

This is an amendment to 12.18.8 NMAC, Section 8, effective 03/29/2023.

12.18.8.8 LICENSING OF NONRESIDENT LENDERS:

A. When the proceeds of a small loan in the amount or of the value of [~~\$5,000~~] \$10,000 or less have been delivered to a New Mexico resident borrower by mail within New Mexico or have been otherwise made available to a New Mexico resident borrower within New Mexico, by a lender who solicited such small loan by mail or otherwise and the solicitation is received by a New Mexico resident in New Mexico, the loan is considered to have been made in New Mexico for the purposes of the New Mexico Small Loan Act of 1955, and both the lender and the loan are thereby subject to the provisions contained in said act. Any person making small loans under such circumstances is deemed to be engaging in the business of lending, as that term is used in Section 58-15-3 NMSA 1978, and the person must first have obtained a license from the director under the provisions of the New Mexico Small Loan Act of 1955 and this regulation if the person contracts for, exacts or receives, directly or indirectly on or in connection with the loan, charges, whether for interest, compensation, consideration or expense, which in the aggregate are greater than the maximum as provided by the applicable laws of New Mexico.

B. Such loans and licensees must comply with all the requirements and provisions contained in the New Mexico Small Loan Act of 1955, including the limitations on the maximum allowable charges contained in Section 58-15-14.1 NMSA 1978.

C. Such a loan made by a licensee under such conditions is not considered to have been made outside of New Mexico so as to be unenforceable under Section 58-15-24 NMSA 1978, even though the lender's place of business is located outside of New Mexico.

D. If a person applies for a small loan license in order to engage in the business of making small loans to resident borrowers solely from locations outside of New Mexico, the "community" in which the business of the applicant is to be conducted, as that term is used in Section 58-15-5 NMSA 1978, shall mean the geographic area, which may be statewide, in which the applicant proposes to solicit such small loans.

E. Upon the granting of a small loan license to a lender who indicates an intention to conduct a small loan business solely from locations outside of New Mexico, that lender shall establish and maintain a toll-free telephone service available in New Mexico to resident borrowers, or shall agree to accept collect calls at the lender's principal place of business from resident borrowers so that borrowers may contact the lender or his representatives concerning details of their loan transactions. Upon the delivery of the proceeds of such a small loan to a resident of New Mexico, the licensee shall immediately notify the borrower in writing of the existence of such toll-free telephone service, or of the agreement to accept collect calls.

F. If a licensee engages in the business of making small loans to New Mexico residents solely from locations outside of New Mexico, the director will conduct, in his discretion, the examinations authorized by Section 58-15-9 NMSA 1978, in either of two ways:

(1) the licensee may be required to make available to the director for examination at the offices of the director such of the loans, transactions, books, papers and records of the licensee, insofar as they pertain to the business licensed under the New Mexico Small Loan Act of 1955, as the director may deem necessary; or

(2) the examinations of the loans, transactions, books, papers and records of the licensee, insofar as they pertain to the business licensed under the New Mexico Small Loan Act of 1955, may be conducted by the director or the director's authorized representative at the licensee's principal place of business outside of New Mexico, and the licensee shall be required to pay to the director the actual and reasonable travel and living expenses incurred during such examinations for one examiner per examination. Said payments for expenses shall be in addition to such other fees and expenses as may be authorized under the New Mexico Small Loan Act of 1955. The director may require the licensee to pay such expenses prior to the examination.

[12.18.8.8 NMAC - Rp, 12.18.8.8 NMAC, 09/15/2018; A, 03/29/2023]