



STATE OF NEW MEXICO EXECUTIVE OFFICE SANTA FE, NEW MEXICO

Proclamation

WHEREAS, October 2026 marks the 81st anniversary of National Disability Employment Awareness Month; and

WHEREAS, National Disability Employment Awareness Month celebrates the contributions of workers with disabilities and highlights supportive policies and practices that strengthen both employees and employers; and

WHEREAS, this year's national theme, "Celebrating Value and Talent," underscores the importance of recognizing the skills, innovation, and dedication that people with disabilities bring to workplaces across the country; and

WHEREAS, New Mexicans with disabilities represent a significant pool of talent with diverse skills and abilities that can help businesses grow and thrive; and

WHEREAS, a substantial gap persists in labor-force participation, with about one-fourth of individuals with disabilities engaged in the workforce compared to nearly two-thirds of individuals without disabilities; and

WHEREAS, New Mexico employers' benefit from the value and talent of workers with disabilities, who consistently demonstrate skill, loyalty, and commitment to organizational success; and

WHEREAS, inclusive workplaces that welcome and support people of all abilities are fundamental to building strong communities and a resilient economy across our state; and

WHEREAS, numerous state agencies and partner organizations are united in their commitment to expanding recruitment, hiring, retention, and career advancement opportunities for individuals with disabilities in New Mexico; and

WHEREAS, the New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation operates 24 offices statewide to assist individuals with disabilities in achieving their employment goals; and

WHEREAS, outreach events, hiring fairs, trainings, and other activities recognizing National Disability Employment Awareness Month will take place throughout New Mexico during October.

NOW THEREFORE, I, Michelle Lujan Grisham, Governor of the State of New Mexico, do hereby proclaim October 2026, as:

"Disability Employment Awareness Month"

throughout the state of New Mexico.

Attest:

Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Maggie Toulouse Oliver
Secretary of State

Done at the Executive Office this
23rd day of September 2026.

Witness my hand and the Great Seal
of the State of New Mexico.

Michelle Lujan Grisham
Michelle Lujan Grisham
Governor

