New Mexico Evaluation Lab Fellowship

2019-2020 Academic Year

Applications will be processed as they are received.

For best consideration, apply by Monday, April 15, 2019.

- Gain practical experience in your field.
- Earn 6 graduate credits in public policy, economics, sociology or political science over two semesters. (Students from related fields are welcome and suggestions for cross-listing courses in other departments also welcome!)
- Learn program evaluation skills, including collaborative and culturally competent problem-solving, quantitative and qualitative methods, robust data analysis, and creative ways of communicating information through the visual display of data.
- Develop new data collection instruments and data analysis tools that will help organizations build capacity in program evaluation.
- Create effective evaluation plans and processes in conjunction with community organizations.
- Earn a stipend of $500 in each semester of the two-semester sequence.

Who is eligible? UNM graduate students in any department may apply. Students must have completed at least one statistics course or social sciences methods course with a grade of B or higher. Students must register for two courses (described below) in the Fall 2019 and Spring 2020 semesters, respectively. The Fall course will be offered on Mondays 1:20-3:50pm.

What is the Evaluation Lab? The Evaluation Lab serves the dual purpose of training students in applied research and building program evaluation capacity in community organizations that serve vulnerable families in New Mexico. The idea is to harness the rigorous analytical and quantitative skills of academia to serve the public good. Go to evallab.unm.edu for more information.

What does the fellowship involve? Fellows take two 3-credit courses: Evaluation Lab I in the Fall and Evaluation Lab II in the Spring. The courses are offered as CR/NC. Evaluation Lab I emphasizes collaborative and culturally competent problem-solving, robust data analysis, and creative ways of communicating technical information. Student teams partner with non-profit community organizations, and class assignments are tailored to meet organization needs. A faculty member or a research scientist from one of UNM's policy centers will mentor the student teams.

In Evaluation Lab II student teams complete the evaluation projects started in Evaluation Lab I under the supervision of mentors. Classes are conducted as a supportive learning community in which teams present work in progress and receive peer and expert feedback.

Fellows are expected to complete both courses.

Is the fellowship paid? Fellows receive a modest stipend of $500 per semester, for a total of $1,000.

How many fellowships will be offered? There are 8 slots available.

Who is the ideal candidate? There is no one ideal candidate. We are looking for talented and hardworking students with a passion for undertaking applied research in the service of the community. Familiarity with New Mexico is a plus, so if you grew up here or have other ties to the community, let us know! Dedication to New Mexico is also a plus, so if you wish to continue to live in New Mexico after graduation, let us know! First generation students and students belonging to historically disadvantaged racial or ethnic minority groups are encouraged to apply.

How do I apply? Send the following documents in Word or pdf format (pdf preferred) to Dr. Melissa Binder at mbinder@unm.edu.

    ___ Cover letter detailing your interest in the fellowship

    ___ Resume

    ___ Application (see below)

    ___ Your UNM transcript (or permission for us to access it)

    ___ Writing Sample.

    ___ Recommendation from a professor. Ask your recommender to describe the quality of your academic work, your ability to work independently, and your aptitude for working with community partners. This can be just a paragraph or two in an email addressed to Melissa Binder mbinder@unm.edu.

What happens next? You will be notified within one week of submitting your application if you have been selected for the next step, which is an interview.

Have questions? Contact Dr. Binder at mbinder@unm.edu or 505-277-3548.

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First Name:	Last Name:
email address:	phone number:
mailing address:	

Expected registration status for the 2019-2020 academic year

Department or Program: _____
    __MA level   __ PhD level
    Year in program: _____
    Expected graduation date_____

Will you be attending classes at UNM in the Fall of 2019? __ Yes __No

Will your Fall 2019 schedule permit you to enroll in the Evaluation Lab I course, which meets Mondays, 1:20pm – 3:50pm? __ Yes __No

Will you be attending classes at UNM in the Spring of 2020? __ Yes __ No

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The Fellowship requires that you have completed a Statistics or Social Sciences Methods course with a B or higher grade. List your statistics and methods courses, when you took them and what grade you earned.

Course number(s) and name(s)	Semester taken	Grade

Mother's educational attainment	Father's educational attainment
__ without a high school diploma	__ without a high school diploma
__high school diploma or GED	__high school diploma or GED
__some college, no degree	__some college, no degree
__associate's degree	__associate's degree
__ bachelor's degree	__ bachelor's degree
__ master's degree or higher	__ master's degree or higher

race and ethnicity (check all that apply)	Spanish language skills
__ White __ Black __ Hispanic __ American Indian __ Asian __ Other (specify if you wish:)	__ Native speaker __ Fluent __ Proficient __ Basic __ None

gender: __ male __ female __ non-binary

Where did you go to high school?

Describe your ties to communities in New Mexico.

Anything else you'd like us to know?

___ (A) I give permission for the Fellowship committee to access my UNM transcripts. Please initial here_____ and provide your Banner ID _____   OR   ___ (B) I will send a copy of my unofficial transcript along with the other application materials

Your reference (should be a professor familiar with your academic work):
Name:
Position: Department: Institution:

Have this person send an email to mbinder@unm.edu that describes the quality of your academic work, your ability to work independently, and your aptitude for working with community partners. This does not need to be a formal letter.

SEND PDF or WORD version of completed application (PDF preferred) to mbinder@unm.edu, along with a cover letter detailing your interest in the fellowship, your resume, a writing sample, and, if you checked (B) above, a copy of your transcript. Please send from your unm.edu account, and use "Evaluation Lab Fellowship Application" in the subject line.