

The Pathfinder



Credit: Jackson Buscher

August 6, 2025

FROM THE SECRETARY



We're lucky to live where adventure is always right outside our door, including biking, skiing, hunting, fishing, and more. Our love for the outdoors also fuels the economy. In 2023, outdoor recreation added \$3.2 billion to our economy, making up 2.4% of our GDP and supporting 29,182 jobs.

That's why our team at the Outdoor Recreation Division is committed to growing this impact. Just a couple of weeks ago, we celebrated the opening of the Picuris Pueblo Bike Park, one of only a handful of Red Bull-certified bike parks in the entire country. With support from the \$500,000 Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant, this project at Picuris Pueblo became a reality.

On the pump track, I met Daniel Guy from Dixon and his 5-year-old son, Bjorn, who ride in Picuris every weekend. I've heard from so many families like theirs about how special it is to have world-class recreation in their backyard.

Projects like this keep us all moving, connected, and proud to call New Mexico home.

Rob Black
Cabinet Secretary, NM Economic Development Department

NEWS



EDD's Outdoor Rec Division helps make new bike park a reality

The Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant awarded \$500,000 toward a new bike park at Picuris Pueblo. EDD Cabinet Secretary Rob Black and other staff teamed up with the Pueblo for the grand opening and ribbon cutting.

In the news: [Picuris Pueblo leader revels in newly built bike park](#)

Credit: Jackson Buscher



Watch: Picuris Pueblo Bike Park Ribbon Cutting recap



Outdoor Rec Division makes a statewide economic & cultural impact

The ORD team has been celebrating the local impact of the Outdoor Equity Fund and Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant.

- Tijeras Arroyo Bio-Zone Education Center's new ADA Sensory Trail in Albuquerque.
- Farmington Area Single Track summer race series at the San Juan College Bike Park.
- Surfing in the Four Corners is now a reality with Farmington's new River Wave.
- Watershed Academy invites diverse youth to learn about environmental science.
- NM Motorized Off-Highway Vehicle Association had a ribbon cutting for 9 cattle guards in Carson National Forest.

River Wave in the news: [Surf Wave opens on Animas River in Farmington](#)

Watershed Academy social media: [from River Source](#)



Outdoor rec businesses get a leg up

EDD announces that 18 outdoor rec businesses from around the state will be part of the 2025 [ActivatOR](#) bootcamp cohort.

ActivatOR is a free 12-week outdoor recreation business bootcamp that brings together companies for a mix of online classes and in-person networking in Albuquerque. The training will culminate in the ORD Adventure Pitch Fest, where participants will have the chance to win cash and learn from an

experienced bench of judges.

Learn More: activatenm.com/activator

Read: ORD's latest newsletter

Sign up: Stay informed about the Outdoor
Recreation Division

EDD OPPORTUNITIES

GRANTS

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 September 30. nmoutside.com/grants/trails-plus

The New Mexico Arts & Cultural Districts Pilot Grant

Offers grants of \$50,000-\$100,000 to state-authorized Arts and Cultural Districts implementing high-impact creative industry programming. The application period runs through August 29, with an informational webinar on August 8.

edd.newmexico.gov/creative

EDD JOB OPPORTUNITY:

Program Manager - Film Outreach (Santa Fe)

Posting End Date:08/09/2025

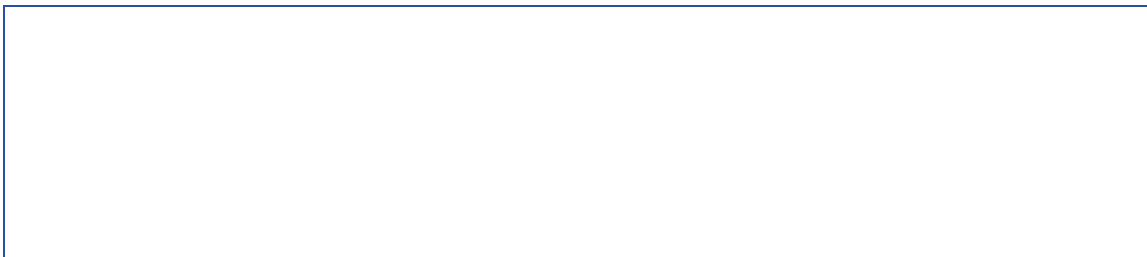
Job ID 156714

edd.newmexico.gov/careers

RESOURCE WRAP-UP



Resource Highlight: Outdoor Economics Conference, Gallup, Sept 8-10





OUTDOOR ECONOMICS CONFERENCE

GALLUP  **SEPT 8-10**

New Mexico's leading event for Outdoor Professionals!

New Mexico Outdoor Economics Conference is designed to help advance economic development strategies and opportunities connected to protected public lands. This conference will highlight successful community economic development efforts within and outside of New Mexico that are connected to protected lands and focus on the development of governmental policies and local entrepreneurship connected to these opportunities.

Learn more and register at www.outdooreconomics.com

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

SBA Business Recovery Center Assistance

- New Business Recovery Center open at ENMU-Ruidoso, 709 Mechem Dr o assist businesses, private nonprofits, and residents affected by severe storms, flooding and landslides Open Mon-Fri 9am-1pm and Sat from 9am-1pm (walk-ins welcome) and by appt.
- Physical damage loans - [Borrow up to 2M to repair/replace disaster damaged assets](#)
- [Economic Injury Disaster Loans \(EIDL\)](#) available to small businesses, small agricultural cooperatives, nurseries, and private nonprofit organizations impacted by losses directly related to disasters.

[Small Business Readiness for Resiliency](#) \$5,000 grant to selected applicants who report economic and/or physical disaster losses/damages of \$5,000 or more following a state-declared State of Emergency order. Businesses must register prior to a disaster in their area and will be invited to apply.

Start.Pivot.Grow. Micro Grant

\$2,500 quarterly micro grants for small businesses to cover costs of utilities, rent, inventory, professional development, software, marketing, or bookkeeping. Deadline: Rolling

TRGR Workshop

Learn more about how the Technology

For Communities & Nonprofits

New Mexico Matching Fund

For eligible entities that require additional funding to meet the minimum match requirement for a federal grant. Rolling basis.

Public Project Revolving Fund

Provides both market-rate loans and loans to disadvantaged communities at subsidized rates to finance public projects such as infrastructure improvements.

Rural Community Development Initiative

Helps nonprofit housing and community development organizations, low-income rural communities, and federally recognized tribes support housing, community facilities, and community and economic development projects in rural areas. Deadline: Aug. 12

Rooted Together Grant

Multi-year funding for organizations working together toward community-centered change. [Scoring rubric](#). Deadline: Aug 14.

Opportunity Enterprise Commercial Development Financing

Loans up to \$17.5M for commercial development or developers with commercial facilities projects, including buildings on spec, that will attract businesses and provide economic benefits to communities. Deadline: Aug. 15.

Readiness Initiative can help your company jumpstart product development, evaluate and test new technologies, and access prototyping. Workshop held in Albuquerque on Aug. 7.

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

UNM Anderson Accelerator

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

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.

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.

Opportunity Enterprise – Housing Development Program Loans up to \$15M for workforce housing development or affordable housing infrastructure development. Deadline: Aug. 15.

Archival Projects Grant

Up to \$150,000 for projects that will significantly improve online public discovery and use of historical records collections. Deadline: Aug 15.

National Outreach and Communications

Supports innovative outreach efforts that promote recreational boating and fishing, improve public awareness, and reduce barriers to participation in these activities. Deadline: Aug 17.

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.

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.

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.

Upcoming Events

Aug 7 | [Zero Cost Social Media: Leveraging Free Platforms for Small Business](#)
Aug 7 | [Data is Not a Dirty Word: Solutions for Stewardship, Stories, and Succession Planning](#)
Aug 9 | [Demystifying Financial Foundations: Income, Assets & Cash Flow](#)
Aug 9 | [Funding Your Dream: Exploring Loans, Equity, Crowdfunding & More](#)
Aug 9 | [Creating Realistic Financial Projections for Your Small Business](#)
Aug 19 | [Building a Brand](#)
Aug 19 | [Assets: Understanding Trademarks, Copyrights and Patents](#)
Aug 19 | [Navigating Legal Structures: Business Entity & Contract Basics](#)
Aug 19 | [Employment Law Essentials: Contractor or Employee?](#)
Aug 21 | [SBIR 101](#)
Aug 23 | [Crafting Your Winning Pitch](#)
Aug 25 | [Strategic Planning Tools](#)
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 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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