

# **New Mexico Advanced Energy Award**



**GRANT MANUAL  
2026 Program Year**

## **New Mexico Advanced Energy Award**

The New Mexico Advanced Energy Award (NMAEA) is a competitive state-funded grant that awards non-dilutive funds to small businesses engaged in research and development or pilot demonstrations with a focus on advanced energy innovation and commercialization. The funds seek to assist early-stage companies developing a unique product with strong growth potential.

### **Program Objective**

The funding provided through the NMAEA is intended to further the development of innovation and commercialization of advanced energy products or services while assisting companies in continuing to do business in New Mexico.

Through this award, the New Mexico Economic Development Department (EDD) ultimately seeks to support the retention, expansion, or relocation of economic-base businesses, the creation of jobs in economic-base businesses, the development of the tax base, and business development.

### **Program Administration**

The New Mexico Advanced Energy Award is administered by the New Mexico Economic Development Department (EDD) Technology and Innovation Office (TIO).

Eligible businesses will submit applications online.

Applications will be evaluated by TIO staff and the Review Board. Final approvals will be determined by the EDD Office of the Secretary.

### **Funding Opportunity**

The NMAEA is a competitive grant opportunity. Applicants may request any amount up to \$1,000,000 but should only request what is needed to successfully complete the proposed work. All work must be completed within twelve months of grant agreement execution (grant agreement signed by all parties).

The NMAEA is split into two award classes: Research and Development (R&D) and Pilot Projects.

*Applicants can only apply for one of the two award classes below, not both.*

1. **Research and Development:** Igniting new discoveries, fostering groundbreaking scientific inquiry, and developing novel technologies from concept to early-stage prototypes. This award class supports companies engaged in foundational R&D, proof-of-concept, product development, aiming to translate scientific and technical advancements into tangible, market-ready solutions.
2. **Pilot Projects:** Bringing promising innovations to life through real-world application, testing, and scaled demonstrations. This award class supports transitioning research into practical, market-ready solutions. Ideal for projects ready to prove their viability, gather critical data, and showcase their impact through pilot demonstrations or initial deployments.

**Previous awardees of the NMAEA from FY24 and FY25 are eligible to apply for the above award classes with the goal of further scaling, refining, or expanding upon the scope of their previous award.**

### **Award Class Eligibility**

#### 1. Research and Development:

- Technology Readiness Level (TRL) less than 5.<sup>1</sup>
- Companies must be headquartered in New Mexico.
  - i. Must have a NM Business Tax ID Number (BTIN) (previously CRS Tax ID Number), a physical NM address, EIN number, and a valid NAICS code corresponding to a science/technology business.
  - ii. Must have staff physically present in the state and occupy a physical space – businesses with a virtual headquarters in New Mexico or with more than 40% of their staff outside the state will not be considered.
- Must be a for-profit technology business (a technology business creates a technology-based device, software, etc.) with a focus on advanced energy. TIO defines advanced energy as technology and innovation that makes energy use cleaner, safer, more secure, and more reliable.
- Must provide a Letter of Good Standing via the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Taxpayer Access Point (TAP).
  - i. Go to <https://www.tax.newmexico.gov/request-a-letter-of-good-standing/> and watch the video for instructions on how to request a Letter of Good Standing.
  - ii. In order to request the Letter of Good Standing, you must be logged into the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Taxpayer Access Point (TAP) through an administrator account.
  - iii. If you do not have the option to request a Letter of Good Standing through your portal, please contact the Technology and Innovation Office.
- Must certify they do not have overdue tax debt or are not a party to any claim or lawsuit.
- Must agree to all reporting and clawback requirements.
- The NMAEA may not be first money in. Companies will be required to provide documentation of previously secured funding from additional sources.
- Companies that have raised more than \$30 million in dilutive and non-dilutive funds are ineligible to apply.

#### 2. Pilot Projects:

- TRL of or greater than 5.
- Companies headquartered inside **or** outside of New Mexico are eligible to apply to this award class.
- **Companies headquartered in New Mexico**

---

<sup>1</sup> For more information regarding Technology Readiness Levels please see <https://www.energy.gov/eere/buildings/technology-market>

- i. Must have a NM Business Tax ID Number (BTIN) (previously CRS Tax ID Number), a physical NM address, EIN number, and a valid NAICS code corresponding to a science/technology business.
  - ii. Must have staff physically present in the state and occupy a physical space.
  - iii. Must provide a Letter of Good Standing via the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Taxpayer Access Point (TAP).
    - a) Go to <https://www.tax.newmexico.gov/request-a-letter-of-good-standing/> and watch the video for instructions on how to request a Letter of Good Standing.
    - b) In order to request the Letter of Good Standing, you must be logged into the New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Taxpayer Access Point (TAP) through an administrator account.
    - c) If you do not have the option to request a Letter of Good Standing through your portal, please contact the Technology and Innovation Office.
- **Companies headquartered outside of New Mexico**
    - i. Must affirm their ability to do business in New Mexico by **June 1, 2026** – this includes having a NM Business Tax Identification Number (BTIN) and an EIN number.
    - ii. Must affirm their ability to establish a presence in New Mexico **six months from grant agreement execution** – company presence in New Mexico includes having a physical NM address and employee(s) physically present and working in New Mexico.
    - iii. Must allocate all funds to further activity in New Mexico.
    - iv. Must provide documentation reflecting good standing from the state where the business is headquartered.
  - Must be a for-profit technology business (a technology business creates a technology-based device, software, etc.) with a focus on advanced energy. TIO defines advanced energy as technology and innovation that makes energy use cleaner, safer, more secure, and more reliable.
  - Must certify they do not have overdue tax debt or are not a party to any claim or lawsuit.
  - Must agree to all reporting and clawback requirements.
  - The NMAEA may not be first money in. Companies will be required to provide documentation of previously secured funding from additional sources.
  - Companies that have raised more than \$30 million in dilutive and non-dilutive funds are ineligible to apply.

### **Ineligible Funding Use**

No more than 25% of the total funds awarded may be used for payroll expenses, with a cap of \$50,000 regardless of funding amount awarded.

Funds may not be used for alcohol/drugs/food. No more than 10% of the total funds awarded may be used to attend trade shows.

## **Evaluation Criteria and Application**

The award application will require a detailed executive summary, slide deck/ presentation, budget table, budget narrative, and capitalization table. Applicants will be required to provide projections of what they expect the company to look like in the next five years, including staff, revenue, and growth projections. Previous awardees applying for continuation funding will also be evaluated on their prior performance in New Mexico Advanced Energy Awards.

Submitted proposals will be evaluated on competitive criteria by the Review Board. In considering proposals, the Review Board will review factors that may include:

- a) The experience and expertise of the company's management team.
- b) The uniqueness of the product being developed by the company.
- c) The market and market growth potential for the product.
- d) The risks associated with the proposed business plan.
- e) The likelihood of a projected return on any investment in the company.
- f) The types of exits likely to be available to liquidate an investment in the company.
- g) The competitive market landscape of the company and product.
- h) The potential benefits to be derived from public access to the product.
- i) The potential benefits to the State of New Mexico, such as job creation and economic impact.
- j) The proportion of previously-secured funding from additional sources.
- k) Other factors deemed relevant by the Review Board.

## **Award**

- All work must be completed within twelve months of grant agreement execution.
- Awardees will receive full funding amounts upon grant agreement execution.
- Monthly progress and expense reports will be required.
- Awardees are expected to retain records of all expenses related to grant expenditures and will be required to submit receipts upon TIO request.

## **The State of New Mexico will issue a 1099 tax form to all awardees of state grants, including the NMAEA.**

All applicants will be notified by the TIO of the final award decisions. The number of businesses that may receive funding will vary based on funding availability.

## **Grant Agreement**

As part of the award contract, grantees headquartered in New Mexico will be required to locate the awarded business, and any expansions, within the State of New Mexico for the next three years following the grant funding period – violation of the requirement will give the State the right to initiate clawbacks of the awarded funds.

Out-of-state companies receiving grant funds must agree to maintain a presence in New Mexico for two years following the grant funding period – violation of the requirement will give the State the right to initiate clawbacks of the awarded funds.

Grantees must agree to, when asked by the EDD, provide (non-financial) support and/or

testimonials as to the value and impact of the financial support they are awarded.

Grantees must agree to include the EDD logo on their website and marketing materials for funds used to attend conferences, build websites, make presentations, etc.

Past awardees of TIO funding must be in good standing with the department to be considered for additional funding.

### **Project Reporting**

Grantees will be required to submit monthly updates on the use of funds and the project status – quarterly reporting will be required for two or three years (depending on location of business) following the grant funding period.

Upon completion of the scope of work, grantees must submit a final report to the Technology and Innovation Office – final reports will be due within thirteen months of grant agreement execution. The final report will include final project costs and expenditures, the use of grant funds, measures of project outcomes, and a description of the project's impact on the state.

### **Key Dates**

TIO will be accepting applications for the New Mexico Advanced Energy Award from **February 17, 2026 through March 17, 2026 at 5PM MST**. Awards will be made dependent on application evaluation scoring and funding availability.

**An informational webinar will be held on February 24, 2026 at 1PM MST.**

Finalists will be notified and may be required to present in person or virtually to the Review Board.

**\*Awarded projects must be completed within twelve months, and final reports submitted within thirteen months, of grant agreement execution.\***

For more information on **Research and Development (Award Class 1)**, please contact Gregory Montoya-Mora, Senior Economic Development Coordinator, at [gregory.montoyamora@edd.nm.gov](mailto:gregory.montoyamora@edd.nm.gov) or (505) 649-3709.

For more information on **Pilot Projects (Award Class 2)**, please contact Michael Prossnitz, Senior Economic Development Coordinator, at [michael.prossnitz@edd.nm.gov](mailto:michael.prossnitz@edd.nm.gov) or (505) 490-7419.