

Grow Your Own Teachers & Teacher Preparation Affordability Grants

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Grow Your Own Teachers Act Final Rule

August 2nd presented to the FA Community

- The final rule for the Grow Your Own Teachers Program (5.7.35 NMAC) was filed at State Records yesterday and will publish and become effective on **August 13th**, just in time for the Fall Semester!
- We are circulating the final rule just in case so you can review it before it is made available to the public through the [New Mexico Register](#). **Please note, there were some substantive changes made to the rule based on formal comments.** Below are summaries of the changes.
- Section 5.7.35.7 NMAC – Reordering of Definitions. The definition of "Half-time" is expanded. Language is added to the definition to allow institutions to take into account the student's average enrollment for the academic year and completion of the public education department's licensure requirements when determining the student's enrollment status.
- Section 5.7.35.8 NMAC - Language in Subsection B is changed from "may" to "shall". The change is made to ensure that the program more pro-actively prioritizes and captures the students identified in the survey conducted pursuant to the Statute. Paragraph 5 is changed to reflect that PED is the correct entity that is charged to define high-need positions. Language in Paragraph 5 is changed to provide preference to Educational Assistants already working in a high-need position rather than Educational Assistants who declare intent to work in a high-need position. Language in Subsection C is changed from "may" to "shall" to clarify that it is the award recipient's responsibility to complete a petition for leave. Language in Subsection C is changed to clarify that the leave for educational assistants receiving a program scholarship shall be paid leave.
- Section 5.7.35.10 NMAC- Paragraph 4 is added to Subsection A. The new paragraph adds a reporting requirement to track distribution of awards to students described in Subsection B of 5.7.35.8 NMAC. Language is added to Subsection C to clarify that the leave granted by the public school to an educational assistant receiving a program scholarship shall be paid leave.
- Allocation came quickly; final rules followed

Grants Webinar

- The NMHED Financial Aid Division is hosted a brief Webinar on Wednesday, July 10th at 10:00 AM.
- This Webinar was for financial aid specialists, registrars, advisors, faculty and other staff to learn about new and/or renewed state financial aid programs:
 - Grow Your Own Teachers Scholarship
 - Teacher Preparation Affordability Scholarship
 - College Affordability Grant
 - Brief overview of other state financial aid programs
 - New NMHED Website Financial Aid Pages