alerts or Warnings is discouraged and is subject to additional scrutiny as set forth below.

### **A. Employee Travel:** Some circumstances may involve travel to destinations subject to a Travel Alert or Travel Warning (e.g. demands of the university's contract or research obligations, work with key partners, etc.). Any employee seeking approval for international travel to such destinations must exercise due diligence, give careful consideration to the available information, and weigh the risks and benefits relative to the educational opportunity or business need for such travel. For all international travel to destinations subject to Travel Alerts or Travel Warnings each traveler must complete the Supplemental Information Form required by International and Border Programs. *See: <https://ibp.nmsu.edu/international-travel-forms/>*. The associate provost for International and Border Programs will review the supplemental information, the Travel Alert or Travel Warning associated with the specific destination, and approve or deny the proposed travel. Denials may be subject to additional review by the executive vice president and provost at the discretion of the associate provost or at the request of the traveler or supervisor.

### **B. Student Travel:**

1. International travel by students to destinations subject to a U.S. State Department Travel Alert or Travel Warning is prohibited, absent permission granted by the executive vice president and provost. Student requests for such travel may be made by submitting a completed, signed *Student Request for Exception*

to *Travel Warning* form provided by International and Border Programs available at: <https://ibp.nmsu.edu/nmsu-students/travel-forms/>. The student must provide a justification for the travel, including steps that will be taken to mitigate the dangers or concerns mentioned in the Travel Alert or Travel Warning as they relate to the program location, activities and related implications.

2. The associate provost for International and Border Programs will review the student's travel justification, weigh the safety risks compared with the benefits associated with the proposed international travel, and make a recommendation to the executive vice president and provost, who will approve or deny the request. If the request is granted, the student(s) must comply with the requirements in Part 4 above, which will include execution of a Waiver and Release of Liability form provided by International and Border Programs.
3. Absent approval by the executive vice president and provost, the university will not fund student travel to destinations subject to U.S. State Department Travel Alert or Travel Warning, nor award academic credit or recognition for research or activities.

**B. Trip Cancellation or Modification:**

1. Approvals for travel to destinations subsequently subject of a Travel Alert or a Travel Warning or other emergent circumstance may be revoked by the executive vice president and provost, in consultation with the associate provost of International and Border Programs. If the prior approval is revoked, the participant will be advised to return to NMSU or to some other destination.
2. If a participant received funding prior to the imposition of the Travel Alert or Travel Warning, and has not yet embarked on travel, the participant will be required to return the funding as directed by International Border Programs. If funds have been reasonably expended in furtherance of the activity before the issuance of the Travel Alert or Travel Warning, the supervising/sponsoring unit head shall consult with the International and Border Programs to resolve issues relating to potential refund or credit toward an alternate program. If the amount of the refund is disputed, the participant may request review by the executive vice president and provost.

Rule Administrator:	Office of International and Border Programs
Scope:	NMSU System
Effective Date:	September 12, 2017
Cross References:	Rule 14.69 - University Related Travel Guidelines; Rule 16.70 - Education Abroad; Business Procedures Manual Section 5C
Revision History:	09.12.17 Amendment to former Rules 2.69.1 and 2.69.2 approved by Chancellor. 12.11.15 BOR repealed Policy 2.69 et seq. from Regents Policy Manual by BOR; 10.21.15 BOR approved replication of Policy 2.69 et seq. as initial Rule 2.69 et seq. <b>Prior History as Policy 2.69.2:</b> 05.02.13 Amendment recommended by FS (Prop. No. 28-12/13) and 05.14.13 by Administrative Council; 06.30.13 approved by BOR. 03.09.11 Amendment recommended by Administrative Council and approved by BOR 03.14.11. 07.13.10 Adoption of Policy 2.69.2 recommended by Administrative Council; 07.20.10 Policy Adopted by BOR.

## **Rule 16.70 – Education Abroad**

### **PART 1: PURPOSE**

This rule provides responsibilities, eligibility and other requirements and restrictions relating to Education Abroad programs offered or facilitated by NMSU, through the Office of Education Abroad, a division within International and Border Programs. The role of the Office of Education Abroad is to facilitate international learning opportunities and to aid with the application and enrollment process.

Education Abroad as used in this rule refers to educational programs and activities intended for academic credit. This includes any type of study, internship, service or research for which academic credit is offered. Education Abroad programs may be organized either by NMSU or may be offered through partner universities or third-party international program providers affiliated with NMSU.

Student participation in professional travel (e.g. conferences, presentations, professional meetings) not for academic credit requires the student to comply with Rule 16.69 - University Related International Travel.

## **PART 2: AUTHORITY OF INTERNATIONAL AND BORDER PROGRAMS**

The Office of International and Border Programs, through the Office of Education Abroad, is the sole office at NMSU authorized to make referrals to an international educational program, or to coordinate prospective international travel for Education Abroad program participants. Accordingly:

- A. Any NMSU employee or student desiring to assist someone in selecting an Education Abroad program or other international travel experience should refer the interested party to the Office of Education Abroad.
- B. Any individual seeking to participate in an Education Abroad program must obtain approval through the Office of Education Abroad.
- C. Any faculty or staff member who is planning any Education Abroad program for NMSU students or on behalf of NMSU must obtain advance approval from the Office of Education Abroad, as well as the department and college.
- D. Individuals not affiliated with NMSU are not permitted to participate in university sponsored Education Abroad programs unless the program has been approved by the executive vice president and provost for non-student participation. Such approval will be facilitated by the Office of Education Abroad.
- E. The Office of Education Abroad will include, as part of its application and enrollment process, fulfillment of the requirements of Rule 16.69 - University Related International Travel.

## **PART 3: ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS**

All individuals seeking to participate in an Education Abroad program must obtain requisite approvals by registering and completing an online application and related forms managed by the Office of Education Abroad (<http://oea.nmsu.edu/>). With the applicant's consent, the Office of Education Abroad may coordinate with various parties on and off campus to determine eligibility for participation in a program. Applicants must provide evidence of eligibility to participate in Education Abroad programs by meeting the following criteria:

- A. Background Clearance: Participants will be required to authorize the Office of Education Abroad to obtain a background clearance. The nature of the background clearance requirement varies depending upon the applicant's status with NMSU:
  - 1. Students: As verified through the Office of the Dean of Students, student applicants must be in good standing, and must not have been sanctioned for a violation of the Student Social Code of Conduct at a level more serious than a deferred suspension. A student who is declined under this rule may petition the Office of Education Abroad for an exception. Requests will be considered on a case by case basis in consultation with the Office of Dean of Students, on the facts provided by the applicant in support of the requested exception.
  - 2. Employees: NMSU employees must authorize an internal review for the purpose of confirming no relevant disciplinary action, including those based on adverse findings by the Office of Institutional Equity. Program leaders and any NMSU employee participating in a job related capacity must also have approval from the relevant department head or dean.
  - 3. Non-Affiliated Applicants: For programs where approval has been granted for non-affiliated participation (See Part 2. D. above), the applicant must authorize and pay for a professional background check, similar to those conducted for prospective NMSU employees. Applicants with convictions for sex related, violent or any other serious offense, will not be allowed to participate.
- B. Medical Clearance: Participants must present current medical documentation signed by a physician which indicates that the participant is physically and mentally fit for travel and participation in the specific type, nature and duration of the proposed international program, with or without accommodation. The Office of Education Abroad will provide the participant the program description and clearance form to give to the medical provider directly. If the medical clearance indicates the need for travel restrictions or recommends accommodations, the

Office of Education Abroad will coordinate with the Office of Institutional Equity for employees and the Student Accessibility Services for students to determine whether a proposed accommodation can reasonably be provided.

- C. Insurance: Participants must be enrolled in an NMSU approved health and travel insurance plan. The Office of Education Abroad will enroll students in the insurance plan and bill the students directly. Participant insurance will not be accepted.

#### **PART 4: NMSU PARTICIPATION APPROVAL AND APPEALS**

- D. If the requirements for participation are not timely met, the applicant will be deemed ineligible to participate.
- E.
- F. If the participant wishes to contest a determination of ineligibility, the participant may seek review by filing a Request for Review with International and Border Programs within ten business days from the date of transmittal of the determination to the applicant's NMSU email address. In consultation with the associate provost for International and Border Programs, the executive vice president and provost will review and issue a decision typically within two weeks from date of receipt of the Request for Review.

#### **PART 5: PROGRAM PROVIDER APPROVAL**

- G. In the case of Education Abroad programs offered through partner universities or third-party program providers, the NMSU Office of Education Abroad facilitates the application process for eligible students and transmits the student's information to the program provider. These external program providers independently decide whether to accept each applicant after consideration of the application materials. Timely completion of third party program provider requirements, including deadlines, is the sole responsibility of the applicant.

#### **PART 6: PARTICIPATION BY MINORS**

Minors under the age of 18 who are not legally emancipated (at time of travel) are not eligible to participate in Education Abroad programs. Upon petition to the Office of Education Abroad, requests for exception will be considered.

- A. Submission of Petition: The petition should address the following:
1. Consent from the program leader (the NMSU representative who will accompany the group), the host institution or the third party provider (all that apply) have been obtained;
  2. Potential health and safety issues have been addressed, which may include a requirement for supervision by a responsible adult. Factors which should be explained include:
    - a. the age of the minor,
    - b. the nature of the Education Abroad program and activities that will be undertaken (age appropriateness),
    - c. the destination country/ies and city/ies and the mode of traveling between destinations,
    - d. U.S. State Department travel alerts or warnings,
    - e. whether or not the minor is a child or legal ward of an adult participant in the Education Abroad program, and
    - f. information received from the parent or legal guardian.
  3. Availability and willingness of the parents or legal guardian to sign necessary contractual or other legal documents on behalf of the minor.
- B. Consideration by IBP and Provost: The associate provost for International and Border Programs will consider the petition and make a recommendation to the executive vice president and provost, who will approve or deny the request.
- C. Compliance with Program Requirements: If an exception is granted, the minor will be subject to the same travel requirements as other Education Abroad participants.

## PART 7: CHANGES TO PROGRAM BASED ON EMERGENT CONDITIONS

After consideration of all relevant factors, and as conditions may warrant based on emergent conditions, the executive vice president and provost, in consultation with the associate provost for International and Border Programs, may require that an Education Abroad Program be suspended, diverted, or relocated, which may require that participants return to the U.S.

Rule Administrator:	Office of International and Border Programs
Scope:	NMSU System
Effective Date:	September 12, 2017
Cross References:	Rule 14.69 - University Related Travel Guidelines; Rule 16.69 - University Related International Travel <i>Business Procedures Manual</i> , Section 5C
Revision History:	09.12.17 Rule adopted by chancellor. 12.11.15 BOR repealed Policy 2.69 et seq. from Regents Policy Manual by BOR; 10.21.15 BOR approved replication of Policy 2.69 et seq. as initial Rule 2.69 et seq. <b>Prior History as Policy 2.69.2.:</b> 05.02.13 Amendment recommended by FS (Prop. No. 28-12/13) and 05.14.13 by Administrative Council; 06.30.13 approved by BOR. 03.09.11 Amendment recommended by Administrative Council and approved by BOR 03.14.11. 07.13.10 Adoption of Policy 2.69.2 et seq. recommended by Administrative Council; 07.20.10 Policy Adopted by BOR.

## **Chapter 17**

### **Intercollegiate Athletics**

- 17.05 NMSU Athletics
- 17.10 Gender Equity and Title IX Compliance
- 17.15 The Athletics Council
- 17.20 NCAA and Conference Participation and Compliance
- 17.25 Faculty Athletics Representative
- 17.30 Ticket Sales
- 17.35 Fund Raising for NMSU Athletics
- 17.40 Media Relations Relating to NMSU Athletics

## 17.05 - NMSU Athletics

The mission of NMSU Department of Athletics is to support the vision of NMSU by providing an inter-collegiate athletics program of local and national acclaim in an equitable diverse environment that supports student-athlete excellence in academics and athletics, and that engages the university community and stakeholders in achieving and celebrating Aggies' success. To support this mission, the Department of Athletics will strive:

- A. To graduate every student-athlete at NMSU;
- B. To provide an athletics environment that is conducive to academic success;
- C. To seek to educate each student-athlete not only in how to earn a living, but also in how to live a meaningful life;
- D. To provide the people of New Mexico competitive athletics programs with student-athletes who reflect the State's multi-cultural heritage;
- E. To maintain a diverse coaching and support staff of men and women who represent the best in instruction and who possess the ability to motivate and inspire the student-athletes to maximize the student-athlete experience in a positive way;
- F. To provide the student-athlete with the finest athletics facilities and equipment available within the financial means of the department;
- G. To adhere to the letter and spirit of the rules and regulations set forth by the National Collegiate Athletic Association (NCAA) and the Conference in which it is a member;
- H. To act as a rallying point for students, faculty, staff, and alumni, generating enthusiasm and the "college spirit" for a positive bonding effect;
- I. To be an integral part of the university environment, structure, goals, and objectives.

Rule Administrator:	Chancellor
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	March 14, 2011
Revision History:	<i>03.15.17 Rule 2.05 et seq relocated to ARP Chapter 17, Rule 17.05 - 17.40. 10.19.16 former Rule 2.05.05 - Athletic Programs Offered at NMSU repealed from ARP, and superseded by Regents Policy 17.00 adopted by Board of Regents. 10.21.15 BOR approved replicated Policy 2.05 et seq initial Rule 2.05 et seq. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 2.05 et seq:</b> 03.09.11 Amendments re-writing Policy 2.05 et seq recommended by Administrative Council; 03.14.11 approved by Board of Regents.</i>
Cross References:	Regents Policy 17.00, Athletics

## 17.10 - Gender Equity and Title IX Compliance

NMSU and the Department of Athletics are committed to gender equity in its intercollegiate athletics program. As an institutional commitment, the maintenance of gender equity requires broad based participation from various campus constituencies.

The Department of Athletics maintains a Gender Equity Plan that provides gender equitable opportunities for participation for both men's and women's sport programs. Specific goals identified to comply with Title IX provide equitable opportunities for all participants, as well as create a positive atmosphere for intercollegiate athletes. Specific areas addressed in the plan are: athletic scholarships, accommodation of interests and abilities, equipment and supplies, scheduling of games and practice time, travel and per diem, allowance, tutors, coaches, locker rooms, practice and competitive facilities, medical and training facilities and services and recruitment of student-athletes.

The gender equity subcommittee of the Athletics Council reviews the initiatives and progress made in the pursuit of the implementation of the Gender Equity Plan.



### 17.15 - The Athletics Council

- A. Creation and Purpose: The Athletics Council was created to serve in an advisory capacity to the Chancellor, the faculty athletics representative, and to the director of athletics.
- B. Composition and Appointment: The Athletics Council is composed of eleven voting members and three or more position appointments who shall serve on the Council as ex officio, non-voting members:
1. Six elected faculty members, one from each undergraduate college at NMSU-Las Cruces, and not to serve more than two consecutive three-year terms;
  2. Two students from ASNMSU, not to serve more than two consecutive one-year terms;
  3. One staff member from the Employee Council; not to serve more than two consecutive two-year terms;
  4. One faculty representative to the NCAA and the Conference selected by the Chancellor, after nomination by the Faculty Senate's standing Committee on Committees; and
  5. One Faculty Senate representative, not to serve more than two three-year terms.
  6. Director of Athletics. (*ex officio*)
  7. Senior Woman Administrator. (*ex officio*)
- C. Purpose: At the discretion of the Chancellor, the Athletics Council shall perform the following functions:
1. The Athletics Council shall provide advisory guidance relative to the rules, regulations and administration of intercollegiate athletics;
  2. The Athletics Council shall formulate and present to the Faculty Senate for its consideration recommendations regarding policies and programs, keeping in mind that the primary purpose of the athletic program is to further the educational goals of the university and to serve the students both as participants and spectators;
  3. The Athletics Council shall submit an annual report of its activities to the Faculty Senate; and
  4. The gender equity subcommittee of the Athletics Council shall be responsible for coordinating efforts to review the athletics department initiatives of gender equity. The committee will include an appointed chair, and two additional members. The subcommittee will work with athletics administration for the purpose of reviewing progress made in the pursuit of the implementation of the Gender Equity Plan. An annual report will be presented by the Faculty Athletics Council to the Chancellor and director of athletics.

### 17.20 - NCAA and Conference Participation and Compliance

- A. NCAA and Conference Requirements: NMSU is committed to compliance with NCAA rules and regulations, to institutional control for the conduct of its athletic programs, and to monitor and guide all individuals and organizations that promote the athletic interests of NMSU. It is the responsibility of each employee interacting with the Department of Athletics, coach, and/or student-athlete to be aware of and follow these regulations and to report any possible NCAA or Conference infractions to the director of athletics and/or the Office of Athletics Compliance and Eligibility. Any questions should be brought to the attention of the Office of Athletics Compliance and Eligibility, director of athletics, or senior woman administrator. Violations of NCAA or Conference rules and regulations in any way will not be tolerated.
- B. Authorized Liaisons for NCAA and Conference Compliance: Although numerous persons may be involved in maintaining and assuring compliance with NCAA and Conference rules, the Office of Athletics Compliance and Eligibility administers all NCAA, Conference, and NMSU rules and regulations. In order to streamline the compliance function and avoid duplication of effort, certain NMSU officials and representatives have been designated to serve as liaisons to the NCAA or the Conference. They are authorized to contact these associations for interpretation or clarification of the applicable rules and regulations. The authorized NMSU representatives

include the Office of Athletics Compliance and Eligibility, the director of athletics, the faculty athletics representative, and the senior woman administrator. Coaches or other administrators who support compliance activities do not have authorization to make such calls to the NCAA or to the Conference Office.

### **17.25 - Faculty Athletics Representative**

- A. Qualifications: The faculty athletics representative shall be a member of the institution's faculty or an administrator who holds faculty rank. The faculty athletics representative shall not hold an administrative nor coaching position in the Department of Athletics.
- B. Appointment: The faculty athletics representative is appointed by the Chancellor for an unspecified term, and shall report directly to the Chancellor.
- C. Duties: The responsibilities of the faculty athletics representative are guided by the *NCAA Faculty Athletics Representative Handbook*, and may be tailored by NMSU, provided any such amendment is documented as part of the Department of Athletics' operations manual. The faculty athletics representative duties at NMSU include but are not limited to:
  - 1. To serve as advisor to the Chancellor and the director of athletics on all matters related to intercollegiate athletics;
  - 2. To serve as the institutional representative to the NCAA and Conference;
  - 3. To serve as liaison between faculty, administration, and the Department of Athletics regarding rules interpretation, compliance, and policy;
  - 4. To serve as a member of the Athletics Council;
  - 5. To make inquiries of the NCAA or Conference staff regarding interpretation of association and Conference rules;
  - 6. To certify the NCAA and Conference eligibility status of each student-athlete;
  - 7. To assist student-athletes in Conference-level hardship petitions;
  - 8. To represent the university on compliance issues before appropriate NCAA and Conference committees;
  - 9. To serve on any required committee to investigate alleged and real violations and assist in recommending corrective action; and
  - 10. To provide oversight for the NCAA Coaches Certification testing program.

### **17.30 - Ticket Sales (See Also Rule [7.35 – Tickets \(Athletic\) for Faculty/Staff](#))**

- A. Season Tickets Reduced Rate for Faculty, Staff and Retirees: The Department of Athletics provides football and basketball season tickets, in reserved sections, at a reduced rate to faculty, staff and retirees. Each employee is eligible to purchase a maximum of six football and four men's basketball season tickets at the reduced rate. The same privileges afforded to university employees shall be extended to official university retirees and their surviving spouses or domestic partners. All employee and retiree tickets are for the use of the employee and retiree and their family, and shall not be transferred. Tickets are issued on a season by season basis. Both employee and retiree tickets are subject to taxation, as well as required donation levels.
- B. Season Tickets for Chancellor: The Board of Regents hereby authorizes the annual purchase of 30 football tickets and 30 basketball tickets for use by the Office of the Chancellor, for friends and supporters of the university.
- C. Post-Season Tournament Tickets:
  - 1. Distribution of Post-Season Tournament Tickets: Post-season tournament tickets shall be distributed as follows:
    - a. At the end of the regular season and prior to the commencement of the post-season tournament, the director of athletics or designee shall decide how many tickets may be purchased by each person in advance of the event. University regular full-time faculty, staff and students will generally be limited to two tickets per individual, as long as tickets to the post-season tournament are available.
    - b. The director of athletics or designee shall decide when tickets will go on sale and shall promptly communicate this decision to the manager of the ticket office.

- c. Tickets for the following groups will be allocated at the discretion of the director of athletics to the following:
    - i. Office of the Chancellor (the Board of Regents, Chancellor, executive vice president and provost, Administrative Council, and elected officials).
    - ii. Office of Applicable Sport (i.e. basketball: team's student-athletes, parents, legal spouse or domestic partner of student-athletes, coaches and staff).
    - iii. Department of Athletics (working game personnel: director of athletics, associate athletic directors, sports information director, and trainers).
    - iv. Band and Spirit Squads (cheerleaders and mascot).
    - v. Athletics Council and Department of Athletics' personnel.
    - vi. Special Guests (selected by the director of athletics or designee).
    - vii. Aggie Athletic Club Members.
    - viii. Full-time Students.
    - ix. Season ticket holders.
  - d. Distribution of remaining tickets for the post-season tournament will be made to NMSU full-time students, regular full-time employees, and to the general public on a lottery basis (if needed). Lottery numbers must be obtained in person at the ticket office.
  - e. Distribution of tickets for the post-season tournament to the Aggie Athletic Club will be handled by the director of athletics or designee. It will be necessary for the Aggie Athletic Club to establish a method, in writing, of determining who will be allowed to purchase tickets to the post-season tournament.
2. Coordination by the Department of Athletics: All activities pertaining to the purchase of tickets for the post-season tournament obtained by the university from other universities participating in said tournament will be coordinated through the Department of Athletics. All other parties will be responsible for getting their own post-season tournament tickets from the host institution.
  3. Official Spokesperson: The director of athletics shall designate one official spokesperson to answer questions pertaining to the distribution of tickets to the post-season tournament.
  4. Ticket Transference Prohibited: Tickets for the post-season tournament must be for personal use and picked up in person at the ticket office or at the game site.
  5. Ticket Scalping Prohibited: Ticket scalping consists of selling, offering for sale or attempting to sell any ticket, privilege, license, admission or pass to any college athletic event at a price greater than the price charged at the place of admission or printed on the ticket.
- D. Student Admission: Students who are not employed by the university in a regular position and who are enrolled in at least one credit hour for an NMSU-Las Cruces or Doña Ana Community College course, shall be admitted to NMSU athletic events free of charge, with the exception of conference or NCAA tournaments. Enrollment status may be verified through an electronic scan of each student ID.

Rule Administrator:	NMSU Athletics Director
Scope:	NMSU System
Rule Effective Date:	
Revision History:	09.12.17 amendment to Section D. provisionally approved by chancellor for fall 2017 semester. 03.15.17 Rule 2.05.30 re-numbered as Rule 17.30. 10.21.15 BOR approved replicated Policy 2.05.30 as initial Rule 2.05.30. <b>Prior Revision History as Policy 2.05.30:</b> 10.09.12 Amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 10.15.12 approved by Board of Regents. 04.04.15 Amendment recommended by Administrative Council; 05.08.15 approved by Board of Regents. 03.09.11 Amendments re-writing Policy 2.05 et seq recommended by Administrative Council; 03.14.11 approved by Board of Regents.
Cross References:	Regents Policy 17.00, Athletics

### **17.35 - Fund Raising for NMSU Athletics**

- A. Aggie Athletic Club: The Aggie Athletic Club (AAC) serves as the fund raising office for the Department of Athletics. The Aggie Athletic Club provides oversight and acts as a resource to the individual booster, or “fund-raising clubs”, for each athletic sport and some administrative units. Donations to these clubs are restricted for the use of the related sport or unit. A list of Aggie Athletic Club sponsored booster organizations is available at [Aggie Athletic Club](#).
- B. NMSU Sports Enterprises: NMSU Sports Enterprises, Inc. is a 501 (c.) (3) corporation overseen by the NMSU Foundation. It secures sponsorships (both cash and trade) for NMSU athletic events and venues. Net revenues and trade agreement resources derived from these sponsorships are generally delivered to the Department of Athletics.

### **17.40 - Media Relations Relating to NMSU Athletics**

- A. Radio and TV Broadcasts: The Department of Athletics holds all broadcast rights, including distribution of events, format, announcers, air times and advertising inventory on all radio and television events. Permission to broadcast is granted on a game-by-game or season basis through contracts issued by the Department of Athletics, the NCAA, or the Conference to which NMSU is a member. All television events produced by NMSU are done in cooperation with the Special Production Unit of KRWG and branded as AggieVision events.
- B. Coaches' Shows: NMSUSE produces television and radio coaches' shows and post-game shows to promote the university, to assist with recruiting, and to highlight each week's game(s).

## **Chapter 18**

### **Community and Governmental Relations**

***(In Transition - Content Not Available)***

#### **NMSU Policy System in Transition:**

*The framework which organizes and houses the university's various policies and procedures is being modified, to clarify between Regents Policies, housed in the Regents Policy Manual, and the operational policies and procedures, housed in the Administrative Rules and Procedures of NMSU, the Undergraduate and Graduate Catalogs, Student Handbook and Business Procedures Manual. We appreciate your patience as we transition, and apologize for any inconvenience or confusion this may cause.*

## **Appendices**

*(numbered by chapter of corresponding rule)*

- 2-A Security Camera Proposal and Justification form (See Rule 2.64)
- 2-B Security Camera Training and Acknowledgement form (See Rule 2.64)
- 2-C Sample Access Log form (See Rule 2.64)
- 4-A Flowchart to Procedures to Determine Ineligibility for Rehire Status (See Rule 4.30.30)
- 5-A Flowchart to Procedures for Faculty Discipline and Appeal (See Rule 5.47)
- 6-A Las Cruces Campus Approval Sequence for Curricular Credentials (See Rule 6.82)
- 6-B Community College Approval Sequence for Curricular Credentials (See Rule 6.82)
- 6-C Flow Chart - Academic Program/Unit Changes (See Rule 6.05 - Academic Units-Creating, Reorganizing, Relocating, Eliminating)

## New Mexico State University Security Camera Proposal and Justification Form

The purpose of this form is to document the need of a security camera and justify the business need and consideration of ongoing costs and ensure compliance with Rule 2.64 - Security Cameras on University Premises.

Submit this form to: [securitycamera@nmsu.edu](mailto:securitycamera@nmsu.edu)

Submitted Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Department: \_\_\_\_\_

College/Branch: \_\_\_\_\_

Dept. Contact: \_\_\_\_\_

Describe the business purpose, justification and location of security camera(s) – (Provide all relating detail):

[illegible]

Who will be responsible for coordination of Security Camera(s) – (Security Camera Coordinator)?

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Funding:

- Funding source or sources for purchase of security camera(s) and installation costs:

Index \_\_\_\_\_ Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Account \_\_\_\_\_

- Funding source or sources for ongoing maintenance:

Index \_\_\_\_\_ Fund \_\_\_\_\_ Account \_\_\_\_\_

Approvals:

Dean or Vice President:

Print Name \_\_\_\_\_

Signature \_\_\_\_\_

Security Camera Review Committee:

Yes \_\_\_\_\_ No \_\_\_\_\_

**New Mexico State University ARP, Rule 2.64  
Security Camera Training Acknowledgment Form**

This Form is intended to define the responsibilities of those employees handling surveillance devices and related information, which are considered NMSU records that could contain sensitive or confidential information about students, employees, donors or other individuals, and to record his or her recognition and acceptance of that responsibility.

New Mexico State University maintains the confidentiality and security of records in compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act of 1974 (FERPA), the Health Insurance Portability and Accountability Act (HIPAA) and the Gramm-Leach-Bliley Act (GLBA), in addition to other federal and state laws. These laws pertain to the security and privacy of personal academic, medical and financial information, along with identifying information such as social security numbers, names and photographs (surveillance recordings could reveal/contain identifying information).

Within NMSU, employees are authorized access to university records only to the extent necessary to perform their official university duties, and are responsible for protecting such information against unauthorized access or disclosure.

Employee: Recognizing this responsibility, I agree to the following (please initial each line):

\_\_\_\_\_ I will access university records only as required to perform my assigned duties.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will store information under secure conditions and make every effort to ensure individual's privacy.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will not divulge, copy, release, sell, loan, review, alter or destroy records except as properly authorized by the appropriate university official within the scope of applicable state or federal laws, record retention schedules and internal policies.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will forward all requests for information via an open records request to the university's general counsel for guidance. I will not release information covered by these requests until instructed to by university's general counsel or my supervisor.

\_\_\_\_\_ I will not release information about students, staff or employees that was requested on the basis of non-public information (for example – recordings, verbal talk, etc.)

\_\_\_\_\_ I have read the NMSU Security Camera Rules and Procedures and agree to comply with its provisions.

I understand that failure to comply may result in disciplinary action, including termination of employment.

Employee Printed Name \_\_\_\_\_

Employee Signature: \_\_\_\_\_ Date : \_\_\_\_\_

Rev 05.18.17



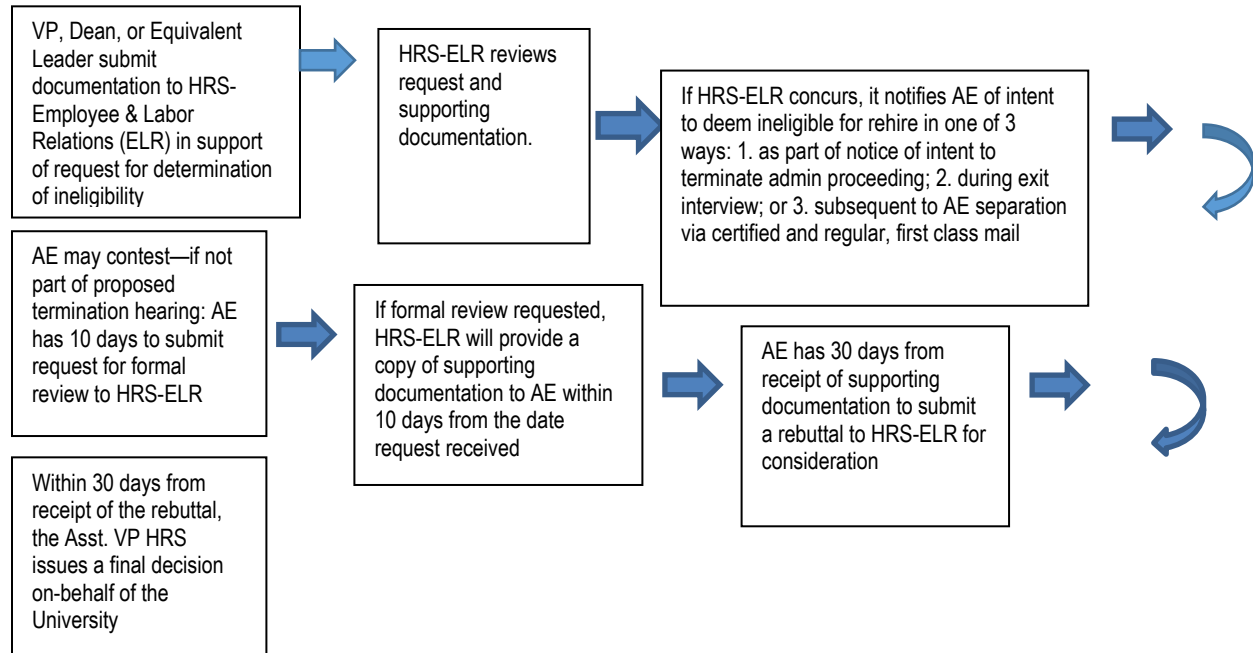
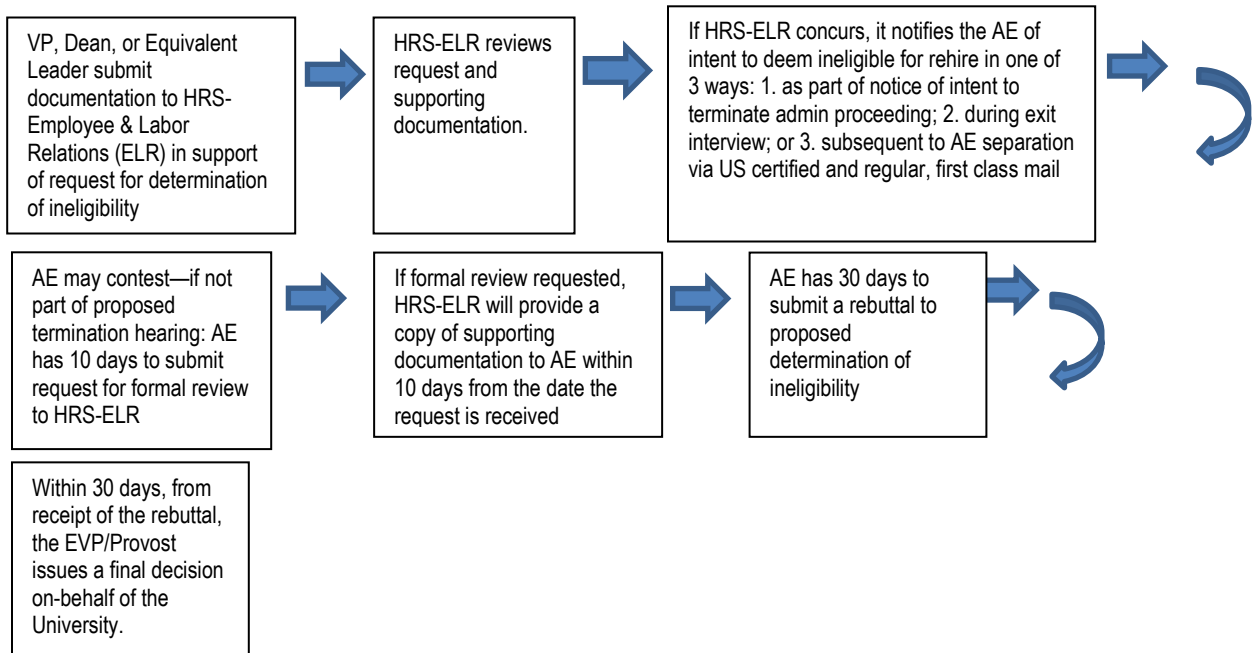
**New Mexico State University  
Access Log of Security Camera Records**

The purpose of this form is to provide an example of a log that should be maintained for all accesses to or use of security camera records and to ensure compliance with Rule 2.64 - Security Cameras on University Premises.

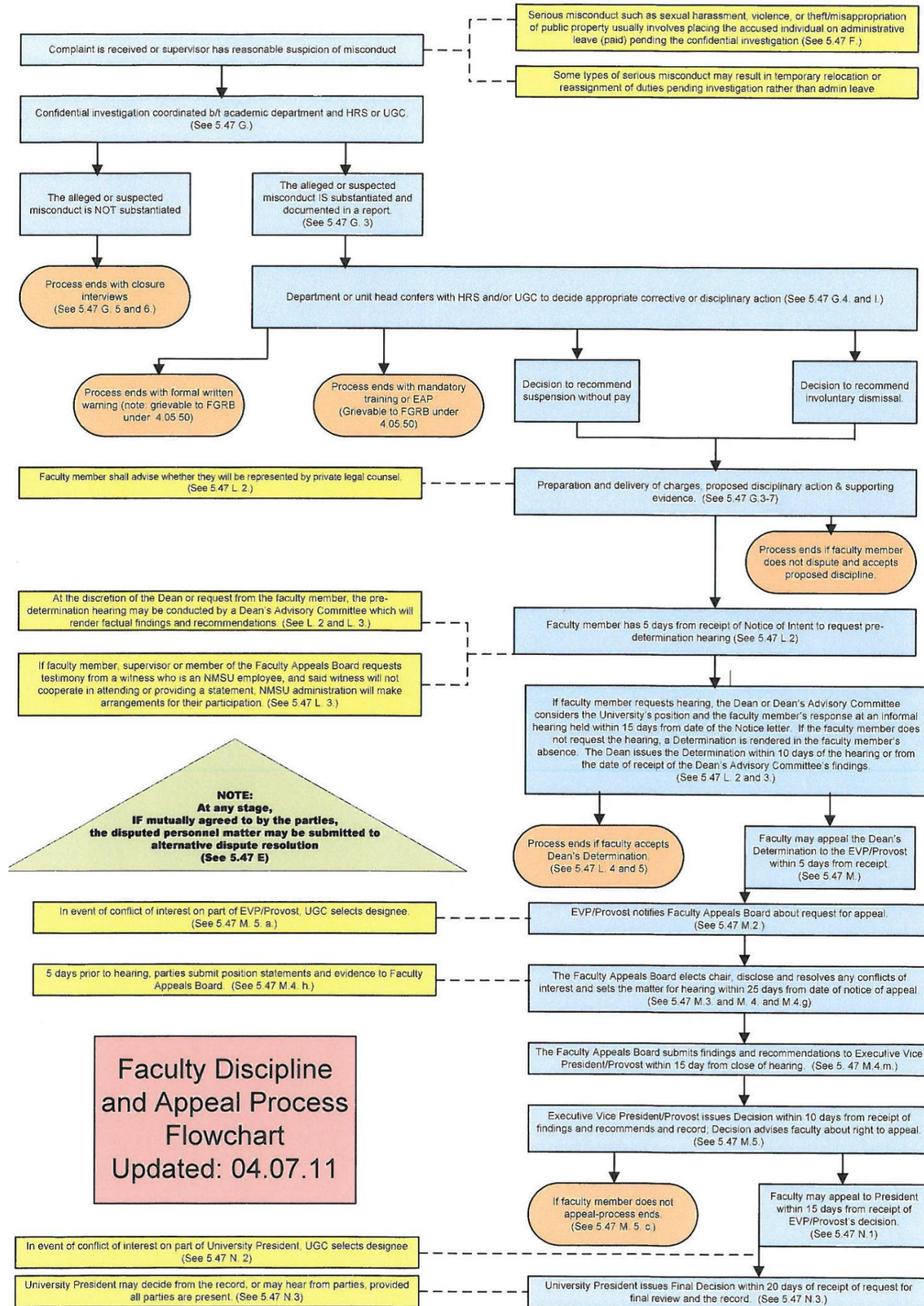
<b><u>No.</u></b>	<b><u>Rec. Date</u></b>	<b><u>Name</u></b>	<b><u>Purpose</u></b>
1.	_____	_____	_____
2.	_____	_____	_____
3.	_____	_____	_____
4.	_____	_____	_____
5.	_____	_____	_____

## 4-A Flowchart of Rule 4.30.30 – Process to Determine Ineligibility for Rehire Status

**Abbreviation Key:** AE = Affected Employee; HRS = Human Resource Services; ELR = Employee & Labor Relations

**Staff Employees (Including Temporary and Student Employees):****Faculty, GAs, TAs, & Post-Docs:**

### 5-A Faculty Discipline Appeal Flowchart (last updated 04.07.11)(See Rule 5.47)



6-A Las Cruces campus approval sequence for curricular credentials.

[illegible]

## 6-B Community College campuses approval sequence for curricular credentials.

**Community College Campuses**

This chart outlines the approval sequence for various Community College credentials

<b>New programs</b>				
<b>Approval Body</b>	<b>Applied Associate Degree</b>	<b>Associate Degree</b>	<b>Associate Major</b>	<b>Certificate*</b>
Departmental Faculty	X	X	X	X
Department Head	X	X	X	X
College Curriculum Committee	X	X	X	X
Academic Dean	X	X	X	X
CC Academic VP	X	X	X	X
CC President	X	X	X	X
Faculty Senate	X	X	X	
CC System Academic Committee	X	X	X	X
Associate Deans Academic Council	X	X	X	
NM Higher Education Dept.	X	X	X	X
Higher Learning Commission	X	X	X	X
<b>Curriculum Changes</b>				
<b>Approval Body</b>	<b>Applied Associate Degree</b>	<b>Associate Degree</b>	<b>Associate Major</b>	<b>Certificate*</b>
Departmental Faculty	X	X	X	X
Department Head	X	X	X	X
College Curriculum Committee	X	X	X	
Academic Dean	X	X	X	X
CC Academic VP	X	X	X	X
CC President				
CC System Academic Committee	X	X	X	X
Associate Deans Academic Council				
NM Higher Education Dept.	if needed	if needed	if needed	
Higher Learning Commission	if needed	if needed	if needed	
*Financial Aid reviews for Title IV eligibility				

## 6-C Academic Units (Procedures for Changes) *(See Rules 6.05, 6.10)*

### APPROVAL PROCESS FOR ACADEMIC PROGRAM CHANGES

