

TITLE 6 PRIMARY AND SECONDARY EDUCATION
CHAPTER 30 EDUCATIONAL STANDARDS - GENERAL REQUIREMENTS
PART 9 PRE-KINDERGARTEN PROGRAM

6.30.9.1 ISSUING AGENCY: Public Education Department
[6.30.9.1 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.2 SCOPE: This rule applies to all school districts, public schools, including charter schools.
[6.30.9.2 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Sections 22-2-1, 22-2-2, NMSA 1978; Pre-Kindergarten Act
32A-23-1 to 32A-23-8, NMSA 1978.
[6.30.9.3 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.4 DURATION: Permanent
[6.30.9.4 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.5 EFFECTIVE DATE: 1/31/2007, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.
[6.30.9.5 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.6 OBJECTIVE: This rule seeks to implement a state funded pre-kindergarten program through the public education department and addresses collaboration with the children, youth and families department, program requirements, pre-kindergarten eligibility, requests for proposals and contracts for services, and administration of funds.
[6.30.9.6 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.7 DEFINITIONS:

- A. "Community" means an area defined by school district boundaries, tribal boundaries or joint boundaries of a school district and tribe or any combination of school districts and tribes.
 - B. "CYFD" means the children, youth and families department.
 - C. "Department" means the public education department or PED.
 - D. "Early childhood development specialist" means the adult responsible for working directly with four-year-old children in implementing pre-kindergarten services.
 - E. "Eligible provider" means a person licensed by the children, youth and families department that provides early childhood developmental readiness services or preschool special education, or is a public school, tribal program or head start program.
 - F. "Pre-kindergarten or pre-k" mean a voluntary developmental readiness program for children who have attained their fourth birthday prior to September 1.
 - G. "Pre-k program" means a voluntary program for the provision of pre-k services throughout the state that addresses the total developmental needs of preschool children, including physical, cognitive, social and emotional needs, and shall include health care, nutrition, safety and multicultural sensitivity.
 - H. "Request for proposal or RFP" means all documents, including those attached or incorporated by reference, used for soliciting proposals pursuant to the Procurement Code (see 13.1.1 through 13.1.199 NMSA 1978).
 - I. "Tribe" means an Indian nation, tribe or pueblo located in New Mexico.
- [6.30.9.7 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.8 COLLABORATION WITH CYFD: The PED shall collaborate with the CYFD in the development and implementation of a voluntary program for the provision of pre-kindergarten services throughout the state. Such collaboration shall include but not be limited to:

- A. development and issuance of the RFP;
- B. training and technical assistance provided to pre-k program supervisors and program staff;
- C. collection of program data that is not identifiable to an individual student;
- D. reporting to the governor and legislative committees regarding implementation and progress;
- E. contacting the CYFD prior to recommending any changes to the Pre-Kindergarten Act or this rule.

[6.30.9.8 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.9 REQUIREMENTS: The CYFD and PED shall cooperate in the development and implementation of a voluntary program for the provision of pre-k services throughout the state. The pre-k program shall address the total developmental needs of preschool children, including physical, cognitive, social and emotional needs, and shall include health care, nutrition, safety and multicultural sensitivity. In order to implement the pre-k program, the PED shall:

- A. award program funds through an RFP process to public school districts and schools, including charter schools;
- B. provide technical assistance to providers to ensure effectiveness;
- C. ensure that funds shall not be used for any religious, sectarian or denominational purposes, instruction or material;
- D. ensure communities being served are meeting eligibility requirements based on the funding criteria of the Pre-Kindergarten Act;
- E. monitor programs for compliance with the pre-k law, rule and contract to include scheduled and unscheduled visits and any necessary corrective actions; and
- F. determine public school requirements for licensure or teaching endorsements for pre-k program early childhood development specialists and staff.

[6.30.9.9 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.10 PRE-KINDERGARTEN ELIGIBILITY: Children who turn four years old before September 1 are eligible to participate in pre-k programs.

[6.30.9.10 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

6.30.9.11 REQUESTS FOR PROPOSALS AND CONTRACTS FOR PRE-K SERVICES: The PED shall:

- A. issue an RFP for pre-k services to serve eligible four-year-old children through public school programs;
- B. ensure that the proposal contains a detailed description of the services that are to be provided, including:
 - (1) how those services shall meet pre-k program standards;
 - (2) the number of four-year-old children that shall be served;
 - (3) a description of the facilities along with site and floor plans;
 - (4) additional revenue sources and funding amounts available for the pre-k program;
 - (5) a description of the qualifications and experience of the early childhood development specialists for each site;
 - (6) the plan for communicating with and involving parents in the program;
 - (7) how program services meet the continuum of services to children; and
 - (8) any other relevant information requested by the department.

[6.30.9.11 NMAC - N, 1/31/2007]

HISTORY OF 6.30.9 NMAC: [RESERVED]