



Board of Regents Meeting Participation

General Statement

The Board of Regents values public participation and recognizes the importance of public input on issues affecting the University of New Mexico. This procedural directive is designed to balance the importance of public participation with other important objectives, including but not limited to:

- Ensuring all community members have a reasonable opportunity to express their views to the board
- Completing board business effectively, efficiently and in an orderly manner
- Respecting the rights of board members, University administrators and staff, University faculty members, Regents' advisors, students and audience members

Proper decorum and the provisions of this procedural directive are expected to be followed at all public meetings of the Board of Regents.

Public Comment Parameters and Speaker Decorum Expectations:

- Public Comment speakers will direct their comments to the Board of Regents as a whole and not to University administrators, faculty, staff or the audience. Speakers shall not expect Board members to answer questions during public comment. Address the Board only at the appropriate time as indicated in the agenda and when recognized by the Board Chair or other presiding officer.
- The maximum total public comment (related and unrelated to the agenda combined) will be 45 minutes.
- Each speaker will have 2 minutes, unless more than 23 people register, and then each speaker will have 1 minute. This will allow for more speakers to be heard.
- Speakers may concede their time to a spokesperson, *if this is arranged and communicated to the Secretary of the Board by 5:00 pm on the day before the scheduled meeting.*
- Conduct oneself responsibly, civilly, courteously and with due respect. Speakers and individuals present during the meeting are expected to respect the fact that the speakers' views and opinions may not be shared by all present. Speakers shall not use vulgar or obscene language.
- You will receive a confirmation email confirming your registration if you are within the first 45 speakers registered.
- If your registration is received after the deadline of 48-hours before the meeting convenes, or is after the 45th registration, you will receive an email encouraging you to submit written public comment.

Audience Decorum Expectations:

- Audience members shall conduct themselves in the same manner as outlined above for individual speakers. Audience members shall not disrupt an open public meeting of the Board of Regents and shall not incite others to do so either. Therefore, raucous or disrespectful expressions of agreement or disagreement by audience members shall be considered inappropriate and subject to regulation by the board Chair or presiding officer.

Enforcement of Appropriate Etiquette:

- The Chair of Board of Regents or the then presiding officer shall be responsible for ensuring that public participation and comment assists the Board in discharging its responsibilities and is

conducted according to these Public Comment directives. Thus, the Board Chair or presiding officer shall be authorized to enforce this procedural directive by:

- Interrupting presentations and comments to remind speakers and audience members of this procedural directive
- Dismissing or ending the speaking time of previously recognized speakers who violate this procedural directive
- Requesting speakers or audience members to leave the meeting if they violate the procedural directive in a manner that is disruptive to the board business
- Recessing or adjourning the meeting as a result of speaker or audience conduct that is in violation of this procedural directive
- Requesting the assistance of law enforcement officers to assist in removing speakers or audience members who refuse to leave the meeting when requested

The deadline to register to give public comment is 48-hours before the meeting convenes. Please submit your request through the form linked here:

[UNM Board of Regents Public Comment Registration](#)

Written comments may be uploaded through the link above or sent to regents@unm.edu. Written comments are welcomed and encouraged at all times and will be distributed to the Regents and published with the meeting minutes.