

# Provost's Professional Conference Support Program

The reputation of the University is enhanced when our faculty are able to share their ideas and discoveries widely with their colleagues, and sharing the good work of our faculty will bring positive outcomes for the university. To be fully engaged in our mission of intellectual enquiry and creative production, our faculty must connect with their peers around the world. The best ideas cannot be developed or tested in isolation from the global network of knowledge.

Travel has of course been seriously impacted by the COVID19 pandemic, and many conferences have shifted to virtual formats. However, for certain types of scholarly collaborations, in-person meetings are strongly preferred. Various UNM departments already provide travel funds to assist faculty to attend professional conferences. However, we recognize that department and college travel funds for faculty have become more constrained and are inconsistently available. Therefore, the Office of the Provost has set aside a modest pool of funds intended to supplement limited department- and college-level support.

This program will provide up to \$2000 per tenured or tenure-track main campus faculty member for purposes of travel to present a paper or results at a professional conference.

This program paused in AY 20-21 and is resuming on a limited basis for Spring and Summer 2022 travel. If funding is insufficient to meet the demand, priority will be given to Assistant Professors for whom establishing scholarly networks is most time critical. However, requests for funds will be accepted from faculty in all tenured and tenure-track ranks.

In view of ongoing global health uncertainties, applicants are encouraged to exercise caution with respect to financial commitments to travel, as well as the location and route of travel. All faculty funded under this program must comply with UNM policies with respect to travel and COVID-19-related protocols as published on <https://bringbackthepack.unm.edu>, and for international travel should consult US Department of State travel advisories at: <https://travel.state.gov/content/travel/en/traveladvisories/traveladvisories.html/>.

The program will have three rounds of review during Spring semester 2022.

Minimum eligibility requirements: Recipients must -

- Demonstrate that the cost of planned travel exceeds all other sources of funding, including research grants, discretionary funds, and existing departmental and college travel funds.
- Be current tenure-track or tenured main campus faculty.

- Be using the funds to present a paper or otherwise share results of their scholarly investigations at a professional conference.
- Secure a sign-off from a department chair or dean authorizing the travel and attesting to the need for supplemental funding for the proposed trip. Note: The provost travel funds can be used to augment existing funds, and funding from this program is intended to be the last dollar. Matching funding is encouraged, but not
- Travel must otherwise meet all applicable UNM policies, and recipients must provide a college or departmental index to which the provided funds will be transferred.

In order to promote community and the sharing of ideas within UNM, any faculty member whose travel is supported on this program is encouraged to present a short version of their work, or share a new insight they gained from their conference, at a UNM venue, ideally beyond the recipient's home department. This could include presenting at Lightning Lounge, CTE workshops, or other extra-departmental colloquium.

Note: faculty who are writing grants for external funding should always try to include conference travel as one of their direct costs.

This program will be reviewed for FY23.

For inquiries please email [provost@unm.edu](mailto:provost@unm.edu)

<b>Submission Due date</b>	<b>Recipient Notification Date</b>
February 14, 2022	February 18, 2022
March 4, 2022	March 11, 2022
April 8, 2022	April 15, 2022