



CENTER FOR REGIONAL STUDIES

CRS Call for Proposals Community-based Research Awards 2026-2027

Deadline: May 8, 2026
Award notification on or before June 8, 2026

The UNM Center for Regional Studies (CRS), in partnership with the College of Arts & Sciences (A & S), announces its Community-based Research Award. This initiative is to financially support one community-based research project during FY27. The CRS and A & S partnership will provide up to \$12,500 for the fiscal year.

CRS invites project proposals from UNM active faculty in the College of Arts & Sciences. The UNM faculty member must be working towards the development and implementation of practical and real-life solutions to the challenges facing communities in New Mexico or the Southwest in the twenty-first century. The project should be co-directed by an active faculty member in an academic department or academic program in the College of Arts & Sciences and a community-based partner(s). It is important that both the UNM active faculty member and the community-based partner equitably benefit from this research partnership.

The proposed project must serve the [mission](#) of CRS, which emphasizes the development and distribution of new sources of knowledge throughout New Mexico, the Southwest region, the U.S. Mexico Borderlands, and the Americas.

Eligibility Criteria: All UNM active faculty in the College of Arts & Sciences, including full, associate and assistant professor ranks, are eligible to apply. Faculty applicants must hold tenure-stream or tenured full-time appointments in a UNM College of Arts & Sciences academic department or academic program.

Proposal Format and Guidelines for Submission:

- The complete Application Packet is available for download at the CRS website: [CRS Home Page - Announcements](#)
- Proposals must include an outline and detailed description of the community project, developed research tasks and timeline, and include a description of the intended project outcome.
- Application materials must include a Cover Sheet, Proposal Narrative, Statement of Relevance to the CRS mission, Budget Request & Justification, Community-based partner(s) letter of support, CV, and any other attachments relevant to your proposal.
- Proposals and attachments must be submitted no later than May 8, 2026, 5:00 p.m. in electronic format as a single PDF file (along with CVs as required) to: crsunm@unm.edu.

Guidelines for Application, Budget Request, & Justification

1. Project expenses should fall within the 2026-2027 academic year (FY27), although supplemental or secondary funding from other sources may be utilized for multi-year projects.
2. In general, the Center for Regional Studies will not support expenses such as faculty or staff salaries, indirect or administrative costs, or extra compensation to faculty or staff. In addition, CRS funding cannot be used in the production of student credit covered by the instructional budget of the university.
3. Project costs may include travel expenses, a course buy-out approved by the faculty member's unit for the fall 2026 or spring 2027 semester, graduate student salary, community-based partner(s) stipends, or other direct costs essential to the completion of a project outcome. The application must describe the intended project outcome such as a community presentation, film, exhibition, or other creative work associated with the project.
4. To avoid a conflict of interest, the UNM faculty member must not be affiliated with the community-based partner.
5. All CRS expenditures should be completed by June 1, 2027, following line items in the final approved budget. Line items and the amounts must be justified as essential to the project activities and outcomes. Balances cannot be reprogrammed for any other purposes, and any unspent funds will revert to CRS. A Final Report of project outcomes and expenditures must be submitted to CRS by July 31, 2027.
6. An evaluation committee will review and score each submitted proposal.