

Federal Compliance Program

FEDERAL COMPLIANCE PROGRAM

CREDITS, PROGRAM LENGTH, AND TUITION

At NMSU the unit of university credit is the semester hour, which is the equivalent of one hour's recitation or a minimum of two hours of practice per week for one semester (*Undergraduate Catalog*, p. 12). In using the semester hour, the institution is able to indicate credit hour (750 minutes per credit hour [AP&P Manual, p. 105]) equivalencies on student transcripts as well as evaluated transcripts of transfer students. This regulation applies to all NMSU campuses (Main, Alamogordo, Carlsbad, Doña Ana, and Grants). Further information related to other aspects of university credit, such as grading, class rank and class load, is found in the *DABCC Catalog* on pages 15–19, in the *Grants Catalog* on pages 5–13, on pages 12–21 of the *Undergraduate Catalog* and pages 19–21 of the *Graduate Catalog*.

Program length for both undergraduate and graduate programs is addressed under GIR 15 on pages 20–21 of this self-study report. Specific requirements for graduate degrees are clearly stated on pages 13–19 of the *Graduate Catalog*. Undergraduate program curricula are found under the appropriate majors in the *Undergraduate Catalog*, *DABCC Catalog* and *Grants Catalog*.

The university is committed to keeping its publics informed of tuition rates and other costs. This goal is accomplished through the publication of this information in the *Graduate* (pp. 10 and 11), *Undergraduate* (pp. 4 and 5), *Dona Ana* (pp. 8–10), *Grants* (pp. 15 and 16) *Catalogs* and *The Schedule of Classes*. The catalogs provide information regarding tuition and required fees; resident and nonresident other fees; housing and meal fees; payments; penalties; and refunds and forfeitures. The explanation of fees is clear and easily understood.

While NMSU does have specific fees in such areas as equitation, music, physical education and nursing, these are reasonable and made known publicly. The university does not have program-specific tuition. Off-campus customized programs may have varied tuition to assist in meeting total program costs.

HIGHER EDUCATION REAUTHORIZATION ACT

NMSU is in compliance with the Higher Education Reauthorization Act as amended in 1992 under Title IV. The Financial Aid Office is responsible for the administration of federal, state, and institutional aid. The rate of student default on loans is minimal: 9.5% for Perkins and 4.6% for Stafford. The New Mexico Educational Assistance Foundation works with those students who have defaulted on loans. Federal Program Reviews are conducted every five years with the most recent being in 1995. We were most pleased with the findings in the report. Findings and recommendations of the program review were appropriately addressed. The Department of Education (DOE) selected the institution for recertification. The most recent review by the DOE will be available in the Resource Room.

ADVERTISING AND RECRUITMENT MATERIALS

With the publication of the 1998-1999 student catalogs, NMSU will assure that all references to its affiliation status will include the address and telephone number of NCA. References made to NCA in other institutional documentation will also carry this information as well.

PROFESSIONAL ACCREDITATIONS

Colleges and programs within NMSU holding specialized accreditations are listed on pages 24 and 25 of this self-study report. Three colleges, Business Administration and Economics, Education and Engineering, are currently accredited by their professional bodies. The College of Business Administration is accredited by AACSB –

The International Association for Management Education, with the next visit anticipated for 2003. The College of Education is accredited by the National Council for the Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE) until the Spring of 2001. The College of Engineering is accredited by Accreditation Board for Engineering and Technology (ABET) with staggered reaccreditation dates for departments. All three colleges have met the requirements of the accrediting agencies. Program-specific accreditations/approvals are current and identified in the response to GIR 23.

SUMMARY

This section of the self-study report reviews the institution's status with respect to federal compliance. We believe that the institution is in compliance in the areas addressed above.