Legal name change: students will need one legal documentation with the new name on it. This can be a Government Issued ID (drivers license, state card or valid passport), a Birth Certificate, a Court Order, a Marriage Certificate/Divorce Decree or a Certificate of Naturalization/I551 Card. Note: Documentation is not required to add/delete hyphen, space, apostrophe, or to abbreviate a middle name to initial.

2. Citizenship change: Certificate of Naturalization or I551 card.

3. Social Security Number Update: students will need to provide an original signed Social Security Card. Unsigned cards will not be accepted.

4. Gender Update: students will need to bring a Government Issued ID (drivers license, state ID card or valid passport) and a Revised Birth Certificate

Students may update their “preferred name”, which is the name used in lieu of a student’s legal name, on certain documents, such as, the email display name, learning management system, the phonebook, class rosters and advisee lists. This can be done by the student through the myNMSU portal and does not need to be done at the USRO.

For more information about the specific documents that are needed please contact the University Student Records Office at (575) 646-3411.

Changes in Residency Status for Tuition Purposes

The University Student Records Office (USRO) does not determine the laws and rulings for determining Residency, these are state laws that the USRO simply administers. An individual must establish legal residency in New Mexico before he or she is entitled to pay in-state tuition rates.

The student’s initial residency status is determined at the time of admission, any changes to this status must be initiated by the student through the USRO. A continuing student, classified as a non-resident, who has satisfied the requirements to establish residency may submit a Petition for In-State Residency Tuition Classification along with the required supporting documentation to the USRO Office. Petitions must be filed on or before the third Friday of the semester for which the student is requesting resident tuition.

For specific information about the process of petitioning for In-State Residency or for information about who is eligible for residency for tuition purposes please visit the https://records.nmsu.edu/residency/ website or the University Student Records Office on the Las Cruces campus.

Official Transcripts

An official transcript is the University’s certified statement of your complete NMSU academic record in chronological order by semester and year. It includes the student’s coursework, grades and any degrees that were awarded. Any credit hours earned through transfer work are listed as the equivalent course at NMSU. Grades are not transferred, nor are they used to calculate the NMSU grade point averages. Official transcripts will not be released if the student is in debt to the university.

Transcripts can either be ordered in person at the University Student Records Office or online at https://records.nmsu.edu/transcripts/, there will be a fee for these that may vary depending on the total number of transcripts ordered and the type of delivery method that is selected. A student can request two types of transcripts an electronic one, which is sent as a secured PDF or a printed hard copy that can be delivered in a sealed envelope.

The name that will appear on the student’s transcript will match the name on the student’s official NMSU record. Name changes will only be processed for students currently enrolled at NMSU or any of its Community Colleges.
Purging of Student Files

All academic files for students who attend NMSU are kept for five (5) years following the student's final term enrolled. Only archival documentation will be retained. The files of students who do not enroll within one year after being admitted are destroyed.