

## Boarding homes have new rules

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Friday, 27 December 2019 02:44

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### Staff Reports

The New Mexico Department of Health has enacted emergency rules governing the licensure and regulation of boarding homes that residentially house individuals discharged from mental or behavioral health care institutions.

These rules are effective as of Dec. 5, and were put in place to protect the health, safety, and welfare of those currently residing in boarding homes. Any boarding home falling within the scope of these emergency rules must apply for a license within 30 days and meet basic health and safety requirements.

*“These emergency rules are absolutely necessary to address the immediate risks to life and safety experienced by certain residents of boarding homes in New Mexico,”* Department of Health Cabinet Secretary Kathy Kunkel said.

A permanent boarding home rule will be proposed and noticed to the public in February 2020. The public will have the opportunity to submit comments on the permanent rule at a public hearing to be scheduled in March 2020.