



**Application Guidelines for** **Physics (MS and PhD)**

**Application Deadlines** **Fall: December 15<sup>th</sup>**  
**Spring: August 1<sup>st</sup>**

**Website** <https://physics.unm.edu>

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APPLICATION CATEGORY	SPECIFIC INSTRUCTIONS
<b>Educational Background</b>	<p>You must have an undergraduate degree in physics or a related field to enter the M.S. or the Ph.D. programs in Physics. Your undergraduate curriculum should typically have included upper division courses in statistical mechanics, thermodynamics, electricity and magnetism, quantum mechanics, and classical mechanics. Students must have earned a minimum of a 3.0 GPA (on a U.S. 4.0 scale) or comparable grade point average in upper-division (junior and senior level) work and in any graduate work already completed.</p> <p>Upload transcripts for all universities and colleges attended.</p>
<b>Program of Interest</b>	<p>Select: College of Arts and Sciences &gt; Physics and Astronomy &gt; Physics. At least one interest must be selected. Faculty member preference is strongly encouraged.</p>
<b>Test Scores</b>	<p>For Fall 2022 admission, General GRE test and Physics GRE subject test scores are optional, exceptionally because of the continuing pandemic. You may submit your scores if you wish, but it will not hurt your application if you do not submit your GRE scores.</p>
<b>Letter of Intent</b>	<p>This is your opportunity to tell the program faculty about yourself. It does not need to be extremely detailed, but should provide information about your areas of research interest, previous experience, and your goals. Provide a personal statement that clearly identifies your area of research interest and if you are inclined towards theoretical or experimental research. Visit the department research page (<a href="http://physics.unm.edu/pandaweb/research/index.php">http://physics.unm.edu/pandaweb/research/index.php</a>) and list a few Physics &amp; Astronomy Dept. faculty you are interested in working with. This list is helpful to process your application, but if admitted, you are free to pursue work with any department faculty member.</p>
<b>CV/Resume</b>	<p>Provide a Curriculum Vitae (academic resume) that highlights your academic, research, and any other accomplishments you would like the admissions committee to know about. The first page of your CV must include your average GPA (converted to the 4.0 scale) of all physics and math courses at the upper-division and graduate level.</p>
<b>Assistantship Interest</b>	<p>Ultimate decisions regarding admission offers and financial aid (in the form of Teaching/Research Assistantships) are made by the department's Graduate Selection Committees. Depending upon budgetary restrictions, we provide TAs for up to two years pending continued satisfactory performance of teaching/grading duties. After the first two years, students typically find employment as Research Assistants (RAs) with one of our faculty.</p> <p>What is expected in the TA letter? Provide a very brief statement of whether you request a Teaching Assistantship. If you have a different source of funding (e.g. a fellowship or an expected research appointment), please describe this. Otherwise, one sentence stating "I request a TA" or "I do not request a TA" is sufficient.</p>
<b>Recommendations</b>	<p>Three (3) letters of recommendation are required.</p>