

**PUBLIC RULE HEARING AND REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

The New Mexico Board of Optometry will hold a rule hearing on Friday, April 3, 2020, at 10:00 a.m. Following the rule hearing, the Board will convene a board meeting to determine if the Board will adopt the rules and take care of other regular business. The rule hearing and board meeting will be held at the Gaming Control Board, 4900 Alameda Blvd NE, Albuquerque, New Mexico, 87113 in the Conference Room.

The purpose of the rule hearing is to consider proposed amendments to the following rules:

16.16.3.9 NMAC – APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

16.16.4.9 NMAC – APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:

**Summary of Proposed Changes:**

**16.16.3.9 NMAC – APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

Current application requirements for licensure can be overly burdensome for candidates. These changes will expedite the process for all applicants and remove unnecessary hurdles to applying for licensure in New Mexico.

**16.16.4.9 NMAC – APPLICATION REQUIREMENTS:**

Current application requirements for licensure can be overly burdensome for candidates. These changes will expedite the process for all applicants and remove unnecessary hurdles to applying for licensure in New Mexico.

To obtain and review copies of the proposed changes you may go to the Board's website:

[http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/Optometry\\_Rules\\_and\\_Laws.aspx](http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/Optometry_Rules_and_Laws.aspx), or contact the Boards and Commissions Division at 505.476.4622.

The Board is currently accepting public comments on the proposed amendments. Please submit written comments on the proposed changes to Alexis Levy, Board Administrator, via electronic mail at [optometry.bd@state.nm.us](mailto:optometry.bd@state.nm.us) or by regular mail at P.O. Box 25101, Santa Fe, NM 87504, no later than Thursday, April 2, 2019. Persons will also be given the opportunity to present their comments at the rule hearing. All written comments will be posted to the Board's website at: [http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/Optometry\\_Rules\\_and\\_Laws.aspx](http://www.rld.state.nm.us/boards/Optometry_Rules_and_Laws.aspx), no more than three business days following receipt to allow for public view.

An individual with a disability who is in need of a reader, amplifier, qualified sign language interpreter, or other form of auxiliary aid or service to attend or participate in the hearing, please contact Alexis Levy, Board Administrator at (505) 476-4622.

**Statutory Authority:** Legal authority for this rulemaking can be found in the Optometry Act, NMSA 1978 Sections 61-2-1 through -18 which, among other provisions, specifically authorizes the Board to "adopt rules necessary to implement the provisions of the Optometry Act." Section 61-2-6(D), NMSA 1978.