



Lobos,

As the third message in this back-to-school series of messages, we have a few updates not specifically related to any individual funding agency.

Office of Management and Budget (OMB) Uniform Guidance (UG) Changes

Last month UNM submitted comments in response to [OMB's proposed changes to the Uniform Guidance](#) (UG). Notably, nearly 500,000 public comments were submitted, yet OMB has only released nearly 54,000. OMB is expected to release the final text of the rule by Sept. 1 with a start date of Oct. 1 for implementation. We are eager to see what changes, if any, were made by OMB in response to submitted comments.

UNM has actively engaged a number of stakeholders through sharing of comments, briefing on potential detrimental impacts, and participating in various national organizations' discussions, webinars, and conferences. Specific stakeholders we have actively engaged with include:

- New Mexico's congressional delegation
- Key targets within New Mexico State Legislature and Executive Branch
- Local government leaders
- Peer institutions

As the U.S. House and Senate are now working on short term continuing resolutions to maintain status quo funding for the federal government beyond the November elections, both chambers' continuing resolutions are proposing to be effective through early December. Each provides a legislative vehicle to propose policy riders or "anomalies" that would impose additional policy controls. The U.S. Senate has inserted language in their version that temporarily blocks implementation of the OMB rule, if/when that is finalized, for the full duration that the continuing resolution is in effect. The House did not insert that type of policy provision. The Senate version was adopted last weekend on the Senate floor, and the House will have an opportunity to vote on the Senate version in early September, or else the House may force the two versions of the continuing resolution to be reconciled through a bill conference process. Please stay tuned for additional updates on the congressional front.

Student Visa Duration Limited to Four Years

International students' stay in the U.S. will be capped at four years, regardless of the length of their academic program, under a [rule finalized recently](#). Two types of visas, F and J, will require holders to apply for an extension if they need more time to complete their studies. This change is set to take effect Sept. 15. International students already studying in the U.S. can stay for the remainder of their program or for up to four more years but could lose status if they leave the U.S. during their studies. For additional guidance or questions, please contact UNM's [Global Education Office](#) (GEO).

New Terms & Conditions: Use of AI Platforms

Many of you may have heard that some federal funding agencies are starting to put new terms and conditions on grants and contracts regarding use of some AI platforms. If you receive any notifications from funding agencies and/or prime awardees (i.e., when UNM is a sub awardee),



be sure to bring these to the attention of OSP or SPO. We encourage researchers to stay informed as the situation remains fluid.

Our research teams continue to work together to bring you the information you need around the federal funding landscape. We are also working to ensure UNM is prepared to address the shifts and changes in federal regulations and funding priorities.

We hope you all have a great start to the Fall 2026 semester. Go Lobos!

Ellen R. Fisher
UNM Vice President for Research
Professor of Chemistry

Hengameh Raissy
HSC Vice President for Research
Professor of Pediatrics