



CENTER FOR  
DEVELOPMENT  
& DISABILITY

## NM SAFE Pediatric Clinic Program

**Contact:**

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UNM Health Sciences Center  
Department of Pediatrics  
Center for Development and Disability  
2300 Menaul BLVD NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87107

**Website:**

<https://unmhealth.org/services/development-disabilities/programs/clinics/feeding-eating-evaluations.html>

**NM SAFE Pediatric Clinic**

UNM Center for Development and Disability  
2300 Menaul BLVD NE  
Albuquerque, NM 87107

## NM SAFE Pediatric Clinic Program

*Supports and Assessment for  
Feeding and Eating  
Serving Infants and Children*



### Collaborative Partner:

NM Department of Health:  
Developmental Disabilities  
Supports Division (DDSD)



A University Center for Excellence  
in Developmental Disabilities  
Education, Research and Service

## What does NM SAFE do?

The New Mexico Supports and Assessment for Feeding and Eating (NM SAFE) Pediatric Clinic provides feeding evaluations and recommendations. We assess oral motor function, feeding skills, mealtime behaviors, positioning, fine motor function, diet/nutrition, and responses to food textures and sensory features.



## Who Do We Serve?

We serve children who have developmental disabilities, Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD), behavior difficulties, and medical needs. We welcome children and adolescents up to 18 years of age, with feeding or eating concerns.

- ◆ Risk of aspiration
- ◆ Gastroesophageal reflux
- ◆ Oral motor development
- ◆ Mealtime behaviors (food refusal, limited variety of foods)
- ◆ Positioning and/or seating
- ◆ History of tube feeding
- ◆ Sensory processing differences

## NM SAFE Pediatric Clinic Team

A multi-disciplinary resource team with expertise in feeding and eating:

- ◆ Registered Dietician
- ◆ Speech-Language Pathologist
- ◆ Occupational Therapist
- ◆ Board Certified Behavior Analyst (BCBA)
- ◆ Pediatrician

## Who Can Refer?

Please talk with your child's pediatrician or primary healthcare provider and request a referral for a feeding evaluation. Fax referrals to 505-272-9014.



## Training and Education

- ◆ Community trainings and outreach
- ◆ Technical assistance and continuing education for professionals
- ◆ Clinical education for graduate and undergraduate students in related healthcare fields

## How does it work?

- ◆ NM SAFE clinicians review the referral and child's medical records. We may request additional information or records.
- ◆ We schedule appointments for telehealth or clinic visits.
- ◆ The child's family participate in all parts of the evaluation.
- ◆ The team provides a detailed written report with recommendations
  - ◆ Mealtime program with feeding strategies
  - ◆ Adaptive equipment
  - ◆ Referral and assistance in locating appropriate community resources
- ◆ NM SAFE Pediatric team can provide 1-2 follow up visits after the evaluation to support your child's progress.

Photo author: U.S. Department of Agriculture



*NM SAFE Pediatric Clinic services are provided at no cost to families. Medicaid or private insurance will be billed if available.*