

Federal Funding in New Mexico Higher Education Institutions

Federal Funding Revenue Stabilization Task Force
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FEDERAL FUNDING IN NEW MEXICO PUBLIC POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION



Academic Programs

- Awarded over 23,000 academic certificates and degrees
- Enrolled over 110,000 students
- Disbursed financial aid to almost 75,000 students
 - federal financial aid going to 46,700

Workforce Training

- Over 6,200 students served across 224 programs

Grants & Work-Study

Type	Eligible Population
➔ Pell Grants	Undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need
➔ Federal Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants (SEOG)	Undergraduate – primary consideration given to students who received a Pell Grant and have the greatest need
➔ Work-Study	Students earn at least minimum wage. Awarded amount is dependent upon available funding. Available to undergraduate, graduate, and professional program students.
➔ TEACH Grant	The awarded student must agree to teach full-time in a defined high need field at a qualifying location for four years. If the required commitment is not completed, the grant is converted to an unsubsidized loan.

Who Qualifies?

- Students must complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA)
 - The FAFSA must show a financial need.
- So long as students stay eligible, grant aid does not need to be repaid.
 - TEACH Grant has service requirements.

Federal Student Loans

Type	Eligible Population
➔ Subsidized	Undergraduate students with demonstrated financial need.
➔ Unsubsidized	Undergraduate, graduate, & professional students
➔ PLUS	Parents borrowing for their dependent, undergraduate students Annual borrowing and lifetime limit maximums will begin July 1, 2026 Eligible graduate or professional students New graduate/professional borrowers will be prohibited from accessing PLUS loans after July 1, 2026
➔ Consolidation	Anyone with eligible federal loans who wants to combine any (all) into a single loan.

Why Federal Loans?

- Interest rate is fixed
- Interest is typically lower than private loans
- For direct subsidized loans the federal government pays the loan interest while the student is enrolled
- Repayment does not begin until after the student leaves college or drops below half-time.

Type of Institutional Grants & Contracts

Program	Eligible Population
→ Competitive	The funding agency selects the proposal(s) that best align with the project goals. Examples include: cancer research, crash avoidance technology
→ Formula	Not competitive, distributed to predetermined recipients based on a predetermined formula. Examples include SNAP, TANF, Medicaid.
→ Block	Funds earmarked for specific programs, such as Adult Education
→ Pass-through Grants	Funds are awarded to one entity who passes it through to other eligible entities.

Highlighted Federal Programs

Program	Eligible Population
→ TRIO Programs	Outreach and student support programs for low-income, first-generation, and disabled students. Programs span middle school to post-graduate students.
→ Workforce Innovation & Opportunity Act (WIOA)	In conjunction with the Department of Workforce Solutions and regional workforce boards, provides support for workforce training, career services, adult education
→ Adult Education	Funding for high school equivalency preparation, literacy, and workforce readiness programs
→ Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program (SNAP)	Food assistance for eligible students
→ Perkins V	Funds to support secondary and post-secondary institutions that provide career technical education (CTE) programs.
→ Public Broadcasting	Funds to help maintain access to non-commercial media, especially in underserved areas

2025 Special Session Appropriations

SNAP

- \$1.246 million to prevent layoffs in the SNAP program and obesity grant program at UNM & NMSU
- \$2 million to support educational-based centers, food pantries, and distribution programs at the Early Childhood Education and Care, Public Education, and Higher Education Departments

CAMP

- \$450 thousand to NMSU for the CAMP program for college-bound migrant and seasonal farmworkers.

Public Broadcasting

- \$5.6 million to DFA for educational television & public radio in FY2026 & FY2027

Challenges Moving Forward

Federal funding is embedded within New Mexico's post-secondary education institutions: from providing financial aid to our students to supporting targeted student success programs to supporting public service and research.

As with all funding sources, if programmatic funding is removed, institutions will be faced with difficult choices.
