

# Frequently Asked Questions About COVID-19 and Your Civil Rights at UNM

As UNM has moved online to prevent the spread of COVID-19, the Office of Equal Opportunity (OEO) wants to ensure you it continues to maintain regular functions with regard to investigations. We have outlined some Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19 and civil rights investigations.

## **UNM has moved to remote learning while my case is open. Will OEO move forward with my case?**

Yes. OEO will continue investigations, interviews, and meetings as scheduled through remote channels. Your case will not be dropped, nor will you be encouraged to drop your case because of UNM's response to COVID-19. There may be extenuating circumstances that cause a delay in your case, such as:

- A party has a disability that jeopardizes the fairness or accessibility of remote communication;
- A party has limited access to internet or technological resources that UNM cannot remedy;
- A party is ill or contending with an active personal or family emergency;
- UNM is facing extraordinary circumstances.

If there is a delay in your case, you will be notified by the OEO with an updated timeline.

In an effort to continue its investigative work, OEO will meet with individuals telephonically or virtually.

Furthermore, OEO continues to communicate with individuals via email through their UNM provided email address.

## **Does UNM still have to provide me with resources and accommodations?**

Yes. Whether or not you have filed a formal complaint, UNM will provide you with reasonable academic accommodations related to your experience of discrimination. You may visit the [UNM COVID-19 website](#) for additional information.

## **How does the transition to online platforms affect my civil rights and UNM policy?**


Any behavior prohibited by UNM policy is also prohibited in online forms, such as cyber-harassment, cyber-bullying that is based on a protected category, and cyber-stalking. Discrimination and harassment can take many forms, including through the use of social media, email, text messages, online chat rooms, video platforms (Facetime, Skype, Zoom, etc.), and telephonic. If you feel you are being harassed or discriminated against, we encourage you to take advantage of resources available to you.

## **I'm no longer on campus with my harasser, but I'm still worried they might contact or harass me. What should I do?**

You have a number of options to consider. You can contact the [Dean of Students](#) for a No Contact Directive. You can also work with [UNMPD](#) or local law enforcement in obtaining a temporary restraining order. The Title IX Coordinator can assist you in accessing interim measures.

You can also speak with someone, confidentially, at [CARS](#), [LGBTQ Resource Center](#), [LoboRESPECT Advocacy Center](#), [SHAC](#), [the Vassar House](#), or [the Women's Resource Center](#). Medical School learners may also speak confidentially with Diana Martinez, Director of [Learning Environment Office](#).

For additional information, please contact the Office of Equal Opportunity at [oeounm@unm.edu](mailto:oeounm@unm.edu) or by phone at (505) 277-5251.

For an updated resource list, see  [Amended Resource Guide Amid Covid.pdf](#)