

The Pathfinder



July 2, 2025

FROM THE SECRETARY



As we head toward the midpoint of 2025, it's a great time to share some milestones that reflect our momentum as we continue creating pathways of prosperity for all New Mexicans.

Earlier this month, I had the honor of joining leaders from our Nations, Tribes, and Pueblos at the annual **State Tribal Leaders Summit**. It was a great opportunity to explore ways to ensure our economic development resources reach all communities.

There was a major new announcement in clean energy: a next-gen **geothermal plant** that will bring 150 megawatts of renewable power online, securing our place at the forefront of the energy transition.

We're also celebrating a successful **NM Film & Media Conference**, which underscored our state's status as a powerhouse in film and digital arts.

As always, thank you for your partnership in building a more inclusive and innovative New Mexico economy.

Rob Black
Cabinet Secretary, NM Economic Development Department

NEWS



State Tribal Leaders Summit

The Tribal Leaders Summit brought together leaders, business owners, and community partners from Tribal communities along with state leadership, including Gov. Lujan Grisham and EDD Secretary Black.

Ideas and concerns were shared and state leadership explored ways to make programs more accessible to all communities.

In the news: [Navajo Nation Speaker Discusses Federal Budget Impacts During New Mexico Tribal Leaders Summit](#)

Read: Gov Lujan Grisham Press Release
2025 State Tribal Leaders Summit

Geothermal Energy



Secretary Black joined with Gov. Lujan Grisham to announce that Meta and XGS Energy are partnering to build a water-independent geothermal energy site capable of producing 150 megawatts to NM.

The project will have a strong and long-lasting effect on the future of our state's economy. "That is what this story today tells to the rest of the world: When you want to grow in a way that is climate-responsible, New Mexico is the place where you want to invest and grow," Black said.

According to Project InnerSpace's newly published report, [The Future of Geothermal in New Mexico](#), The Land of Enchantment hits the trifecta of subsurface heat, oil & gas and traditional geothermal expertise, and political will to act.

In the news: [Meta, energy company announce plans for geothermal plant in New Mexico](#)

Read: Governor announces XGS Energy, Meta geothermal partnership

2025 NM Film & Media Conference



The Film & Media Conference offered an engaging platform for discussions, presentations, NM crews and film-related companies.

By the numbers:

- 479 registered attendees
- Over 600 total participants
- 24 vendors
- 9 sponsors
- 30 Katharsis Media apprentices/CNM film students
- 30 volunteers
- 26 panelists
- 18 Film Liaisons
- 12 Film Educators
- *and more*



View the reel: [NM Film & Media Conference: A Resounding Success!](#)

Check out: 2025 NM Film & Media Conference photos

EDD OPPORTUNITIES

GRANTS

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

Trails+ Grant

This grant supports programs that enhance outdoor recreation opportunities through the planning, development, and improvement of trails and related infrastructure. The next deadline is Sept 30. nmoutside.com/grants/trails-plus

EDD JOB OPPORTUNITIES:

Technology & Innovation Office Business Operations Analyst (Albuquerque)

Apply by July 9

Job ID 155934

ED Programs Support Specialist (Albuquerque)

Apply by July 15

Job ID 156074

Learn more at edd.newmexico.gov/careers

RESOURCE WRAP-UP



Resource Highlight:

ActivatOR Outdoor Business Accelerator

Take the next step to grow your outdoor business with this free 12-week bootcamp!

Whether you're a guide, outdoor gear designer, bike shop owner, or running any other outdoor-focused venture, this program offers expert guidance, industry insights, and valuable connections to help you thrive.

Apply by July 18 at activatenm.com/activator



For Businesses

Small Business Health Insurance Premium Relief Update

15% premium discounts for Gold and Platinum-level health plans, up from the current 10%. Bronze and Silver-level plans will continue to benefit from the 10% discount.

Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund

For Communities & Nonprofits

Disaster Resource Center & Support Hotline

Daniel Fernandez Recreation Center, 1103 Hwy 314, Los Lunas for residents impacted by the Desert Willow Complex fires. Case managers are also available at the Grant County Business & Conference Center, 3031 US-180, Silver City. The State Disaster Helpline can be reached at 1-833-663-4736.

Offers loans at a fixed rate of 2% to cover energy efficiency upgrades in commercial buildings that serve a community purpose.

[Rural Health Care Delivery Fund](#)

Provides financial support to rural Medicaid providers, helping to offset operational costs in the expansion of essential health care services.

[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.

[NMSU's Capital Raise Sprint](#)

Virtual program provides support for early-stage startups, including TechSprints, startup accelerators, assistance with SBIR/STTR, pitch competitions, financing bootcamps, events, and commercialization. Deadline: July 1.

[Disaster Relief Tax Filing Extension](#)

Taxpayers affected by the Trout or Cotton fires with business tax returns due June 25 and July 25 can file by Sept 25. Those with an estimated personal or corporate income tax due June 16, have an extended due date of Sept 16. No penalty or interest.

[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.

[Federal Funds Information for States](#)

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

[New Mexico Nonprofit Capital Access](#) NMIIC invites nonprofits and financial institutions to help inform a potential fund to channel capital to nonprofits. Complete the survey by July 3.

[Educate2Elevate Grant](#)

Focuses on food access and community support for immigrant families in educational spaces. Organizations are encouraged to use a collaborative approach for this RFP. Deadline: July 7.

[City of Santa Fe Small Grant Fund](#)

Grants of up to \$20,000 to support local nonprofits that promote the healthy development of children and youth. Deadline: July 7 for priority review.

[Youth Civic Infrastructure Fund Grant](#)

\$25,000 1-year grants to nonprofits, community groups, or community leaders that seek to work directly with young people to address challenges in their communities. Recipients may apply for a \$50,000/year, multi-year Implementation grant for 2026–2028. Deadline: July 14.

[LGBTQ+ Historic Sites Grants](#)

\$500 to \$5,000 to individuals, nonprofits, and those with fiscal sponsors For research, recognition, interpretation, and archival projects supporting places with LGBTQ+ significance. Letter of Intent Deadline: July 21.

Upcoming Events

[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.

Jul 15 | [Tax Education Webinar for Agricultural Enterprises and Small Businesses](#)

Jul 17 | [Sowing the Seeds of Service: Creating Committed Volunteers for Life](#)

Jul 18 | [Women Entrepreneurs Mean Business](#)

Jul 24 | [Bridging Humanities and Preservation Through Community Storytelling](#)

Jul 31 | [Strengthening Together: Shared Strategies for Disaster Preparedness](#)

Aug 7 | [Data is Not a Dirty Word: Solutions for Stewardship, Stories, and Succession Planning](#)

Aug 29 | [Discover how apprenticeships can benefit your business: Construction Industry](#)

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 Pathfinder@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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