

Public Access and Loitering Policy

Northern New Mexico College is a member of the New Mexico Public College System. The President, as the chief executive officer has the responsibility for the operation and administration of the entire campus. The President or any designated authorized personnel may issue a trespass warning for violators of the Public Access and Loitering Policy and the Solicitation and Commercial Activity Policy.

Although Northern New Mexico College encourages social interaction and the free exchange of ideas, the College reserves the right to set the time, place and manner of public gatherings to maintain an environment on campus that is conducive to learning. The College prohibits loitering near academic buildings, adjacent spaces, classrooms and offices by members of the public who are not authorized staff, faculty, or students registered at Northern. This policy applies to campus visitors (non-College persons) who have not been authorized to use the College premises. However, when a public meeting is conducted under the rules of the Open Meetings Act, and /or when the public has been invited to activities planned by College entities; members of the public are welcome to come to the designated location where the public meetings or activities are taking place.

Non-College persons are allowed to use the common areas of the College during normal business hours and are allowed to attend lectures, plays, games and other activities on the College campus in the designated buildings or areas when such attendance is permitted by the sponsoring organization. Non-College persons are permitted in non-common areas of the College, including offices and administrative areas only when invited or on authorized College business. Non-College persons are not allowed on College property except as authorized by this regulation.

Once the public meeting and/or activities have ended, visitors are required to leave the premises and not wander around College buildings, halls or other offices where classes and business are being conducted.

Students and recognized student organizations wishing to coordinate an event on campus must request permission in writing at least 24 hours in advance from the Office of Institutional Advancement (as per Northern's Freedom of Expression and Dissent Policy (2200). Campus visitors wishing to gather on campus or distribute material to students must request permission at least ten (10) days in advance from the Coordinator of Student Activities or a designee from the Office of Institutional Advancement.

The Northern New Mexico College campus, encompassed by its buildings, labs and other outside spaces adjacent to buildings and extensions of these spaces and all areas within its "footprint," but not limited to exterior seating areas, are intended for the use of students, faculty, staff, authorized guests of the College, and participants in authorized on-campus activities. Loitering or interfering with this intended use is prohibited, and violators will be required to leave. Failure to comply with a request to leave will result in faculty or staff calling the Security

Office, and where necessary, contact to local authorities to request assistance and/or removal unauthorized individuals from the premises. In addition, lounges and other non-reservable spaces cannot be utilized for interviewing or meetings that interrupt the usage of the space as intended, without the written permission of the Office of Vice President of Finance and Administration.

Walk-ins are welcome to visit Admissions, Advisement and other designated offices where College business is conducted, provided that the visitor has a legitimate, College/business related reason to visit these locations. While conducting College business, guests are required to have personal identification in the event they are asked to produce this information.

Where the President or his/her designee has reasonable suspicion that a person is violating or has violated the law, is violating or has violated any College regulation or policy, including, as applicable, the Student Code of Conduct and employee disciplinary procedures; is prowling, loitering, inappropriately using College facilities; is obstructing traffic or impeding entry or exit, damaging property, creating a hazardous or unsafe condition, disrupting College operations, making threats toward any person or College property whether implied or express, or who is creating an atmosphere not conducive to the use of such facilities by others, may be directed to leave the property and/or be issued a trespass warning by the President or his/her designee.

Nothing in the foregoing shall preclude or be interpreted to preclude or otherwise diminish the exercise of the statutory authority of security officers to request additional intervention from the local police department in accordance with the laws of New Mexico for violations of city, county and/or state or other applicable ordinances when such violations occur on any property or facilities which are under the jurisdiction of Northern New Mexico College security officers.

Any member of the College community that violates this policy will be subject to disciplinary action. The College, through the President or her designee, reserves the right to limit or ban access of any individual to College property or functions for violations of this policy.