

University, companies discuss Sandia Labs contract

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(AP)—The University of New Mexico is talking to several private companies about the possibility of collaborating on a bid to manage the \$2.4 billion Sandia National Laboratories.

UNM president Bob Frank told Albuquerque Journal on Tuesday that a number of [private companies](#) have expressed interest in partnering with the university, and the school has met with all of them.

The contract for longtime manager [Lockheed Martin](#) expires in September with a potential six-month extension. Meanwhile, the [National Nuclear Security Administration](#) has said it plans to put a new contract to bid. Lockheed Martin has managed Sandia since 1993 and says it wants to continue doing so.

Frank says a management partnership including the University of New Mexico could result in a more integrated relationship, with more university faculty and students working in the labs.

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