



CENTER FOR
DEVELOPMENT
& DISABILITY

NM SAFE Supports and Assessment for Feeding and Eating Pediatric Program

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UNM Health Sciences Center
Department of Pediatrics
Center for Development and Disability
2300 Menaul BLVD NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107

Website:

<https://unmhealth.org/services/development-disabilities/programs/clinics/feeding-eating-evaluations.html>

NM SAFE Pediatric Program
UNM Center for Development and Disability
2300 Menaul BLVD NE
Albuquerque, NM 87107

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*Supports and Assessment
for Feeding and Eating*



Collaborative Partner:

**NM Healthcare Authority:
Developmental Disabilities
Supports Division (DDSD)**



A University Center for Excellence
in Developmental Disabilities
Education, Research, and Service

What does NM SAFE do?

The New Mexico Supports and Assessment for Feeding and Eating (NM SAFE) Pediatric team provides feeding evaluations and recommendations. We assess oral motor function, feeding skills, mealtime behaviors, positioning, fine motor function, diet/nutrition, and responses to food textures and sensory features.



Who Do We Serve?

We serve children who have developmental disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), behavior difficulties, and medical needs. We welcome children and adolescents up to 18 years of age, with feeding or eating concerns.

- ◆ Risk of aspiration
- ◆ Gastroesophageal reflux
- ◆ Oral motor development
- ◆ Mealtime behaviors (food refusal, limited variety of foods)
- ◆ Positioning and/or seating
- ◆ Tube feeding
- ◆ Sensory processing differences

NM SAFE Pediatric Team

A multi-disciplinary resource team with expertise in feeding and eating:

- ◆ Speech-Language Pathologist
- ◆ Occupational Therapist
- ◆ Pediatrician
- ◆ Dietitian

Who Can Refer?

Please talk with your child's pediatrician or primary healthcare provider and request a referral for a feeding evaluation. Fax referrals to 855-293-2431.



Training and Education

- ◆ Community trainings and outreach
- ◆ Technical assistance and continuing education for professionals
- ◆ Clinical education for graduate and undergraduate students in related healthcare fields

How does it work?

- ◆ NM SAFE clinicians review the referral and child's medical records. We may request additional information or records.
- ◆ We schedule appointments for a clinic visits. Some services may be available via telehealth.
- ◆ The child's family participate in all parts of the evaluation.
- ◆ The team provides a detailed written report with recommendations
 - ◆ Mealtime program with feeding strategies
 - ◆ Adaptive equipment
 - ◆ Referral and assistance in locating appropriate community resources
- ◆ NM SAFE Pediatric team can provide 1-2 follow up visits after the evaluation to support your child's progress.



Photo author: U.S. Department of Agriculture

NM SAFE Pediatric Program services are provided at no cost to families. Medicaid or private insurance will be billed if available.