

Date: May 30, 2025

Prepared By: Natasha Davalos

Rule Citation: [NMAC 6.30.19, Purple Star Public Schools Program](#)

Overview of Proposed Rule

Agency: Public Education Department

Rulemaking Action: New Rule

Date of Notice: May 6, 2025

Public Comment Period: May 6, 2025, to June 5, 2025

Rule's Purpose: The rule outlines application requirements, eligibility criteria, and responsibilities for maintaining the designation of public schools in New Mexico as Purple Star Schools.

Summary of Proposed Rule NMAC 6.30.19: Purple Star Public Schools Program

The Public Education Department (PED) is proposing a new administrative rule, NMAC 6.30.19, for the Purple Star Public Schools Program. This proposed rule outlines the criteria and application process for public schools and charter schools in New Mexico seeking designation as a Purple Star Public School. Schools that are designated as Purple Star Schools would receive a valid designation for 3 years and must reapply after their 3-year designation expires. The program aims to support military-connected students by easing transitions between schools and recognizing military service within school communities. The proposed rule cites statute giving the department general rulemaking power, as well as [Section 22-13-34 NMSA 1978](#), which established the Purple Star Public Schools Program in law in 2021, as its authority for proposing the rule.

Schools enrolling military-connected students would be required to designate a trained military point of contact (MPOC), maintain a public-facing webpage with resources and information for military families, provide academic and social-emotional supports to students, and submit a resolution of support to their local board or governing body to help these students and their families experience a smooth and supportive transition. Schools not serving military-connected students could still be eligible for designation by demonstrating their commitment to honoring military service through military recognition celebrations, assemblies, events, and activities, including sponsoring special events recognizing military service, celebrating students who commit to serving in the military, and submitting a resolution of support to their local school board or charter school governing council. The proposed rule would take effect on June 25, 2025.

Impact

This proposed rule, if adopted, would impact school districts and charter schools, military-connected students and families, and PED. It creates a process for schools to apply for and maintain the Purple Star School designation, signaling their commitment to meeting the needs of military-connected students and their families.

Formally establishing an application process and operational expectations for the Purple Star Public School Program intends to reduce educational and social disruptions military-connected students may face due to frequent relocations, deployments, or separations. The proposed rule sets eligibility criteria, outlines training requirements for MPOCs and requires district-level reporting and training. The proposed rule aligns with the statutory establishment of the Purple Star Public School Program by providing clear guidance on the application process, facilitating the transition of students from military families into new schools, and outlining how schools without military-connected students may still qualify for designation by recognizing and honoring military service.