

The Pathfinder



Oct 2, 2025

Oct 3, 2025 - Reissue of newsletter with corrected link under the UP.Summit article.

FROM THE SECRETARY



Big things are happening in New Mexico, and the momentum is undeniable.

Pacific Fusion is investing \$1 billion to build a world-class research and development center in Albuquerque, creating hundreds of quality jobs and positioning our state as a global hub for clean energy.

In southern New Mexico, Oracle's Project Jupiter — part of its \$500 billion Stargate initiative — will launch one of the nation's largest AI data centers, backed by a \$165 billion industrial revenue bond.

And just this week, I was at the UP.Summit in Bentonville, Arkansas, talking about how the State Investment Council and UP.Partners are investing in companies in New Mexico and building a startup ecosystem in climate tech, deep tech, and defense tech here at home. I talked to leaders from around the world who were excited about the developments in our state and wanting to grow in New Mexico

Together, these initiatives propel us to the forefront of the clean energy and technology economy. And the best part? We're just getting started.

Rob Black
Cabinet Secretary, NM Economic Development Department

NEWS



Pacific Fusion chooses NM

After a competitive location search, Pacific Fusion chose Albuquerque as the location for a \$1B state-of-the-art research and manufacturing facility. The project will bring more than 200 long-term jobs to the state, along with numerous construction jobs, workforce development programs, and significant regional economic activity. It is an anchor investment for a broader fusion ecosystem in New Mexico.

"This is a groundbreaking project that puts New Mexico at the forefront of fusion energy," said Cabinet Secretary Rob Black.

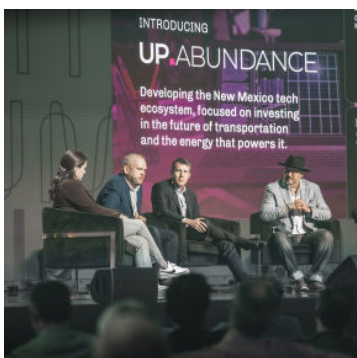
In the news: [Pacific Fusion chooses Albuquerque](#)



Jupiter Project expects to bring 1,000's of jobs to the border region

A next-generation data center campus in Doña Ana County represents one of the largest private investments in New Mexico's history and is designed to bring thousands of jobs, generate hundreds of millions of dollars in local New Mexican tax revenue, safeguard community water supplies, and meet its own power needs without impacting local ratepayers.

In the news: [Doña Ana County's Project Jupiter joins \\$500 billion Stargate initiative led by OpenAI, Oracle](#)



New Mexico Panel at UP.Summit

At this year's UP.Summit in Bentonville, we joined our partners from UP.Abandance, the New Mexico State Investment Council, and Pacific Fusion to spotlight why New Mexico is the place to build.

Secretary Rob Black spoke on a panel alongside Chris Cassidy (SIC), Carrie von Muench (Pacific Fusion), and Brian Adams and Ben Marcus (Up.Abandance), sharing how EDD is helping companies scale through targeted incentives, infrastructure support, and workforce programs.

Last year, the SIC committed \$20M to UP. Abundance, a fund focused on startups that want to scale in New Mexico. The Fund has already made six investments, including one in Pacific Fusion.

[Learn more about the UP.Summit](#)

Read: SIC-backed venture fund launches with focus on New Mexico's energy and mobility sectors

EDD OPPORTUNITIES

EVENTS

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 closed).

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

GRANTS

Creative Support Organization Grant

Organizations that support creative industry companies and workers may apply for awards up to \$62,500 (subject to change).

- Deadline: Oct 24
- Webinar: Oct 3
- Info: edd.newmexico.gov/business-development/cid-grants

CAREERS

Economic Development Coordinator - Region 1 (Cibola, McKinley, Sandoval, San Juan Counties)

Posting End Date: 10/03/2025

Job ID 158113

Pay Band C7

Senior Economic Development Coordinator (Albuquerque) – 2 positions

Posting End Date: 10/04/2025

Job ID 157723

Pay Band C9

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

RESOURCE WRAP-UP



Resource Highlight:

Workforce Recruitment Training Series

Live, virtual (Zoom) 8-week training series, free to NM businesses, through STEM Boomerang and sponsored by EDD's Step Up program.

Learn recruitment and retention strategies, including practical approaches, state-specific resources, and actionable tools.

- When: Oct 14-Nov 5, 11am-12pm
- How: Register at boomerang-nm.com/recruitment-training
- Info: [View the flyer](#)



For Businesses

Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund

Offers loans at a fixed rate of 2% to cover energy efficiency upgrades for businesses. Accepting applications for loans to finance energy-efficiency upgrades in commercial buildings that serve a community purpose.

Small Business Credit Survey

Small business leaders, be heard. What have been your recent experiences in pursuing financing? What are your expectations for profitability, hiring, and more over the next 12 months? The Small Business Credit Survey is

For Communities & Nonprofits

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.

Jobs Plus NOFO

Awards to public housing authorities to develop

open through **November 14**. Take the 12-minute survey today!

[Manufacturer's Access to Revolving Credit \(MARC\) Program](#)

This SBA loan program is a new source of liquidity for small manufacturers, while offering lenders maximum flexibility to structure working capital loans. It provides more options to meet businesses' unique working capital needs.

[Startup Sprint Doña Ana](#)

Free 6-week online business support program for new businesses in Doña Ana County. Apply by Oct 2.

[Workforce Recruitment Training Series](#)

Free 8-part series

[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. Upcoming meetings on Oct 14 and Nov 12.

[Leadership Coaching Office Hours for Entrepreneurs](#)

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

[Restaurant Accelerator & Community Grant](#)

Small, independent restaurants can apply for a 4-week virtual accelerator program. Participants who attend at least 3 sessions will be eligible to receive a \$5,000 Community Fund Grant to invest directly in their business. Deadline: Oct 24.

employment-related services that will increase the economic self reliance of HUD-assisted residents. Deadline: Oct 27.

[Community and Schools Youth Drug Prevention Program](#)

Projects must coordinate with local law enforcement and community coalitions to address youth substance use and promote healthy choices through youth programs in schools and extracurricular settings.

[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.

[Farm to School Grant](#)

Increases availability of local foods in Child Nutrition Program (CNP) operations and connect students to the sources of their food through education, taste tests, school gardens, field trips, and local food sourcing. Grants can be used to launch new farm to CNP1 programs or expand existing efforts. Deadline: Dec 5

[Workforce Summit](#)

Thought leaders from MIT, SFCC, NMDWS, nonprofits, employers, & venture capitalists will plant the seeds of new ideas and best practices in workforce training. Ideation roundtables then create innovations specific to their communities and form working groups. Event: Dec 11 in Santa Fe.

[Upcoming Events](#)

Oct 3 | [ActivateNM Speed Mentoring \(Albuquerque\)](#)

Oct 9 | [Speed Mentoring - Santa Fe Navigator Program](#)

Oct 16 | [Developing Your Online Presence](#)

Oct 14 | [Native American Business Roundtable - City of Santa Fe](#)

Oct 17-18 | [Women's Leadership Luncheon & Summit \(Santa Fe\)](#)

Nov 19 | [UNM Business & Economic Summit \(Albuquerque\)](#) - register by Nov 14 online to attend for free.

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



