

Sept 3, 2025

FROM THE SECRETARY



Quantum is the next tech revolution, and this week, New Mexico is at the center of it. Albuquerque is hosting the IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering (QCE), bringing leaders from tech giants IBM, Microsoft, and NVIDIA, along with some of the brightest minds in quantum, to town.

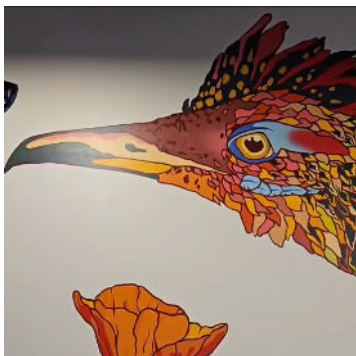
Over the past weeks, we launched two major milestones: We awarded **Roadrunner Venture Studios** \$25 million to accelerate quantum innovation and commercialization, and a new **DARPA partnership** — the Quantum Frontier Project — which aims to prove whether utility-scale quantum computing is possible by 2033. The partnership can unlock up to \$120M

over the next four years.

By building strong partnerships and supporting innovation, New Mexico is positioned to lead in quantum and ensure our families are the first to benefit from the industries of tomorrow.

Rob Black
Cabinet Secretary, NM Economic Development Department

NEWS



New Quantum Venture Studio is a bold investment in the future

Roadrunner Venture Studios was chosen as the state's partner to deploy \$25M for a quantum venture studio, strengthening New Mexico's position as a hub for quantum technologies and industry growth.

"New Mexico is making an exciting and bold investment in the future, while bringing high-paying jobs, new businesses, and the world's best talent to our state," said **Rob Black**. "New Mexico's quantum venture studio brings together the essential elements needed to grow an advanced computing ecosystem that will advance science and innovation for a generation."

In the news: [Quantum computing's big secret, New Mexico — who knew?](#)



Quantum Week in Albuquerque

New Mexico is in the international spotlight as the “quantum state” this week, showcasing its growing momentum in science, technology, and innovation as the host city for the IEEE International Conference on Quantum Computing and Engineering (QCE).

IEEE Quantum Week bridges the gap between the science of quantum computing and the development of the industry surrounding it.

In the news: [Albuquerque to host IEEE Quantum Week Conference, bringing over \\$1 million economic boost](#)

Read: Quantum week in the “quantum state”



New Mexico at the Quantum Frontier

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham today signed an agreement between the state of New Mexico and Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) to establish the Quantum Frontier Project, a new partnership designed to accelerate the development, testing, and validation of emerging quantum technologies.

“This agreement makes it clear: New Mexico is stepping up to lead in the industries of tomorrow,” said **Rob Black**. “Quantum computing means jobs, innovation, and a stronger economy for our state, and we intend to seize this moment in the global race.”

In the news: [New Mexico Governor announces new federal quantum computing partnership](#)

Read: New Mexico at the Quantum Frontier: state and DARPA forge bold partnership

EDD OPPORTUNITIES

EVENTS

Attracting Foreign Investment to New Mexico

Join Cabinet Secretary Rob Black on Sept 4 at the Lobo Rainforest Building in Albuquerque to learn more about the NMexus Center and other initiatives to attract foreign investment, business growth, and establish New Mexico as a national leader in key emerging industries. [Register online.](#)

IEEE Quantum Week: Aug 31-Sept 5
Albuquerque Convention Center

IEEE Quantum Week is a premier global event dedicated to quantum computing and engineering. New Mexico is set to host this significant gathering, highlighting the state's growing role as a center for quantum innovation. qce.quantum.ieee.org/2025

New Mexico Outdoor Economics Conference

Sept 8-10 in Gallup | www.outdooreconomics.com

This conference will highlight successful community economic development efforts that are connected to protected lands and focus on the development of governmental policies and local entrepreneurship connected to these opportunities.

Building an Advanced Energy Ecosystem

A premier gathering of industry experts, researchers, policymakers, and community leaders dedicated to shaping the future of energy in NM and beyond. nmwomenlead.org

GRANTS

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 deadline: Sept 8
- 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 deadline: Sept 8
- Info: edd.newmexico.gov/tio/entrepreneurship-support/

Trails+ Grant

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

- Applications deadline: Sept 30
- Info: nmoutside.com/grants/trails-plus

Adventure Pitch Fest

A gathering of outdoor entrepreneurs, gear makers, guides, and innovators showcasing products/services to investors and other outdoor enthusiasts. \$15k up for grabs in the business pitch competition.

- Applications deadline: Sept 30
- Event date: Nov 6
- Location: Railyards in Albuquerque
- Info: nmoutside.com/our-work/adventure-pitch

RESOURCE WRAP-UP



September 24-25, 2025 | Isleta Resort & Casino



NMIDEA



EDD
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
DEPARTMENT



NEW MEXICO
partnership

Resource Highlight:

Governor's Conference on Economic Development

Isleta Resort & Casino | September 24-25, 2025

A critical gathering of economic developers and community leaders from across NM join together to create a vibrant atmosphere of collaboration, knowledge sharing, and impactful discussions.

- Runs 7 a.m. on Wednesday, Sept 24 until 2:30 p.m. on Thursday, Sept 25
- Sponsorships available
- Learn more at www.newmexicoidea.com/statewide-conference

For Businesses

Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund

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

Professional Aerospace Contractors Association of NM annual Briefing for Industry

Meet with industry and government customers face-to-face during three days of presentations, lunches, and open networking. Sept 8-11 in Albuquerque.

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

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.

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.

2025 NM STEM Innovation Network (STEMinNM) Mini-grant

\$5,000–\$20,000 grants support projects that advance high-quality mathematics instruction, expand out-of-school time STEM programs, and strengthen connections between K–12 education and industry. Deadline: Sept 11.

Capacity Building Grants

\$100,000 to \$250,000 to support nonprofit growth, focusing on leadership, governance, staff development, technology, evaluation, strategic planning, and sustainability. Deadline: Sept 12

Brownfields Job Training Grants

Grants to organizations to recruit, train, and place unemployed or underemployed residents, especially from brownfield impacted communities, in environmental cleanup and remediation jobs. Deadline: Sept 26.

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.

Leadership Coaching Office Hours for Entrepreneurs

Reserve your virtual or in-person (Albuquerque) 1:1 coaching with Scott Tafoya. Sept. 22, Oct 20, Nov 10, and Dec 15.

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.

National Trust for Historic Preservation Grants

- [Preserve Route 66 Grant Fund](#) Sept 30
- [Preserve Route 66 Legacy Business Grant Fund](#) Sept 30
- [National Trust Preservation Fund](#) Oct 1

YCC RFP

Submit project proposals employing New Mexicans ages 14–25 on conservation and community benefit projects, with awards up to \$225,000. Deadline: Oct 8.

Spark Good Local Grants

Walmart provides local grants of \$250–\$5,000 to organizations for a variety of public benefit projects. Deadline: Oct 15.

Technical Assistance to Tribes

Financial and technical assistance to federally recognized Tribes for projects that develop, manage, and protect water-related resources. Maximum award \$2M/applicant; \$1M/proposal. Deadline: Oct 28.

Upcoming Events

Sep 6 | [How to Start and Manage Your Own Business](#)
Sep 8-10 | [New Mexico Outdoor Economics Conference](#)
Sep 9 | [How to Ask for Referrals and Receive Them](#)
Sep 10 | [HELP - My Idea Is Taking Off](#)
Sep 11 | [Small Business Success: Mastering the Essentials](#)
Sep 13 | [Polishing Your Business Idea](#)
Sep 13 | [Social Media Marketing](#)
Sep 15 | [Market Your Business with Video](#)
Sep 16 | [Native American Business Roundtable - City of Santa Fe](#)
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)
Sep 25 | [Fundraising for Non-Profits - Basics](#)
Sep 26 | [Boots to Business \(Reboot\) Training](#)
Sep 30 | [Strategic Decision-Making for Start-up Founders, Funders, and Teams](#)
Oct 14 | [Native American Business Roundtable - City of Santa Fe](#)
Oct 17-18 | [Women's Leadership Luncheon & Summit \(Santa Fe\)](#)

For ongoing and on-demand events, or to search for other events in your area, visit us at edd.newmexico.gov/events

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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