



# EDD

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**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:**

**Contact:** Bruce Krasnow

[Bruce.Krasnow@state.nm.us](mailto: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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## **September Job Training Funds Exceed \$3 Million**

*State awards monthly JTIP funding to 13 companies in support of 297 trainees and interns*

**SANTA FE, N.M.** – Thirteen companies were awarded funding through the New Mexico Economic Development Department's (EDD) JTIP (Job Training Incentive Program) for the month of September, Department Secretary Alicia J. Keyes announced today.

The JTIP Board approved just over \$3.1 million for September. Companies receiving funding are offering average hourly wages to trainees ranging from \$16.15 to \$58. Additionally, more than half of the companies applying are doing so for their first or second time, showing that JTIP's reach is continually expanding.

"I am continually impressed by the number of companies and the range in industry sectors that apply for this important job-training assistance so they can hire more New Mexicans and grow the state's economy" Keyes said. "JTIP's success proves that we have reason to be optimistic about New Mexico's economic future."

First introduced in 1972, JTIP covers a portion of trainee wages (50-75% depending on location) for up to 6 months. Jobs with entry wages that align with the High Wage Job Tax Credit are eligible for an additional 5% reimbursement and an additional 5% may be awarded to companies that hire trainees who have graduated within the past twelve months from a NM institution of higher education or who are U.S. Veterans. Expenses are only reimbursed after training is completed and all criteria for application approval have been met.

The companies who were approved for JTIP in September include:

**3D Glass Solutions, Inc.** (3DGS) is an electronic components company working with engineered glass to design and manufacture Passive components for the next generation of wireless and optical communications. Dedicated to local expansion, this Albuquerque

company has applied for JTIP 13 times, this time with plans to add an additional eight trainees with an average hourly wage of \$47.87. Total funding is \$217,029.77.

**Advanced Manufactured Power Solutions (AMPS)** has only requested JTIP on 2 occasions. Located in Albuquerque, the company has over ten years of experience working in the Power Sources Technology Group at Sandia National Laboratories, where they lead multi-disciplinary teams responsible for designing, developing, and producing hardware for the Department of Energy, Department of Defense, and other customers. The company plans to train two employees at an average wage of \$37.26 per hour. This month's award is \$43,625.44.

**Altar Spirits** in Santa Fe plans to train two new employees at an average hourly wage of \$17.50. A family-run company, they have recently applied for a wholesaler liquor license in order to self-distribute within the state and regionally through a distributor. Total funding request is \$12,200 and this is their first JTIP request.

**Electronic Caregiver, Inc.** is a privately held digital health technology and service company in Las Cruces. Their mission is to design and deliver innovative, impactful telehealth products and services that bridge the chasm between the doctor's office and the patient's home to improve outcomes, expand access, and optimize resource allocations. Electric Caregiver plans to hire and train 120 new employees at an average hourly wage of \$22.15 with a total funding award of \$1,207,762.16.

**Green Stream Algae LLC** (Green Stream Farms) operates an algae farm and processing facility in Columbus with 96 acres of lined ponds, buildings, harvest, and processing equipment. The company will produce Nanno Microalgae while utilizing a patented pneumatic compression low temperature dryer for improved production throughput and product quality. In this first JTIP request they plan to train 20 new employees with an average hourly wage of \$19.43 for a total funding of \$222,978.

**Heritage Driven LLC** is one of a handful of highly specialized companies in the U.S. focused on the import, restoration, and modification of classic Land Rover Defender vehicles. Heritage completely rebuilds every vehicle from the ground up, resulting in a completely restored vehicle at a very high level of craftsmanship. This Albuquerque company has requested funding on two occasions, this time for one new employee with an hourly wage of \$41.50 utilizing \$23,738 in JTIP funds.

**IDEAS Engineering & Technology LLC** (IDEAS-Tek) is a New Mexico Technology Flying 40 company for three years in a row. Located in Albuquerque, the company has only received one prior JTIP award. IDEAS-TEK provides cost-effective embedded system solutions for high-reliability applications to government and commercial customer, with a focus in the aerospace market. They will use the JTIP funds of \$71,202.80 to train four new employees earning \$32.70 on average, per hour.

**Indica Labs, Inc.** is a privately-held corporation providing solutions that streamline the image analysis workflow for digital pathology, including HALO and HALO AI for fast, quantitative evaluation of images and Halo Link for collaborative image and data management. The Albuquerque company will hire 20 new employees with an average hourly wage of \$40.57 and five interns averaging \$21. The total JTIP award is \$481,176.40.

**LQ Digital LLC** in Albuquerque is looking to train 98 new employees and has future plans to expand operations and create numerous positions over the next few years. The company provides Lead Qualification & Transfer Services to companies, primarily across the banking, financial services, mortgage, adult and college education, and B2B software. The average

hourly wage for trainees is \$16.15, with a total award of \$418,653.96. This is LQ Digital's second JTIP application.

**MTX Group, Inc.** is a global technology consulting firm powered by the Maverick Quantum (mavQ) Artificial Intelligence Platform that enables organizations to modernize through digital transformation and strategy. Located in Albuquerque, the MTX has had an impact during the COVID-19 pandemic by providing emergency response management solutions including health monitoring, disease transmission tracking, unemployment insurance claims, emergency childcare isolation services for higher education, and most recently, vaccination management. The company is adding ten new trainees at an average hourly wage of \$53.84 per hour, for a total award of \$309,459.08 on this, their first, JTIP request.

**RingIR Inc.**, located in the WESST incubator in Albuquerque, is a technology startup company commercializing network-capable, real-time optical gas and particulate recognition technology that focuses on molecular fingerprinting of atmospheric gasses. This award will support the development, validation, and further advancement of breath analysis capabilities of RingIR technologies that aim to provide a non-invasive point-of-care method to significantly decrease the diagnostic detection time of COVID-19 to less than one minute. For this, their fifth JTIP request, RingIR will hire three new trainees at a rate of \$45.67 per hour, with a total JTIP award of \$79,364.

**Santa Fe Aero Services LLC (SFAS)** is a full service aircraft Avionics and Maintenance outlet located in Santa Fe. Their team of trained and certified technicians brings the highest quality aircraft inspection, maintenance, and repair services to the Southwest. The facility consists of 6,000 square feet used for piston and turbine aircraft and avionics maintenance, repair, and replacement, along with 2,800 square feet of brand new office space. They will train three new employees at an hourly wage of \$28.85. This JTIP request is for \$46,698.40 and it is the third time they have received funding.

**The Verdes Foundation** is hiring one trainee in this, their sixth JTIP request. A nonprofit organization, The Verdes Foundation is one of the longest operating production and dispensaries in New Mexico. The company has two adjacent production facilities in Albuquerque, along with dispensary locations in Albuquerque and Rio Rancho that are operated by registered nurses. Trainee salary is \$33.65 per hour for a total JTIP award of \$20,247.80.

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*Photo courtesy of Electronic Caregiver, Inc.*

*The New Mexico Economic Development Department's mission is to improve the lives of New Mexico families by increasing economic opportunities and providing a place for businesses to thrive.*

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