



Dec. 20, 2024

Monthly Newsletter

Issue #4



FRIDAY, JANUARY 31ST, 2025
NEW MEXICO STATE CAPITOL BUILDING
411 S CAPITOL ST, SANTA FE, NM 87501

Aggies in Government: Ismael Torres, Chief Economist for New Mexico's Legislative Finance Committee

Ismael Torres, Chief Economist for New Mexico's Legislative Finance Committee and NMSU alumnus, is at the forefront of shaping the state's fiscal future. Leading efforts to estimate state revenues and advise on key economic policies, Torres has been instrumental in developing strategies to reduce New Mexico's reliance on oil and gas. Discover how his NMSU education set him on a path to leadership in state government and how his work is making a lasting impact on the state's economy.



Caption: Ismael Torres, Chief Economist for New Mexico's Legislative Finance Committee

[Read more here.](#)



The Diverse Landscape of Government Relations: Addressing Challenges and Seizing Opportunities

by Clayton Abbey, AVP of Government and Community Relations

The 2025 Legislative Session is now just over a month away and our office has been working steadfastly to prepare and give our requests for capital, research and public service projects and special initiatives a chance at successful funding. Additionally, we have collaborated with partners from across the system and the community to plan an ambitious “NMSU Day at the Capitol” and subsequent “Las Cruces Days in Santa Fe.” Meanwhile, our federal government appears to be on the verge of a partial shutdown as fighting has erupted over a temporary budget plan that would extend funding through the first part of 2025. This all suggests an upcoming year filled with challenges and opportunities with very little time to rest. Such is the work of government relations, as our office’s work is much like that of government itself, extending into every aspect of people’s lives, from education and taxes to business, research, healthcare, and human interactions.

This month’s newsletter is representative of the varied nature of our work, highlighting a student success initiative we are working to help expand, efforts to further support our student-athletes, our relationship-building with alumni and government employees, and our acknowledgment of and thanks to those within the university system whose guidance and leadership enables our success. We continue to seek out federal grant opportunities and showcase a select few that relate to the work of our colleges while adding a new feature capturing noteworthy news stories that relate to higher education, or our research, or to students, or to New Mexico politics.

We thought it was important that we shared our gratitude to our two departing Regents, Dina Chacón-Reitzel and Garrett Moseley, as these two unpaid civil servants have helped the university immensely through their advocacy, vision, and attentiveness to certain aspects of our core mission. We also hope this newsletter will continue to be informative to our readers and thus are opening portions of the newsletter to reader suggestions, as we value the input of our many partners. I’ll conclude first by reminding everyone of Friday, January 31, 2025, the NMSU system’s opportunity to show its pride, its successes, and its vision during “NMSU Day at the Capitol,” and secondly by wishing everyone a blessed, restful break.

In 2025, the Aggies will ride again. Aggie Up!

Empowering Success: The College Assistant Migrant Program (CAMP)

by Johnny Montoya, reviewed and edited by Dr. Cynthia Bejarano, CAMP Principal Investigator

New Mexico State University’s College Assistant Migrant Program (CAMP) is a vital resource designed to support eligible U.S. citizen and permanent resident students from migrant and seasonal farmworker, dairy worker, and ranching working backgrounds as they pursue higher education. During the upcoming legislative session, the NMSU Office of Government and Community Relations is seeking a \$610,000 appropriation to help retain students with hands-on STEM experiences in research- related activities including professional and career preparedness and leadership opportunities including studying abroad. The funding will also support efforts to leverage federal funds for programming (over \$100 million since 2002), that have proven necessary to accomplish program goals, objectives and retention initiatives. As federal funding is focused on freshmen, the state funds have consistently been used to strengthen the overall retention of students after the first year which increases graduation rates, post-graduate studies, internships, and contributes to the professional workforce in New Mexico including graduates paying it forward as professionals.

How CAMP Helps Students

CAMP assists students in several key ways, including:

1. **Financial Assistance:** CAMP provides scholarships and financial aid resources, helping students cover the cost of tuition, books, and supplies. This financial support can alleviate the burden of paying for higher education and allow students to focus on their studies.
2. **Academic Support:** The program offers tutoring, some clustered courses, and academic counseling, ensuring students have the resources they need to succeed in their courses. CAMP also helps students with time management, study skills, and test preparation.
3. **Advising and Mentorship:** CAMP freshmen are paired with CAMP upper-class peer mentors who guide them through their freshmen year. Academic advisors assist with course selection, career planning, and navigating campus life through their academic journey. Mentorship plays a critical role in helping students feel connected to their academic community and providing them with the confidence to overcome obstacles.
4. **Cultural and Social Support:** Many students in CAMP face the challenge of adjusting to college life, especially if they are moving away from home for the first time. CAMP provides a supportive community that celebrates the students’ cultural backgrounds and offers a safe space for them to share experiences and build connections.
5. **Career Development:** CAMP offers career counseling, job search preparation, and internship opportunities. By helping students explore career options and gain real-world experience, the program ensures they are well-prepared for the workforce upon graduation, while also using professional NMSU CAMP alums and partners with this goal.

Why CAMP Matters

The College Assistant Migrant Program is crucial because it directly addresses the educational disparities faced by migrant and seasonal farmworker, dairy worker and ranch



Empowering Success: College Assistance Migrant Program (cont.)

working families. Many of these families face economic hardships, which can limit access to education. For students in these circumstances, CAMP opens the door to a college education, empowering them to pursue their dreams and contribute to their communities and overall social mobility.

Moreover, CAMP has a strong track record of success, having served 650 students since 2002. Students who participate in the program are more likely to persist in college and graduate resulting in an over 70% success rate. The holistic approach of the program not only focuses on academic achievement but also nurtures personal growth and leadership, which helps students thrive both in and outside the classroom.

Looking Ahead

College Assistant Migrant Program continues to be a lifeline for students from migrant and seasonal farmworker backgrounds. With its ongoing support, these students can navigate the challenges of higher education and emerge as leaders and change-makers in their communities.

If you're a student who may qualify for CAMP, or if you're interested in learning more about the program, reach out to your college's financial aid office or visit the CAMP website for more information at camp.nmsu.edu. With CAMP by your side, a brighter future in higher education is within reach.

Student Spotlight

The College Assistant Migrant Program has many success stories. For example, Alejandro Reyes from Garfield, NM, achieved a monumental milestone by graduating with a Bachelor of Science in Electrical Engineering in the fall of 2024. Alejandro was a member of NMSU CAMP Cohort 19, a historic group as the program's first fully online cohort due to the COVID-19 pandemic. On December 14, 2024, Alejandro crossed the commencement stage as a graduate. He now looks forward to launching his career with ONCOR Electric. Alejandro's journey is a testament to his family's story of hard work laboring in agricultural fields and their fervent belief in higher education. Alejandro's sister, Maribel, exemplifies this spirit as a current COMPA, a CAMP peer mentor to freshmen, who will begin her level one within the nursing program in the 2025 spring semester. She is pursuing a double major in Nursing and Spanish, embracing both her passion for healthcare and her cultural heritage. Their sibling Diana is also blazing her own trail as a freshman in the 23rd CAMP cohort. She is pursuing a degree in Computer Science and is driven to follow in her siblings' footsteps.

Alejandro is one of 17 CAMP students (three master's and fourteen baccalaureate recipients) graduating in December 2024 including Hatch sisters, Sheyla Gutierrez graduating with her master's in business administration, and her sister, Eileen Gutierrez graduating with her kinesiology degree. Each student has a unique and inspiring success story founded on resilience and determination. NMSU CAMP is in the business of transforming lives and communities contributing to the 70% of CAMP graduates working professionally across New Mexico.

Aggies in Government: Ismael Torres, Chief Economist for New Mexico's Legislative Finance Committee

by Citlalli Benitez, Government Relations Specialist



Caption: Ismael Torres, Chief Economist for New Mexico's Legislative Finance Committee

Ismael Torres, a proud NMSU alum, has made significant strides in the public policy arena since graduating from New Mexico State University. As the Chief Economist for the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC), Torres is responsible for estimating state revenues, maintaining New Mexico's financial status, and analyzing policies that impact the state's economic development. His work, which directly influences fiscal policy, includes guiding decisions on economic development, tax investments, and evaluating state programs.

Torres credits his NMSU experience for preparing him for his major role in state fiscal policy. He graduated with degrees in both economics and government, providing him with the foundation to thrive in policy analysis and public administration. During his time at NMSU, Torres became actively involved in Model United Nations, a formative experience that connected him to like-minded peers and professionals. It was through these connections that Torres was introduced to the LFC, where he began as Criminal Justice Analyst and worked his way up to his current position as Chief Economist. As he reflects on his path, Torres shares, "The connections that you make will last a lifetime," noting that the people he met at NMSU played a pivotal role in his career journey.

A standout achievement in Torres' career has been his involvement in developing a strategy to cap the amount of oil and gas revenues that go into the state's recurring budget, instead directing a portion of those windfall revenues into investment accounts. This innovative approach aims to secure New Mexico's financial future by reducing the state's reliance on oil and gas, a sector poised for decline as the world transitions to renewable energy. "We saw sort of this golden opportunity to get it done ... we think that we can fully offset declines in oil and gas in the future," Torres says, reflecting on historical declines in oil and gas and the devastating affect on the state's ability to balance its budget during low revenue years. His work has already shown promising results, with projections indicating that the strategy will fully offset future declines in revenue.

Torres emphasizes the vital role of higher education institutions like NMSU in shaping New Mexico's workforce and economic future. He recognizes the importance of upskilling students for high-paying jobs and fostering research institutions that can create new economic engines for the state. As he explains, "Getting New Mexicans re-skilled or upskilled for jobs that have higher paying wages is instrumental to a New Mexico transformation." Torres also sees the current challenges of a shrinking high school population as an opportunity to attract



Aggies in Government: Ismael Torres, Chief Economist for New Mexico's Legislative Finance Committee (cont.)

students from out of state, particularly in the context of New Mexico's affordable and high-quality higher education options. "We can attract students from the region to a relatively lower cost, higher education opportunity and that's our opportunity to show and convince people from out of state that New Mexico is a beautiful place," he says.

One of the most crucial aspects of Torres' work is advocating for the engagement of students and faculty in shaping state policies. He believes that NMSU's Office of Government and Community Relations plays a key role in connecting legislators with constituents, especially in Las Cruces, where there is often a perceived disconnect from the state capital. Torres encourages the office to organize outreach efforts, such as facilitating trips to Santa Fe or conducting email campaigns, to ensure that the voices of students and faculty are heard. "The political process is actually really responsive to constituents," Torres says, urging the office to leverage its connections to influence policy discussions. "If you make yourself heard, you will be heard," he adds, highlighting the accessibility of New Mexico's elected officials.

Torres also reflects on the impact of his professors at NMSU, specifically Dr. Neil Harvey and Dr. Jim Peach, whose mentorship and real-world involvement in state policy inspired his career path. "Dr. Harvey gave me opportunities to get real work experience," Torres shares, noting how this guidance helped him to get motivated to pursue a career in local government. His advice to current students is to embrace opportunities for critical thinking and to develop strong quantitative analytical skills, which are essential for success in economics and public policy. "The ability to engage in policy discussion at that level is a huge asset," he says, stressing the importance of developing these skills to stand out in the field.

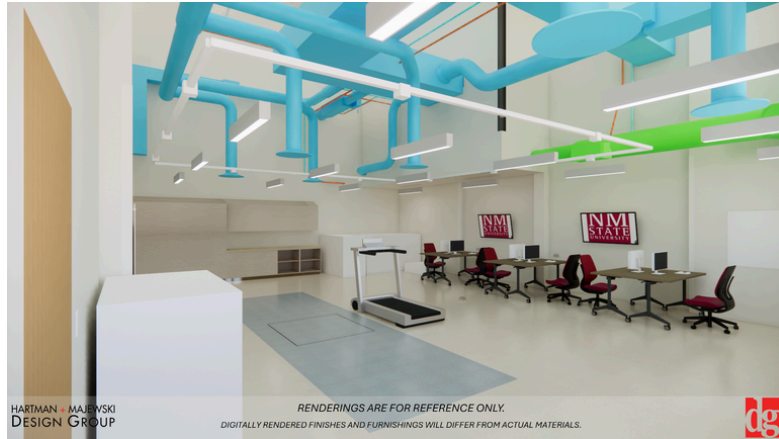
Looking toward the future, Torres hopes for a New Mexico where poverty rates fall, and New Mexicans lives improve. He believes in focusing on improving education and creating higher-wage jobs, and also enhancing the state's quality of life through better infrastructure and amenities. "Reducing poverty... that's number one," Torres says, pointing to the need for a stronger, more diversified economy to ensure that future generations have better opportunities. He also emphasizes the importance of retaining talent in the state, saying, "We have to make sure that we have the amenities expected for people who earn high wages."

Ismael Torres' journey from an NMSU graduate to Chief Economist for the Legislative Finance Committee is a testament to the opportunities available to Aggies who are passionate about public service. His work continues to shape the fiscal policy and future of New Mexico, and his story serves as an inspiration for future generations of students aiming to make a difference in their communities.

Do you know an Aggie in government who we should profile? We are always looking to highlight the achievements and contributions of our alumni who are making a difference in the public sector. If you know someone whose story deserves to be shared, please reach out to our office and help us celebrate the impact of Aggies in government.

Expanding Excellence in Nursing at O'Donnell Hall

The December 6th, 2024 groundbreaking for the O'Donnell Hall/Nursing Expansion project at New Mexico State University (NMSU) signifies a transformative step forward for the College of Health, Education, and Social Transformation (HEST). This ambitious undertaking underscores the vital role of legislative support and state investment in reshaping educational infrastructure to meet New Mexico's growing healthcare and educational needs.



Rendering provided by the College of HEST

A Vision Realized Through Legislative Advocacy

The expansion project is the culmination of years of dedicated planning, advocacy, and public investment. Initially envisioned in 2017 through a comprehensive facility study, the project gained momentum with 2022 General Obligation (GO) Bond funding. The state's commitment includes a \$17 million investment, split between \$15 million for the O'Donnell Hall expansion and \$2 million for nursing renovations at the Health and Social Services (HSS) Building. This project represents a vital partnership between NMSU leadership, the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED), legislative champions, and New Mexico voters who supported the bond measure. The December 6th groundbreaking exemplifies the impact of state investment and strong legislative partnerships. It highlights what can be accomplished when institutions and policymakers work together to address critical workforce and community needs.

Enhanced Facilities for Critical Programs

The expansion adds 15,590 square feet of new gross space to O'Donnell Hall, complemented by 6,803 square feet of renovated spaces. These upgrades will accommodate cutting-edge labs and collaborative spaces for the Departments of Kinesiology (KIN) and Communication Disorders (CD), fostering interdisciplinary research in allied health fields.

Additionally, the renovated ground floor will provide an expanded home for the Papen-Aprendamos Autism Diagnostic Center (ADC) and the Edgar R. Garrett Speech and Hearing Clinic. These services, pivotal to the region, will now have state-of-the-art facilities to better serve families and train future healthcare professionals. The HSS Building's new Operating Room Simulation Lab



Rendering provided by the College of HEST

will also bolster the nursing program, including the emerging Anesthesiology concentration in the Doctor of Nursing Practice program. Programs Driving Community Impact O'Donnell Hall already houses essential programs like the School of Teacher Preparation, Administration, and Leadership (TPAL) and the Department of Counseling and Educational Psychology (CEP). TPAL trains educators and leaders who shape New Mexico's schools, while CEP prepares professionals to

Expanding Excellence in Nursing at O’Donnell Hall

address psychological and social justice challenges. With the addition of Kinesiology and Communication Disorders, the hall will become a nexus of academic excellence and community engagement.

Programs like the Papen-Aprendamos ADC and Garrett Speech and Hearing Clinic provide crucial diagnostic and therapeutic services, reducing wait times and improving access for underserved populations. These initiatives also offer students invaluable hands-on training, reinforcing NMSU’s mission to address health disparities and improve statewide outcomes.

Preparing for the Future

The expansion and renovations underscore NMSU’s commitment to fostering innovation, addressing workforce shortages, and supporting economic development. With advanced facilities, interdisciplinary collaboration, and an unwavering focus on community needs, the College of HEST is poised to transform how healthcare and education intersect in New Mexico.

“The O’Donnell Hall/Nursing Expansion project marks a pivotal moment,” shared Philip Post, Interim Dean for the College of HEST. “These investments are not just about buildings but about preparing our students for the real world, addressing workforce gaps, and improving health outcomes for our communities.”

As construction progresses, this project stands as a testament to the power of legislative partnerships and NMSU’s unwavering commitment to serving New Mexico. The groundbreaking represents not just a new chapter for NMSU but a brighter future for the state.



From left to right, Sylvia Y. Acosta, NMSU Foundation CEO; Amanda Romero, College of HEST academic operations support officer; Alexa Doig, School of Nursing director; Christopher Aiken, head of the Department of Kinesiology; Susan Brown, former College of Education dean; Ammu Devasthali, NMSU Board of Regents chair; Phillip Post, interim dean of the College of HEST; New Mexico state Sen. Bill Soules; Julie Borrego, clinical director of the Edgar R. Garrett Speech and Hearing Clinic; Heike Lehnert-LeHouillier, head of the Department of Communication Disorders; Kimberly Hilburn, project manager in Project Development and Engineering at NMSU; and Rocky Puentes, Facilities and Services supervisor at NMSU. (NMSU photo by Josh Bachman).

New Mexico State University Seeks Legislative Support to Invest in Women's Athletics



Image Source: Instagram, @nmstatewbb

not only to foster a more inclusive sports environment but also to boost the overall visibility and competitiveness of NMSU's women's teams.

NMSU's director of athletics, along with university leadership, has expressed that the investment will focus on improving better recruitment, improved training and resources for student athletes, thus leading to better outcomes.

State legislators are being urged to recognize the long-term benefits of investing in women's athletics, including fostering leadership, teamwork, and academic success among the 184 female student-athletes at NMSU. Additionally, increasing the visibility of women's sports can enhance community engagement and support for the university, which in turn can help the school in recruiting top-tier talent and enhancing its national reputation.

The outcome of this funding request could have lasting implications for the future of women's sports at NMSU, shaping the experiences of female athletes and setting New Mexico up to be a leader on Women's Athletics. The university remains hopeful that with the support of the state legislature, it can continue its efforts to build a more equitable and dynamic athletic program for all its students.



NMSU's commitment to women's athletics is a testament to the growing recognition of the importance of diversity and inclusion in all aspects of university life. As the legislative session unfolds, the university is eager to work with lawmakers to secure the resources needed to make these goals a reality, reinforcing NMSU's dedication to promoting gender equality and empowering future generations of female athletes.

Image Source: Instagram, @nmstatewoc

Honoring Our Regents: Celebrating Their Leadership and Service

As their terms come to a close, we extend our deepest gratitude to Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel and Regent Garrett Moseley for their outstanding service and unwavering dedication to New Mexico State University. Their leadership has been instrumental in advancing the university's mission, fostering academic excellence, and strengthening our community partnerships.

Throughout their tenure, Regent Chacón-Reitzel and Regent Moseley have been steadfast supporters of the Office of Government and Community Relations, championing our efforts to advocate for initiatives and resources that benefit students, faculty, and staff alike. Their vision and commitment have left an indelible mark on NMSU, paving the way for continued success.

“As I come close to the end of my NMSU Regent term, I feel gratitude for the opportunity to serve the students and the state. I am proud of the impact this university has made on every citizen in New Mexico. During the difficult times in my term, I always remembered to focus on the mass majority of outstanding students and faculty. My fellow Regents, the administration and NMSU Governmental Relations staff work 365 days a year to ensure that our university is supported with resources and relationships needed to thrive and continue our aim to stay the best university in the state, not necessarily the biggest!” - Regent Dina Chacón-Reitzel



Image Source: Board of Regents, Members

“As a regent, you have the unique privilege of being exposed to the many different facets our university. The scale and scope of our university is at times hard to comprehend. We have a physical presence in every single county throughout the state of New Mexico. Our mission of service as a university is manifested through the thousands of goals we strive to accomplish. Our goals are focused in vastly different areas such as student success, research, economic development, finding ways to keep our water clean, improving crop production, and environmental sustainability, just to name a few.



Image Source: Board of Regents, Members

Few people other than the regents within the university possess the knowledge of our scope of work the university conducts. Within that small circle includes the NMSU



Honoring Our Regents: Celebrating Their Leadership and Service (cont.)

Governmental Relations team. This team is a champion of our mission and tells our story. As a university we rely on state funding and many of the goals we strive towards wouldn't be possible to achieve without the support of the state. Without the work of our government relations telling our story and why our causes are worthy of state support, NMSU wouldn't be able to do the work it needs to do to serve our community. Their work is truly makes a difference and I feel honored to have had the opportunity to alongside our governmental relations team during my time on the board of regents." - Regent Garrett Moseley

On behalf of the entire NMSU community, we thank them for their remarkable contributions and wish them all the best in their future endeavors. Their legacy of service will continue to inspire us all.

OTHER RESOURCES:

[NMSU Board of Regents](#)

[NMSU Board of Regents, Members](#)

[About the Board of Regents:](#) "The Board of Regents is the governing board for New Mexico State University (NMSU) and the New Mexico Department of Agriculture (NMDA).

The Board of Regents is a body made up of five members, one of whom is a student. Non-student members serve staggered six-year terms and the student member serves a two-year term. Regents are appointed by the Governor of New Mexico with the consent of the senate. The Board of Regents holds four regular meetings each year."



Federal Grants Advisory: Grant Opportunities for NMSU

Our office remains committed to identifying and securing grant opportunities that align with the university system's research priorities. In today's competitive funding landscape, it's crucial for our faculty and researchers to stay informed about potential sources of financial support. Below, we've highlighted some promising federal grants that are particularly relevant to the impactful research we conduct. These opportunities not only enhance our capabilities but also foster innovation and collaboration across disciplines. Whether you're involved in scientific research, educational initiatives, or community outreach, there may be a grant here that can help propel your work forward.

ACES

- **Agency:** National Science Foundation
Grant Program: Water, Landscape, and Critical Zone Processes
Funding Information: \$23,850,000
Deadline: Proposals accepted anytime

Arts & Sciences

- **Agency:** National Endowment for the Humanities
Grant Program: Institutes for Advanced Topics in the Digital Humanities
Funding Information: \$850,000
Deadline: February 13, 2025

Business

- **Agency:** Department of Agriculture - Rural Business-Cooperative Service
Grant Program: Rural Business Development Grant Program
Funding Information: No information provided
Deadline: February 28, 2025

Engineering

- **Agency:** National Aeronautics and Space Administration
Grant Program: Minority University Research and Education Project (MUREP).
Aeronautics Community & Environmental Impact Research (ACEIR).
Funding Information: \$4,500,000
Deadline: March 3, 2025

HEST

- **Agency:** Department of Health and Human Services - Health Resources and Services Administration
Grant Program: Behavioral Health Workforce Education and Training Program for Professionals
Funding Information: \$59,600,000
Deadline: January 21, 2025

In the News: Perspectives and Insights

Our office regularly encounters articles that are directly relevant to the work, mission, activities, and students of New Mexico State University. These articles offer valuable insights, updates, and perspectives that align with our ongoing efforts to support and promote the university. Each month, we will curate and share a selection of these noteworthy articles to keep our community informed and engaged with topics that impact NMSU and its broader mission.

Disclaimer:

The articles shared in this section are for informational purposes only and do not necessarily reflect the views or positions of New Mexico State University or the Office of Government and Community Relations.

This Month's Featured Articles:

- 1.) "[New Mexico universities, national labs team up on AI](#)" by André Salkin for Santa Fe New Mexican
- 2.) "[The Trump NIH Pick Who Wants to Take On 'Cancel Culture' Colleges](#)" by Liz Essley Whyte for The Wall Street Journal
- 3.) "[Advocate for girls in science can now make her pitch in Congress](#)" by Hannah Richter for AP News
- 4.) "[How A.I. Can Revive a Love of Learning: Modern technology offers new possibilities for transforming teaching](#)," by Anant Agarwal for New York Times
- 5.) "[Haaland in talks about run for New Mexico governor](#)" by Robin Bravender, Heather Richards, Jennifer Yachnin for E&E News by Politico
- 6.) "[Government funding plan collapses as Trump makes new demands days before shutdown](#)" by Lisa Mascaro and Kevin Freking for AP News
- 7.) "[Senators Heinrich, Luján: Defense bill will help New Mexico labs, military bases](#)" by Daniel Chacón for Santa Fe New Mexican

Want to recommend an article for this section? Reach out to our office at gaffairs@nmsu.edu or give us a call at (575)646-5909.



Key Deadlines and Submission Dates for Government Relations.

There are numerous opportunities to support students, as well as academic and research programs, through state and federal funding. It's essential for the university community to be aware of these opportunities and their associated deadlines. Keep in mind that deadlines can shift, and sometimes funding opportunities may be added or removed. We encourage you to reach out to our office with any questions or to explore how we can assist in your efforts to support our students, the university, the community, and the state.

This summary below outlines key deadlines and important dates for New Mexico State University's government relations activities, including submissions for capital projects, research funding, and special appropriations. It serves as a timeline for coordinating and ensuring timely submissions to state and federal agencies, as well as internal university reviews and approvals.

Deadlines and Due Dates

Capital Outlay

- May 29** Board of Regents approval of Five-Year Capital Plan
- June 3** New Mexico Higher Education Department (HED) Five-Year Capital Plan Submission Due Date
- August 6** HED Summer Hearings

Research and Public Service Projects (RPSPs)

- June 19** Due date for submission of Research and Public Service Projects to the Office of Government and Community Relations
- July 18-19** Tentative date for University System Budget Committee hearings (Review Only)
- July 25** Tentative date for President review and approval of Research and Public Service Projects
- July 31** Tentative date for Regents Financial Strategies, Performance and Budget Committee hearings (Review and Subcommittee Approval)
- August 15** Tentative Date for Board of Regents meeting (Approval of RPSPs by Regents, with signature of Regent Chair required)
Sept. 15 Deadline
- Oct. 15** Tentative date for Higher Education RPSP Hearings

Special Appropriations

- Sept. 2** Deadline for submission to the Department of Finance and Administration (DFA)

Congressionally Directed Spending

- Oct. 1** Tentative Date for Request for NMSU system submissions
- Dec. 1** Deadline for submissions to Office of Vice President for Research and Office of Government and Community Relations
- Dec. 15** Council of Associate Deans for Research evaluation and review meeting

Individual Capital Outlay

- Jan. 11, 2025** Tentative date for submission of requests via Legislative Council Service website

Junior Bill

- Jan.-March 2025** Due date is established during the Legislative Session



Stay Connected With Us!

Our team at the Office of Government and Community Relations is always here to support the NMSU community. Whether you have questions about government processes, are seeking guidance on building relationships with elected officials, or need assistance navigating legislative matters, don't hesitate to reach out. We value your input and are committed to being a resource for students, faculty, administrators, and staff. Your feedback helps us tailor our efforts to better serve Aggie Nation.

Clayton Abbey

Assistant Vice President of Government and Community Relations
cabbey@nmsu.edu

Johnny Montoya

Director of State Government Affairs
johnnymo@nmsu.edu

Citlalli Benitez

Government Relations Specialist
citbenit@nmsu.edu
(575)646-1122

Jazmin Aguirre

Administrative Assistant
jazminr@nmsu.edu
(575)646-5909

Office contact:
gaffairs@nmsu.edu