

§ 700.313

licensed to practice in any Hopi or Navajo Tribal Court.

§ 700.313 Evidence and procedure.

(a) At the hearing and taking of evidence the Applicant shall have an opportunity to:

(1) Submit and have considered facts, witnesses, arguments, offers of settlement, or proposals of adjustment;

(2) Be represented by a lawyer or other representative as provided herein;

(3) Have produced Commission evidence relative to the determination, *Provided*, that the scope of pre-hearing discovery of evidence shall be limited to relevant matters as determined by the Presiding Officer;

(4) Examine and cross-examine witnesses;

(5) Receive a transcript of the hearing on request and upon payment of appropriate Commission fees as published by the Commission, which may be waived in cases of indigency.

(b) The Presiding Officer is empowered to:

(1) Administer oaths and affirmations;

(2) Rule on offers of proof;

(3) Receive relevant evidence;

(4) Take depositions or have depositions taken when the ends of justice would be served and to permit other pre-hearing discovery within his/her discretion;

(5) Regulate the course and conduct of the hearings; including pre-hearing procedures;

(6) Hold pre-hearing or post-hearing conferences for the settlement or simplification of the issues;

(7) Dispose of procedural requests or similar matters;

(8) Make a record of the proceedings;

(9) Hold the record open for submission of evidence no longer than fourteen days after completion of the hearings;

(10) Make or recommend a decision in the case based upon evidence, testimony, and argument presented;

(11) Enforce the provisions of 5 USCA section 557(d) in the event of a violation thereof;

(12) Issue subpoenas authorized by law; and

25 CFR Ch. IV (4-1-03 Edition)

(13) Extend any time period of this subpart upon his/her own motion or upon motion of the applicant, for good cause shown.

§ 700.315 Post-hearing briefs.

Applicants may submit post-hearing briefs or written comments to the Presiding Officer within fourteen days after conclusion of the hearings. In the event of multiple applicants or parties to a hearing, such briefs shall be served on all such applicants by the applicant submitting the brief.

§ 700.317 Presiding officer decisions.

(a) The Presiding Officer shall submit to the Commission a written decision based upon the evidence and argument presented, within *sixty* days, not including any period the record is held open, if any, after conclusion of the hearing, unless otherwise extended by the Presiding Officer.

(b) Copies of the Presiding Officer's decision shall be mailed to the Applicant. The Applicant may submit briefs or other written argument to the Commission within fourteen days of the date the Presiding Officer's determination was mailed to the Applicant.

§ 700.319 Final agency action.

Within 30 (thirty) days after receipt of the Presiding Officer's decision, the Commission shall affirm or reverse the decision and issue its final agency action upon the application in writing; *Provided*, that in the event one Commissioner sits as the Presiding Officer, the final agency action shall be determined by the remaining Commissioners and such other person as they may designate who did not so preside over the hearing. Such decisions shall be communicated in writing to the Applicant by certified mail.

§ 700.321 Direct appeal to Commissioners.

Commission determinations concerning issues other than individual eligibility or benefits which do not require a hearing may be appealed directly to the Commission in writing. The Commission decision will constitute final agency action on such issues.