

# The Pathfinder



Dec 10, 2025

## FROM THE SECRETARY



When we think about New Mexico's economic journey as pathways to prosperity, it's very easy to understand the value of having a roadmap. Recently, we released our Science & Technology Roadmap to help keep us pointed in the right direction, driving growth and job creation by investing in the tech sectors that will shape the future.

Mantis Space's decision to move its cutting-edge space and advanced energy operation to Albuquerque is the latest proof we're on the right path.

Once you know the direction, the next step is knowing where to begin. For businesses looking to grow in New Mexico, the journey starts with a conversation with one of our Regional Representatives — your go-to source for opportunities across the state. We'll show you how to get that conversation going in this edition.

We invite you to take this exciting journey with us. Together, we'll continue creating real opportunities for business, communities, and families across New Mexico.

Rob Black  
Cabinet Secretary, NM Economic Development Department

## NEWS



### Paving the way for a bold new vision of the future...

EDD partnered with TEconomy on the new Science & Technology Roadmap. The roadmap identifies the specific technology sectors where New Mexico holds the strongest competitive advantages and outlines how to capitalize on them.

The roadmap builds on the state's momentum in attracting high-end science and technology companies and builds upon EDD's state plan.

"This is about translating world-class science into world-class jobs," said Secretary Black. "New Mexico has the research talent. This roadmap shows how we turn that into economic opportunity for families across the state."

In the news: [New Mexico launches Science & Technology Roadmap to boost high-tech industry](#)

Learn more: [Visit the EDD publications page to view or download the State Plan and the S&T Roadmap](#)

[Read the press release](#)



## All roads lead to New Mexico: collaborative effort brings Mantis Space to Albuquerque

After a highly competitive national search, Albuquerque beat out several other locations to bring this space and advanced energy startup here.

The company will receive a \$2.5M LEDA award from the state and \$500,000 from the city and projects over \$480M in economic impact for New Mexico over the next decade, including over 200 local high-tech, high-wage jobs.

“The next era of advanced technology and innovation begins here,” said Secretary Black. “

Mantis Space CEO Eric Truitt says the company is “truly impressed by the hospitality, generosity, and hard work” of both state and city employees.

In the news: [Startup with hopes to build outer space power grid names Albuquerque as HQ](#)

[Read the joint press release](#)



## We're here to help! Regional Reps, your first stop on your path to prosperity

If you own a business, have a great business idea, or you work with an organization that wants to improve your community, it's likely you are feeling a bit overwhelmed. Finding resources, finances, and government programs can be a daunting task.

EDD's Regional Reps should be your first stop! Our Community, Business, and Rural Development team is our boots on the ground in every region of the state. Regional Reps can help you navigate your journey and put you on a path to success.

Learn more: [CBRD webpage with list of reps in each region](#)

[Check the EDD Toolbox on our publications page](#)

# EDD OPPORTUNITIES

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## GRANTS

### **Business Development & Expansion Grant**

Creative for-profit businesses are invited to apply. Funding may be used for inventory, equipment, marketing, infrastructure, technology, and more.

- Deadlines: Cycle 1 Dec 26 (6pm MT); Cycle 2 Feb 27 (6pm MT)
- Learn more: [edd.newmexico.gov/business-development/cid-grants](http://edd.newmexico.gov/business-development/cid-grants)

### **Intro to AI Visuals**

The Creative Industries Division is offering [free registration](#) to 100 creative entrepreneurs for the [Mastering AI Visuals](#) course from Jamination.

### **Outdoor Recreation Trails+ Grant**

Invests in conservation-minded shovel-ready projects like trail design and construction, signage, river access, outdoor classroom infrastructure, trailhead improvements, picnic shelters, skate and bike parks. Projects must be open for public use.

- Deadline: Jan 31, 2026
- Webinar: Dec 10
- Info: [nmoutside.com/grants/trails-plus](http://nmoutside.com/grants/trails-plus)

### **Outdoor Equity Fund**

Open to public and private nonprofit entities that support equitable transformative outdoor experiences for New Mexico's youth.

- Next round opens Jan 6, 2026
- Informational webinars: December 17: [bit.ly/fy26r2oef1](https://bit.ly/fy26r2oef1) and January 6: [bit.ly/fy26r2oef2](https://bit.ly/fy26r2oef2)

## EDD JOBS

General Counsel (Albuquerque or Santa Fe)

Learn more at [edd.newmexico.gov/careers](http://edd.newmexico.gov/careers)

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## RESOURCE WRAP-UP

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### For Businesses

#### **NM CERG (Clean Energy Resilience and Growth)**

Qualified participants gain access to business development activities, such as market capture, technology development through testing and evaluation with federal lab partners, and ongoing support for the duration of the commercial market pipeline.

#### **Aggie I-Corps**

A comprehensive training program designed to

### Community Resources Continued...

#### **Yamaha Outdoor Access Initiative**

Nonprofit or tax-exempt groups, public riding areas, outdoor enthusiast and land conservation associations, and communities with an interest in protecting, improving, expanding, and/or maintaining access for safe, responsible and sustainable use by motorized off-road vehicles may apply. Deadline: Dec 15.

#### **Behavioral Health Early Access Regional Funding**

assess the commercial viability of your research/business idea. Open to students and faculty at all NM research colleges and universities.

### [NM REAP](#)

No-cost support to Agricultural Producers and Rural Small Businesses across New Mexico applying to the USDA REAP grant program.

### [Small Business bAlsics](#)

Free, flexible, AI training course for business growth from the US Chamber of Commerce.

### [Amber Grants](#)

\$10,000 monthly grants for women-owned businesses in several categories and an annual \$50,000 grant to one of the monthly recipients.

### [Economic Development Retention and Revitalization Grant 2025](#)

Supports private businesses, projects, and organizations that make or will make a measurable difference in achieving economic growth and development within Doña Ana, Luna, and Otero Counties, with the possibility of expanding throughout NM.

### [Leadership Coaching Office Hours for Entrepreneurs](#)

Reserve your virtual or in-person (Albuquerque) 1:1 coaching with Scott Tafoya on Dec 15.

### [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 meeting on Jan 13 and Feb 10.

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## [For Communities & Nonprofits](#)

### [Main Street America Small Business Hub](#)

Offers self-paced, free, expert courses, peer discussion forums, and trusted resources. Topics include digital marketing, revenue growth, disaster resilience, mental health, crowdfunding, and more.

### [National Grassroots Organizing Grant Program](#)

Provides support to community-based, grassroots organizations confronting social and environmental injustice with 2-year unrestricted, general operating support grants of up to \$30,000/year (average grant size \$20,000/year). Rolling deadline.

### [Community Connect Program](#)

Grants for the roll-out or expansion of Public Wi-Fi in New Mexico Communities. All requests for reimbursement must be completed by June 30, 2026.

### [Opportunity Enterprise Loans](#)

Low-interest loans for developers for the development of commercial facilities, workforce housing, and infrastructure for affordable housing. Deadline: Dec 12.

Regional behavioral health entities designated in each region by the state may apply. Deadline: Dec 19.

### [USDA Technical Assistance and Training Grant](#)

Funds may be used to for technical assistance and/or training to identify and evaluate solutions to water problems. Deadline: Dec 31.

### [Walmart Spark Good Local Grants](#)

Cash grants ranging from \$250 to \$5,000 to support local organizations that meet the unique needs of the communities in which they operate, build pride among associates, and deepen relationships with customers. Deadline: Dec 31.

### [Water and Wastewater Technical Assistance and Training Grant Program](#)

Qualified private nonprofit organizations will receive funds to identify and evaluate solutions to water and waste disposal problems in rural areas, assist applicants in preparing applications for water and waste grants made at the State level offices, and improve operation and maintenance of existing water and waste disposal facilities in rural areas. Deadline: Dec 31.

### [Continuum of Care Competition and Youth Homeless Demonstration Program Grants](#)

Supports communitywide efforts to end homelessness, quickly rehouse individuals and families, strengthen access to mainstream services, and improve long-term stability. Deadline: Jan 14.

### [Tribal Transportation Program Safety Fund](#)

Targets federally recognized Tribes and tribal governments to reduce fatal and serious traffic injuries and crashes on Tribal public road systems. Deadline: Jan. 15.

### [Looking Out Foundation](#)

\$5,000-\$25,000 grants to nonprofits supporting LGBTQIA2S+, disadvantaged youth, public health, women, environment, arts, the hungry and the unhoused, and more. Deadline: Jan 15.

### [NM Facilitation Trainings - 2026](#)

Free 1.5-day training sessions will cover introductory facilitation topics and materials. Space is limited, so reserve your spot early. **Selected participants will be notified in mid-Dec.**

- Jan 27-28 in Silver City
- Feb 24-25 in Albuquerque
- Apr 14, 16, 21, & 23 remote online

### [Brownfield Multipurpose Grants](#)

An applicant may request funding up to \$1M to address hazardous substances and/or petroleum contamination at one or more brownfield sites. Deadline: Jan 28.

### [Bolger Foundation](#)

\$10,000-\$250,000 grants support capital projects within the Foundation's areas of interest: community; underprivileged and underserved; conservation and preservation; health; education. Deadline: Feb 1.

### [Chamiza Foundation](#)

\$3,000-\$15,000 grants support Pueblo communities: Language preservation and

#### [Anderson Charitable Foundation Grants](#)

\$5,000-\$20,000 grants to support low-income and vulnerable populations in three mission areas: Essential Needs for Children; Programs for Seniors; Programs for Individuals with Disabilities. Rolling deadline.

#### [WK Kellogg Foundation](#)

\$50,000-\$300,000 grants support work in equitable food systems, health equity, early childhood care and education, family economic security, with overarching focus on early childhood, racial equity and systems change. Rolling deadline.

#### [Farmers Advocating for Organics Grant](#)

\$5,000-\$50,000 grants support research, education, and advocacy projects that advance the organic industry and the livelihoods of organic farmers. Deadline: Dec 15.

revitalization; Traditional architecture; Sustainable agriculture; Traditional arts and crafts instruction; Tribal and ancestral history and storytelling; Youth education and leadership; Intercultural Exchange and Education. Deadline: Feb 7.

#### [Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development \(BUILD\)](#)

Supports transportation infrastructure projects that deliver significant local or regional impact. Awards range from \$1-\$25M. Deadline: Feb 24.

#### [Upcoming Events](#)

Dec 11 | [Workforce Summit](#) (Santa Fe)

Dec 11 | [DOE Boost Showcase Pitch Event: Commercializing the Future of U.S. Energy](#) (Albuquerque)

Dec 16 | [Game-Changing AI Tools – Automate Tasks, Create Content Faster & Grow Your Business](#)

Dec 18 | [Federal Funding Opportunity - BUILD Grant workshop](#)

Jan 29 | [Affordable housing](#)

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

Visit our YouTube channel to view previously recorded EDD webinars:  
[www.youtube.com/@newmexicoeconomicdevelopment](https://www.youtube.com/@newmexicoeconomicdevelopment)

*We love to hear from you!*

- Submit resources for the Pathfinder newsletter to [Pathfinder@edd.nm.gov](mailto:Pathfinder@edd.nm.gov)
- List a business or community resource on our Resource Map at [edd.newmexico.gov/resource-map](http://edd.newmexico.gov/resource-map)
- Add an event to our calendar at [edd.newmexico.gov/events](http://edd.newmexico.gov/events)



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