

TITLE 5 POST-SECONDARY EDUCATION
CHAPTER 7 TUITION AND FINANCIAL AID
PART 15 GRADUATE SCHOLARSHIP PROGRAM

5.7.15.1 ISSUING AGENCY: State of New Mexico [~~Commission on Higher Education, 1068 Cerrillos Road, Santa Fe, New Mexico, 87501-4295, (505) 827-7383.~~] Higher Education Department.
[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]
[5.7.15.1 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.1 NMAC, 7/15/2025]

5.7.15.2 SCOPE: Provisions [~~for 5 NMAC 7.15 [now 5.7.15 NMAC]~~] of 5.7.15 NMAC apply to New Mexico residents who are graduate students enrolled at New Mexico four-year public post-secondary institutions.
[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]
[5.7.15.2 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.2 NMAC, 7/15/2025]

5.7.15.3 STATUTORY AUTHORITY: Section 21-21G, NMSA 1978.
[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]
[5.7.15.3 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.3 NMAC, 7/15/2025]

5.7.15.4 DURATION: Permanent.
[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]
[5.7.15.4 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.4 NMAC, 7/15/2025]

5.7.15.5 EFFECTIVE DATE: [~~July 15, 1998 [unless a later date is cited at the end of a section].~~] July 15, 2025, unless a later date is cited at the end of a section.
[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]
[5.7.15.5 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.5 NMAC, 7/15/2025]

5.7.15.6 OBJECTIVE: The objective and purpose of [~~5 NMAC 7.15 [now 5.7.15 NMAC]~~] 5.7.15 NMAC is to increase graduate enrollment in the state's public universities of students from groups underrepresented in graduate education. By encouraging groups underrepresented in graduate education to pursue advanced degrees in accredited graduate programs, particularly in academic fields of high regional and national priority and fields where their under-representation is most severe, the state will benefit by increasing the number of professionals for industry, business, research and development, economic development and public service.
[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]
[5.7.15.6 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.6 NMAC, 7/15/2025]

5.7.15.7 DEFINITIONS:

A. "Academic year" means [~~any~~] the consecutive period of two semesters[~~, three quarters~~] or other comparable units commencing with the fall term each year.

B. "Award recipient" means a student who is a New Mexico resident and is awarded a graduate scholarship.

C. [~~"Commission"~~] "Department" means the New Mexico [~~commission on~~] higher education department.

D. "Eligible institution" means [~~any~~] a graduate-degree-granting [~~New Mexico public~~] state university enumerated in Article 12, Section 11 of the Constitution of New Mexico and accredited by the [~~north central association of colleges and schools~~] higher learning commission.

E. "Financial need" means the difference between a student's projected costs for the year, including books, materials, supplies, room and board and other reasonable costs, and the student's resources, including available income and other available assets as determined by an approved standardized needs analysis system.

F. "GPA" means grade point average

[F.]G. "Graduate [~~and professional~~] field" means [~~any~~] a program of study intended to result in a master's or doctoral degree, excluding [~~the degree in~~] a doctor of medicine.

[G.]H. "Groups underrepresented in graduate education" means women, minorities, [~~the visually handicapped, the physically disabled~~] persons with a visual impairment or other physical disability and other groups that have traditionally been underrepresented in the specific area of graduate study or profession for which the scholarship is awarded.

[H.]L. "Scholarship" means an award made by an eligible institution ~~[of higher education]~~ to ~~[a person]~~ an award recipient for graduate study under the Graduate Scholarship Act.
[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]
[5.7.15.7 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.7 NMAC, 7/15/2025]

5.7.15.8 APPLICATION AND STUDENT ELIGIBILITY: A student applies directly to the eligible institution that has received an allocation of scholarships.

A. Conditions for first-year eligibility: Priority ~~[will]~~ shall be given to ~~[New Mexico]~~ students who are New Mexico residents with the greatest financial need and from [those groups with the most severe underrepresentation and students with the greatest financial need] groups underrepresented in graduate education. A scholarship may be awarded to ~~[an individual]~~ a New Mexico resident who has:

(1) ~~[is a citizen of the United States or a permanent resident alien and is a member of a group underrepresented in his/her intended graduate or professional field of study;]~~ earned a bachelor's degree and maintained a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale or who holds a paid position supporting faculty teaching or research activities;

(2) ~~[has]~~ met the admission requirements [and], is accepted for enrollment [as a full-time student in a graduate or professional field of study with high priority or underrepresentation, as determined by the institution;] at an eligible institution and enrolls in at least six credit hours in a graduate field of study;

(3) ~~[has]~~ complied with all the rules [and regulations] adopted by the [commission] department for award of the scholarship and the provisions regarding the administration of [state] the graduate [scholarships adopted pursuant to the Graduate Scholarship Act;] scholarship program; and

~~[(4)]~~ agrees to serve in an unpaid internship or assistantship at the eligible institution, a government agency or private industry approved by his major department for 10 hours per week during the academic year; and

~~[(5)]~~ is eligible according to a standard needs analysis or when a financial aid officer exercises professional judgment in accordance with the institution's and applicable federal financial aid standards to determine that circumstances, for which documentation exists in the student's file, warrant adjusting the cost of attendance, expected family contribution or other factors to make the program responsive to a student's special financial circumstances, within the parameters authorized for this program.]

B. Conditions for continuing eligibility: A scholarship may be re-awarded to a student who:

(1) ~~[has been]~~ was an award recipient ~~[of a New Mexico graduate scholarship]~~ the previous year;

(2) maintains a GPA of 3.0 or higher on a 4.0 scale and remains in good academic standing as determined by the eligible institution;

(3) is enrolled [as a full-time graduate student as determined by the institution;] in at least six credit hours in a graduate field of study; and

~~[(4)]~~ is pursuing the second year of a master's degree or the second, third or fourth year post-baccalaureate of a doctoral degree;

~~[(5)]~~ agrees to serve in an unpaid internship or assistantship at the eligible institution, a government agency or private industry approved by his major department for ten hours per week during the academic year; and

~~[(6)]~~ is eligible according to a standard needs analysis or when a financial aid officer exercises professional judgment in accordance with the institution's and applicable federal financial aid standards to determine that circumstances, for which documentation exists in the student's file, warrant adjusting the cost of attendance, expected family contribution or other factors to make the program responsive to a student's special financial circumstances, within the parameters authorized for this program.]

C. A financial aid officer may exercise professional judgment when special circumstances exist to adjust the cost of attendance or the expected family contribution or to modify other factors that make the program responsive to a student's special financial circumstances and for which documentation exists in the student's file within the parameters authorized for this program.

[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]

[5.7.15.8 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.8 NMAC, 7/15/2025]

5.7.15.9 AMOUNT AND DURATION OF SCHOLARSHIP:

A. Award amounts shall not exceed one hundred percent of tuition and fees for the graduate program at the eligible institution for the academic year; provided that the department shall fund only one semester at a time

~~and shall not fund the second semester of the academic year if the student does not enroll for that semester or does not otherwise maintain eligibility.~~

~~B. A graduate scholarship may be granted until the award recipient either receives a master's or doctoral degree in a graduate field or has qualified and received eight semesters of scholarship, whichever occurs first.~~

~~[5.7.15.9 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.9 NMAC, 7/15/2025]~~

~~[5.7.15.9] 5.7.15.10 INSTITUTIONAL RESPONSIBILITIES:~~

~~A. The eligible institution [must agree to] shall give preference to [students enrolled in academic programs where their underrepresentation is most severe and must agree to give full consideration to students with physical, visual or hearing disabilities.~~

~~B. The eligible institution must agree to give preference to:]~~

~~(1) students from groups underrepresented in graduate education;~~

~~(4)2 students who have previously been awarded a graduate scholarship under this program, within the limits of eligibility established in [Section 8 [now 5.7.15.8 NMAC]] 5.7.15.9 NMAC; then~~

~~(2)3 students who have been newly recruited to the institution, thereby adding to its enrollment of graduate and professional students from underrepresented groups.~~

~~C. The eligible institution [must agree] shall not [to] reduce its level of financial aid from other sources for award recipients.~~

~~D. The eligible institution [must agree to] shall appoint an individual with appropriate educational background, experience and institutional authority and responsibility, to administer this program.~~

~~E. The eligible institution [must agree to] shall establish appropriate scholarship selection procedures and maintain appropriate data and records. Each major department involved in the program [must agree to] shall provide appropriate orientation, practical experiences and assistance designed to prepare scholarship recipients for academic and/or professional careers.~~

~~[F. In addition to the unpaid internship or assistantship required in Section 8 [now 5.7.15.8 NMAC], the institution must award to the recipient a paid internship or assistantship in her or his major department for ten hours per week during the academic year and summer sessions.~~

~~G. The institution must provide adequate financial support for recipients maintaining satisfactory progress and requiring more than two years to complete their master's degrees and for recipients requiring more than four years post baccalaureate to complete their doctorates.]~~

~~[H.]F. By September 1 of each year, the eligible institution [must] shall submit to the [commission] department an annual report summarizing for the prior academic year the number of [scholarship] award recipients, by group and field; the expenditures and beginning and year-end balances for the program; and such other information as may be requested by the [commission] department.~~

~~[I.]G. [Periodically, at] At the request of the [commission] department, representatives of eligible institutions [will] shall meet to discuss and coordinate the definition of academic fields of high regional and national priority and other matters pertaining to the program.~~

~~[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]~~

~~[5.7.15.10 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.10 NMAC, 7/15/2025]~~

~~[5.7.15.10 APPLICATION PROCEDURES: A student applies directly to institution that has received an allocation of scholarships.]~~

~~[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]~~

~~[5.7.15.11 AMOUNT OF SCHOLARSHIPS:~~

~~A. Scholarship awards shall be for seven thousand two hundred dollars (\$7,200) per academic year.~~

~~B. Scholarship awards shall be disbursed in equal installments over the period of an academic year or period of enrollment.~~

~~C. An award recipient who is enrolled in the program for less than an academic year shall receive a pro rata share of the stipend.]~~

~~[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]~~

~~[5.7.15.12 TENURE OF SCHOLARSHIP:~~

~~A. Each scholarship is awarded for a period of one academic year.~~

~~_____ B. _____ A recipient who remains in good academic standing in his/her course of study, as determined by the institution, may receive the scholarship for a total of two years for master's degree program students, or for a total of four years post baccalaureate for doctoral degree students, subject to the availability of funds.]~~
~~[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]~~

~~[5.7.15.13]~~ **5.7.15.11 DISTRIBUTION OF SCHOLARSHIPS:**

A. Each eligible institution will receive its annual share of new scholarship dollars based upon the average of its:

- (1) total graduate and professional enrollment of women;
- (2) total graduate and professional enrollment of ~~[underrepresented]~~ minorities ~~[(Hispanics, Native Americans and Blacks)]~~; and
- (3) total graduate and professional enrollment.

B. No ~~[university]~~ eligible institution shall receive fewer than three scholarships per year. If any ~~[university]~~ eligible institution is to be allocated fewer than three scholarships, a pro rata share of scholarships shall be taken from the two ~~[universities]~~ eligible institutions with the highest number of scholarships and allocated to those ~~[universities]~~ eligible institutions which would otherwise receive fewer than three scholarships.

~~[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]~~

~~[5.7.15.11 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.11 NMAC, 7/15/2025]~~

~~[5.7.15.14] _____ VACATED SCHOLARSHIPS: If a recipient vacates a scholarship prior to the end of an award period, that scholarship may be offered to another eligible student, with first priority given to a student who is not currently enrolled for graduate study at the university.]~~

~~[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]~~

~~[5.7.15.12 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.12 NMAC, 7/15/2025]~~

~~[5.7.15.15]~~ **5.7.15.12 TERMINATION OF SCHOLARSHIPS:** ~~[Scholarship]~~ A scholarship is terminated upon the occurrence of:

A. withdrawal from the eligible institution by the award recipient~~;~~ or failure to re-enroll for consecutive academic ~~[years or failure to be a full-time graduate student;]~~ semesters or failure to maintain the required GPA and other qualifications for the scholarship; or

B. substantial noncompliance by the award recipient with the Graduate Scholarship Act or the rules~~;~~ regulations or procedures promulgated by the ~~[commission]~~ department.

~~[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]~~

~~[5.7.15.13 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.13 NMAC, 7/15/2025]~~

~~[5.7.15.16] _____ DELEGATION OF ADMINISTRATION: The commission may designate an administrative agent for this program. The administrative agent shall be responsible for disbursement of funds to participating institutions through the individual appointed by the institution as administrator for the scholarship program.]~~

~~[7/15/1998; Recompiled 10/31/2001]~~

~~[5.7.15.14 NMAC – Rp., 5.7.15.14 NMAC, 7/15/2025]~~

HISTORY OF 5.7.15 NMAC:

Pre-NMAC History: The material in this prt was derived from that previously filed with the State Records Center and Archives under:

CHE Rule 890, Graduate Fellowship Program - Administrative Regulations, 3/8/1990.

CHE Rule 890, Graduate Fellowship Program - Administrative Regulations, 8/15/1991.

CHE Rule 890, Graduate Fellowship Program - Administrative Regulations, 7/1/1993.

History of Repealed Material: [RESERVED]