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Contact: Bruce Krasnow

Bruce.Krasnow@state.nm.us

(505) 827-0226, cell: (505) 795-0119

Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham
Cabinet Secretary Alicia J. Keyes
Deputy Secretary Jon Clark

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Four New Mexico Companies Receive Job Training Funds *JTIP grants boost high-wage jobs*

SANTA FE, N.M. – Four companies in the innovative technology industry were awarded funds this month through the state’s Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP), Economic Development Department Secretary Alicia J. Keyes announced today.

The June JTIP allocation was just over \$1 million and will assist in training 41 high-wage employees and two interns. The average wage for trainees is \$46.60.

Since Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham assumed office in January 2019, JTIP has supported 3,185 trainees at 117 businesses, helping to create 2,760 new jobs across New Mexico, including Albuquerque, Berino, Bernalillo, Carlsbad, Church Rock, Clovis, Corrales, Deming, Las Cruces, Los Alamos, Loving, Moriarty, Questa, Red River, Rio Rancho, Roswell, Sandia Park, Santa Fe, Santa Rosa, Santa Teresa, Sunland Park, Taos, Tierra Amarilla, and Truth or Consequences.

“New Mexico is committed to supporting homegrown companies and enticing out-of-state companies to relocate here to diversify our economy, and we especially welcome high-tech industries like these. If we don’t have the skilled workforce they need right now, JTIP will help them get it by training New Mexicans. It’s a win-win for the state and the companies,” Gov. Michelle Lujan Grisham said.

"JTIP is an essential tool that helps business create highly paid jobs in New Mexico," Secretary Keyes said.

The following companies were approved this month by the JTIP Board for funding:

BioFlyte, Inc., Albuquerque (10 trainees and 1 intern). This startup was formed to commercialize a new class of portable, in-the-field aerosol mass spectrometers and complementary products for protection from biological and low-volatility chemical threats.

This is the company's first application for JTIP. JTIP reimbursement: \$243,544.72; Average trainee wage: \$43.33; Intern wage: \$39.43.

The Boeing Company, Albuquerque (22 trainees). The world's largest aerospace company and leading manufacturer of commercial jetliners, defense, space, and security systems will create 80 jobs over the next several years within its Albuquerque business unit, which focuses on research and development and support of laser weapons and electro-optical systems for ground, maritime, and airborne applications. JTIP reimbursement: \$633,948.12; Average trainee wage: \$51.25.

Build With Robots, LLC, Albuquerque (4 trainees). This 3-year-old company, located within the Central New Mexico Community College FUSE Makerspace, has been awarded a contract with Albuquerque Sunport to deploy disinfecting robots for nightly cleaning services. The company is building the team to scale up its disinfecting robots at national airports throughout the country. JTIP reimbursement: \$96,564.00; Average trainee wage: \$39.25.

X-Bow Launch Systems, Inc., Albuquerque (3 trainees and 1 intern). This company is disrupting the 50-year-old solid rocket motor industry by commercializing tactical launch capabilities for low-cost, rapid response access to space. X-Bow's proprietary approach will dramatically reduce costs and optimize performance. X-Bow will be creating numerous positions throughout New Mexico over the next few years. JTIP reimbursement: \$106,134.00; Average trainee wage: \$43.83; Average intern wage: \$22.00.

JTIP is an essential training and incentive tool that helps companies expanding or relocating. Small, local businesses that have been here for decades can use it to hire and train two new employees just as easily as large, advanced manufacturing operations can use it to create hundreds or thousands of new jobs.

JTIP funds are allocated monthly, with the JTIP Board reviewing each applicant's potential to add well-paying, diversified jobs and build communities. These and other state funded programs are even more important as the New Mexico economy recovers from the COVID-19 health emergency.

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