



NM Disability Employment Awareness Month

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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SIMULTANEOUS HIRING EVENTS ACROSS THE STATE HIGHLIGHT DISABILITY EMPLOYMENT AWARENESS MONTH IN NEW MEXICO

(September 29, 2026) — A state-wide simultaneous hiring event and training sessions for employers are among the events taking place throughout New Mexico in October for National Disability Employment Awareness Month (NDEAM). NDEAM celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities and showcases supportive policies and practices that benefit both employees and employers. October 2026 marks the 81st anniversary of NDEAM and this year's theme is "Celebrating Value and Talent."

From 1 p.m. to 4 p.m. on Thursday, October 22, the Department of Workforce Solutions is teaming with the New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (NMDVR) and other state agencies to host 18 hiring events at America's Job Center-New Mexico locations and other sites all around the state. These hiring events are open to all, although they are especially geared towards supporting New Mexicans with disabilities seeking employment and employers interested in working with this largely untapped resource.

NMDVR hosts training sessions and resource fairs on October 1 and 15 for companies and organizations looking to recruit, hire, or retain employees with disabilities. The sessions take place from 9 a.m. to noon at Goodwill Opportunity Center, 5000 San Mateo Blvd. NE in Albuquerque (October 1) and the Student Resource Center at Doña Ana Community College-East Mesa, 2800 Sonoma Ranch Blvd. in Las Cruces (October 15). To register for October 1: <https://www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/ndeam-training-session-and-resource-fair>. For October 15: www.zeffy.com/en-US/ticketing/ndeam-training-session-and-resource-fair-las-cruces.

On Wednesday October 21, the national Job Accommodation Network is teaming with the New Mexico Commission for the Blind to offer a virtual custom training: "Tips for Designing Accessible Application Processes." The session is open to employers, HR practitioners, job developers, and self-advocates across the state and will explore the relationship between accessibility and accommodations. The webinar runs from 1:30 to 2:30 and can be accessed at <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88421294642?pwd=ZYs3xfE77GWdv1iwM1MeLsbRg2sg4k.1>.

Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham, along with various cities and counties throughout New Mexico, are marking October with proclamations to recognize the importance of disability employment awareness. The NMDVR State Rehabilitation Council will also be announcing its awards for 2026 in October, honoring employers, partner organizations, program participants, and outstanding NMDVR employees.

October 22 Hiring Event locations:

- **Alamogordo:** Classic Desert Aire Hotel, 1021 S. White Sands Blvd.
- **Albuquerque:** America's Job Center, 501 Mountain Rd. NE
- **Artesia:** Artesia Public Schools Training Center, 301 Bulldog Blvd.
- **Carlsbad:** America's Job Center, 323 S. Halagueno

- **Clovis:** America's Job Center, 111 N. Main St.
- **Deming:** City of Deming, 1275 E. Pine St.
- **Española:** Rio Arriba County Clerk Warehouse, 772 E. Hill St.
- **Farmington:** America's Job Center, 3401 E. 30th St., Suite 280
- **Hobbs:** America's Job Center, 2024 W. Park St.
- **Las Cruces:** DACC Espina Campus, 3400 Espina St.
- **Los Lunas:** UNM Workforce Training Center, 1020 Huning Ranch East Loop SW
- **Rio Rancho:** Loma Colorado Public Library, 755 Loma Colorado Blvd. NE
- **Roswell:** America's Job Center, 67 University Blvd.
- **Santa Fe:** America's Job Center, 525 Camino de los Marquez
- **Silver City:** Henry V. "La Burra" Morales Recreation Center, 900 E. 32nd St.
- **Socorro:** Socorro County Annex, 198 Neel St.
- **Taos:** America's Job Center, 1036 Salazar Rd.
- **Truth or Consequences:** Ralph Edwards Civic Center, 400 W. 4th Ave.

Participating New Mexico agencies and organizations include the Department of Workforce Solutions, Division of Vocational Rehabilitation, Commission for the Blind, Commission for the Deaf and Hard of Hearing, Health Care Authority Developmental Disabilities Supports Division, Independent Living Resource Center, and the UNM Center for Development and Disability.

Vocational Rehabilitation programs receive funding through a grant from the U.S. Department of Education. For federal fiscal year 2026, the total awarded to NMDVR was \$26,147,963 and the total awarded to the Commission for the Blind was \$6,125,017. Remaining funding is through state appropriations and other sources.

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