



New Mexico
Department of Finance
and Administration

Infrastructure Planning
and Development Division

January Newsletter

Leadership Updates

Welcome to 2026!

Happy New Year from the Infrastructure Planning and Development Division! As we kick off 2026, we're energized by the opportunities ahead to strengthen New Mexico's infrastructure and support communities across the state.

The 2026 Legislative Session is now underway, and we encourage you to stay informed about bills and initiatives that may impact infrastructure funding, capital projects, and local government programs. Whether it's new appropriations, policy changes, or funding mechanisms, this session will shape our work throughout the year.

Visit nmlegis.gov to track legislation in real time, review committee schedules, and access bill analyses. You can also sign up for bill alerts to follow specific topics relevant to your work.

We look forward to another year working in community with local governments and state agencies to get infrastructure projects done across the state. Thank you for your continued dedication to building stronger communities across New Mexico.

Spotlight



Technical Assistance Gateway (TAG) Launch

IPDD is excited to announce the launch of the Technical Assistance Gateway (TAG). Developed to help connect Local Units of Government, Tribes, Nations, and Pueblos, Utilities, and Schools to Technical Assistance in infrastructure, TAG focuses on the areas of water, transportation, broadband, and energy, as well as overarching supports such as project administration, budgeting and construction management.

TAG resources are organized across six main areas – **Products** (PDFs, web links, fact sheets, guides); **Programs** (including federal, state, non-profit); **TA providers** (such as COGs, non-profits, universities); **Tools** (maps, calculators, etc.); **Training** (in person, virtual, presentations, slide decks); and **Other** (additional resources outside the above categories). You can easily download resource lists and materials, save and share links, and bookmark webpages.

TAG is the result of nearly a year's collaboration with Environmental Research Group (ERG) to document and catalogue available technical assistance resources not just in New Mexico but nationally and across sectors. Tested during the New Mexico Infrastructure Finance Conference in early November, TAG received rave reviews for the capabilities, opportunities, and functions it provides. The tool officially launched on January 2, 2026, and was followed by two public trainings on January 7th and 8th. TAG is designed as a living resource where users can submit additional resources to enhance what's currently showcased. TAG can be accessed at tag.dfa.state.nm.us/

[TAG Website](https://tag.dfa.state.nm.us/)

New Team Member!



IPDD is pleased to welcome Marisa Valdez, recently hired as an Infrastructure Program Manager, currently detailed to the Office of Governor Michelle Lujan Grisham. In this role, Marisa supports statewide infrastructure coordination and milestone tracking while developing systems that improve project delivery across agencies and communities throughout New Mexico.

Marisa brings extensive public service experience to her work, including previous roles with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency and as a Peace Corps volunteer. As a University of New Mexico alumna, she applies a strong place-based perspective to infrastructure planning and implementation, ensuring that projects reflect the unique needs of New Mexico's diverse communities.

Capital Planning and Policy Bureau Updates



FY26 Capital Development Program Fund Grant Recommendations

In December, IPDD presented to the Legislative Finance Committee (LFC) with a list of recommended projects to be funded through the Capital Development Program Fund (CDPF), after a comprehensive review and scoring period. Approximately \$26.5M is available to fund applications to complete unfinished projects. IPDD recommended 15 projects to the LFC for inclusion in the 2026 capital bill. The legislature and the executive will make the final determination on project funding through the passage of the capital bill. After the bill is signed, these projects will follow the same process as traditional capital outlay projects. Grant agreements will be executed in the spring of 2026 and completing a questionnaire will be required. Quarterly reports will also be required to track expenditures and progress. All funded projects will have until June 30, 2028, to complete their work and spend down their grants. Any remaining funds appropriated from CDPF will revert to the Severance Tax Permanent Fund.

Project Accountability and Reporting System (PARS)

What it is and who should use it

PARS is a centralized, unified system designed for managing grant agreements, notices of obligation (or request to obligate funds), and pay requests for capital outlay grants and legislative appropriations. This system allows grantees to execute grant agreements, monitor encumbrances and expenditures, streamline communication and provide transparency and accountability for the entire funding process.

Currently PARS is used by the Department of Finance and Administration's Local Government Division (LGD) for Capital Outlay appropriations administered through their office, primarily for municipalities and counties across New Mexico. Since the introduction of the PARS system in September 2025, grantees can now check the status of their projects in real-time and avoid administrative delays.

The response from grantees about the use of PARS has been overwhelmingly positive. While the system is currently only used by LGD, the intent is to expand this service for all Capital Outlay grant recipients



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such as special districts, Nations, Pueblos, and Tribes, senior centers, etc. and their corresponding oversight state agencies. For additional information regarding PARS, please review the DFA webinar on the system (nmdfa.state.nm.us/wp-content/uploads/2025/09/PARS-Project-Accountability-Reporting-System-Webinar-20250903_130135-Meeting-Recording.mp4).

Capital Navigation and Funding Bureau Updates



Empowering Rural New Mexico: Ombud Report Published

IPDD proudly announces the release of the Annual Ombud Report. Throughout the past year and a half, Michael Gilmore and Jason Quintana conducted over 117 high-impact outreaches to support New Mexico's underserved regions. By tackling local pain points and coordinating direct technical training, the Ombud team has connected distressed municipalities, land grants, and acequias with navigating compliance requirements, state funding options, and infrastructure support. These efforts ensure that rural and frontier communities have a voice and advocate when navigating state processes.

Click below to read the full Annual Report.

[Annual Report](#)

Federal Grants Bureau Updates

What's New in 2 CFR 200: Key Updates Every Federal Grantee Should Know

Over the past year, the Office of Management and Budget (OMB) and federal agencies have made the most significant updates to 2 CFR 200 (Uniform Guidance) in nearly a decade. These changes are intended to

reduce administrative burden, modernize thresholds, and clarify compliance requirements for recipients and subrecipients of federal funds.

Below is a high-level overview of the most important updates and what they mean for federal grant management. Most changes apply to awards issued on or after October 1, 2024. Always review award-specific terms and conditions.

Topic	Before (Prior Guidance)	After (2024–2025 Updates)
Single Audit Threshold	\$750,000 in federal expenditures	\$1,000,000 in federal expenditures
Equipment Capitalization	\$5,000	\$10,000
Supplies	Items under \$5,000	Items under \$10,000 generally treated as supplies
De Minimis Indirect Cost Rate	10% of MTDC	Up to 15% of MTDC
MTDC Subaward Cap	First \$25,000 of each subaward	First \$50,000 of each subaward
Closeout – Indirect Costs	Final negotiated rate typically required	Most recent rate may be used
Conflict of Interest	Limited explicit coverage	Expanded to include board members and related parties
Geographic Preference in Procurement	Generally prohibited	Prohibition removed (if consistent with program rules)
HHS Grant Rules	45 CFR Part 75	2 CFR 200 + HHS-specific Part 300



Euna Grants powered by AmpliFund

EUNA Solutions, the parent company of EUNA Grants, acquired AmpliFund in March of 2025. The platform is now EUNA Grants powered by AmpliFund. This transition does not impact grant seekers (grantees). All awards and funding opportunities previously administered through AmpliFund have already transitioned seamlessly into EUNA Grants, and users may continue to access the system using their existing login credentials. For many grant seekers, the most noticeable change will be visual—trading AmpliFund green for EUNA purple—while everything behind the scenes continues to function as before.

Beyond branding, the acquisition expands EUNA Grants' ability to support the full grant lifecycle for state agencies—from opportunity creation and application intake to award management, financial oversight, compliance tracking, and reporting. Enhanced dashboards, configurable workflows, improved reporting tools, and flexible fiscal year and budget tracking

options allow agencies to align the system with federal and state requirements while reducing manual processes. Expanded training and support resources are also being developed to support both grant makers and grantees.

In FY26, multiple state agencies are actively implementing EUNA Grants to support grant administration and oversight while others are not far behind! The Department of Finance and Administration (DFA) Community Development Block Grant program is implementing grant maker functionality, including award setup, budgeting, lump-sum payment authorization, and budget tracking, along with data migration. Similar implementations are underway for the Department of Workforce Solutions, HUD/Youth Homelessness System Improvement (YHSI), and the New Mexico Department of Homeland Security and Emergency Management Mitigation and Recovery Bureau, with full deployment anticipated in FY27.

The Developmental Disabilities Council is also implementing grant maker capabilities with data migration, while the Energy, Minerals, and Natural Resources Department is transitioning to EUNA Grants for grant time allocation. Additionally, the Division of Vocational Rehabilitation is beginning implementation of grant seeker pre-award, post-award, and reporting structures, further expanding EUNA Grants usage statewide.

Updates for Grant Administrators



Internal Controls in Grant Management Series #2

Internal controls in grant management are the guiding principles that support an effective grant from the signed agreement to the close-out process. These controls, when integrated into a cohesive framework, provide reasonable assurance that grant funds are used efficiently, for authorized purposes, and in compliance with all applicable laws and regulations. The U.S. Government Accountability Office has a comprehensive guide, the [The Green Book](#), (OV2.04).

An important aspect of internal control is Risk Assessment. Prioritizing risks is crucial. Identifying what is the highest probability risk happening and what has the most significant impact, should be prioritized over a lower probability risk with much less impact. Analyzing risk could indicate a lack of internal controls. Such as:

- Major changes have not been reassessed such as reorganization, cuts in funding, expanding programs and staffing levels;
- Program objectives are not well-defined;
- There are no adequate performance measures; and
- Issues with fraud, waste, or abuse that have not been considered as a risk by the agency.

The agency can use a risk assessment tool ([NM Grants Management Readiness Assessment 2025.10.xlsx](#)) to determine their areas of risk. Audits can also point out findings that pose a risk and must be addressed.

General Updates



Start Smart: Secure Your UEI and SAM.gov Registration Before You Need It

Signing up in SAM.gov for a Unique Entity ID (UEI) is your gateway to federal grant applications and all things federal contracts, loans, and grants. It is the only method by which an entity to sign up to directly receive federal funding and the only way you can be paid, via an electronic funds transfer (EFT), if you obtain a federal grant or contract.

A UEI provides you with the credential to apply for and receive grants and government contracts seamlessly! It is also designed to ensure compliance and facilitate reporting.

Registration is free as is your annual renewal, which is mandatory to keep your credential active in the system. Most local government entities will choose to sign up for the Awards Only option. This designation requires less paperwork and is designed for those only seeking to apply for grants and not bid on government contracts.

The Federal Grants Bureau (FGB), has written a “How To” guide to set up your UEI in SAM.gov. Access the document here: [How to Set Up a Unique Entity Identifier.pdf](#).

Staff are available to assist with your questions.



PHISHING/SPAM Alert

A recent phishing attempt has been identified targeting entities through emails from **noreply@samsregistration.com**—a domain that

is not associated with any official government website. The email falsely claims to require "validation of the records associated with your entity" and issues a threatening warning: "Failure to complete this verification may result in processing delays or temporary ineligibility until compliance is restored." This message is **not legitimate** and appears to come from a business that charges entities to complete their SAM.GOV registration. If you need assistance in completing your SAM.GOV registration, please reach out to federalgrant.bureau@dfa.nm.gov and we'll walk you through the process. The incident has already been reported to the **General Services Administration (GSA)** for further investigation. Please remain vigilant and always verify the authenticity of unsolicited messages before taking any action.

From: SAM.gov Notice <nonreply@samsregistration.com>
Sent: Friday, January 9, 2026 10:21 AM
To: Priscilla Lucero <priscillalucero@swnmco.gov>
Subject: SAM.gov Registration & SBA Profile Review – SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SWMCOG) | CAGE Code: 53806

Dear PRISCILLA LUCERO,

As of **January 9, 2026**, during New Year federal compliance validations, the records associated with **SOUTHWEST NEW MEXICO COUNCIL OF GOVERNMENTS (SWMCOG)** were identified as requiring immediate verification to remain compliant.

Your business information did not fully align across required federal systems and is now pending a compliance review.

Why Immediate Action Is Required:

- Federal systems are undergoing mandatory New Year compliance validation
- Your business information did not fully align across SAM.gov and related federal databases
- Profiles with unresolved compliance items cannot advance or remain in active status

Compliance Requirements:

- **Non-Profits:** SAM registration required; SBA profile and Capability Statement not required unless pursuing contracting programs
- **For-Profits:** For-profit entities are required to maintain **active and aligned SAM registration, SBA business profile verification, and a current Capability Statement**, in accordance with updated federal procurement requirements under the **FAR and DFARS**.

Required Action: Complete your verification securely online.

SAM Registration Verification and Capability Statement Completion
Required for all entities (For-Profit and Non-Profit): This review confirms your legal business information, ownership details, and registration data to maintain active federal status. A Capability Statement is a standardized federal document used to present your business qualifications, core services, and compliance details for government review and contracting eligibility.
[Begin Now](#)

Funding Opportunities



Program: [National Infrastructure Investments \(Better Utilizing Investments to Leverage Development — BUILD\) Grant Program](#)

Agency: U.S. Department of Transportation

Deadline: 2/25/26 @ 5:00 pm EST

Funding: Minimum: Capital: \$1M (rural) / \$5M (urban). Planning: no minimum. Maximum: \$25 million.

Overview: This grant supports transportation-safety projects on public roads within Tribal lands. The goal is to help federally-recognized Tribes develop and



Program: [Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants](#)

Agency: Department of Housing and Urban Development

Deadline: March 9, 2026

Funding Available: Implementation grants maximum = \$26,000,000; Planning grants maximum = \$500,000

Overview: Choice Neighborhoods Implementation Grants support the implementation of a comprehensive plan that focuses on the revitalization of a severely distressed public housing and/or HUD-assisted housing project, while also

implement strategic safety plans, correct hazardous roadway conditions or features, and address highway safety risks.

improving the surrounding neighborhood and providing supportive services to improve quality of life outcomes for residents of the target housing project.

FGB will host drop-in office hours from 9am – 10am on January 12th and February 9th to provide technical assistance and support to applicants. [Zoom link](#)



Program: [Indian Highway Safety Law Enforcement Grant Application Instructions](#)

Agency: Bureau of Indian Affairs

Deadline: May 1, 2026

Funding: \$10,000 to \$1,000,000

Overview: The Bureau of Indian Affairs (BIA), Office of Justice Services (OJS), Indian Highway Safety Program (IHSP) solicit proposals for implementing traffic safety programs and projects that are designated to reduce the number of traffic crashes, deaths, and injuries within these populations. Indian Highway Safety Grants are financial assistance grants that are reimbursable and available to *federally recognized tribes*

Program: [Indian Highway Safety Grant - Lifesavers Conference Application Instructions](#)

Agency: Bureau of Indian Affairs

Deadline: March 13, 2026

Funding: \$650 to \$5,000

Overview: Funding to attend the [Lifesavers Conference](#) in Baltimore, April 19-21, 2026. Indian Highway Safety Grants are financial assistance grants that are reimbursable and available to *federally recognized tribes*.

Program: [Indian Highway Safety Occupant Protection Grant Application Instructions](#)

Agency: Bureau of Indian Affairs

Deadline: May 01, 2026

Funding: \$500 to \$90,000

Overview: Tribes can apply for the Child Passenger Safety Seat Program grant.

Additional Update:

[Federal Highway Administration \(FHWA\) Makes Approximately \\$33 Million Available for FYs 2024-2026 to Replace Terminated Awards Under the University Transportation Centers \(UTC\) Program.](#)

Letters of intent are due January 19, 2026, and full applications are due February 20, 2026. Funding will be provided in annual installments.

Disclaimer

We recommend that all funding opportunities be reviewed with internal or local legal counsel prior to final approval to ensure compliance with applicable laws, regulations, and organizational policies.



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