



SCHOOL OF
MEDICINE

CONTINUOUS
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

Medical Education Scholars (MES) Program Teaching, Learning & Curriculum Development Track Application for the 2026–2027 Cohort Program Dates: August 2026 – June 2027

goto.unm.edu/mes

Purpose

The UNM Health Sciences Center has achieved a reputation for innovation, quality, and leadership in medical education. The MES Program is designed for faculty for whom education is a significant part of their professional development and career aspirations. The purpose of the Medical Education Scholars (MES) Program is to ensure a continuum of educational leadership and scholarship as we continue to grow and evolve within the changing environments of healthcare, medical education, and learner diversity.

Eligibility

All UNM Health Sciences Center faculty are encouraged to apply.

In general, stronger applications are submitted by early and mid-career faculty who have been faculty at UNM for at least two years. However, decisions are made on an individual basis and prior UNM service in residency or fellowship is also considered.

General Expectations of Applicants

Please review these expectations before submitting your application for the *Medical Education Scholars: Teaching, Learning & Curriculum Design* track:

1. Applicants *must* have the written support of their department chair or division chief, including approved committed time, to participate in the program.
2. Scholars are expected to have two half-days per month protected by the department to participate in face-to-face sessions. In addition, committed time for the equivalent of an additional half-day per month for preparing for the scheduled sessions and meeting curriculum-project milestones, will be provided and determined in collaboration between each MES participant and his or her department chair or division chief.
3. Attendance at MES sessions by participants is expected and commitment to attend is requested as part of the application process, both from the participant and from his/her department chair or division chief.
4. Participants must attend at least 80% of the scheduled sessions for a track in order to receive acknowledgement and a certificate indicating completion. Extenuating circumstances will be considered on a case-by-case basis.

Application Process

Faculty members may apply by completing an Application for Medical Education Scholars Program form and providing the additional information specified below. The application form is available on the Office for Continuous Professional Learning, Medical Education Scholars Program website at: <http://goto.unm.edu/mes>.

Completed application packets must be submitted at this link - <https://bit.ly/MESApplication>- no later than 11:59 PM on Monday, April 6, 2026. A faculty committee will then review applications and selections will be announced by mid-May.

In addition to completing the online application form, applicants must provide all the following items in a ***single Acrobat PDF file that is attached to the application form***. Note that this expectation requires that you obtain necessary or optional letters as PDF files or scan them to PDF to include in your single file. The single-file application assures that all items of a completed application are together and accounted for:

1. A current curriculum vitae
2. A supporting letter from your department chair and/or division chief. This letter must (a) endorse your participation in the Medical Education Scholars Program (b) express commitment to providing you the time to attend the 20, 4-hour sessions (typically two half-day sessions held on the first and third Thursday afternoons of each month from August 2026 to June 2027) and (c) express commitment to providing you the opportunity to dedicate the equivalent of an additional half-day per month to work on the required curriculum-development project, MES presentations, and assigned readings. The applicant should negotiate these commitments with their chair/chief prior to submitting the application.
3. A brief personal statement describing and organized by each of the following: (These items will serve as selection criteria for the review committee.)
 - a. Description of your roles and interests in teaching/education.
 - b. How the MES Teaching, Learning & Curriculum track fits with and supports your professional goals.
4. Brief description (~500 words) of the curriculum project that you plan to develop during the MES program. As a part of the acceptance review, attention will be paid to the potential impact of this project on learners in the Health Sciences Center. Your description should include:
 - a. The topic(s) included in the curriculum
 - b. The scale of the curriculum (e.g., a course or rotation, part of a course or rotation, self-paced online learning, etc.)
 - c. The number and level of learners
 - d. The modality of delivery (e.g., large-group, small-group, clinical, laboratory, online, etc.)
5. No more than two (2) letters of support from colleagues or others may be included with the application but are not required.

Further Information

- (1) email or call one of the co-directors:

Deepti Rao, MD, Email: drao@salud.unm.edu

Kristel Montano, MD, MEd, Email: krmontano@salud.unm.edu

- (2) Send your questions to: hsc-cpl@salud.unm.edu

- (3) Visit the MES website: <http://goto.unm.edu/mes>