# FY27 UNIFIED HIGHER EDUCATION PRIORITIES

**Endorsed by the Higher Education Regents Coalition** 

New Mexico Council of University
Presidents (CUP), James Johnston, Chair
New Mexico Indopendent Community

New Mexico Independent Community Colleges (NMICC), Becky Rowley, Chair

New Mexico Association of Community Colleges (NMACC), Sabrina Ezzell, President

Legislative Finance Committee

December 10, 2025

### THANK YOU

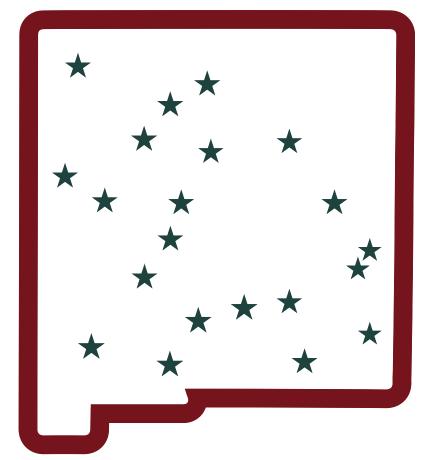
Eastern New Mexico University \* New Mexico Highlands University \* New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology \* New Mexico State University \* Northern New Mexico College \* Western New Mexico University \* University of New Mexico

Central New Mexico Community College \*
Clovis Community College \* Luna Community
College \* Mesalands Community College \*
New Mexico Junior College \* New Mexico
Military Institute \* Northern New Mexico
College \* San Juan College \* Santa Fe
Community College \* Southeast New Mexico
College \* Western New Mexico University

ENMU-Roswell \* ENMU-Ruidoso \* NMSU-Alamogordo \* NMSU-Dona Ana \* NMSU-Grants \* UNM-Gallup \* UNM-Los Alamos \* UNM-Taos \* UNM-Valencia

### **WITH YOUR SUPPORT -**

- academic enrollment increased 3.6% from Fall 2024 & 2025
- trained or provided paid internships/ apprenticeships in high-demand fields to over 6,200 students in FY2025



### THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING STUDENTS

# With your continued support of the Lottery Scholarship and the Opportunity Scholarship, New Mexico has

- the fifth lowest level of student debt1
- the third smallest proportion of students with debt <sup>2</sup>

### With your support of New Mexico post-secondary education

 New Mexico ranks 9th in the U.S. and District of Columbia in social mobility index 3



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1. WalletHub September 18, 2025;

2. Education Data Initiative June 26, 2025;

3. CollegeNet 2025

### INSTRUCTION & GENERAL



### FORMULA FUNDING

a **4.70% increase** in formula funding, **\$42.5 million**.

- Inflation has increased higher education costs by 3.7%.<sup>1</sup>
- An additional **1.0%** to help address skyrocketing health insurance costs.

### **LEGISLATIVE MANDATES**

Fully fund mandates that require new institutional services.

Fully fund any new employee benefits.

1. Mountain States Higher Education Price Index

### COMPENSATION



# EQUIVALENT TO STATE AGENCIES

Allow institutions the flexibility to implement an 'average' compensation increase, Each percentage requires a \$12.7 million appropriation.

# STATE MANDATED EMPLOYEE BENEFIT ENHANCEMENTS

Request full funding for increased costs due to any state changes in employee benefits, such as increasing the mandated employer share of insurance benefits.

### NON-RECURRING REQUESTS

### **Campus Safety**

**\$20.0 million** for campus safety equipment, including access controls.

### **CHECS Cybersecurity**

**\$13.1 million** working in conjunction with HED and DoIT to protect institutions from cyber threats.

# **Building Renewal & Replacement**

**\$100.0** million to address deferred maintenance and demolition for health & safety reasons

# **Equipment Renewal & Replacement**

**\$10.0 million,** to support instruction & general equipment



### SECTOR SPECIFIC REQUESTS

# Workforce Training; Paid Internships, Externships, and Apprenticeships

Institutions are currently gathering data to demonstrate the return on investment of the NM GRO appropriation. We will be requesting predictable, sustainable funding in the 2027 Legislative Session.

### **Innovation Hub Package**

**\$100.0 million** Appropriation to the Economic Development Department to support competitiveness within New Mexico's research universities and national labs.

## **Technology Enhancement Fund**

Continued support for TEF



### **REGARDING** -



### **Dual Credit**

### We request -

language requiring the Public Education
 Department to provide funding up to the standard tuition rate to post-secondary institutions for dual credit students.

# Lottery & Opportunity Scholarships We support -

- continued funding for these important New Mexico student scholarship programs.
- review of the programs, including sustainability.
- recognition of the needs of students in allowing exemptions for at-risk students and hardships.

# PRIORITY RECAP 2026 LEGISLATIVE SESSION

### **I&G FUNDING**

• 4.7% increase in I&G funding

### COMPENSATION

- increase commensurate with state employee/public education increases, allowing for flexibility
- Funding for state mandated employee benefit changes

### **NON-RECURRING**

- \$100.0 million for the EDD Innovation Hub Package
- \$20.0 million for Campus Safety
- \$13.7 million for Cybersecurity
- \$100.0 million for Building Renewal & Replacement
- \$10.0 million for Equipment Renewal & Replacement

### **OTHER**

- Support for Workforce Training; Paid Internships, Apprenticeships
- Support for the Technology Enhancement Fund
- Adopt Dual Credit language

### THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT!

**Central New Mexico Community College Clovis Community College Eastern New Mexico University ENMU - Roswell ENMU - Ruidoso Luna Community College Mesalands Community College New Mexico Highlands University New Mexico Institute of Mining and Technology New Mexico Junior College New Mexico Military Institute New Mexico State University NMSU - Alamogordo NMSU - Dona Ana NMSU - Grants** 

**Northern New Mexico College** San Juan College Santa Fe Community College **Southeast New Mexico College Western New Mexico University University of New Mexico** 

**UNM - Gallup** 

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