

New Mexico Legislative Lottery Scholarship

The New Mexico Legislative Lottery Scholarship incentivizes New Mexico high school graduates and recipients of New Mexico high school equivalency credentials to pursue full-time enrollment and successfully attain either a two-year degree within 4 terms or a four-year degree within 8 terms. This scholarship provides partial coverage of tuition fees, capped at the maximum award set by the New Mexico State Legislature. Awards are distributed exclusively during the Fall and Spring terms. The Legislative Lottery Scholarship will be awarded beginning in the second term of attendance to students who fulfill all Eligibility and Qualifying Term requirements.

Eligibility Requirements: New Mexico residents who have established residency and attended a New Mexico secondary educational institution for at least 1 year, regardless of immigration status, and meet all the criteria listed below are eligible.

- Earn a diploma from a New Mexico public or accredited private high school or a New Mexico high school equivalency credential
- Be admitted to CNM as a New Mexico Resident with an accurately recorded graduation date
- Declare a major eligible for financial aid
- Have not completed an associate's degree or received another scholarship covering 100% of tuition fees

Qualifying Term: The initial regular term of enrollment following high school graduation or attainment of a high school equivalency credential constitutes the Qualifying Term. As of 2017, graduates or recipients of high school equivalency credentials have a window of up to 16 months from the date of credential receipt to commence their post-secondary education and fulfill their Qualifying Term requirements.

- Successfully complete a minimum of 12 credit hours during the Qualifying Term at CNM. This encompasses college-level courses numbered 1000 or higher, as well as developmental classes numbered 0970 or higher.
- Earn a Grade Point Average (GPA) of no less than 2.5 during the Qualifying Term. To establish their GPA for the Qualifying Term, students must complete at least 1 traditional letter-graded class. GPA calculation is based on grades achieved in all classes numbered 1000 or higher with traditional letter grades. Credits earned with a grade of CR will only contribute to the total credit hours completed and will not impact or establish GPA.

Continuing Eligibility: To maintain eligibility for up to 3 terms at CNM, students must fulfill the following requirements:

- Complete a minimum of 12 credit hours in each term while maintaining a cumulative GPA of 2.5 or higher. Cumulative GPA is calculated as the average of all traditional letter grades (A, B, C, D, and F).
- Credits earned with a grade of CR will solely contribute to the total number of credit hours earned and will not impact or establish GPA.
- Grades of F, NC, I, W, and AU are not factored into the total credit hours completed.

Duration of Eligibility: At CNM, a recipient may receive the Lottery scholarship for up to 3 terms or until they attain an associate's degree, whichever comes first. Eligible students who maintain their qualifications can transfer the Lottery to a four-year institution after completing their 3rd term or earning an associate's degree, whichever comes first, and may be eligible for an additional period of up to 4 terms.

Students with Disabilities: Students with a verified disability who are registered with CNM's Disability Resource Center (DRC) may be granted permission to attend and complete a reduced number of credits (6-11 credits) for a maximum of 7 terms at CNM, with 1 additional term granted for each term that a reduced credit waiver is utilized. If a reduced credit load is deemed appropriate, a new waiver must be submitted each term and must be on file before classes begin. All other Lottery requirements remain unchanged.

Probationary Status: Students facing difficulties meeting Lottery requirements due to exceptional mitigating circumstances beyond their control, or those who have been on Active Military Duty, may be considered for probationary status. A [formal request for probationary status](#), accompanied by appropriate documentation, should be submitted to Scholarship Services for review. For further details, please contact Scholarship Services.

Financial need is not a criterion for the Lottery scholarship, and while a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA) is not mandatory, it is recommended by CNM.

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