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State Awards 7 Companies Access to Job-Training Funds

September Job Training Incentive Program Funds Could Assist Up to 112 Trainees

SANTA FE, N.M. – The Job Training Incentive Program (JTIP) board approved seven New Mexico companies' access to funding for 112 potential trainees, Economic Development Department Deputy Secretary Jon Clark announced today.

The JTIP board meets monthly to review and approve applications for the nationally recognized job-training fund that awards reimbursements to companies that hire and train New Mexicans. Base percentages for reimbursements range from 50-75% of training costs, with some positions eligible for even higher rates (up to 15% above base rate).

The program encourages companies to hire local employees, help New Mexicans gain skills that will make them more successful in their jobs, continue to do business and expand operations in New Mexico, and grow their business in rural and frontier locations. **More information about JTIP is available on the EDD website.**

"JTIP is assisting businesses all over the state," EDD Deputy Secretary Jon Clark said. "This month's awardees are companies in Albuquerque, Corrales, Moriarty, Roswell, and Taos and includes businesses specializing in everything from natural body products and consulting to high-tech energy and aerospace,"

The seven New Mexico companies allotted \$1.67 million for JTIP funding in September 2023 are:

Adelante Consulting Inc., Corrales, 2 trainees at an average wage of \$37.09 for a total award of \$55,253. Adelante works with companies that are developing groundbreaking, low carbon fuels and products, to reduce the life-cycle carbon intensity (CI) in each step of their

operations, from supply chain, manufacturing and production, to product distribution, use, recycling, and disposal. Adelante develops preliminary CI scores and works with their clients to capture the full value of federal, state, and other programs that incentivize CI reductions. The company also develops facility siting studies. Adelante is assisting municipal and tribal entities in obtaining grant monies for decarbonization and economic development projects.

<u>Gridworks, Inc.</u>, Albuquerque, 1 trainee at a wage of \$20.75 for a total award of \$9,960. Gridworks provides turnkey solar and energy storage solutions for developers and utility clients through engineering, procurement, and construction (EPC) as well as operations and maintenance (O&M). The company's proprietary technologies streamline the EPC process, saving time and money.

Humble Brands Inc., Taos, 16 trainees at an average wage of \$24.03 for a total award of \$226,844. Humble Brands creates high-quality, body care products, including Humble, an aluminum-free deodorant containing simple, clean, and sustainably sourced ingredients scented only with pure botanicals. The company has also formulated a nourishing Lip Balm and hand-crafted Bar Soap and has more products in development and on the horizon.

<u>Ideum, Inc.</u>, Corrales, 9 trainees at an average wage of \$28.34 for a total award of \$187,183. Ideum, Inc. develops educational software exhibits for a diverse group of clients across the globe. The company creates exhibits that evoke wonder, awe, and surprise, but also tell important stories about science, art, history, and culture. Ideum designs and builds custom multitouch tables and touch walls for museums, educational institutions, and Fortune 500 companies, selling hardware worldwide.

Kairos Power LLC, Albuquerque, 8 trainees at an average wage of \$51.56 for a total award of \$212,930. Kairos Power is an advanced energy technology and engineering company launched out of a broad research effort at U.S. universities and national laboratories. The company is focused on the development of clean, innovative nuclear technology. Kairos Power's New Mexico facility is primarily an R&D operation focused on the engineering, development, and non-nuclear testing of technology to utilize low-pressure molten fluoride salt as a coolant in a novel advanced nuclear reactor with an inherently safe design.

Pecos Valley Production, Inc., Roswell, 75 trainees at an average wage of \$21.18 for a total ward of \$938,764. Pecos Valley Production (PVP) works with different manufactures to provide innovative cannabis products to customers. The firm also works to spread awareness about cannabis. Their CBD products help to heal bodies naturally. PVP has 21 dispensaries in 11 NM counties, with distribution outlets/dispensaries in Roswell, Ruidoso, Clovis, Carlsbad, Hobbs, Portales, Las Cruces, Carlsbad Alamogordo, Sunland Park, Tularosa, Edgewood, Española, and Albuquerque.

Sceye, Inc., Moriarty, 1 trainee at a wage of \$52.23 for a total award of \$39,273 Sceye is a manufacturer of High-Altitude Platform Stations (HAPS) for the stratosphere at 65,000 feet. From here, Sceye connects directly to mobile devices and observes the Earth in real-time at resolutions never before possible. Sceye stations are an excellent solution for instant infrastructure in an era where broadband access has become an essential element of everyday life. Sceye's HAPS design, in the form of an enhanced balloon, can lift a variety of payloads for connectivity, earth observation, and scientific research.



Jeff Shardell founded Humble Brands from his home kitchen in Taos, NM out of a desire to shift his family to a health-conscious lifestyle. Today their products can be found in both conventional and natural grocery stores. The company is looking to expand operations as they are outgrowing their current warehouse capabilities.

EDD's mission is to improve the lives of New Mexico families by increasing economic opportunities and providing a place for businesses to thrive. EDD's programs contribute directly to this mission by training our workforce, providing infrastructure that supports business growth, and helping every community create a thriving economy.