

New Mexico Quantum Technologies Award Pilot Program

The New Mexico Quantum Technologies Award (NMQTA) Pilot Program is a competitive state-funded grant that awards non-dilutive funds to early-stage companies working in quantum technologies that are located in New Mexico or establishing a presence in New Mexico.

Through this award, the New Mexico Economic Development Department ultimately seeks to support the growth or relocation of quantum technology companies in New Mexico in order to expand economic-base businesses and create jobs.

Applicants must affirm their ability to establish a company presence in New Mexico should they be selected for an award. Award funds must go toward company activity in New Mexico, and awardees will agree to maintain their company presence in the state for a minimum of two years.

Award

The NMQTA Pilot Program is a competitive grant opportunity. The department seeks to make five awards of \$100,000 each. Milestones must be planned to be completed by June 30, 2025. Awards made by this pilot program may not be first money in – required application information will include previously-secured funding from additional sources.

Eligibility

Eligible applicants:

- Must have a company formed that has received a previous form of outside funding
- Must affirm ability to establish a company presence in New Mexico by June 30, 2025 – company presence in New Mexico includes having a NM CRS Tax ID, a physical NM address, EIN number, and employees physically present and working in New Mexico
- Must agree to maintain company presence in New Mexico for two years
- Must certify they do not have overdue tax debt and are not party to any claim or lawsuit
- Must agree to all reporting and claw-back requirements

Evaluation criteria and application

Eligible proposals will be those that demonstrate the potential and plan to develop and grow business in the quantum technology field, including technologies that rely on quantum superposition or quantum entanglement, or that enable those technologies.

Award funds may not be first money in – evaluation criteria will include the proportion of previously-secured funding from additional sources, with documentation required. The award application will include an executive summary, slide deck, budget for award funds, capitalization table, and business plan.

Applications will be submitted via online portal and will be evaluated by the Office of Strategy, Science and Technology and the New Mexico Technology Research Collaborative Board. In considering proposals, the TRC Board will consider factors that may include:

- Team experience and expertise

- Market and market growth
- Associated risks and planned strategies to address such risks
- Competition
- Prior investment
- Likelihood for future investment
- Intellectual property status
- Other factors deemed relevant by the TRC Board

Award use

Work proposed to be completed with award funds must further company activity within New Mexico. Award funds may not be used for alcohol, drugs, or food. No more than 40% of the total awarded funds may be used for payroll expenses. No more than 10% of the total awarded funds may be used to attend trade shows or conferences.

Grant agreement

As part of the award contract, grantees will be required to agree to maintain a company presence in New Mexico for two years following execution of the grant award. Violation of the agreement will give the State the right to initiate clawbacks of the awarded funds.

Grantees must agree to, when asked by EDD, provide (non-financial) support and/or testimonials as to the value and impact of the financial support they are awarded.

Grantees must agree to include the EDD logo on their website and marketing materials as appropriate.

Applicants awarded EDD grants in prior years must be in good standing with the department to be considered for additional funding.

Project reporting

Grantees will be required to submit quarterly updates on the use of the funds and the project status – this reporting will be required annually for two years following completion of the award. Upon completion of the Scope of Work, grantees must submit a final report, to be received no later than June 30, 2025. The final report will include final project costs and expenditures, the use of grant funds, measures of project outcomes, and a description of the project's impact on the state.

Timeline

The New Mexico Quantum Technologies Award Pilot Program will be accepting applications on a rolling basis **beginning December 5, 2024 through April 30, 2025**. Awards will be made depending on application evaluation and funding availability. All awarded scopes of work must be completed by **June 30, 2025**.