



NMPED -The Expanding Opportunities Project

Financial Assistance Opportunities for Counseling, Psychology, and Social Work Graduate Students

(Working in/Planning on Working in New Mexico Schools)

The New Mexico Public Education Department (NMPED) was awarded a five-year grant from the United States Department of Education focused on recruiting and retaining school behavioral health providers by offering financial assistance to qualifying students who complete graduate programs that lead to licensure and work in a participating rural school district. These districts include all New Mexico districts EXCEPT: Albuquerque, Farmington, Las Cruces, and Santa Fe.

The benefits of participation in the project include the following:

- Up to \$3,000 in tuition assistance for the first year; increased funds are available each year in project
 - Up to a \$10,000 stipend awarded to students completing a practicum/internship in a participating district and agreeing to 2 years of employment in that district or another participating district
 - Licensure fee/exam reimbursement of up to \$300
- Stipends for graduates working in a rural school setting - \$2,000 for the first year, increasing each year of participation in the project

Participating Universities: Eastern New Mexico University, New Mexico Highlands University, New Mexico State University, University of New Mexico and Western New Mexico University.

For more information and eligibility determination, please visit the New Mexico Expanding Opportunities Project Website: WWW.NMEOP.COM

NMPED EOP Coordinator - email [Jimmy Gibson](mailto:Jimmy.Gibson@nmped.org) or call 505-412-7666
High Plains REC EOP Coordinator - email [Marisa Aguirre](mailto:Marisa.Aguirre@nmped.org) or call 575-445-7090