

## **General Information**

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The University of New Mexico–Valencia Campus is located in Tomé, New Mexico, halfway between Belén and Los Lunas, the two main population centers of Valencia County. The campus consists of 150 acres of rural land with scenic vistas of the Rio Grande Valley to the west, the Manzano Mountains to the east, and historic Tomé Hill to the north. The campus includes nine buildings designed in a modern, Southwestern style. UNM–Valencia Campus received a prestigious award from the New Mexico Society of Architecture for its outstanding landscaping.

### **History of the UNM–Valencia Campus**

The University of New Mexico began serving the educational needs of Valencia County in August 1978 with the establishment of the UNM–Eastern Valencia County Satellite Center. The creation of this Satellite Center ended nearly two decades of work by members of the Los Lunas and Belén School districts to provide a stable source of post-secondary education and vocational training in Valencia County. A total of \$93,000 in seed money was raised to help open the facility.

In 1979, the State Legislative Finance Committee indicated that expanding satellite centers, such as the one in Belén, should be established as branch campuses to be supported by an ongoing mil levy as well as with student tuition and general fund appropriations.

The local community indicated its continued support by voting overwhelmingly in favor of creating a branch campus. Additional assistance came from the Board of Educational Finance, the New Mexico State Legislature, and the Eastern Valencia County Higher Education Committee, Inc. As a result, a formal proposal to establish the branch was accepted by UNM in March 1981. Classes began in August of that year. Technical certificates and associate degrees could now be completed locally for the first time in Valencia County history.

Continued growth in enrollment and program offerings soon created a pressing need for additional space and new facilities. A new campus in Tomé was built in response to this need, opening its doors in the summer of 1986. A library and Learning Resource Center were added in 1994, extensive renovations in the spring of 1995 provided additional classroom and office space, and the completion of the Student/Community Center in the spring of 2000 added additional classrooms, office space, and a wellness/fitness center and child care facility. A Health Sciences Building was added in the fall of 2005, and a Career Technical Center was added in the fall of 2006.

### **Role and Function of the UNM Branch Colleges**

The University has established branch colleges to serve the citizens of New Mexico more fully and to provide the highest quality of education for students pursuing post-secondary education at different locations throughout the state. Branch colleges

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respond specifically to the unique needs and multi-cultural backgrounds of their respective communities by offering community education programs; career education, including certificate and associate degree programs; and transfer programs that prepare students for upper division entry into colleges and universities.

Branch colleges utilize many resources in their service districts and therefore function as integral parts of their surrounding communities. They are thoroughly committed to assisting in the economic development of their service areas.

The branch campuses of the University of New Mexico are considered fully integrated component colleges. They are committed to serving the needs of their respective communities in the manner of a comprehensive community college, offering a variety of academic, career, and community service programs. The branch colleges pledge themselves to protect the quality and integrity of all academic curricula, and the main campus pledges its resources, whenever appropriate and practical, to the fulfillment of the varied missions of the branches. UNM's associate vice president for academic affairs has responsibility for establishing policies and procedures relative to all branch operations.

## **Vision, Mission and Core Values**

### **Vision Statement**

The University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus will rise to national prominence as a leader among two-year colleges by enhancing its status as a community-based center for education, culture, and technology, and by becoming a national model for innovative teaching and learning.

### **Mission Statement**

The mission of the University of New Mexico-Valencia Campus is to provide community residents with lifelong educational opportunities in order to better prepare them to actively participate in the world as productive, responsible, and creative individuals.

The Valencia Campus, a branch college of UNM, is an open-access, student-centered institution which offers a variety of associate degrees, certificate, and credential programs. Our courses provide basic skills, transfer credits, technical career training, and noncredit adult and community education.

### **Core Values**

- We are student-centered.
- We value quality instruction and services.
- We are responsive to change.
- We embrace diversity.
- We believe in empowering the individual.
- We are committed to accessibility.

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## Five-Part Educational Program

In order to fulfill its mission as a branch college, the University of New Mexico–Valencia Campus offers five types of educational programs:

**1. *Technical education*** programs are offered in: computer-aided drafting; information technology; pharmacy technician; certified nursing assistant; and office and business technology. Certificates and/or two year associate of applied science degrees are available in each of these career-based fields. While these are not designed as transfer programs, some or all credits earned through these programs may be eligible for transfer.

**2. *Certificates and/or Associate of Arts or Associate of Science degrees*** are offered in the fields of business administration, computer science, criminal justice, early childhood multi-cultural education, education, general science, health & fitness education, human services, liberal arts, and studio art. Credits in the general science program can be applied to bachelor degree programs in nursing, dental hygiene, radiography, nuclear medicine imaging, physical therapy, and physician's assistant at the UNM-Albuquerque Campus. Most of the credits earned for these degrees can be transferred to the UNM-Albuquerque Campus or to most other four-year colleges and universities. Specific program articulation agreements have been approved with UNM-Albuquerque Campus for the business administration, education, criminal justice, and computer science programs.

**3. *Basic skills*** assistance is offered so that students who are not adequately prepared for admission for college level study can work to improve their skills and meet their educational goals. Developmental credit courses are offered in reading, writing, math, and study skills. Services for free basic skills instruction are provided by the Adult Education Program which houses a complete learning center. Tutorial services are available to all students on campus as well as services for students with special needs through the The Learning Center.

**4. *The Community Education Services program*** at the UNM–Valencia Campus offers a variety of noncredit courses to individuals in the community who are interested in learning in an informal, noncompetitive environment. Customized workshops, seminars, and other programs can be developed in response to special community needs. Continuing education units (CEU's) may be applied for through this program.

**5. *The Small Business Development Center program***, established as a service to the county's small businesses, provides individual counseling, training workshops, and seminars (developed in conjunction with the community education program and area economic development groups), a resource center with books and computer databases, and a referral service for professional support. This program also offers certification to businesses and individuals upon completion of entrepreneurship courses.

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### **Accreditation**

As a branch college of the University of New Mexico, UNM–Valencia Campus is fully accredited by the North Central Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools.

### **Operating Agreement and Funding**

UNM–Valencia Campus was established under the provisions of the Branch College Act, New Mexico Statutes 1978, implemented in an operating agreement between the UNM–Valencia Campus Advisory Board and the Regents of the University of New Mexico. An elected body of five representatives, the Advisory Board approves the Valencia Campus’ annual budget and calls elections for local tax levies and capital outlay general obligation bonds on behalf of UNM–Valencia Campus.

The University of New Mexico retains administrative and academic control of UNM–Valencia Campus. The executive director of the Valencia Campus reports to the provost/vice president for Academic Affairs at UNM–Albuquerque Campus.

Funding for the University of New Mexico–Valencia Campus is derived from direct State appropriations, tax levies, special grants, and student tuition and fees.

### **Equal Educational Opportunity Policy**

The University of New Mexico–Valencia Campus programs are available to all students regardless of race, religion, sex, creed, handicap, or national origin.

The Valencia Campus Branch of the University of New Mexico is subject to the provisions of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990. We support the letter and spirit of these laws. Qualified students with disabilities needing accommodations to fully participate in the programs and services offered by the Valencia Branch should contact an academic advisor for a referral at 925-8560.

Students should notify their academic advisor of their needs early each semester to assure necessary accommodations can be provided in a timely manner.

For further information, contact the Rehabilitation Act/Americans with Disabilities Act coordinator, the Director of Equal Opportunity Programs at UNM–Albuquerque Campus, 277-5251 (voice) or 277-1745 (TDD).