**TITLE 6 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION**

**CHAPTER 30 EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS**

**PART 13 EARLY COLLEGE HIGH SCHOOL**

**6.30.13.1 ISSUING AGENCY:** Public Education Department, herein after referred to as the "department".

[6.30.13.1 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.2 SCOPE:** This rule applies to all school districts and public schools.

[6.30.13.2 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY:** This rule is promulgated pursuant to Sections 9-24-8 and 22-2-1, NMSA 1978.

[6.30.13.3 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.4 DURATION:** Permanent

[6.30.13.4 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.5 EFFECTIVE DATE:** May 15, 2018, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.

[6.30.13.5 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.6 OBJECTIVE:** This rule outlines the necessary qualifications to receive designation as a department-approved early college high school in New Mexico.

[6.30.13.6 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.7** **DEFINITIONS**:

**A.** **“Career and technical education standards”** as defined pursuant to 6.29.3.7 NMAC.

**B.** **“Career technical education”** or **“CTE”** as defined pursuant to 6.29.3.7 NMAC.

**C.** **“Dual credit”** as defined pursuant to 6.30.7.7 NMAC.

**D.** **“Early college high school”** or **"ECHS"** means a four-year high school that meets the qualifications outlined in 6.30.13.9 NMAC.

**E. “Meta major”** means a collection of majors with shared or similar coursework in alignment with a career field.

**F.** **“Postsecondary partner”** means a postsecondary educational institution that has an agreement or memorandum of understanding with an ECHS.

**G.** **“Pathway”** means a sequence of classes at the ECHS in partnership with the postsecondary partner that leads to a certification, associate's degree, or bachelor’s degree.

**H. “Work-based learning”** means activities that develop work place skills such as tours, job shadowing, work experience rotations, mentoring, entrepreneurships, service learning, internships, co-ops, or youth pre-apprenticeships aligned with a registered apprenticeship program under the New Mexico department of workforce solutions.

**I.** **“Workforce recognized credential”** means workforce credentials, certificates, associate’s degrees, and bachelor’s degrees from a postsecondary partner.

**J. “Workforce partner”** means a local business, regional workforce investment board, workforce connection, one stop shop, chamber of commerce, economic development corporation, council of government, tribal council, or other industry representative that provides ongoing mentoring and on-the-job experience that connects ECHS students to employment settings and helps them to develop employability skills.

[6.30.13.7 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.8** **GOALS**: The goals for a department-approved ECHS are for all enrolled students to simultaneously earn a New Mexico high school diploma and to earn no fewer than 12 credits toward a workforce recognized credential through the postsecondary partner.

[6.30.13.8 NMAC - 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.9 QUALIFICATIONS**: To be designated a department-approved ECHS, a school shall meet the following qualifications:

**A.** Integrates department-approved standards into courses within a structured pathway that meets local and state graduation requirements.

**B.** Follows a pathway that results in a workforce recognized credential without tuition cost to the student or the student’s family.

**C.** Focuses on targeted efforts to reach youth underrepresented in higher education by establishing outreach and recruiting processes striving for equitable access. Focused recruiting efforts shall encourage applicants from underrepresented populations.

**D.** Accelerates student learning through the use of dual credit courses beginning no later than tenth grade. Dual credit courses shall:

**(1)** accelerate the timeline for high school students to complete college;

**(2)** be delivered through one or more postsecondary partners;

**(3)** be tuition free;

**(4)** be taught by instructors who meet the higher learning commission qualifications for

college instructors;

**(5)** use innovative, interactive, research-based support structures; and

**(6)** align with:

**(a)** the pathway indicated on the student’s next step plan;

**(b)** the established New Mexico higher education general education curriculum; and

**(c)** either the student’s declared CTE pathway or declared major or meta

major.

**E.** Operates in partnership with one or more workforce partners. Partnerships shall include:

**(1)** meaningful work-based learning experiences in alignment with student pathways; and

**(2)** CTE courses that use career and technical education standards to support core academic growth.

[6.30.13.9 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.10 APPLICATION**:

**A.** ECHS applicants shall meet the qualifications listed in 6.30.13.9 NMAC. Schools seeking initial designation as a department-approved ECHS shall submit an application to the department by July 1 of the year in which they seek to begin operating as an ECHS.

**B.** The initial application shall include:

**(1)** a description of the proposed pathways;

**(2)** a description of the proposed workforce-recognized credential for each pathway;

**(3)** the projected number of students to be served;

**(4)** a description of outreach and recruiting processes that incorporate targeted efforts to reach underrepresented populations;

**(5)** a memorandum of understanding with at least one postsecondary partner that includes evidence of dual credit course offerings and support structures;

**(6)** a memorandum of understanding with at least one workforce partner that includes evidence of meaningful work-based learning experiences;

**(7)** a sustainability plan;

**(8)** assurances that all district and school personnel are knowledgeable of the requirements to

comply with 6.30.13 NMAC; and

**(9)** evidence of tribal consultation to satisfy the goals of Article 23A including documentation of tribal consultation submitted annually to the department.

**C.** The department shall review initial applications for approval and confirm application acceptance or rejection by no later than August 1.

**(1)** Schools receiving approval shall maintain their status as a department-approved ECHS

for a period of two years.

**(2)** At the discretion of the department, schools not receiving initial approval may request a 90 day postponement to address any department concerns.

[6.30.13.10 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.11 COMPLIANCE AND RENEWAL:**

**A.** Data demonstrating compliance with the qualifications outlined in 6.30.13.9 NMAC shall be collected through the department data reporting system and shall be evaluated annually to determine compliance with 6.30.13.9 NMAC. Data that will be disaggregated to analyze and evaluate shall include:

**(1)** students enrolled;

**(2)** student participation in each pathway;

**(3)** student attainment of work-force recognized credentials;

**(4)** the percentage of low-income students enrolled in the ECHS compared to the percentage

of low-income students enrolled in the district in which the ECHS is located;

**(5)** student participation in work-based learning experiences; and

**(6)** students earning college credit, to be evaluated for the following minimum

expectations:

**(a)** students completing the eleventh grade have attempted a minimum of three

credit hours toward a workforce recognized credential; and

**(b)** students completing the twelfth grade have successfully completed a minimum

of 12 credit hours toward a workforce recognized credential.

**B.** A determination of compliance shall renew the designation of department-approved ECHS for a two-year period to commence the following school year. The department shall notify the ECHS of their renewal status no later than August 1.

**C.** If by July 1, the ECHS is unable to demonstrate full compliance as outlined in 6.30.13.9 NMAC, the department shall issue written notification of non-compliance no later than August 1.

**D.** Schools receiving a notice of non-compliance shall be placed on probation.

**(1)** Schools placed on probation shall have the year following notice of non-compliance to make any changes required to be in full compliance.

**(2)** Should compliance issues still exist at the end of the probationary year, the probationary school shall lose their designation as a department-approved ECHS.

**E.** Any school that has lost designation as a department-approved ECHS shall wait no less than one school year before re-applying for designation as a department-approved ECHS.

[6.30.13.11 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.12 RESPONSE TO NON-COMPLIANCE AND EXTENSIONS:**

**A.** Upon receipt of a notice of non-compliance from the department, schools shall respond with an improvement plan to address non-compliance issues. This plan shall be submitted to the department within 30 days.

**B**. The department shall offer technical assistance to schools during the development and implementation of the improvement plan

**C.** Schools may apply for an extension of their probationary period. The decision to grant or deny such extension shall be at the discretion of the department secretary.

[6.30.13.12 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**6.30.13.13 WAIVERS:** A qualifying ECHS shall submit any waiver requests with their intial application in the format requested by the department. Any waiver granted shall remain in effect for the duration of the school’s approval as a department-approved ECHS. Schools that are non-renewed and not in their probationary year shall have all active waivers terminated. Schools may request waivers of, but not limited to, the following:

**A.** individual class load and teaching load;

**B.** length of school day;

**C.** staffing patterns;

**D.** subject areas;

**E.** purchase of instructional materials; and

**F.** course work requirements.

[6.30.13.13 NMAC - N, 5/15/2018]

**HISTORY OF 6.30.13 NMAC: [RESERVED]**