

NOTICE OF PROPOSED RULEMAKING

Public Hearing. The Public Education Department (PED) hereby gives notice that the Department will conduct a public hearing at Mabry Hall, Jerry Apodaca Education Building, 300 Don Gaspar, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501-2786, on December 5, 2017 from 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. The purpose of the public hearing will be to obtain input on the proposed repeal and replace of 6.32.2 NMAC, Guidelines for Implementing Bilingual Multicultural Education Programs. At the hearing, the PED will provide a verbal summary statement on record. Attendees who wish to speak will be given three (3) minutes to make a statement concerning the rule changes on record. Written comment will also be accepted at the hearing.

Rule Change Information. The purpose of this proposed rule change is to realign the evaluation and renewal sections of the 6.32.2 NMAC, Guidelines for Implementing Bilingual Multicultural Education Programs to be consistent with the 2004 Bilingual Multicultural Education Act (22-23-1 NMSA 1978) and regulatory goals (6.32.2 NMAC), and include program accountability for academic and language proficiency in English and a second language for all students, not just English Learners. In addition, the proposed rule change aims to further clarify the program approval requirements and align the program element of instruction with the local implementation. The proposed changes would take effect beginning with the 2018-2019 school year.

The statutory authorizations include the following:

Sections 22-2-1, 22-23-1 through 22-23-6 NMSA 1978

No technical information served as a basis for this proposed rule change.

Public Comment. Interested parties may provide comment on the proposed repeal and replacement of this state rule at the public hearing or may submit written comments, or both, to Jamie Gonzales, Policy Division, New Mexico Public Education Department, Room 101, 300 Don Gaspar Avenue, Santa Fe, New Mexico 87501, or by electronic mail at rule.feedback@state.nm.us, or fax to (505) 827-6681. All written comments must be received no later than 5:00 p.m. (MDT) on the date of the public hearing. The PED encourages the early submission of written comments. The initial public comment period was March 28, 2017 to August 9, 2017 at 5pm. The PED reopened public comment on September 1, 2017. The public comment period will end on December 5, 2017 at 5 p.m. (MDT)

Copies of the proposed rules may be accessed through the New Mexico Public Education Department's website under the "Public Notices" link at <http://ped.state.nm.us/ped/PublicNotices.html>, or may be obtained from Jamie Gonzales by contacting her at (505) 827-7889 during regular business hours.

Individuals with disabilities who require the above information in an alternative format, or who need any form of auxiliary aid to attend or participate in the public hearing are asked to contact Jamie Gonzales at (505) 827-7889 as soon as possible before the date set for the public hearing. The PED requires at least ten (10) calendar days advance notice to provide any special accommodations requested.