



DIFFERENTIAL TUITION REQUEST

College/School: School of Law Department/Program: Juris Doctor

Contact: Dean Camille Carey Phone: 277-4700 Email: carey@law.unm.edu

Level: Undergraduate Graduate

Proposed Differential to be applied as: by student type (major): by course:

For Main Campus units, all new differential tuition will be charged by student type (major) and will follow the tuition block.

Requested Differential Tuition (shown as an amount per student credit hour):

Student Type	Current Differential	Proposed Differential	Increase/Decrease or New Differential
Residents	\$370.90	\$387.37	\$16.47
Non-Residents	\$554.80	\$579.44	\$24.64
Other	\$	\$	\$

Effective Academic Year: AY23-24

*If the differential tuition request is approved it will be applied in the following academic year **beginning in the fall semester.***

Rationale for Request: *Please provide a detailed explanation on the reasoning for the increase/decrease or new differential tuition. Please refer to policy **UAP 8210 2.2** for qualifying justifications for differential tuition.*

The Law School already qualifies for and receives differential tuition. This request is to increase differential tuition to meet critical needs for our students and the school.

We request an increase in differential tuition for two purposes: 1) to hire a staff member to support our students in academic support and bar passage and 2) to increase the salary for our unfilled admissions recruiter position by \$10,000 so that we can fill the position with a successful applicant.

Academic Support and Bar Passage Staff Member:

The Law School’s JD program is geared toward meeting licensure requirements. Our JD graduates must take and pass the bar exam in order to become licensed attorneys. New Mexico uses the Uniform Bar Exam for attorney licensure. We have seen a decrease in pass rates, with only 76% of our graduates passing the bar as first-time takers for both the July 2021 and July 2022 bar exams. The Law School needs to provide additional and



meaningful bar passage support to all of our students to ensure licensure and employment after graduation.

The Law School also needs to provide additional academic support to its student body during law school. The Law School is committed to admitting and matriculating students from a wide variety of socioeconomic, educational, racial, ethnic, and geographic backgrounds.

Most law schools have significantly more robust academic and bar passage support programs, with multiple staff members and complex programming and services to support students in succeeding during law school and on the bar exam. The Law School has only one staff member to support about 300 students in day-to-day academic success and bar passage. We seek an increase in the tuition differential to hire a second full-time academic and bar passage support staff member for our Student and Career Services Unit. This person should hold a JD and a law license so that he/she/they can advise, tutor, and mentor students on academic and bar passage success.

Salary Increase for Recruiter Position

We have been unable to fill a vacancy for a recruiter position in our Admissions Office due to the low salary that is currently being offered for the position, which is JD preferred. This position has been posted on 10/25/2019, 1/9/2020, 7/2/2021, and 10/28/2021. Having a recruiter at the Law School is vital to the school's pipelining efforts to ensure that we are admitting students from a diverse set of backgrounds. A diverse class is important so that a wide variety of backgrounds and experiences are represented in the classroom and so that the Law School can continue to graduate lawyers who are culturally competent and able to serve New Mexico's diverse communities. Applications to law schools nationwide decreased significantly for the 2022/2023 academic year, and applications by New Mexico residents were especially low. The Law School depends on a full and vibrant class of incoming students each year to support its educational mission and produce lawyers for New Mexico's communities. Without a recruiter, the Law School has been hindered in its ability to recruit an ideally-sized class. Hiring a qualified recruiter (with a JD and experience) will support Law School revenue and recruit a full and diverse class.

Market Analysis: *Please provide detailed information on whether the college/school or department/program cost of instruction is markedly higher than the university average program costs or market conditions warrant additional tuition.*

The Law School's resident tuition, even with the proposed increase in tuition differential, will remain lower than that charged by law schools in neighboring states. UNM Law School's resident tuition is \$18,938. The following schools in neighboring states charge



the indicated amount of resident tuition: Arizona State University (\$28,364), University of Utah (\$33,634), University of Colorado-Boulder (\$33,426), Texas Tech University (\$27,532), and University of Oklahoma-Norman (\$22,283).

Student Consultation: *A preliminary request should be submitted to the Provost Office (Main Campus) or Chancellor’s Office (Health Sciences Center (HSC)) no later than October 1st. Per policy it must be posted to the unit’s website no later than October 1st to allow for at least 30 days of constituent comment prior to final submission to the Provost or Chancellor by November 1st.*

Please provide an explanation on how you plan to communicate the proposed differential tuition request to students, and the feedback you have already received from students on this request, if any.

Communication regarding this current proposal for continuing and increasing differential tuition will be accomplished through email correspondence, at a community meeting, and at a faculty meeting with student representation through the Student Bar Association.

Accountability/Budget Information: *Please provide budgetary information about how the revenue generated will be expensed. It is highly encouraged to set aside a portion of the revenue generated by the differential for financial aid (see policy UAP 8210 2.2.2).*

Financial Aid Set Aside Amount: 5.2 %

Proposed Annual Revenue

Differential Tuition (per student credit hour)	\$387.37 Resident \$579.44 Non-resident
Projected # of Student Credit Hours (all student credit hours taken by student majors in the program).	7,943 Resident 368 Non-resident
Total Revenue	\$3,290,122

Proposed Annual Expenditures

Financial Aid Set Aside (%)	\$170,892 (5.2%)
Faculty Expense	\$1,985,192



Advising Personnel	\$245,605
Support Staff Expense	\$167,984
Operating Expenses	\$720,449
Total Program Costs	\$3,290,122

Please provide a detailed explanation on how the revenue will be used for this program:

Almost all of these differential funds will be used 1) to hire an academic and bar passage support staff member and 2) to increase the salary for a vacant Admissions recruiter position by \$10,000 to as to successfully hire for that position.

We intend to hire a staff member who will provide academic and bar passage support to our students. The anticipated salary is \$85,000 plus fringe benefits.

We also intend to increase our salary for our Admissions recruiter position from \$65,000 to \$75,000 plus fringe benefits. This increase in the salary will help us hire a qualified recruiter, as our search for a recruiter at the lower salary has been unsuccessful.

We also intend to set aside 5.2% as a financial aid set aside.

Student Access and Affordability: *Please explain how student access and affordability will be addressed.*

UNM School of Law is one of the most affordable law schools in the Mountain West region and in the country. Each year, the National Jurist/PreLaw Magazine ranks law schools on overall value, which is calculated based on total tuition expense, cost of living, average indebtedness after law school, bar passage rate, and employment success. UNM School of Law regularly ranks in the top 25 best value law schools in the country.

Law school tuition is very high nationwide. UNM Law School tuition is remarkably more affordable than almost all law schools in the U.S. with in-state tuition at \$18,938 and out-of-state tuition at \$39,890. Our competitor schools charge much higher tuition: Arizona State (\$28,364 for residents and \$48,570 for non-residents); University of Arizona (\$26,167 for residents and \$30,668 non-residents); University of Denver (\$54,023); and Texas Tech (\$27,532 for residents and \$38,902 for non-residents). Even with the proposed increase in UNM School of Law’s tuition differential, our tuition will remain much more affordable than our competitor schools.

The Law School awarded \$1,415,430 in scholarships last year. These scholarships and our remarkably affordable tuition allow our students to obtain a low-cost legal education with a low debt load. The Law School is in the midst of a fundraising campaign in celebration of its 75th Anniversary. Alumni and friends have been generously giving



millions of dollars in scholarship funds this year. These new scholarship funds will help to offset tuition, including the increased tuition differential, for our students.

Additionally, we will use the financial aid offset funds from this increase in tuition differential to defray increased tuition costs for students.

Peer Comparison Chart: *Please complete the Excel peer comparison spreadsheet. If the peer institutions listed does not have a similar college/school or department/program add an institution that most closely resembles your unit. Please note this adjustment below.*

See attached.

Other Information: *Please provide any additional information that supports this request for differential tuition.*

Dean/Director Approval:

Printed Name: Camille Carey

Signature:  Date: 10.14.22