

THE PATHFINDER



July 1, 2026

FROM THE SECRETARY



Summer is in full swing, and across New Mexico we're seeing the results of smart investments that are creating jobs and bringing economic opportunity to communities large and small.

One of the most exciting announcements this month is the expansion of BlackVe, a defense and space technology company that is growing its headquarters in Albuquerque. With support from the state and the City of Albuquerque, BlackVe will create 152 new high-paying jobs over the next decade while building a new satellite manufacturing facility. It's another example of New Mexico strengthening its position as a national leader in aerospace and advanced manufacturing.

Innovation begins with great ideas. That's why our Technology and Innovation Office recently awarded more than \$375,000 to support five business incubators across New Mexico. Business incubators help entrepreneurs turn ideas into successful companies by providing mentorship, technical assistance, workspace and connections to capital. Through the Incubator Certification Support (ICS) grant, organizations can pursue state certification, strengthening entrepreneurship, job creation, and small business growth across New Mexico.

While the film industry has faced a slowdown, New Mexico is staying focused on bringing productions here and expanding opportunities statewide. We're seeing the impact of that work, especially in rural communities. New Mexico's Film Office announced that spending in rural areas through the Uplift Zone incentive reached a record \$55.7 million this fiscal year, creating more opportunities for local crews and supporting rural businesses. We know there is more work to do, and we're continuing to fight to bring more productions to New Mexico.

As we prepare to celebrate the Fourth of July, I hope you'll take time to enjoy everything that makes New Mexico special, whether you're spending the holiday with family, attending your local parade or fireworks show, or exploring one of our incredible communities.

Thank you for reading, and as always, there's much more happening across New Mexico below.

Have a safe and happy Independence Day!

Rob Black
Cabinet Secretary

NEWS



Black Ve Expansion: Aerospace Company to Add 152 Jobs

Black Ve, a New Mexico-based spacecraft manufacturer, is expanding operations with support from the state and city, creating 152 new jobs. Founded in 2024, the company builds multi-mission spacecraft using advanced production technologies to accelerate satellite design, manufacturing, and operations. The expansion is projected to generate more than \$228 million in total economic impact for New Mexico.

In the news: [BlackVe to add 152 jobs, expand Albuquerque headquarters with \\$1.55M in state incentives](#)

[Read the press release](#)



Supporting New Mexico's Business Incubators

The state awarded more than \$375,000 to support five business incubators across New Mexico through the Incubator Certification Support (ICS) grant program. These organizations help entrepreneurs and early-stage companies grow through mentorship, technical assistance, workspace, and connections to capital.

In the news: [State Awards Over \\$375,000 To Support Five New Mexico Business Incubators Including Los Alamos Makers](#)

[Read the Press Release](#)



Film Industry Reaches Record Rural Economic Impact

New Mexico's film industry reached a new milestone, with the Uplift Zone incentive generating a record \$55.74 million in direct spending across the state in Fiscal Year 2026. The record-breaking investment highlights the impact of film production in rural communities, creating jobs, supporting local businesses and strengthening economies beyond urban centers.

"The rural incentive puts Las Cruces in an advantageous position to capture even more productions and helps get the word out about the industry in Southern New Mexico," said Andrew Jara, film liaison, Film Las Cruces. "It's also one of the reasons that Las Cruces has been named one of the 'Best Places to Live and Work as a Filmmaker' for four years in a row in Moviemaker magazine."

In the news: ['A huge impact': New Mexico Film Office reaches \\$56 million spending record in rural areas](#)

EDD OPPORTUNITIES

EDD GRANTS AND PROGRAMS

Science & Technology Business Startup Grants

- Deadline: Jul 7 (5pm)
- Informational webinar: June 23 (2pm)
- Learn more: edd.newmexico.gov/st-business-startup-grant

NM Food Pathways Grant

- Webinar July 1: [Register now](#)
- Grant open by invitation only. Accepting Letters of Interest beginning July 1
- Learn more: edd.newmexico.gov/food-pathways

Outdoor Rec Trails+ Grant

- Deadline Sep 30
- Learn more: nmoutside.com/grants/trails-plus

EDD CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Economic Development Infrastructure Program Manager (Albuquerque)

- Job ID 164280
- Apply by Jul 3

Communications Coordinator (Albuquerque)

- Job ID 164841
- Apply by Jul 7

Purchasing Coordinator (Santa Fe)

- Job ID 164859
- Apply by Jul 8

Senior Economic Development Coordinator (Albuquerque)

- Job ID 164874
- Apply by Jul 9

Senior Economic Development Operations Analyst

- Job ID 164909
- Apply by Jul 9

RESOURCE WRAP-UP



Review the proposed policy for Opportunity Enterprise Programs

Help Shape the Future of Commercial Development in New Mexico

The New Mexico Finance Authority (NMFA) is seeking public feedback on proposed revisions to the Opportunity Enterprise Commercial Development and Housing Development Program policies.

and submit comments by July 5.

**Commercial
Development**

Housing Development

These programs provide financing to support commercial development, workforce housing, and affordable housing projects that strengthen New Mexico's communities and economy.

Your feedback will help shape these important programs.

For Businesses

Rolling deadlines and ongoing opportunities:

- [NM CERG](#)
- [New Mexico True Certified](#)
- [Aggie I-Corps](#)
- [NM REAP](#)
- [Small Business bAIsics](#)
- [Amber Grants - Monthly grants](#)
- [Creative Capital Artist Lab](#)
- [CDFI Resource Library](#)
- [Black Business Alliance of Santa Fe](#)
- [Native Business Roundtables \(Santa Fe\)](#) last Thursday of each month
- [Energy Efficiency Revolving Loan Fund](#)
- [NM REAP](#)
- [Energy Efficiency Assessments](#)
- [Santa Fe Small Business Navigator Program](#)
- [Native American Bank](#)
- [Main Street America's Small Business Hub](#)

[Beyond Profit Accelerator for Technology and AI sector entrepreneurs](#) (Santa Fe)

- [Pre-accelerator info session](#) Jul 7
- [Pre-accelerator workshop](#) Jul 25

[Entrepreneur Bootcamp for Native American Veterans](#) Deadline Jul 10

[Paying Yourself as a Business Owner: Build a Sustainable Owner's Salary](#) Jul 14

[SBA Resources for Small Manufacturers](#) Jul 16

[What Are Lenders Looking for When You Apply for a Business Loan?](#) Jul 15

[How to Find and Secure Sponsorship Opportunities](#) Jul 21

[Get Your Business Lender Ready](#) Jul 28

[OED Outdoor Rec Roundtable](#) Aug 6, Nov 5

[Business Plan Basics](#) Aug 19

[SBIR 101 Workshop](#) (Albuquerque) Sep 15

[AI Coworkers Sprint](#) (Albuquerque) Deadline Oct 16

Community & Nonprofit Resources

Rolling deadlines and ongoing opportunities:

- [Main Street America Small Business Hub](#)
- [National Grassroots Organizing Grant Program](#)
- [Community Connect Program](#)
- [Anderson Charitable Foundation Grants](#)
- [WK Kellogg Foundation](#)
- [Technical Assistance Gateway \(TAG\)](#)
- [NM Grantmakers Directory](#)
- [American's Job Center New Mexico Open House Orientations every Monday](#)
- [Pro Bono Legal Services for Nonprofits](#)
- [The Grant Plant](#)
- [W.K. Kellogg Foundation Grants](#)

[WaterSMART: Applied Science Grants](#) Deadline Jul 8

[AI Upskill Accelerator Pilot Program](#) Deadline Jul 10

[AI Upskill Accelerator Pilot Program](#) Deadline Jul 10

[Multistate Conservation Grant](#) Deadline Jul 14

[Nationally Significant Multimodal Freight and Highways Projects](#) Deadline Jul 15

[Unleashing Tribal Energy Development](#) Deadline Jul 24

[WaterSMART Drought Response Program](#) Deadline Jul 28

[Water Reclamation and Reuse Projects](#) Deadline Aug 26

[WaterSMART: Desalination Construction Projects](#) Deadline Aug 26

[WaterSMART Enhancing Water Resources Projects](#) Deadline Sep 8

[Tribal Broadband Connectivity Program](#) Deadline Sep 17

[Partners for Fish and Wildlife](#) Deadline Sep 30

For ongoing and on-demand webinars, or to search for 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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