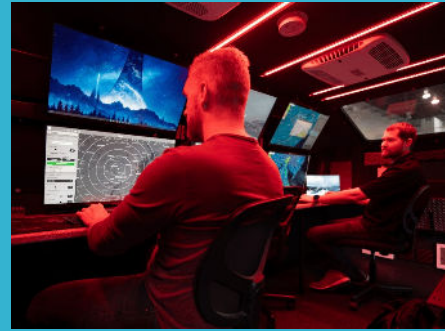


The Pathfinder



August 20, 2025

FROM THE SECRETARY



In New Mexico, we know that the best way to grow opportunity is to grow what we're best at. That's why we're betting on technology and innovation, backing the companies that can take groundbreaking research from our national labs and turn it into real products, real paychecks, and real change for our families.

Through programs like the Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP), we're making sure New Mexicans have the skills to seize these opportunities and create their own path to prosperity. We've also launched new grants to support technology commercialization and entrepreneurship

From clean energy to quantum computing, these aren't just jobs for today. They're careers that can build generational wealth, keep talent here at home, and strengthen our communities for decades to come.

Rob Black
Cabinet Secretary, NM Economic Development Department

NEWS



Meet our Technology and Innovation Team

Introducing our leadership team for the Technology and Innovation Office (TIO) — launching with over \$90 million in state funding to support startups and emerging tech sectors:

Nora Meyers Sackett, Director (on right)

A strategic leader with experience at the intersection of policy and innovation, Nora will guide the office's vision to strengthen New Mexico's tech economy.

Lindsay Humphries, Associate Director (on left)

With a strong background in entrepreneurship and economic development, Lindsay will help drive programs that fuel growth for startups statewide.

Job Training Incentive Program

EDD's Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) funds training for newly created jobs in expanding or relocating businesses for up to 6 months. The program reimburses 50-90% of employee wages. Custom training at a New Mexico public educational institution may also be reimbursed.



In FY25, 60 companies across New Mexico were awarded support through JTIP. The program approved funding for as many as 1,238 trainees, with an average wage of \$25 per hour. Of these, 820 were based in rural areas, earning an average of \$21 per hour. Additionally, the state approved training assistance for 38 interns.

Learn more about JTIP and how your company can take advantage of this incentive on [our website](#).

In the news: [Program supports over 300 trainees across multiple sectors](#)



LEADS to Drive Growth

The Local Economic Assistance & Development Support (LEADS) program, provides yearly grants to help create jobs, expand the tax base, and encourage business growth. This year, funding will support 11 initiatives in nine rural and frontier communities and three urban areas. In total, 12 projects across 11 counties will share \$258,500 in economic development grants aimed at creating jobs, boosting local businesses, and driving growth — particularly in rural regions.

In the news: [New Mexico awards \\$258k](#)

EDD OPPORTUNITIES

GRANTS

NM Arts & Cultural Districts Pilot Grant

\$50K–\$100K for state-authorized Arts & Cultural Districts with high-impact creative industry programming.

- Applications: Deadline Aug. 29
- Info: edd.newmexico.gov/creative

Science & Technology Business Startup Grant

Competitive funding for early-stage NM-headquartered tech companies to commercialize R&D and grow jobs. Awards range \$25K–\$50K.

- Applications: Aug. 12–Sept. 3
- Webinar: Aug. 19, 1 PM MST
- Info: edd.newmexico.gov/tio

Innovation Hubs Grant

Funds physical infrastructure that fosters innovation, entrepreneurship, and technology commercialization in priority sectors: Advanced Computing, Bioscience, Advanced Energy, and Aerospace. Applicants may request up to \$2.5M.

- Applications: Aug. 11–Sept. 8
- Webinar: Aug. 18, 1 PM MST
- Info: edd.newmexico.gov/tio/innovation_hubs/

Entrepreneurship Programmatic Support Grant

Supports operational needs of entrepreneurship-focused organizations—such as incubators, accelerators, and venture studios—to sustain, expand, or launch programs.

- Applications: Aug. 11–Sept. 8
- Webinar: Aug. 18, 11 AM MST
- Info: edd.newmexico.gov/tio/entrepreneurship-support/

Trails+ Grant

Supports planning, development, and improvement of trails and related infrastructure.

- Applications: Deadline Sept. 30

JOB OPPORTUNITIES:

Technology & Innovation Office Business Operations Analyst (Albuquerque)

Job ID 157259

Apply by 8/28/25

Senior Administrative Assistant (Santa Fe)

Job ID 157182

Apply by 8/27/25

Learn more about EDD job opportunities at [EDD.NewMexico.gov/careers](https://edd.newmexico.gov/careers)

RESOURCE WRAP-UP



Resource Highlight:

Disaster recovery funding for 2024 fires and floods

New Mexico is now collecting intent-to-apply forms for \$137 million in federal disaster recovery grants to help residents affected by the South Fork Fire, Salt Fire, and 2024 flooding to rebuild their homes and communities.

[Community Development Block Grant – Disaster Recovery \(CDBG-DR\)](#)

For Businesses

UNM Anderson Accelerator

8-month program focused on education, mentorship, and hands-on deliverables, including business plans and investor pitches. Deadline: Aug. 22

Native American Business Roundtables (City of Santa Fe)

Monthly gatherings create space for Native American entrepreneurs, artists, and business owners to connect, share resources, and build pathways to success.

- Tuesday, September 9
- Tuesday, October 14
- Tuesday, November 12
- Tuesday, December 9
- Tuesday, January 13
- Tuesday, February 10
- Tuesday, March 10

For Communities & Nonprofits

Transportation in Highly Rural Areas Grant

Renewal grantees for the Grants for Transportation of Veterans in Highly Rural Areas for the fiscal year 2025.

Santa Fe Community Foundation Grants

Proposals welcome from organizations serving Mora, Rio Arriba, San Miguel, and Santa Fe Counties to improve outcomes in animal welfare, arts & culture, education, environment, LGBTQ+, Native lifeways, BIPOC infant/toddler care. Deadline: Aug 24.

Sandia Foundation Grant

Up to \$15,000 to Albuquerque nonprofits that work with children regarding basic needs and advancing their education through long-term, consistent intervention and support. Deadline: Aug 28.

Rainforest Accelerator

Supports entrepreneurial researchers from the UNM to explore commercial viability of their technologies, create new startup businesses, generate business models, and submit proposals to other funding opportunities. Deadline: Sept 11.

SCORE Women in Business Conference

Fee: \$45

This one-day event is designed to support and inspire small business owners, entrepreneurs, and aspiring leaders from across Northern New Mexico. Event: Sept 18 in Santa Fe.

AT&T Small Business Contest

Apply or nominate a small business to win \$50,000, 1 year of AT&T service with a brand new device, and featured content with an AT&T #ShesConnected athlete. 4 runners-up will receive \$5,000. Deadline: Sept. 30.

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.

Nusenda Community Rewards Grant

Nonprofits or public schools may apply for \$2,500-\$15,000 grants for programs in one of Nusenda's focus areas: arts, community service, education, environment, and healthcare. Deadline: Aug 31.

Rural Housing Preservation Grant

Provides funds to assist very low- and low-income homeowners in repairing and rehabilitating their homes in rural areas. Also assists rental property owners and cooperative housing complexes in repairing and rehabilitating their units that are available to low- and very low-income persons. Deadline: Sept 4.

T-Mobile Hometown Grants

Main Street America and T-Mobile have partnered to offer grants for towns with 50,000 people or less to revitalize community. Main Street programs are encouraged to apply. Deadline: Sept 30.

Paul Bruhn Historic Revitalization Program

Fosters economic development in rural communities through the rehabilitation of historic buildings by providing recipients with a single grant that is then regranted in smaller amounts to individual projects. Deadline: Sept 30.

Upcoming Events

Aug 20 | [Changing Tax Laws and How it Impacts Your Business](#)
Aug 21 | [SBIR 101](#)
Aug 23 | [Crafting Your Winning Pitch](#)
Aug 25 | [Strategic Planning Tools](#)
Aug 26 | [Building an advanced energy ecosystem](#)
Aug 28 | [Social Media & Online Marketing: Content Asset Creating Strategies](#)
Aug 29 | [Discover how apprenticeships can benefit your business: Construction Industry](#)
Aug 29 | [Leveraging State Assets for Stronger Proposals and Projects](#)
Aug 31-Sep 5 | [IEEE Quantum Week](#)
Sep 8-10 | [New Mexico Outdoor Economics Conference](#)
Sep 22 | [UNM Rainforest Leadership Coaching Office Hours for Entrepreneurs](#)
Sep 23 | [Strategizing and Writing Your Best Proposal for the SBIR/STTR Grant](#)
SAVE THE DATE: Sep 24-25 | [2025 Governor's Conference on Economic Development](#) (ABQ)

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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