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State Job Training Funds Approved for up to 145 Trainees

March JTIP Awardees Announced

SANTA FE, N.M. – The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP), an initiative of the New Mexico Economic Development Department (EDD), has approved funding in March 2023 for up to 145 trainees with a total potential award of over \$1.5 million, announced EDD Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes.

Allocated JTIP funds are paid after all employee training is complete. The program encourages companies to move to, stay in, and/or grow in New Mexico and to hire New Mexican employees. The number of companies awarded this month was small, five total, but very impactful. Each of the businesses has received prior awards and these new applications are proof that the companies' plans of growth are coming to fruition.

"EDD is pleased to help support local companies as they expand and add new employees. This month's applications come from Las Cruces, Santa Teresa, Rio Rancho, Albuquerque, and Los Alamos," Secretary Keyes said. "The program's success is evident with the potential of 145 new high-paying jobs that will build economic security for New Mexico families."

These awardees are representative of the target industries that Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham has singled out for diversifying and strengthening the state's economy. They include intelligent manufacturing, biosciences, and even technology that will improve agricultural outcomes. "It's everything from corrugated boxes to quantum dots, a true indication of the diversity in our state," Secretary Keyes added.

The five awardees for March include:

<u>Electronic Caregiver, Inc.</u>, Las Cruces, 73 trainees at an average wage of \$23.18 for a total award of \$628,403.60. Electronic Caregiver, Inc. (ECG) is a privately held digital health technology and service company. The company's mission is to design and deliver innovative, impactful telehealth products and services such as remote patient monitoring, chronic care management, and virtual visits that bridge the chasm between the doctor's office and patient's home to improve outcomes, expand access, and deliver value-based care.

<u>Franklin Mountain Packaging, LLC</u>, Santa Teresa, 55 trainees at an average wage of \$17.39 for a total award of \$565,201.60. Franklin Mountain Packaging (FMP) is a newly formed company engaged in the manufacturing of corrugated sheets and providing unique

digital printing services for the corrugated box-making industry. FMP will target sheet converting plants in the Southwestern US and the maquiladoras and Mexican domestic market.

<u>Nature's Toolbox Inc., dba: NTx</u>, Rio Rancho, 15 trainees at an average wage of \$36.88 for a total award of \$301,069.56. NTx is a bioinformatics and biomanufacturing company that has developed a Next-Generation Cell Free system for RNA and protein production – a novel biologics platform. NTx's technology is set to radically transform the manufacture of vaccines and biologics. Because the platform does not rely on cellular fermentation, it enables rapid production and purification of vaccines and biologics.

<u>TS-Nano Sealants Inc.</u>, Albuquerque, 1 trainee at wage of \$43.27 for a total award of \$24,750.44. TS-Nano Sealants (TS-Nano) focuses on designing, manufacturing, and applying very durable nano-modified sealants that bond extremely well to a variety of subsurfaces to seal against Green House Gas (GHG) emissions.

<u>UbiQD, Inc.</u>, Los Alamos, 1 trainee at wage of \$96.16 for a total award of \$56,253.52. UbiQD is an advanced materials company that manufactures high-performance cadmiumfree quantum dots and composite materials. UbiQD offers products that utilize quantum dots which are incredibly small pieces of material with photoluminescence. The company's first commercial product, UbiGro®, is a luminescent layer of light that uses fluorescence to create a more optimal greenhouse spectrum for crops. The film shifts the colors of sunlight to make plants grow faster and improves crop yield.



Electronic Caregiver employee training



UbiQD Quantum Dot Material

EDD's mission is to improve the lives of New Mexico families by increasing economic opportunities and providing a place for businesses to thrive. EDD's programs contribute directly to this mission by training our workforce, providing infrastructure that supports business growth, and helping every community create a thriving economy.

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