



# EDD

ECONOMIC  
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DEPARTMENT

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

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Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham  
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**Job Training Funds Awarded to 11 New Mexico companies**  
*361 workers will be trained in jobs from outdoor rec, aerospace, robotics,  
energy, manufacturing, and bioscience industries*

**Santa Fe, N.M.** – The New Mexico Economic Development Department has kicked off its first round of job training funding of 2020 by awarding \$2.7 million to offset the cost of training 361 new employees and 5 interns at 11 companies, Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes announced Friday.

The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) Board awarded the funding on Jan. 10 to a remarkable range of unique and innovative businesses in New Mexico from defense and solar energy to outdoor recreation, aerospace, health care, and robotics. Many of the positions are high-wage, and some create rural or frontier jobs, earning the companies an additional 5% award.

“We are seeing new start-ups and returning companies continue to thrive, in part due to the support they receive from JTIP,” Cabinet Secretary Keyes said. “As the job market tightens, training becomes a more important tool to create higher paying jobs and diversify New Mexico’s economy.”

The January awards went to the following businesses:

- **3D Glass Solutions** (Albuquerque), 10 trainees - an innovative 3D radio frequency passive device design and manufacturing company, has plans to expand to 139 total employees over the next few years.
- **Affordable Solar** (Albuquerque), 21 trainees - continues to grow in both the residential, light commercial, and industrial & utility sectors at a remarkable rate. The company began its expansion after securing a contract for FB Solar Farms and will be hiring at all levels.
- **Best Deal Retailer** (BDR) (Albuquerque), 14 trainees and 1 intern - a spinoff of Sport Systems, the premier shop for skiing, snowboarding, bicycling, and running equipment, has developed a technology to demonstrate to customers the value of goods and services that close the gap between the online price and that of the local retailer. BDR anticipates growing to 50 employees by 2022.
- **Build With Robots LLC** (BWR) (Albuquerque), 2 trainees and 2 interns - located within the Central New Mexico Community College FUSE Makerspace, BWR is

developing innovative solutions and incubating new business ventures that leverage robotic automation.

- **CAVU Aerospace, Inc.** (Roswell), 37 trainees - one of the world's leading providers of aircraft asset management, disassembly, and recycling services, will be expanding to meet the needs of its customers.
- **Electric Playhouse, Inc.** (Albuquerque), 5 trainees - an indoor immersive experiential center that combines the physical and digital worlds in fun and engaging ways, plans to franchise the concept shortly after opening. JTIP will support manufacturing jobs related to the expansion.
- **Kane Robotics, Inc.** (Albuquerque), 2 trainees and 2 interns - a new spinoff of Kane Aerospace in Chino, CA, announced in January 2019 that it selected Albuquerque for the company's new headquarters. Kane Robotics will hire and train 20 new employees over the next two years using technology developed in partnership with Build With Robots located at Fuse Makerspace.
- **NTxBio, LLC** (Santa Fe), 12 trainees - a bioinformatics and biomanufacturing startup company that develops and advances a unique platform for research-scale to mid-scale, host-independent, biological manufacturing, located at Santa Fe Community College's Trades and Advanced Technology Center.
- **Ridgeline Manufacturing & Engineering, Inc.** (Sandia Park), 2 trainees - producing parts for custom machining on CNC Lathes and Mills, in 2019, Ridgeline expanded their customer base and work orders by 25%.
- **Stampede Meat, Inc.** (Sunland Park), 254 trainees - a leading provider of portion-controlled protein solutions, purchased a 142k square foot facility in Sunland Park, the largest of the Stampede Meat facilities with the capacity to process and prepare 100 million pounds of meat when the facility is fully staffed later this year.
- **Tactical Application Vehicles, LLC** (TAV) (Albuquerque), 2 trainees - building fully functional, high-end expedition vehicles, retrofitting Toyota Tacomas, 4Runners, Tundras, and Land Cruisers, has increased the number of builds by at least 25% each year since it started.

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*The New Mexico Economic Development Department's mission is to improve the lives of New Mexico families by increasing economic opportunities and providing a place for businesses to thrive.*

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