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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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## State Approves Job Training Funds for 575 Trainees

*JTIP helps keep jobs in New Mexico*

**SANTA FE, N.M.** – The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) board approved \$2.8 million in funding to 15 companies to train and upskill a total of 575 employees, Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes announced.

This tranche of companies approved at the April JTIP board meeting included three that have never applied for JTIP funding before, DeeDee's Finest Beef Jerky in Española and Pronto Signs and Solstar Space Company in Santa Fe. Additionally, of the 15 awarded companies, six of them have received JTIP funding only once before.

"JTIP is a proven tool to help businesses create jobs and keep them in New Mexico," Keyes said. "This month's recipients are a great example of how we are working to support companies of all sizes and in every corner of the state."

Companies awarded include many hiring for high-paying jobs, with salaries ranging from \$51-88 per hour, as well as and companies who are hiring large numbers of local employees.

The 15 companies receiving April 2021 JTIP funding are:

**BennuBio Inc.**, Albuquerque, 10 trainees and 1 intern. BennuBio is a growing biotechnology startup, that provides cellular and particle diagnostic instrumentation for markets, including biomedical diagnostic via flow cytometry.

*Average trainee wage: \$36; Average intern wage: \$17.50; Total awarded: 201,452*

**BMR Corp. (dba Pronto Signs)**, Santa Fe, 1 trainee. Pronto Signs is a vinyl sign shop, running four large format roll printers, two flatbed printers, CNC table, and two large cutting plotters.

*Average wage: \$21.75; Total awarded: \$11,440*

**The Boeing Company**, Albuquerque, 2 trainees. Boeing is the world's largest aerospace company and leading manufacturer of commercial jetliners, defense, space, and security systems.

*Average wage: \$51.92; Total awarded: \$59,396.48*

**Compass Made Inc.**, Deming, 7 trainees. Compass Made is a leading provider of electromechanical manufacturing and assembly, cable and harness design, engineering, and manufacturing. They serve the transportation, semiconductor, industrial, entertainment, and energy sectors.

Compass Made was awarded a Step Up Grant to upskill seven of its current employees. The Step Up Program is an aspect of JTIP that specifically serves incumbent employees and their employers through training and reimbursements.

*Total awarded: \$8,875*

**DeeDee's Finest Beef Jerky LLC**, Española, 8 trainees. DeeDee's is a family-owned business that produces high quality beef jerky. Due to increased demand, the company needs to expand operations.

*Average wage: \$13.07; Total awarded: \$50,392*

**Faneuil Inc.**, Albuquerque, 125 trainees. Faneuil provides a broad array of business process outsourcing solutions, from customer care to technical support, to several industry sectors. They employ more than 7,000 people nationwide, with 351 employees in New Mexico.

*Average wage: \$13.44; Total awarded: \$426,300*

**General Airframe Support Inc.**, Roswell, 16 trainees. General Airframe Support relocated to Roswell from Stuttgart, AZ in 2017. It is an accredited distributor of aircraft parts, and in the disassembly and recycling of aircraft.

*Average wage: \$20.32; Total awarded: \$170,312.40*

**LoadPath LLC**, Albuquerque, 2 trainees. LoadPath specializes in designing and building components and structures for satellites and launch operations. Products and services that utilize LoadPath's unique capabilities include space mechanisms, multi-payload launch adapters, structural testing, deployable composite space structures, and more.

*Average wage: \$52.75; Total awarded: \$69,346*

**Marlowe Corp. (dba Mass Market NM)**, Las Cruces, 360 trainees. Mass Market NM is a global leader in outsourced call center services, offering flexibility and contingency plans for their customers.

*Average wage: \$14.01; Total awarded: \$883,640*

**Solstar Space Company LLC**, Santa Fe, 2 trainees. Solstar is the world's first in-flight internet of things service provider for astronauts and space. It is the leading commercial satellite communications company pioneering technology for inflight internet and voice services on spacecraft.

*Average wage: \$88; Total awarded: \$101,922*

**Sombra Cosmetics Inc.**, Albuquerque, 2 trainees. Sombra manufactures pain relief gels and hand sanitizers. It created a product called Sombra Natural Pain-Relieving Gel, which is unique due to its purity, composition, and performance.

*Average wage: \$24.13; Total awarded: \$25,340*

**Specifica Inc.**, Los Alamos, 4 trainees. Specifica's Generation 3 Antibody Library Platform provides detailed information which empowers its customers to generate antibody drugs against any target, to create cures for any disease.

*Average wage: \$30.94; Total awarded: \$68,490.48*

**Theta Plate Inc.**, Albuquerque, 1 trainee. Theta Plate is a family-owned and operated business focused on high quality precious metal electroplating. The company provides material analysis, thickness measurement, and consulting services.

*Average wage: \$19; Total awarded: \$7,792.50*

**Torc Robotics Inc. (TORC)**, Albuquerque, 30 trainees. TORC is an independent subsidiary of Daimler Truck AG. It offers a complete self-driving vehicle software and

integration solution and is currently focusing on commercializing self-driving trucks. The Albuquerque location serves as a test center.

*Average wage: \$40; Total awarded: \$642,239.28*

**UbiQD**, Los Alamos, 4 trainees. UbiQD is an advanced materials company that manufactures high-performance, cadmium-free quantum dots and composite materials. Its first commercial product, UbiGro, is a layer of light that uses fluorescence to create a more optimal greenhouse spectrum for crops, leading to faster growth and higher yields.

*Average wage: \$38.47; Total awarded: \$89,019.36*

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*Torc Robotics and Daimler Trucks are testing self-driving trucks near Albuquerque*



*Sombra Cosmetics has been in business in Albuquerque for 45 years*

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