Meet Our Faculty:

- Dr. Viola Florez, Professor and Principal Investigator (vflorez@unm.edu)
- Dr. Allison Borden, Associate Professor, Educational Leadership Program Coordinator (aborden@unm.edu)
- Dr. Shawn Secatero, (Canoncito Band of Navajo), Assistant Professor, POLLEN Coordinator (ssecat@unm.edu)
- Dr. Sheri Williams, Assistant Professor (ssw@unm.edu)
- Dr. Russ Romans, Lecturer III (ruromans@unm.edu)

Application

Students admitted into the POLLEN program must meet all requirements for admission into the University and the College of Education Educational Leadership program. UNM College of Education faculty will provide hands-on guidance and support for candidates that meet the required qualifications.

Requirements:

- Submit a UNM Graduate School Admissions Packet
- Website: www.unm.edu/apply

Application Deadline: November 1, 2016

Contact: Mary Vernon, UNM TEELP Program Educational Support; 505-277-0513 or TEELP@unm.edu

University of New Mexico
Educational Leadership Program

Contact Person: Shawn Secatero, Ph.D.
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Program Information

Honoring and embracing leadership and education, corn POLLEN was utilized by Southwestern tribes in recognition of the outstanding leadership attributes of tribal members, and to pray for all living things, as well as educational success and persistence.

Recognizing the importance of pathways to community and educational leadership, the University of New Mexico is pleased to announce the POLLEN program. Funded by, and in partnership with the W.K. Kellogg Foundation, the POLLEN Program is designed to increase the number of licensed school administrators serving Native American students throughout the state of New Mexico.

The Educational Leadership Program at the University of New Mexico is actively recruiting a cohort of eligible educators in Native American serving schools who hold an MA degree to pursue their Administrative Licensure. Those admitted to the cohort will receive a stipend covering tuition in this accelerated pathway to licensure.

The anticipated cohort start date is Spring 2017. Required coursework will be specifically designed to prepare future principals to be responsive to the needs of Native communities throughout the State of New Mexico. All courses will be delivered through a blended online/face-to-face format to ensure access to communities throughout the state, and will center on Native American leadership, vision, epistemology, and culture in addressing current issues in Native American education.

Eligibility Requirements

You are eligible to apply to this program if you meet the following criteria:

1) Possess a valid Level IIA or IIIA New Mexico Teaching license and a Master’s degree from a regionally accredited college/university).

2) Are Native American or non-Native American and interested in becoming a licensed school administrator.

3) Willing to commit to serving as a school administrator in a school or district predominantly serving Native American students.

Program of Study

By participating in this program, students will be required to complete the following courses for New Mexico Administrative licensure: (21 credit hours):

- LEAD 503 – Data Informed Instructional Leadership
- LEAD 509 – Leadership and Organizational Change
- LEAD 521 – School Finance and Resource Management
- LEAD 560 – Instructional Leadership and Development
- LEAD 561 – Legal Issues for School Leaders
- LEAD 596 - Administrative Internship (6 hours)

*POLLEN Students are also eligible to earn an Educational Specialist Certificate upon completion of LEAD 520: School Principalship, but must pay for this course on their own.

Benefits

Our unique POLLEN program offers the following benefits:

- A stipend to be used toward tuition, books, and technology fees.
- The opportunity to complete coursework for the New Mexico Administrative License in four semesters.
- Mentorship and support from UNM POLLEN program faculty prior to, throughout, and after the conclusion of the program.
- The establishment of a professional network of fellow school leaders committed to improving Native American education within and beyond the State of New Mexico.

“I was taught by my parents and grandparents to pursue higher education and to come back and serve your community and be a steward of whatever you will manage. When you’re at that level—I think that’s what drew me into this program.”

—Pollen Cohort 1 Member

“The good thing about our professors is they’re keeping in mind that we’re from Native Schools and serving Native populations so that helps us directly when we go back to our school after we achieve licensure.”

—Pollen Cohort 1 Member