

# NEVADA OFFICE OF WESTERN INTERSTATE COMMISSION FOR HIGHER EDUCATION (WICHE)



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## Informational Statement for Proposed Regulation of the Nevada State Commissioners of the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education, LCB File No. R188-22

1. A clear and concise explanation of the need for adopted regulation.

In the 2021 Nevada State Legislative Session Assembly Bill 247 was passed and signed into law which amended Nevada Revised Statutes (NRS) Chapter 397-Western Regional Education Compact. Sections of NRS 397 that were repealed related to program implementation, the process and requirements for petitioning the commission regarding required practice and loan repayment terms, interest rate and penalties. Such provisions were updated and moved to Nevada Administrative Code (NAC) 397. Additions to NAC 397 include updated definitions, program eligibility, and regulations addressing if a participant does not meet requirements.

2. A description of how public comment was solicited, a summary of public response, and explanation of how other interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

Copies of proposed regulations, notices of workshop and notices of intent to act upon regulation pursuant to NRS 233B were posted at:

- The Nevada Legislature website: <http://www.leg.state.nv.us/App/Notice/A/>
- Nevada WICHE website: <https://nvwiche.nevada.edu/>
- Nevada Public Notice Website: <https://notice.nv.gov>
- Nevada System of Higher Education: 2601 Enterprise Road, Reno, NV 89512
- Nevada System of Higher Education: 4300 S. Maryland Pkwy, Las Vegas, NV 89119

A workshop was held on September 15, 2023, and the minutes of that meeting, attached hereto, contain a summary of the discussion regarding proposed amendments. Thereafter on September 15, 2023, the Director of the Nevada Office of Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education (WICHE) issued a Notice of Intent to Act Upon a Regulation Hearing for October 19, 2023. A copy of the October 19, 2023, minutes from the hearing is attached. No public comment was provided at the September 15, 2023, workshop and the October 19, 2023, hearing.

3. The number of persons who:

- a. Attended each hearing, October 19, 2023 0
- b. Testified at each hearing, October 19, 2023 0
- c. Submitted to the agency written statements No written comments were submitted.

4. No list of names and contact information are provided since there was no one in attendance at the hearing outside of the Nevada WICHE Commissioners, Director of the Nevada Office of WICHE and Nevada WICHE legal counsel.

5. A description of how comments were solicited from affected businesses, summary of response, and explanation how other interested person may obtain copy of the summary.

See answer to number 6.

6. A determination of the effect whether proposed regulations had a direct and significant economic burden upon small business; or directly restrict the formation, operation, or expansion of a small business as well as how interested persons may obtain a copy of the summary.

Pursuant to NRS 233B.0608 sec. 1, the Nevada Office of WICHE made a concerted effort to determine whether the proposed regulations (LCB File No. R188-22) had a direct and significant economic burden upon a small business; or directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a small business. Based on the Nevada Office of WICHE mission to provide tuition assistance to individuals studying various allied health professions in exchange for employment commitments upon graduation it has been determined that these proposed regulations do not impose a direct and significant burden upon a small business or directly restrict the formation, operation or expansion of a small business. The proposed regulations apply to the participants in the Nevada Office of WICHE Professional Student Exchange (PSEP) and Health Profession Education Program (HPEP) under Nevada Revised Statute 397 which are individuals. Therefore, these regulations have no direct or significant impact on small business.

7. Was the regulation adopted without changing any part of the proposed regulation?

No, there was one change proposed by Nevada State Executive Commissioner Fred Lokken regarding Sec. 8 Number 2 striking the word "equal" and substituting "up". The Nevada State WICHE Commission approved all regulations and Sec. 8 Number 2 change on October 19, 2023.

8. The estimated economic effect of the regulation on the business which it is to regulate and on the public. These must be stated separately, and in each case must include:
  - a. Both adverse and beneficial effects; and
  - b. Both immediate and long-term effects;

See answer to number 6 regarding no direct impact on small business.

9. The estimated cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulation;

There is no additional cost to the agency for enforcement of the proposed regulations.

10. Description of regulations that duplicate other state or government agencies.

There is no duplication of other state or government agency regulations.

11. Does the proposed regulation provide a new fee or increase an existing fee?

The agency does not provide a fee for service.