

The Pathfinder

Includes the "Resource Wrap-Up"



June 9, 2025

FROM THE SECRETARY



Hello and welcome to the first edition of *The Pathfinder*! Creating pathways to prosperity is what economic development is all about. It's about building a New Mexico where business, innovation, and our families all thrive together.

In this issue, you'll get a glimpse at three recent milestones set to shape the future of economic development in our state: our new **Site and Power Readiness Plan** that are clearing the way for businesses to hit the ground running, **NMexus**, the business accelerator that's opening new channels for global investment, and our recently launched **Technology & Innovation**

Office (TIO) that will keep New Mexico trailblazing into the future.

That's just a snapshot of what's to come as *The Pathfinder* continues, because as we move forward on this journey together, we're forging new routes to economic success for all of us.

Rob Black
Cabinet Secretary, NM Economic Development Department

NEWS



Site & Power Readiness

Two important pieces of legislation were passed to help give NM a leg up on the competition when businesses decide where to expand or move. Both site and power readiness will help us become the destination of choice for job-rich companies.

In the news: [A big win for New Mexico: MLG signs site-readiness bills into law](#)

Read: "Shovel-ready" bills to boost business growth

NMexus: A permanent pipeline for foreign investment

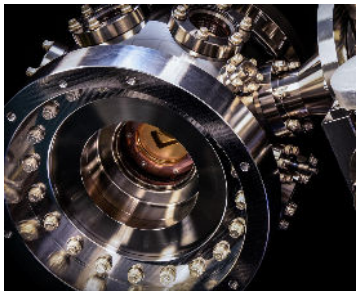
The new NMexus ("*Mexus*") Center in Albuquerque is a direct



result of recent trade missions by the governor and other state leaders. The center will provide a permanent pipeline for foreign investment, create local jobs, and offer a one-stop-shop to enter the US market. In addition to the 7 companies who already signed up, \$100,000 in investments were announced at the ribbon cutting on May 19.

In the news: [State's new global commerce hub attracts \\$100M commitment from Indian business group](#)

Read: NMexus ribbon cutting



The future starts here! New division will fuel next-gen business & innovation

The 2025 Legislature established the new Technology & Innovation Office within EDD, including \$90M in new funding.

In the news: [New Mexico launches \\$90M tech and innovation office - Albuquerque Business First](#)

Read: EDD launches new division

EDD OPPORTUNITIES

SBIR Matching Grant accepting applications

Small Business Innovation Grant matches money awarded through Federal SBIR/STTR grants. Deadline is June 10. edd.newmexico.gov/SBIR

Creative Industries Season 2025

Events throughout New Mexico to highlight and support our vibrant creative economy! Runs through June 15.

edd.newmexico.gov/creative-industries-season-2025

Public members sought for Technology & Innovation Board

The board will provide recommendations, ensure active engagement between the state and relevant private sectors, and assist with the administration of the Research, Development, and Deployment Fund. Applications due by June 30.

forms.monday.com/forms/2f495eb8777719fd6f789e675d0be4ad?r=use1

RFP EDD-QUANTUM-FY26: \$25M investment in quantum technologies

[Physical Infrastructure and Venture Studio for New Mexico Quantum Business and Industry Growth](#). Proposal Due Date: June 24, 2025. edd.newmexico.gov/public-notice

Outdoor Equity Fund

This grant supports transformative outdoor experiences that foster stewardship and respect for New Mexico's lands, waters, and cultural heritage while connecting youth to outdoor recreation career pathways. Join one of our informational webinars on June 12 or July 15. Apply by July 31. nmoutside.com/grants/outdoor-equity-fund

RESOURCE WRAP-UP



Resource Highlight: New Mexico Food Pathways

New Mexico Food Pathways helps local food businesses take the next step with tailored support to become SNAP-authorized, expand their operations, and increase access to healthy, affordable food in underserved communities.

This program serves food businesses, like grocery stores, farmers markets, food co-ops, and rural food retailers, and businesses planning to expand into direct-to-consumer sales. Find out more and apply at www.nmfoodpathways.org.

For Businesses

NM Edge Ops Microgrant

\$2,500 microgrant for consulting services focused on streamlining operations, enhancing market strategy, and tech readiness. Accepted on a rolling basis through September 2025.

Governor's Commission on Disability Quality of Life Small Grants Program

Provides small grants to nonprofits to improve or enhance programs and services that increase quality of life of all New Mexicans with disabilities. Deadline: June 16.

BizSprint Meat Processors

Applications are now open for Meat Processor Sprint, a FREE, 6-week business support program for meat processing-related businesses. Deadline June 17.

Verizon's Digital Ready Program

Free online courses, coaching sessions, and networking opportunities, as well as the chance to receive a \$10,000 grant. Deadline: June 30.

RDC Micro-Grant Fund

Provides a small infusion of capital to help businesses diversify, sustain or grow revenue, leverage investments, and put systems in place that lead to growth. Deadline: June 30. Information session June 12.

PNM Non-Traditional Education Pathway Grant

For programs that focus on STEAM education and provide foundational learning supports like housing and food access for underserved communities. Deadline: June 30.

Specialty Crop Block Grant

Leverages efforts to market and promote; assists producers with research and development; expands availability and access; and addresses local, regional, and national challenges for producers of specialty crops. Deadline: July 7.

For Communities & Nonprofits

Federal Funds Information for States

FFIS monitors executive actions and provides information regarding federal grants to the public.

NM's Capital Hub Connect

A community of practice around infrastructure projects in NM. Sessions are live online on the 4th Monday of each month at 2:30 pm.

Farmers Market Promotion Program

Supports direct producer-to-consumer marketing such as farmers markets, roadside stands, agritourism, community-supported agriculture programs, or online sales. Deadline: June 27.

Rural Economic Development Loan & Grant Programs

USDA provides zero-interest loans to local utilities, which, in turn, pass through to local businesses for projects that will create and retain employment in rural areas. Deadline: June 30.

Educate2Elevate Grant

Focuses on food access and community support for immigrant families in educational spaces. Organizations are encouraged to use a

Upcoming Events

Jun 10 | [Creating or Improving Your Free Company Page on LinkedIn](#)
Jun 10 | [The Power of Follow-Up: Building Trust and Staying On Top of Mind](#)
Jun 11 | [Fundraising for Non-Profits - Basics](#)
Jun 11-13 | [Atomic 66: A Convergence of Space, Art, Tech and Culture](#) (Albuquerque)
June 16 | [Marketing vs. Branding](#)
Jun 16 | [Small Business Success: Mastering the Essentials](#)
Jun 17 | [Intellectual Property Webinar Series: Trademarks, Copyrights, Patents and Expert Insights](#)
Jun 18 | [Artificial Intelligence and the Impact to Agricultural Enterprises and Small Businesses](#)
Jun 23 | [Capital Hub Connect: Grants Lifecycle Management](#)
Jun 28 | [Capital Hub Connect: You Got Capital Outlay, Now What?](#)
Jun 30 | [Packaging and Labeling](#)

Ongoing & On-Demand Events

[NM Small Business Administration \(NMSBA\) Events](#)
[NM Small Business Development Center Trainings and Webinars](#)
[N.M. Tax and Revenue New Businesses and New Employers workshops](#)
[NM Taxation and Revenue overview of tax programs](#)
[US and Foreign Commercial Service Trade Events](#)
[Albuquerque SCORE Webinars](#)
[Business Training and Workshops - WESST](#)

Visit our YouTube channel to view previously recorded EDD webinars:
www.youtube.com/@newmexicoeconomicdevelopment

We love to hear from you!

- Submit resources for the Pathfinder newsletter to edd.wrapup@edd.nm.gov
- List a business or community resource on our Resource Map at edd.newmexico.gov/resource-map
- Add an event to our calendar at edd.newmexico.gov/events



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