

LFC Requester:

Connor Jorgensen

AGENCY BILL ANALYSIS - 2026 REGULAR SESSION

WITHIN 24 HOURS OF BILL POSTING, UPLOAD ANALYSIS TO

AgencyAnalysis.nmlegis.gov and email to billanalysis@dfa.nm.gov*(Analysis must be uploaded as a PDF)***SECTION I: GENERAL INFORMATION***{Indicate if analysis is on an original bill, amendment, substitute or a correction of a previous bill}*

Date Prepared: February 6, 2026 Check all that apply:
Bill Number: HB 236 Original Correction
 Amendment Substitute

Sponsor: Rep. Gonzales **Agency Name and Code** University of New Mexico-952
Short Title: UNM Pathways Statewide Collaborative Program **Number:** _____
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SECTION II: FISCAL IMPACT**APPROPRIATION (dollars in thousands)**

Appropriation		Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27		
	\$2,000	non	SGF

REVENUE (dollars in thousands)

Estimated Revenue			Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
FY26	FY27	FY28		

(Parenthesis () indicate revenue decreases)

ESTIMATED ADDITIONAL OPERATING BUDGET IMPACT (dollars in thousands)

	FY26	FY27	FY28	3 Year Total Cost	Recurring or Nonrecurring	Fund Affected
Total						

(Parenthesis () Indicate Expenditure Decreases)

Duplicates/Conflicts with/Companion to/Relates to:
 Duplicates/Relates to Appropriation in the General Appropriation Act

SECTION III: NARRATIVE

BILL SUMMARY

Synopsis:

HB 236 appropriates \$2M from the general fund to the regents of the University of New Mexico for expenditure in FY 2027 to support health professional pathway programs, including science, technology, engineering, math and health sciences programs and youth leadership development activities.

FISCAL IMPLICATIONS

SIGNIFICANT ISSUES

Collectively, the University of New Mexico Health Sciences Center maintains a comprehensive and coordinated set of pathway programs designed to prepare and support prospective and current students for health professional careers. These programs include, but are not limited to, Communities to Careers, ENLACE New Mexico, the Pathways Statewide Collaborative, the Center for Native American Health, Honoring Native Life, and UNM's combined BA/MD program. Together, they advance a shared objective: strengthening New Mexico's health care workforce pipeline. These initiatives emphasize early exposure to health careers, academic preparation and advising, mentoring, leadership development, community and family engagement, culturally responsive support, and sustained persistence through postsecondary and professional training. Taken together, they support learners across the full continuum—from K–12 through health professions education—while aligning education, community partnerships, and workforce development strategies to increase the supply, diversity, and readiness of New Mexico's future health care workforce.

Supporting this coordinated set of health-care workforce pathway and student support programs requires approximately \$5.43 million in recurring annual funding. These programs play a critical role in recruiting, preparing, supporting, and retaining a diverse health workforce for New Mexico—particularly for rural, tribal, and underserved communities—and address long-standing workforce shortages. The appropriation in this bill would close the gap between funding levels provided in HB 2 and the programs' demonstrated ongoing operational needs, helping to stabilize and sustain pipeline investments that are essential to New Mexico's long-term health care capacity and well-being.

PERFORMANCE IMPLICATIONS

ADMINISTRATIVE IMPLICATIONS

CONFLICT, DUPLICATION, COMPANIONSHIP, RELATIONSHIP

TECHNICAL ISSUES

OTHER SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES

ALTERNATIVES

**WHAT WILL BE THE CONSEQUENCES OF NOT ENACTING THIS BILL
AMENDMENTS**