



FY2026 Regional Recreation Centers & Quality of Life Grant



New Mexico
Department of Finance
and Administration



Application Overview

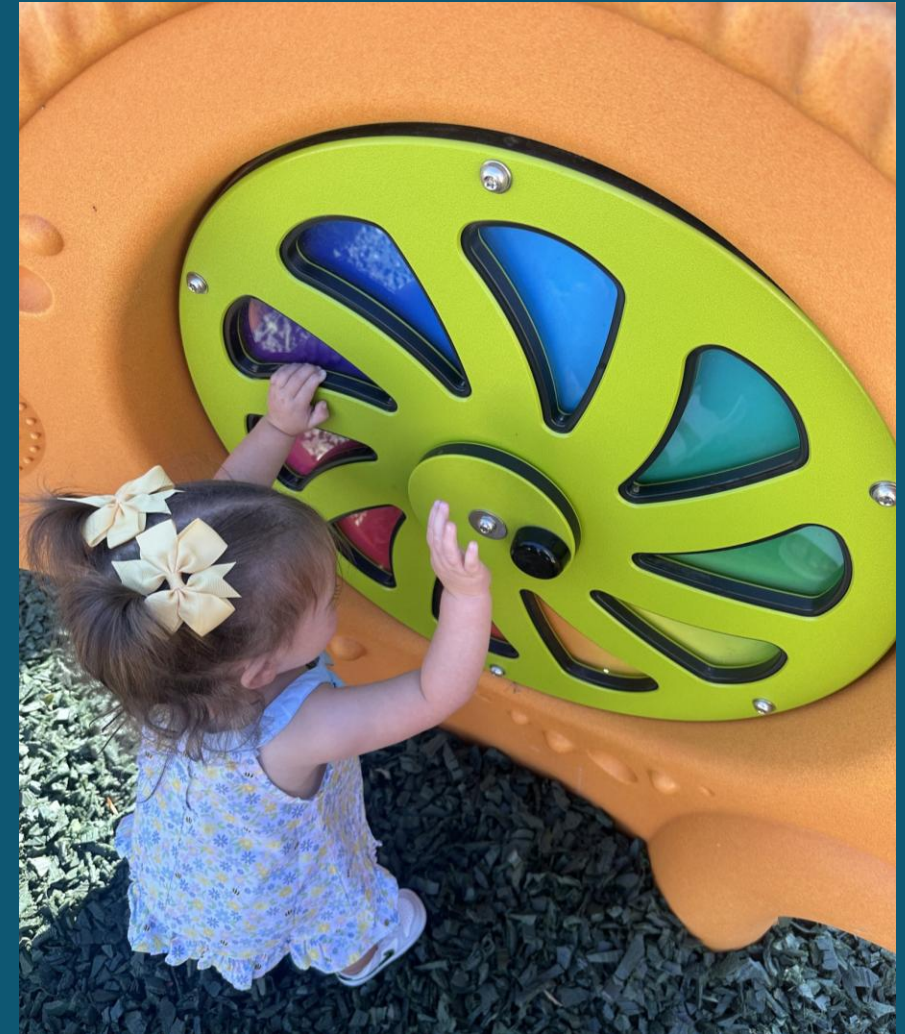


1. Contact Information & Eligibility
2. Funding Categories & Criteria
3. Budget Summary
4. Project Terms

What is this funding for?

NM Regional Recreation Centers/Quality of Life

This funding exists to improve the quality of life for New Mexico residents by creating new or expanding existing regional recreational facilities. These recreational facilities are defined as any project that will contribute to the quality of life for regional residents. Some examples of these recreational facilities could be a community center, skatepark, rodeo grounds, picnic shelters, or structures that enhance public based recreational activities.



Curry County – Sensory Area



Sierra County – Arrey Baseball Field

2025 HB2

\$50,000,000 for FY26

- For regional recreation centers and quality of life grants statewide.
- This appropriation is funded with the State of New Mexico General Funds.

Eligibility Requirements



Deming Waterpark

Eligible Applicants: NM Local Government Entities

Municipalities
Counties
Tribal Governments
Special Districts





City of Grants Multi-Purpose Arena

- **Economic Impact:** Project must show demonstrable benefit to a local community with limited access to recreational activities, either by attracting and retaining residents or attracting visitors.
- **Recreation Access:** The project must be open for public use. Note: Projects on tribal lands are eligible and do not have to be open to the general public but should be open to tribal members.

Eligibility Requirements

FY2026 Grant Cycle



- Applications open August 22, 2025
- Applications accepted until 5:00PM, September 12, 2025
- Applications will be scored by a review committee
- Reversion Date - June 30, 2026

Contract & Reporting Requirements



- Project must flow through a local public body to include counties, municipalities, tribal government or special district.
- Project must be completed by **June 30, 2026**
- A subgrant agreement will be executed between the state and the local government.
- The applicant must adhere to the project management and reporting guidelines set forth by the Department of Finance and Administration for the duration and completion of the project.
- Grant money will be awarded on a reimbursement basis after subgrant agreement has been executed.
- Applicant must submit progress report on a monthly basis. Final report should include photographs and narrative to include the number of beneficiaries and overall benefits to the community.
- Applicant must be willing to participate in marketing and promotional efforts throughout the project and beyond.
- Must be compliant with the Public Finance Accountability Act (2025 HB493).

Application Scoring



1. Recreational Impact Value: Level of improvement to the quality of life for regional residents.
2. Equity: Is this recreational project going to be in an underserved community with limited, or no other recreational opportunities?
3. Is there a comprehensive plan and a future funding source for the continued maintenance and programming of the facility?
4. Has this project been vetted and approved by the local public body?
5. Is the project shovel ready, how soon can it begin?
6. Is the entity applying for this grant in fiscal compliance with the Department of Finance & Administration for their yearly budget and audit compliance?
7. Has this project been previously submitted for Capital Outlay or other funding sources?
8. Has the project received other state or federal funding? If so, how much and when?

Purpose

This grant supports the **planning, design, equipping, and construction** of **regional recreation projects** that improve **quality of life** for New Mexico residents. Eligible projects include:

- Community centers or wellness hubs
- Indoor/outdoor recreation spaces
- Cultural or multigenerational gathering areas
- Accessibility and inclusion upgrades
- Adaptive fitness or play equipment
- Outdoor structures (e.g., skateparks, splash pads, amphitheaters)
- This grant **does not support** trail systems, vehicles, operational, programming, maintenance or projects duplicating Outdoor Recreation Division (ORD) grants.



Artesia Aquatic Center Ninja Course

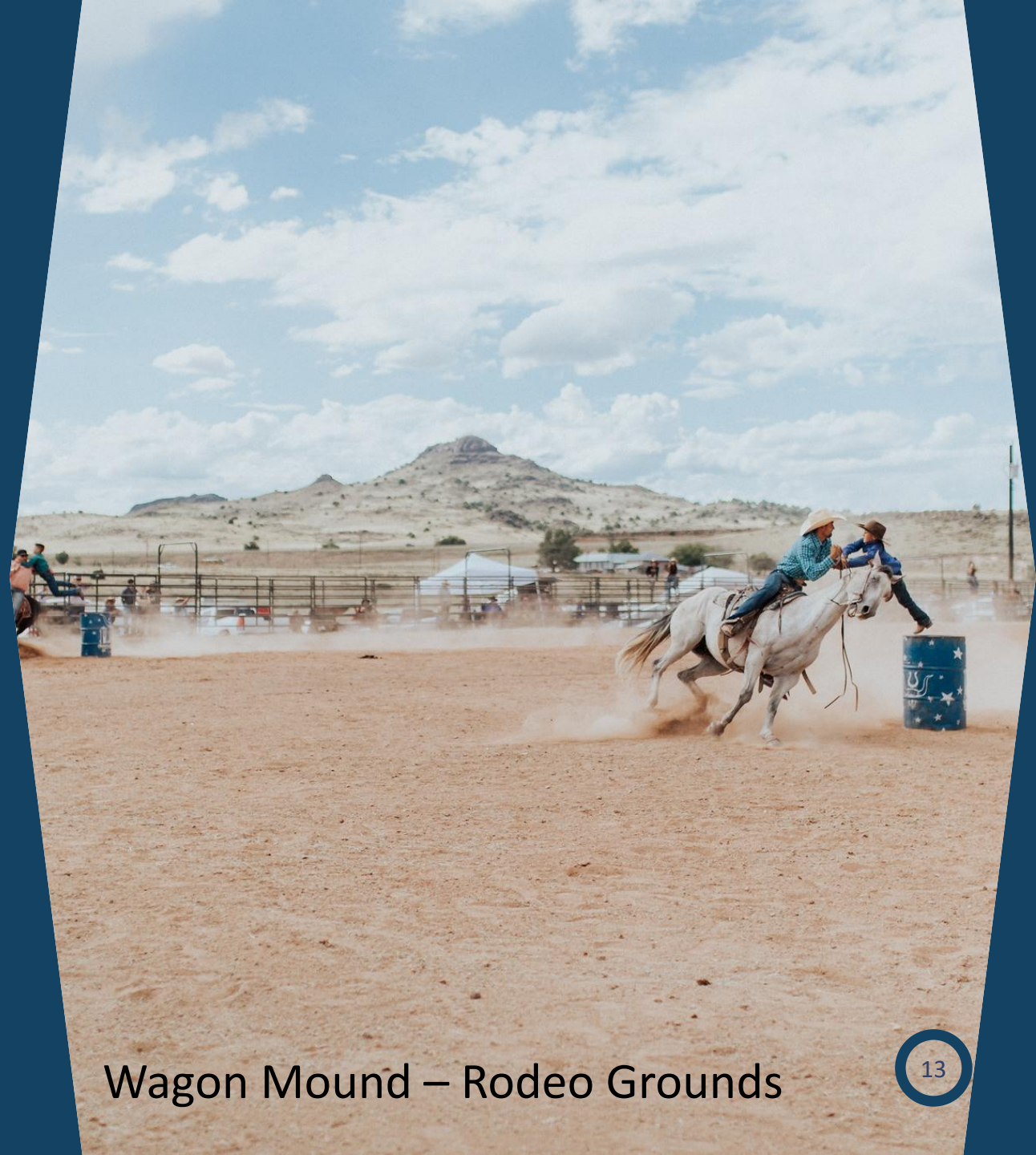
Prohibited Expenditures

- Trail Systems
- Trailheads
- Signage
- Outdoor classrooms
- River Access
- Heavy Equipment
- Vehicles



Budget

- Proposals must include an adequate budget for the proposed project. The applicant should explain how the funds will be utilized. Budget revenue sources – including outside sources of matching funding – should be explained in detail.
- Applicants must provide quotes or estimates. State and local procurement policies must be complied with for the duration of the project.
- The Department reserves the right to offer an award amount different than the amount requested.
- Send Budget (Exhibit 1), quotes/contracts, estimates, and any additional project information to RegionalRec.nm@dfa.nm.gov.





Project Terms

- A final contract is subject to review and approval of the application.
 - Applications will be reviewed, and funding awarded based on the number of applications submitted and available funding.
 - Please note that the Department does not guarantee that any contract may result from this application or that any particular funding level will be awarded.
 - It is anticipated that projects could commence immediately upon contract execution.
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- **Application Due – September 12, 2025**
 - **Webinar – Friday, August 22, 2025
10:00-11:00AM (Microsoft Teams)**
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- *The Department is not responsible for late or undeliverable email submissions.*

Special thanks to our LGD Leadership!
Cecilia Mavrommatis, Division Director
Jeannette Gallegos, Deputy Director



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