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State seeks proposals for \$25M investment in quantum technologies

ALBUQUERQUE — The New Mexico Economic Development Department's Office of Strategy, Science and Technology is seeking proposals to deploy \$25 million in state funds to establish and operate a quantum venture studio and a physical space aimed at accelerating quantum technology innovation and commercialization.

"By leading the way in technology and innovation, New Mexico is charting a course toward a prosperous future," **Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham** said. "With top-tier resources like our national labs and research institutions, advanced talent, and a growing quantum ecosystem, we've established a robust hub that will drive progress and transform our communities."

The funding will drive near-term results in increasing quantum industry activity in New Mexico and to lay a foundation for future investments that will accelerate continued growth. Appropriated to the Economic Development Department during the 2025 legislative session, the funds align with the state's focus on transforming New Mexico's core competencies in quantum and boosting technological advancement, industry development, and regional, national, and international leadership.

"New Mexico is becoming the quantum state, and this builds on our deep expertise and capabilities in this innovative field," EDD Secretary **Rob Black** said. "Our investments today ensure our position at the forefront of real-world innovation and industry transformation."

In 2024, New Mexico partnered with Colorado and Wyoming as part of the Elevate Quantum consortium — which also includes Sandia and Los Alamos National Laboratories, the University of New Mexico, and Central New Mexico Community College — to secure designation as the first and only funded Quantum Tech Hub in the federal Economic Development Administration Tech Hubs program.

The state is also supporting the New Mexico Quantum Moonshot, a proposal to the National Science Foundation's Regional Innovation Engines program focused on advancing dual-use quantum technologies that address national security and civilian needs in clean energy, materials science, and communications.

The Request for Proposals seeks projects that integrate physical infrastructure with programmatic and financial support mechanisms to stimulate startup formation, private investment, talent attraction, and technology commercialization in quantum information science. A total of \$25 million is available, with up to \$12.5 million to develop a physical space or facility for innovation and commercialization of quantum technologies and up to \$12.5 million for the operation of a quantum venture studio. The funding will be awarded competitively under one contract, with the expectation that multiple entities will collaborate to achieve the contract's goals.

Interested parties should consult the RFP document for all relevant information at <u>edd.newmexico.gov/public-notices</u>.

Proposals are due **June 24, 2025**. A pre-proposal conference will be held on June 5, 2025.

The RFP and the resulting contract will be managed by the EDD Office of Strategy, Science & Technology, soon to transition into the new Technology and Innovation Office.

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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 funding workforce training and providing infrastructure that supports business growth, helping every community create a thriving economy.

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