

## Chancellor Weekly Brief | 8.31.2021

Dr. James Malm

### **MAKING AN IMPACT.**

Greetings to you at the beginning of this second full week of our fall semester at UNM-Gallup. We are thankful to our student senate for organizing the Welcome Back Week series of events that began yesterday with free donuts and continues with free snacks on Wednesday and giveaways on Thursday in the Gurley Hall Commons. What a great way to come together and kick off this semester.

I'd like to cast a light on a [recent statewide economic report](#) that quantifies UNM's economic impact, and I want to echo UNM president Garnett Stokes sentiments that this report "shows that UNM is making a significant economic contribution to the state and is driving economic and social prosperity even during a global pandemic."

Our UNM system accounts for 40,153 jobs, \$2.1 billion in annual labor income, and \$5.2 billion in economic output. UNM-Gallup joins with our main campus and other branches in celebrating the impact UNM and higher education has on our state as an investment in our state's human capital, economy, and workforce. We also celebrate the direct impact we have on the lives of our students by providing a high-quality higher education right here close to home.

### **UNM VACCINATION MANDATE**

I must remind you that we are fast approaching the September 30th deadline for UNM-Gallup faculty, staff, and students to upload their proof of full vaccination or approved religious or medical exemption. Individuals receiving approved exemptions will need to demonstrate negative test results for COVID-19. If you have not received a COVID-19 vaccine and have not received an exemption, this is the week to commit yourself to getting vaccinated for your own health and the health of our community.

The vaccines are safe, the [Pfizer vaccine is FDA approved](#), and we know that the vaccine may keep you from serious illness or hospitalization. If you have questions regarding the UNM Administrative Mandate on Required Vaccinations, please visit [bringbackthepack.unm.edu](http://bringbackthepack.unm.edu).

I want to acknowledge that we live, work, and study in one of the most vaccinated counties in the state, if not the nation, and we are neighbors to the Navajo Nation who is also doing the good work to vaccinate community members. This is good news for us. This is the work we continue to accomplish together to protect the health of our friends, neighbors, and family members. Let's celebrate our accomplishments and succeed together during this fall semester and beyond.



Office of the Chancellor

Please stay safe and stay well.

Best Regards,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads 'J. Malm'.

Dr. James R. Malm, Chancellor  
Professor of Business