

# **Small School. Big Value. Real New Mexican Perks.**



THE UNIVERSITY *of*  
NEW MEXICO

SCHOOL *of* LAW

[lawschool.unm.edu](https://lawschool.unm.edu)

"I enjoy collegial relationships with engaged, intelligent, creative classmates. Faculty and staff know me by name and are always ready to help."

Philip Huntman,  
Class of 2016

### SMALL CLASSES.

Student-to-faculty ratio: 9:1  
First year research/writing classes: 14-20 students  
Upper division median class size: 12 students  
Clinic class size: 8 students or less per section

### HIGH EMPLOYMENT RATES.

The UNM School of Law employment rate is 14% higher than the national average.

### DEDICATED FACULTY.

Our faculty are dedicated and strongly committed to teaching. They bring real-world experience to the classroom and a healthy diversity of backgrounds, professional interests and outlooks.

### OUR STUDENTS RECEIVE THE SUPPORT THEY NEED TO SUCCEED.

UNM Law School students rated academic advising and planning, career counseling and job search help significantly higher than comparison students rated their schools.  
*2015 Law School Survey of Student Engagement*

# We're small. Student-centric. And a great value.

We focus on what matters. And our graduates prove it.

## AFFORDABLE TUITION, GREAT VALUE.

UNM Law has consistently ranked as one of the best educational values in the country. Our tuition is affordable and students graduate to jobs that put their legal training to use.

"UNM Law afforded me the most incredible opportunities as a student, such as working closely with faculty on research projects and taking classes taught by respected attorneys and judges."  
Julio C. Romero, Class of 2014

## OUR CLOSE-KNIT LEGAL COMMUNITY IS HIGHLY ENGAGED.

Judges and attorneys teach our classes, guest lecture, coach academic competition teams, provide internships and hire our graduates.

## STUDENTS AND ALUMNI RATE US HIGHLY.

When *Above the Law* surveyed law school students and alumni nationwide, UNM Law ranked 4th nationwide. Students gave us an A+, alumni gave us an A.

## HOT JOB MARKET FOR ENTRY-LEVEL ATTORNEYS.

New Mexico is one of the best job markets in the nation for entry-level attorneys, according to a recent study conducted by The National Jurist. Our supportive legal community is more than eager to help our students connect with legal opportunities.



## DEGREES OFFERED

Juris Doctor (J.D.)

J.D./Master of Arts in Accounting

J.D./Master of Arts in Latin American Studies

J.D./Master of Business Administration

J.D./Master of Public Administration

Master of Studies in Law (M.S.L.)

## Learn practical lawyering

The University of New Mexico School of Law focuses on teaching practical legal skills and shaping conscientious and employable practitioners.

As a first year student, you will take courses that address the fundamental aspects of the law and develop skills in advocacy, legal writing, oral argument, litigation, counseling, and negotiation.

As a second and third year student, your curriculum is less structured; there are only four specific required courses and an advanced writing requirement. You can fill the balance of your credit hours with elective courses.

The UNM School of Law offers a variety of curriculum choices, including over 100 courses beneficial to a public interest practice. Other options include specialty areas such as business law, child advocacy and family law, constitutional law, criminal law, health law, Indian law, international law, or natural resources law.

Natural Resources & Environmental Law  
*preLaw magazine 2016*

**“A”**

For Public Defenders/Prosecutors  
*preLaw magazine 2016*

**1<sup>st</sup>**

For Government/Public Interest Jobs  
*Above the Law 2016*

**3<sup>rd</sup>**



The Juris Doctor (J.D.) is a full-time day program requiring completion of 86 credit hours in three years.

Our Dual Degree Program allows students to earn the J.D. and a Masters or Ph.D. in an academic field at UNM.

## Certificate programs

### Indian Law

Learn to assist in the protection of Indian rights and to represent Native American individuals, communities, and nations in tribal, state, and federal courts and other legal forums.

[lawschool.unm.edu/indianlaw](http://lawschool.unm.edu/indianlaw)

### Natural Resources and Environmental Law

Gain a more comprehensive understanding of natural resources law, environmental law, tribal resources, and energy law in order to participate in key decisions that affect the environment.

[lawschool.unm.edu/nrelaw](http://lawschool.unm.edu/nrelaw)

Best Value Law School  
*preLaw magazine 2016*

**7<sup>th</sup>**

Best Clinical Training  
*US News & World Report 2017*

**11<sup>th</sup>**

Top 50 Law Schools  
*Above the Law 2015*

**18<sup>th</sup>**

# Think and practice like a lawyer

A talented and committed faculty and a very active alumni network provide many opportunities for you to think and practice like a lawyer in the classroom and the courtroom.

## One of the nation's best Clinical Law Programs

The Clinic is a required six credit-hour course where you'll be on the front lines of public service, representing actual clients with supervision by tenured and tenure-track faculty. In the Clinic, you will experience the privileges, challenges, and joys of practicing law.

Clinic sections include:

- Child and Family Justice Clinic
- Community Lawyering Clinic
- Economic Justice Clinic
- Natural Resources and Environmental Law Clinic
- Southwest Indian Law Clinic

[lawschool.unm.edu/clinic](https://lawschool.unm.edu/clinic)

## In-practice courses

Below are a few of the courses that combine lectures and class discussion with real-world lawyering. Several offer the opportunity to represent actual clients under the close supervision of faculty or practicing attorneys.

- Appellate Law in Practice
- Appellate Decision Making
- Criminal Law in Practice
- DWI and Domestic Violence Prosecution in Practice
- Evidence and Trial Practice

## Externships

Externs gain valuable practical skills in a real-world setting while working with a supervising attorney.

As an extern, you confront actual legal problems and analyze and explore the various roles that lawyers or legal institutions play in their communities.

- Agency Externships
- Judicial Externships
- Alternative Dispute Externships
- Semester in Washington D.C.



“For over four decades, the University of New Mexico School of Law has had a mandatory clinical program. We continue to expand experiential learning opportunities across the law school curriculum and are moving toward creating a truly integrative model of legal education.”

— Aliza Organick, *Professor of Law,*  
*Associate Dean for Experiential Affairs*

# Think like a judge

In Appellate Decision Making, likely the only class of its kind in the country, New Mexico Court of Appeals judges teach students how they decide cases and how they think. Thinking like a judge helps students become better lawyers.

*“Judges from around the country are in awe of this class.” — New Mexico Court of Appeals Judge Jonathan Sutin*

## More hands-on practical experience opportunities

### Competitions and Journals

Learn to control the courtroom by participating in academic competitions.

- ♦ Hone your skills for a career as a trial lawyer by participating in the National Mock Trial competition. In 2016, our team made the cut for semi-finalists and one UNM student won the Best Cross Examination award.
- ♦ Moot court competitions are designed to teach students how to produce a cohesive brief, master the argument, and argue well.

UNM publishes three law student-edited journals, each embodying a key area of expertise within the school.

- ♦ New Mexico Law Review
- ♦ Tribal Law Journal
- ♦ Natural Resources Journal

### Summer Programs and Exchange Programs

#### Madrid Summer Law Institute

Spend a month taking classes on European Union law and international and comparative law subjects in Madrid, Spain.

#### Exchange Program, University of New Hampshire

Study intellectual property or patent law at The University of New Hampshire School of Law, consistently ranked in the top five law schools in these two fields.

#### Exchange Program, Howard University School of Law

Experience a unique exposure to Howard’s legal programs, take advantage of opportunities in Washington, D.C., and benefit from a strong and supportive UNM alumni community in the D.C. area.

#### The UNM Law Semester in D.C.

Work full-time for credit at a governmental agency or non-profit organization in D.C. and take a seminar taught by UNM Law School faculty, where you learn from and interact with judges, practitioners, and national political leaders.

### Internships



Last fall, Krista Garcia (Class of 2016) worked with colleagues from all over the world to help prosecute genocide and war crimes. She was the first American and the only intern at the

United Nations Mechanism for International Criminal Tribunals in The Hague, The Netherlands.

Garcia says her UNM Law School education prepared her to analyze complicated issues and apply international statutes, relevant case law, and different liability theories. She adds that UNM prepared her “to compete with the top legal professionals in the world.”

# Small School. Big Value. Real New Mexican Perks.

**The UNM School of Law** is situated in Albuquerque, a dynamic metropolitan city set against a backdrop of spectacular mountains and southwestern cultures.

With over 275 days of sunshine each year and a mild climate, Albuquerque is perfect for hiking in the Sandia Mountains, biking along the Rio Grande River, taking a ride on the tram, and strolling through the plazas. Our museums, galleries, performance spaces, sporting events, cafes and restaurants, wineries, breweries, and concerts ensure there are abundant ways to enjoy life beyond the classroom.

A leading research university, **The University of New Mexico** is a second home for 1500 international students and scholars. UNM's distinctive campus has a Pueblo Revival architectural theme and the buildings echo nearby Pueblo Indian villages. In addition to a very active event calendar, UNM is known for inter-collegiate athletics. USA Today ranked WisePies Arena (aka The Pit) the 8th best arena to watch college basketball. It's also one of the loudest.

## Small Baskets. Big Balloons.

Albuquerque hosts the world's largest hot air balloon fiesta in October. Balloon festivals across the state offer year-round adventures.



### **Small City. Big Mountain.**

The Sandia Mountains rise to a peak of 10,678 feet, offer a wide range of hiking trails, and are home to the nation's longest aerial tramway.



### **Small Hikes. Big Sights.**

New Mexico has five national forests, 55 parks and monuments (20 have lakes), 25 scenic byways, and 21 wilderness areas.



### **Small Peppers. Big Heat.**

In the fall, the smoky, sweet smell of fresh roasted green chile permeates the air. All year long, our state question is, "Red or green?"



### **Small Train. Big Bird.**

The Rail Runner Express connects Albuquerque with Santa Fe and all the art, food, recreation, and culture to be enjoyed along its route.



### **Small Town. Big Innovation.**

Innovate ABQ, formed by UNM and partners, is the catalyst for a new downtown hub of entrepreneurship and innovation.



### **Small Towns. Big Trails.**

New Mexico's eight alpine and three Nordic ski areas provide exceptional skiing and riding and a wide range of enjoyable dining and shopping.

# Get your career on track

The Office of Student and Career Services helps you become your own best advocate for your legal career. While you're a student, the department's highly-trained staff help you identify your interests and strengths, arrange mock interview programs, facilitate networking events, and more.

The small size of our student body allows us to provide all of our students and graduates with individualized comprehensive professional development assistance. We will also help connect you with a broad range of law practices and legal markets throughout the country.

After you've earned your degree and your career progresses, Student and Career Services offers a variety of programs to help you continually evaluate and maximize your career options. Whether you want to practice in traditional settings like law firms and government agencies or utilize your education outside of the legal arena, Student and Career Services will help you realize the value and versatility of your UNM School of Law degree.

[lawschool.unm.edu/careers](http://lawschool.unm.edu/careers)

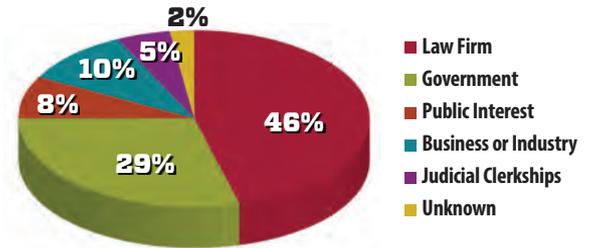
## Outpacing the national rate for long-term jobs by 14%

Most people come to law school to get a full time job as a lawyer. Most UNM School of Law students reach that goal, outpacing the national rate for securing long-term jobs that require bar passage by 14%, according to the latest data provided by the ABA Section of Legal Education and Admissions to the Bar.

## Hot job market for entry-level attorneys

New Mexico is in the second hottest job market for entry-level attorneys, according to a recent study conducted by *The National Jurist*. The Mountain area - consisting of New Mexico, Arizona, Colorado, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Utah, and Wyoming - has an overall job placement rate of 78.3%.

Class of 2015  
10-Month Employment by Employer Type



Class of 2015  
10-Month Employment by Employment Status





## 2016 INCOMING CLASS PROFILE

The UNM Law student body is a diverse group. While the majority are New Mexico residents, their undergraduate backgrounds represent a mix of state and private schools throughout the United States. Each incoming class has a wide range of baccalaureate experiences and majors, and approximately 10.81% of incoming first-year students held graduate-level degrees in a wide range of specialty areas.

Entering Class: 112

Median LSAT: 153

Median GPA: 3.46

Colleges and universities represented: 46

Areas: States: 8

Foreign countries: 5

Majors represented: 37

Percent Female: 51.78%

Percent Minority: 51.78%

Median age: 25

Age range: 21 to 57

# Admissions and Financial Aid

You're encouraged to read more about our admissions guidelines on our website:

[lawschool.unm.edu/admissions](http://lawschool.unm.edu/admissions)

The UNM School of Law requires that all applicants apply through the Law School Admissions Council ([www.lsac.org](http://www.lsac.org)) in order to be considered for admission.

## APPLICATION/DEADLINES

**Priority Deadline:** March 1st

**Transfer and Visitor Applicants:** July 1st

## Application Requirements

- ♦ Completed application form
- ♦ Nonrefundable \$50 application fee
- ♦ Personal Statement
- ♦ Résumé
- ♦ Letter(s) of Recommendation
- ♦ Register with LSAC's Credential Assembly Service (CAS)
- ♦ Law School Admission Test (LSAT)
- ♦ Proof of English Language Proficiency (international applicants only)

## FINANCIAL AID

The Admissions and Financial Aid team is here to help you find ways to make your education more affordable.

The law school offers several merit-based, need-based, and named scholarships. Descriptions of award opportunities can be found online.

The FAFSA priority deadline is January 6th to apply for federal student loans and work-study funds. File the Profile application by March 1st to be considered for law school need-based scholarships.

## RESIDENCY

The State of New Mexico Higher Education Department has a generous definition for in-state residents. All applicants are classified according to their residency for tuition purposes. Nonresident students may be eligible for resident tuition after their first year if they fulfill the requirements for residency and petition for residency reclassification. The State has made provisions for several groups who qualify as in-state residents for tuition purposes.

Not sure if you're a resident?

To find out, visit [lawschool.unm.edu/residency](http://lawschool.unm.edu/residency).

## Visit us

Want to be part of a supportive, small school with a close-knit legal community that offers reasonable tuition rates and is one of the best educational values in the country? We'd love to hear from you.

**505.277.0958 (phone) 505.277.9958 (fax) [admissions@law.unm.edu](mailto:admissions@law.unm.edu)**



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1 University of New Mexico  
Albuquerque, NM 87131

Return Service Requested



SMALL SCHOOL. **BIG VALUE.**

**REAL NEW MEXICAN PERKS.**

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