You probably have a lot of questions about your future. What college should I choose? Should it be close to home or far away? What should I major in? What do I want to do for a career? There’s no question there is a lot to consider!
Why choose UNM?

**UNM is respected.** The University of New Mexico has the highest classification awarded by The Carnegie Foundation: a Very High Research Activity university.

**UNM is accredited.** All School of Engineering undergraduate degree programs are accredited, assuring that our programs meet nationally-recognized standards and that our graduates are well-prepared:

- The UNM School of Engineering is a member of the American Society for Engineering Education.
- The baccalaureate programs in chemical, civil, computer, construction, electrical, mechanical, and nuclear engineering are accredited by ABET.
- The baccalaureate program in construction management is accredited by the American Council for Construction Education.

**UNM is innovative.** Through our research; collaborations with universities, national laboratories, and industry; and emphasis on experience-based, hands-on learning, our graduates are prepared for exciting and rewarding engineering careers.

**UNM is affordable.** Our tuition is lower than many flagship universities, and we offer many scholarship opportunities, with a dedicated staff at the university and in Engineering Student Services.

**SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING DEPARTMENTS**
- Chemical and Biological Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Science
- Electrical and Computer Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering

**DEGREE MAJORS**
- Chemical Engineering
- Civil Engineering
- Computer Engineering
- Computer Science
- Construction Engineering
- Construction Management
- Electrical Engineering
- Mechanical Engineering
- Nuclear Engineering

**INTERDISCIPLINARY UNDERGRADUATE PROGRAMS**
- Interdisciplinary Film and Digital Media (IFDM) in Computer Engineering and Computer Science
Hannah West
CHEMICAL AND BIOLOGICAL ENGINEERING

Year: Junior

Hometown: Mesa, Arizona

Why UNM? “I have a lot of family here (she grew up in Los Alamos, where both of her parents and grandfather worked at Los Alamos National Laboratory), my mother studied computer science here, and it was a fairly-priced school.”

Why chemical engineering? “I got interested through a biomedical engineering internship at UNM the summer after high school.”

What sets UNM Engineering apart: “The professors are very experienced, and many have industry experience and ties with bigger companies and Sandia (National Laboratories). Because of that, there’s a lot of collaboration that you couldn’t get elsewhere.”

Favorite course so far: Biomolecular engineering

Hobbies: Hannah spent 11 years in gymnastics, but now her free time is spent playing piano, ATV’ing in Colorado or camping.

Favorite TV show: Firefly

Future plans: Already, Hannah has had two internships at Sandia National Laboratories. She’s exploring options for graduate school and is setting her sights on a career in the medical or biomedical engineering field. “Chemical engineering is a broad field and prepares you for a lot of things.”
“I got interested through a biomedical engineering internship at UNM the summer after high school.”
“Radiation has always fascinated me. That got me thinking about nuclear engineering.”
Bryan Erdmann
NUCLEAR ENGINEERING

Year: Senior
Hometown: Seattle, Washington

Why UNM? “It was one of the few schools in the country that offered a nuclear engineering program, and the tuition couldn’t be beat. Plus, the weather is awesome!”

Why nuclear engineering? “I started out with an interest in chemistry and got interested in physics and the interaction of electrons and nuclei. Radiation has always fascinated me. That got me thinking about nuclear engineering.”

A nontraditional path: “I always knew I wanted to go to school.” But Bryan first worked a couple of jobs, got laid off, then asked, “What am I doing with my life?” He soon enrolled in community college for a couple of years, then transferred to UNM.

Small but mighty: Bryan says UNM’s small nuclear engineering department is one of its strengths. “The classes are small, and I’ve gotten to go to a lot of conferences I wouldn’t have been able to go to otherwise.” He also had two internships: One at Los Alamos National Laboratory and one at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory in California.

Favorite experience: Operating a nuclear reactor

What’s next? Bryan, who was a National Science Foundation Scholar, is heading to graduate school, then plans on working in the medical application of nuclear engineering. “How can we use it to help us, and how can we better protect ourselves from its dangers?”
Amber Arviso
CIVIL ENGINEERING

Year: Senior

Hometown: Fort Wingate, New Mexico

Why UNM? Being close by, UNM was a natural option: “I always wanted to come here, and I knew they had a good civil engineering program.”

Why civil engineering? Amber’s family owns Arviso Construction in Gallup, New Mexico, so the field was very familiar to her. “I’ve been around construction my whole life, and I wanted to take it to the next level by being an engineer” (the first in her family).

All together now: Amber says one of the best parts of the civil engineering program is the ability to work in teams. “I love working with other classmates and seeing how they learn because it helps you learn.”

Future plans: Amber would like to work for a general contracting company and also stay involved in her family’s construction business.

Hobbies: Riding horses, traveling

Favorite musicians: Taylor Swift and Jason Aldean

Advice to prospective students: “Stay focused. Work as much as you can and learn as much as you can.”
“I love working with other classmates and seeing how they learn because it helps you learn.”
Why Albuquerque?

UNM is located in the middle of this beautiful, diverse city (we call it ABQ for short). What’s there to do here? Take a look:

- Ski in the Sandia Mountains
- Explore the Sandia Peak Tramway
- Hike the Petroglyph National Monument
- Cruise down historic Route 66
- Sample the local cuisine (including red and chiles!)
- Hot-air ballooning, including the world-famous Balloon Fiesta each fall
- Cheer on the UNM NCAA Division 1 Mountain West Conference teams in basketball, tennis, golf, baseball, and football
- See the Albuquerque Isotopes baseball team in action
- Take a day trip to historic Taos or Santa Fe, New Mexico
How do engineers change the world?

- Treat and cure disease
- Develop and improve clean energy solutions
- Plan and build sustainable communities
- Design and construct high-tech transportation systems
- Create cool apps and software
- Use nanotechnology to design high-tech materials
- Go global and share your engineering skills with the world through study-abroad opportunities or our local chapter of Engineers Without Borders
“For me, electrical engineering was a good fit because it feels more mathematically-based, and I can make a difference with it.”
Regina Eckert

**ELECTRICAL AND COMPUTER ENGINEERING**

**Year:** Senior

**Hometown:** Albuquerque, New Mexico

**Why UNM?** “I was offered a good financial aid package, it was a good engineering school, and it is close to Sandia (National Laboratories).” She was also able to use her financial aid for a study-abroad experience in England.

**Why electrical engineering?** Regina started out as a math major, but then wondered how she could make a real impact with numerical theories. “For me, electrical engineering was a good fit because it feels more mathematically-based, and I can make a difference with it. I also like black-and-white photography, and studying photonics and optoelectronics is a great way to combine those interests.”

**What sets UNM Engineering apart?** “UNM has great professors and a good partnership with Sandia, and in my mind, that’s what sets the program apart.” Since her freshman year, Regina has held an internship at Sandia Labs, working now in the advanced sensing area.

**Favorite area of study:** Microelectronics processing in the cleanroom

**Hobbies:** Reading, hiking, snowboarding

**Favorite TV shows:** *Walking Dead* and *Game of Thrones*

**Future plans:** Attending graduate school to earn her Ph.D.
David Flores
MECHANICAL ENGINEERING

Year: Senior

Hometown: Albuquerque, New Mexico

Why UNM? "UNM has smaller departments, which means more personal attention. Also, the proximity to Sandia (National Laboratories) and all of its opportunities is a huge selling point."

Why mechanical engineering? "I went to a tech-based high school and always enjoyed not just being able to know how things work, but why things work."

Experience from Day 1: David began working at Sandia National Laboratories before he began at UNM and has worked there ever since. “I got my Q clearance for my 18th birthday.” He started in supercomputing, then moved into the more mechanical-based area of weapons security, where he has been involved in three research projects.

Inspired by Dad: David’s father became ill and had to quit his job as an engineer, then raised David and his siblings as a single parent for many years.

What’s next? David, a National Science Foundation scholar, is headed to Stanford to earn his master’s degree through a program through Sandia where they will fund his education and he will be guaranteed two years of employment at the lab in Albuquerque upon the completion of his degree. David’s father went through the same program.

Hobbies: Movies, hiking
“UNM has smaller departments, which means more personal attention.”
“...I watched my brother build a computer. After that, I got really interested in programming and software.”
Anacaren Ruiz

COMPUTER SCIENCE

Year: Sophomore

Hometown: Born in Oregon, moved to Albuquerque at age 3

Why UNM? “UNM had the most resources for me. I already knew the area, so I was prepared to come here.”

Why computer science? “No other field appealed to me. I was always really good at math, and when I was little, I watched my brother build a computer. After that, I got really interested in programming and software.”

Those little extras: Anacaren is involved with HESO (the Hispanic Engineers Student Organization), SWE (Society of Women Engineers) and MexSA (the Mexican Student Association), in addition to working at El Centro De La Raza, one of UNM’s ethnic student resource centers.

Favorite part of program: “I was able to get the hang of programming right away. My freshman year, I was already in the zone.”

Hobbies: Exercising, dancing

Advice to future students: “Don’t be afraid to ask for help if you are struggling. There is a lot of help available. Keep trying hard and don’t give up. And definitely get out there and meet people.”

Future plans: Anacaren is looking forward to a summer internship before graduation, and after graduation, she’d like to pursue a career where she can build new software and use her creativity.
Admission to UNM
www.unm.edu/apply

Applications for admission are reviewed on a rolling basis. Admissions decisions are issued by mail after all application materials are complete. Students are advised to apply early for admission.

UNM admissions
For priority consideration, apply by the following dates:
- Spring semester: November 15
- Summer semester: May 1
- Fall semester: May 1

Admission to the School of Engineering
Admission to the School of Engineering as a premajor is the first step toward gaining admission into a department in the school. As a premajor, you will receive professional advisement and counsel from Engineering Student Services (ESS).

Students are encouraged to take AP courses (calculus, physics, chemistry) and dual-credit courses in math and science, if possible.

In order to be admitted in the School of Engineering as an incoming freshman, please indicate your interest in engineering or computer science on your UNM application.

Transfer students
Students from other colleges and universities in New Mexico and out-of-state are encouraged to apply to UNM. To be admitted to premajor status in the School of Engineering, students must not have more than 9 credit hours of D’s and F’s and no more than three attempts on technical coursework. In addition, transfer student minimum GPA must be a 2.2 or above. Be sure to seek advisement from ESS advisors at 505-277-4354 well before transferring to UNM. If you are sufficiently advanced in your engineering or computer science studies and have the required GPA, you will be admitted directly into a degree program.

Financial Aid and Scholarships
A variety of scholarships, financial aid, and grants are available from the University of New Mexico. Out-of-state students can receive a tuition waiver and pay the in-state rate through the UNM Amigo Scholarship. New Mexico residents can use the Legislative Lottery Scholarship to receive tuition-free education for up to eight semesters of full-time studies at UNM.

The School of Engineering awards an additional $1 million in scholarships and fellowships to our students annually. For more information, contact Elsa Castillo, scholarship administrator, at elsac@unm.edu or (505) 277-5064.

Financial Aid Deadlines
UNM Freshmen Scholarships
Priority Deadline: December 1

School of Engineering Freshmen
Priority Deadline: February 1 (for incoming freshmen only)

FAFSA
Free Application for Federal Student Aid (www.fafsa.ed.gov)
Priority Deadline: March 1

School of Engineering Summer Scholarships
Deadline: May 20

School of Engineering College-Wide and Transfer Scholarships
Deadline: June 1