NEW MEXICO HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (NMHED)

Research & Public Service Project (RPSP) and other Funding Requests

FY2028

Print, sign, and submit cover sheet and individual submissions to NMHED by September 15, 2026

Institution: **Northern New Mexico College**

Primary Contact for **Theresa Storey, Chief Financial Officer/Compliance Officer**

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Governing Board Signature: Date:

Institutional Rank (priority)	Program/Project Title *(Please ensure your Program/Project Title are named the same in all documents)*	Request in FY28	New Program (X)	Expansion Program (X)	Continuing Program (X)	Closeout Program (X)
1	02_FY28_NNMC_Athletics_Expansion_Continuing	825,500		X		
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	Total Funding Request	**$ 825,500**				**0**

Please insert additional lines as needed.

NEW MEXICO HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (NMHED)

Research & Public Service Project (RPSP)

FY2028

Fill and submit packet to NMHED per instructions by September 15, 2026

Formula Do not Override

Institution:	**Northern New Mexico College**

Formula Do not Override

Title of Project:	**02_FY28_NNMC_Athletics_Expansion_Continuing**
RPSP Type	**Expansion - Funding for additional FTE or addition to existing program**
RPSP Account Code	**96400-9641-7114 Athletics**
FY28 Funding Request	**$ 825,500**
If previously funded, enter amount that was awarded in FY27 OpBud.	**$ 582,700**
Type of Project	**Athletics**

Note: Ensure you are choosing the account code for your HEI. If it is not listed leave blank.

1 **Number of years the project has received General Fund support: (Disregard if new program)** **19**

Increase cell size as necessary for narratives, if you are sending a PDF please be sure your narratives are fully visible.

2 **Project Description/Executive Summary:**

Northern New Mexico College (NNMC) has seen significant growth in its athletic program, which serves as a vital component of student success and institutional outreach. Since its launch in 2008, the program has expanded from basketball to include Men's and Women's Cross Country and Track. This expansion demonstrates our commitment to academic excellence, enriches the student experience, and ensures compliance with NAIA standards. The program's emphasis on student excellence is evident in the fact that 22 student-athletes earned Academic All-Conference Honors and 21 made the Dean's list in the 2024-2025 season.

NNMC's athletic program provides a pathway to higher education for a diverse group of student-athletes, including those with significant financial need. Our teams are composed of both local and out-of-state talent, including international students, enriching our campus community. We have also seen success on the court, with both men's and women's basketball teams qualifying for their conference tournaments in the 2025-2026 season.

Despite these successes, the program faces significant challenges due to a long-standing funding gap compared to other institutions. This gap impacts critical areas like staffing, travel, equipment, and scholarships. With a current staff of only 4 full-time employees, the department relies heavily on volunteers, creating a need to build capacity as the program grows. To address these challenges and sustain our momentum, the athletic program is actively seeking to increase revenue through state appropriation, sponsorships, camps, and private donations.

3 **Budget Narrative (Overview only - Budget Detail follows on next worksheet):**

To fulfill its mission and strategic pillars, Northern New Mexico College recognizes that advancements must be supported by a corresponding commitment in funding. The addition of Cross Country and Track requires substantial funding for new coaching staff, athletic trainers, uniforms, equipment, travel, and scholarships. Furthermore, the college's move to the California Pacific Conference (Cal Pac) in FY26, while ultimately a cost-saving measure for future travel, requires a strategic approach. For the first year, all conference competitions will be held in Arizona to minimize travel costs during this transition. By FY27, member schools will begin hosting home competitions, which will shift travel expenses and provide new opportunities for the college and community.

4 **Program Mission (Include population served, other demographic information):**

NNMC athletes are full time seeking students that are enrolled in 12 or more credit hours per semester. The Athletic program has an emphasis on retention of its student athletes, student excellence, and leadership amongst peers. Twenty-two of our men's and women's athletes earned 2024-25 CAC Academic All-Conference Honors for their work in the classroom, achieving a 3.2 or higher cumulative grade point average. Twenty-one of our men's and women's athletes earned the Dean's list honor, achieving a 3.5 GPA or better.

5 **Key Project Objectives (Overview only - Details and Measures on following worksheet):**

The athletic program at Northern New Mexico College aims to promote student success and retention by providing a vital pathway to higher education, with a strong focus on academic excellence and leadership development. To support this mission and its recent expansion into new sports, the program seeks to build financial sustainability and operational capacity by increasing revenue through state appropriations, sponsorships, and donations. Ultimately, the program serves as a powerful tool for institutional outreach, enriching the campus community with a diverse student body and raising the college's regional and national profile.

6 **For existing projects, describe major accomplishments in a single paragraph, and if applicable, any obstacles encountered the previous fiscal year. For new projects, identify the top objectives and challenges for the current fiscal year:**

Our student athletes continue to excel both in competition and in the classroom, highlighted by both the men's and women's basketball teams qualifying for their conference postseason tournaments while maintaining team GPAs above 3.0 during the 2025–2026 season. To optimize resources and expand participation opportunities, the college is strategically transitioning from Tennis to Track for the 2026-2027 season. This move is driven by fiscal efficiency, better training facility access, and the sport is more aligned with our existing Cross Country program. Guided by a dynamic leadership staff, we are positioned for growth, yet NNMC continues to face significant athletic funding disparities compared to regional peers. Closing this institutional gap in critical areas, including full-time staff (FTE), travel, equipment, and scholarship funding, remains essential to sustaining our momentum and elevating the overall student-athlete experience.

7 **Describe the Project Impact (Statewide impact, Governor's initiatives, and/or specific student outcomes):**

This project gives our student athletes a vital pathway to a college education and the chance to compete at a collegiate level. By supporting this initiative, we provide opportunities for students, especially those with significant financial need, to find a sense of belonging and succeed in a college setting. Our athletic program also serves as a powerful marketing tool for the institution, raising our profile regionally and nationally.

8 **Describe Student Population Served (in-state vs out-of-state students):**

Our teams represent a strong mix of local and out-of-state talent. On the men's side, we have nine athletes from New Mexico and eight from out-of-state, including three international students. Our women's program features seven in-state athletes alongside five from out-of-state, including two international players. This blend of local and diverse talent enriches our campus community and competitive environment.

9 **Does the project receive awards, private donations or federal grants? Have you sought out funding from other sources?**

The athletic program actively seeks support from the community. It has increased revenue and community outreach through camps and sponsorships, in addition to receiving private donations from local businesses and individuals.

10 **Medical Projects Only - How many graduates stay and practice in New Mexico?**

N/A

RPSP-Budget 1

NEW MEXICO HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (NMHED)
Research & Public Service Project (RPSP)
Project Budget Sheet

Institution: *Formula Do Not Override*

Northern New Mexico College

RPSP Project: *Formula Do Not Override*

02_FY28_NNMC_Athletics_Expansion_Continuing

Total: *Formula Do Not Override*

$ 825,500.00

Budget verses Actual ******Enter data in Yellow cells only******

Revenue and Transfers	FY26 RPSP Expenditures	Budget FY27 (OpBud)	Change Requested	Request FY28	Comments
			Formula Do Not Override		
Beginning Fund Balance	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	
Appropriations					
Federal			$ -		
State plus Tobacco Settlement Fund	$ 582,700.00	$ 586,200.00	$ 239,300.00	$ 825,500.00	
Local			$ -		
Total Appropriations	$ 582,700.00	$ 586,200.00	$ 239,300.00	$ 825,500.00	
Grants and Contracts					
Federal			$ -		
State			$ -		
Local			$ -		
Total Grants and Contracts	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	
Private Gifts, Grants and Contracts			$ -		
Land & Permanent Fund or Local Property Taxes			$ -		
Tuition and Fees	$ 279,628.00	$ 248,538.00	$ 31,462.00	$ 280,000.00	
Endowment			$ -		
Sales and Services	$ 40,646.00	$ 45,031.00	$ 2,969.00	$ 48,000.00	
Other Sources - Detail in Comments	$ 20,900.00	$ 27,000.00	$ 29,794.00	$ 56,794.00	Guarantee Money, Fundraisers,Sponsorship and Donations (Guarantee revenue did not materialize due to the postponment of the NAIA Membership. Tr/In for Athletic Scholarships to Exh. 19
Total Revenues	$ 923,874.00	$ 906,769.00	$ 303,525.00	$ 1,210,294.00	
Transfers (to) from					
Instruction and General			$ -		
Student Social and Cultural			$ -		
Research			$ -		
Public Service			$ -		
Internal Service			$ -		
Student Aid			$ -		
Auxiliary Enterprises			$ -		
Athletics	$ -		$ -		
Independent Operations			$ -		
Capital Outlay			$ -		
Renewal and Replacement			$ -		
Total Transfers	$ -	$ -	$ -	$ -	

Expenses - If multiple revenue sources, provide a breakdown of each revenue source per expense category

	FY27 FTE		Change FTE		Change FTE	$ -	FY28 FTE		
Faculty Salaries			0.0		0.0	$ -			
Professional Salaries		$ 266,808.00	0.0	$ 378,818.00	0.0	$ 110,000.00		$ 488,818.00	
Other Staff Salaries		$ 47,180.00	0.0	$ 14,300.00	0.0	$ (14,300.00)			
Student Salaries (GA/TA)			0.0		0.0	$ -			
Other Salaries			0.0		0.0	$ -			
Total All Salaries	0.0	$ 313,988.00	0.0	$ 393,118.00	0.0	$ 95,700.00	0.0	$ 488,818.00	
Fringe Benefits		$ 97,682.00		$ 152,057.00		$ 14,419.00		$ 166,476.00	Increase to Benefits based on increased benefits costs, plus additional positions requested
Travel		$ 104,770.00		$ 95,378.00		$ 44,622.00		$ 140,000.00	
Utilities						$ -			
Institutional Support Charges						$ -			
Plant Operation and Maintenance Charges						$ -			
Supplies and Expenses		$ 178,752.00		$ 146,216.00		$ 53,784.00		$ 200,000.00	
Equipment						$ -			
Other Expenditures		$ 130,500.00		$ 120,000.00		$ 95,000.00		$ 215,000.00	Fees, Insurance Costs, Scholarship Expense, Game Official Expense, Broadcasting, Other Operating expenses, Including Internal Svc. Allocations
Total Expenditures	0.0	$ 825,692.00	0.0	$ 906,769.00	0.0	$ 303,525.00	0.0	$ 1,210,294.00	
Ending Fund Balance		$ 98,182.00		$ -		$ -		$ -	

RPSP-Objectives 1

NEW MEXICO HIGHER EDUCATION DEPARTMENT (NMHED)
Research & Public Service Project (RPSP)
Project Objectives Sheet

Institution:

Northern New Mexico College

RPSP Project:

02_FY28_NNMC_Athletics_Expansion_Continuing

Total

$ 825,500.00

	Demonstrable goal based on benefit to students (especially at-risk), generation of degrees (especially STEM-H) and the people of New Mexico	Actuals for FY26	Target for FY27	Target for FY28	Comments - Demonstrate consistent improvement as a result of the awarded RPSP, trends, etc.
1	Increase total Athletic Revenue	1,007,252	1,276,531	1,210,325	
2	Increase overall student athlete's participation	50	50	50	
3	New Mexico residents	0.54	0.6	0.6	
4	BA seeking students (FTE)	1	1	1	
5	Staffing (FTE)	4	6	11	
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Add Additional lines as needed