

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that the New Mexico Higher Education Department (NMHED or Department) will hold a public rulemaking hearing on January 10, 2024. The hearing will begin at 10:30 a.m. and will be held via Microsoft Teams and in person at the New Mexico Higher Education Department. The purpose of the hearing is to take public comment regarding proposed adoption of a new rule to **5.7.36 NMAC, COMMUNITY GOVERNANCE ATTORNEY PROGRAM**

Join via Microsoft Teams:

https://teams.microsoft.com/l/meetup-join/19%3ameeting_MTAxYWVvkZDEtMmQ2YS00YzhhLWI0NWQtMWQ2MTVmYTY4N2Fh%40thread.v2/0?context=%7b%22Tid%22%3a%2204aa6bf4-d436-426f-bfa4-04b7a70e60ff%22%2c%22Oid%22%3a%22c327f958-5970-4536-8f6b-03d48b60d29e%22%7d

Or call in (audio only)

+1 (505) 312-4308

Phone Conference ID: 202 170 69#

Purpose:

The Department proposes adoption of new rule 5.7.36 NMAC. The new proposed rule establishes regulations and procedures for the Community Governance Attorney Program created by S.B.244, 54th Leg., 1st Sess. (N.M. 2019). The purpose of the program is to provide financial support to qualified third-year law students at the University of New Mexico School of Law and fifty percent of the salary for the recipients' first two years of employment providing legal services for to Acequias, Land Grants-Mercedes or low-income residents of Colonias. The forgivable loans are intended to help defray the cost of attendance.

Summary of proposed rule:

The proposed rule lays out the various duties of the New Mexico Higher Education Department and the Community Governance Attorney Commission. The rule includes the make-up of the Commission; the requirements for participant eligibility; the process of granting, forgiving or repayment of the loan; the soliciting of employers; and reporting requirements.

Details for Obtaining a Copy, Public Hearing and Comments: The proposed rule is posted on the NMHED website and may be accessed at <http://www.hed.nm.gov> under the "Events" section. To request that a copy of the proposed rule be sent to you by mail or e-mail, please contact HigherEd.Info@hed.nm.gov or (505)476-8411.

A public hearing will be held on January 10, 2024 from 10:30 a.m. until 11:00 a.m. via Microsoft Teams and in person at the NMHED Office located at **2044 Galisteo Street, Suite 4, Santa Fe, NM 87505**. Any person who is or may be affected by this proposed rule may participate. Interested persons may submit written comments to NMHED at 2044 Galisteo Street, Suite 4, Santa Fe, NM 87505 or HigherEd.Info@hed.nm.gov. **Written comments must be received no later than 4:00 p.m. on January 5, 2024.** Please note that any written or verbal comments received will become part of the rulemaking record, be posted to the New Mexico Sunshine Portal, and be accessible to the public. If submitting written comments by email, please indicate in the subject line the number and section of each rule(s) for which you are providing comments. Oral comments will also be accepted at the rule hearing, subject to time limitations.

Legal authority for this rulemaking can be found in Section 9-25-1 et seq. NMSA 1978 and Section 21-21Q-1 et seq. NMSA 1978.

Any person with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing should contact (505) 476-8411 or email HigherEd.Info@hed.nm.gov ten (10) business days prior to the hearing.