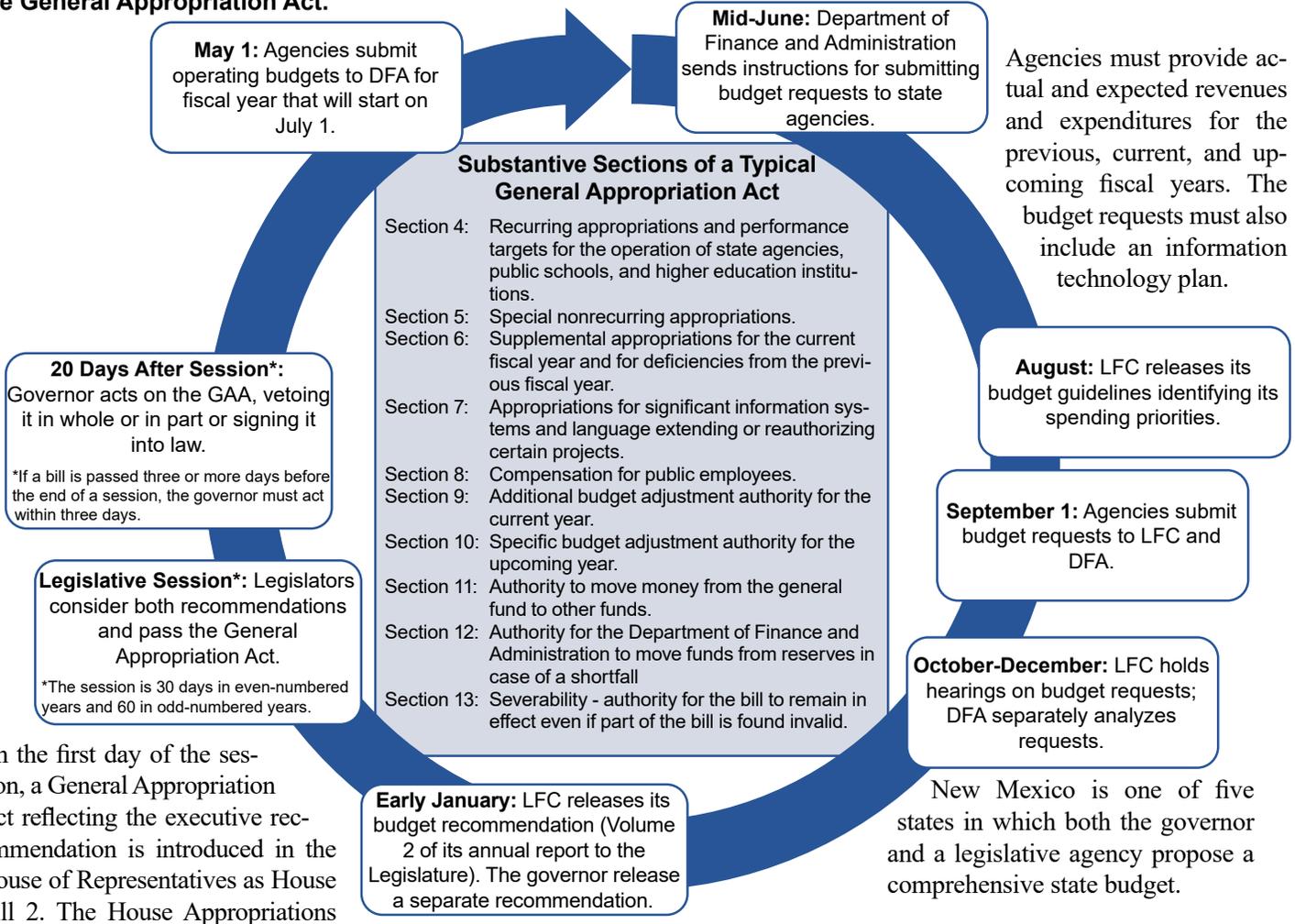




General Appropriation Act

New Mexico is constitutionally required to produce a balanced budget for each fiscal year, July 1 to June 30. To accomplish this, the Legislative Finance Committee works with the executive to develop a consensus revenue estimate, and LFC and executive budget staff work within these constraints to create separate budget recommendations. The recommendations are considered by the Legislature and, with the governor's signature, enacted as the General Appropriation Act.



On the first day of the session, a General Appropriation Act reflecting the executive recommendation is introduced in the House of Representatives as House Bill 2. The House Appropriations and Finance Committee, where consideration traditionally starts, compares the legislative and executive proposals and alters the bill to reflect legislative priorities. The transportation section, and sometimes other sections, starts as separate legislation and is then rolled into a committee substitute bill for consideration by the full House. (The “feed bill” funding the Legis-

lature is passed separately, usually early in the session.) Generally, following passage in the House, the Senate Finance Committee amends the House bill and submits it to the full Senate, and it then goes back to the House for approval of the amendments. If necessary, a bicameral conference committee negotiates the dif-

ferences, creates a new substitute bill, and submits it to both chambers for final approval.

For More Information:

- Constitutional provisions related to the budget include Sections 16 and 22 of Article IV and Section 7 of Article IX.
- The LFC budget recommendation is available online: https://www.nmlegis.gov/Entity/LFC/Session_Publications
- The General Appropriation Act (usually House Bill 2) and related legislation can be found through the legislative bill finder: https://www.nmlegis.gov/Legislation/Bill_Finder