

NEW MEXICO TOURISM DEPARTMENT CLEAN AND BEAUTIFUL GRANT PROGRAM FY26 GUIDELINES

GRANT PURPOSE

The purpose of the New Mexico “Litter Control and Beautification Act,” NMSA 1978, § 67-16-1 et seq., is to accomplish litter control by vesting in the New Mexico Tourism Department (Department) the authority to eliminate litter from the state to the maximum practical extent. The Department shall aid in establishing a statewide Keep America Beautiful Program through the New Mexico Clean and Beautiful Grant Program to end littering, improve recycling, and beautify New Mexico communities.

ELIGIBILITY

All New Mexico municipalities, counties, units of government, and Tribal Governments in good standing with New Mexico Taxation and Revenue Department are eligible for funding (correct New Mexico State Tax ID numbers are required within the application process). Entities need not be Keep America Beautiful affiliates to apply.

ELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

Projects and initiatives that contribute to the following goals and objectives, as identified through Keep America Beautiful and the Litter Control and Beautification Act, may be eligible for funding:

Goal #1 - End Littering

- Objective 1.1 – Prevent littering.
- Objective 1.2 – Provide access to proper waste disposal.
- Objective 1.3 – Remove litter.

Goal #2 – Reduce Waste

- Objective 2.1 – Reuse.
- Objective 2.2 – Repair.
- Objective 2.3 – Repurpose.
- Objective 2.4 – Improve composting and sustainable organics management.
- Objective 2.5 – Improve recycling and sustainable materials management.

Goal #3 - Beautify Communities

- Objective 3.1 – Improve green spaces through sustainable park design.
- Objective 3.2 – Maximize sustainable landscaping throughout communities.
- Objective 3.3 – Prevent graffiti.
- Objective 3.4 – Eradicate graffiti.

Goal #4 – Empower Youth

- Objective 4.1 – Educate students.
- Objective 4.2 – Provide service opportunities for youth groups.
- Objective 4.3 – Employ youth interns.
- Objective 4.4 – Provide youth leadership opportunities.

- Youth initiatives must directly contribute to at least one of the above-mentioned goals.
- Applicants may either hire a youth group as a subcontractor or hire individual youth interns.
- For individual youth interns:
 - a) Individuals must be between 14 to 25 years of age.
 - b) Salary range = at least local minimum wage.
 - c) Youth Employment Verification forms are required for each youth employed.

Goal #5 – Increase Program Capacity

Objective 5.1 – Recruit and engage volunteers.

Objective 5.2 – Build coalitions through professional affiliations.

Objective 5.3 – Increase knowledge through professional development.

- Activities must directly contribute to at least one of the above-mentioned goals.

INELIGIBLE EXPENDITURES

NMTD shall have the right in its sole discretion to approve or disapprove Partner’s projects and/or expenditures submitted for final reimbursement. Items identified by the Department pursuant to the Keep America Beautiful and the Litter Control and Beautification Act that are ineligible for purchase with grant funds include but are not limited to:

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| • Benches and tables made from non-recycled material | • Landscaping rock |
| • Disinfectant wipes | • Leather and cotton gloves |
| • Disinfectants & air fresher | • Lighting |
| • Fencing materials | • Meeting space |
| • Food and/or drink | • Office supplies |
| • Fuel | • On-going maintenance needs |
| • Gardening tools | • Playground equipment |
| • Hardware for signage: trash receptacles & benches, etc. | • Rakes |
| • Heavy machinery rentals | • Shears |
| • Irrigation | • Shovels |
| • Labor (with the exception of youth subcontractors) | • Watering hoses |
| • Landscaping fabric | • Weed barrier & eradication spray |
| • Landscaping pavers | • Wheelbarrows |

BUDGET ADJUSTMENT REQUESTS

NMTD shall have the right in its sole discretion to approve or disapprove certain budget adjustment requests (BARs). Adjustments are used to transfer grant funds within NMCB established goals and objectives.

- Types of Budget Adjustments typically allowed for:
 - A transfer between awarded initiatives within the Partner’s current NMCB Project Award Schedule.
 - An authorization to expend funds on a new project within a NMCB Program established goal or objective on the Partner’s current Project Award Schedule due to an unforeseen difficulty or inability to complete an awarded initiative.
- Types of Budget Adjustments that are not allowed:
 - A transfer of grant funds from an awarded initiative to an initiative or project previously unfunded during the application and panel review process.

GRANT AGREEMENT

The grant award will be officially executed upon final signature from the Department. The executed agreement will then be distributed to all parties. Agreements will incorporate two accompanying exhibits: Project Award Schedule – including Approved Expenditures (*Exhibit A*) and these Grant Program Guidelines (*Exhibit B*).

INITIAL DISBURSEMENT OF FUNDS

Partners will be eligible to receive 50% of the total award amount following the execution of the grant agreement and submission of the Initial Disbursement Invoice. This form is available for download at the [NM Clean & Beautiful Grant Resources webpage](#).

COMPLIANCE REPORT REQUIREMENTS

Partner shall submit a Quarterly Milestone Report each quarter to NMTD staff via Survey Monkey Apply.

- Quarterly Milestone Reports shall include progress for all approved projects including but not limited to:
 - Implementation updates
 - Existing or anticipated challenges
 - Anticipation for Budget Amendment Requests
 - Photos and videos
 - Media mentions

Partner shall participate in a Mid-Point Meeting with NMTD staff on or before December 30, 2025.

- Partner must provide up-to-date financial documentation and current Project Expense Worksheet.
- Partner must provide project progress updates for all grant funded projects.

MEMORANDUMS OF UNDERSTANDING WITH NONPROFIT ORGANIZATIONS AND SCHOOLS

Unless previously approved by the Department, this grant shall not benefit any person or organization other than the awarded Partner. In the event Partner chooses to collaborate with a local non-profit or New Mexico school district to implement and complete an awarded project or initiative, Partner must provide either a Memorandum of Understanding, sub-agreement and/or signed attestation detailing their performance and responsibilities relating to the grant award. Partners are required to participate in all awarded initiatives and may not accept performance on behalf of a party not named in the original agreement.

VOLUNTEER SIGN-IN SHEETS

All volunteer hours should be documented on a Volunteer Sign-In Sheet. Sign-in sheets should specify the name, age, event, date, location and time logged. All volunteer names must be clear and legible.

YOUTH EMPLOYMENT VERIFICATION

Individuals from the ages 14 to 25 years of age may be hired to provide leadership opportunities and contribute to Partner's awarded initiative. Youth Employment Verification forms are required for each youth employed and must be submitted to the Department. Partner will not be reimbursed for hired youth interns absent the required forms.

MATCHING REQUIREMENTS

This grant requires a 25% match. The following sections may be used to determine the costs and calculate totals for In-Kind & Monetary Donations, which must be reported in the End-of-Year Report.

Donated Goods or Services:

Entities may receive non-monetary contributions of goods or services, often referred to as "in-kind donations" from businesses, groups, and individuals. Examples include private waste hauler services, "pro-bono" accounting services, food/drinks, donated advertising space, or office space in a nongovernment building. The dollar value of any donated goods or services is equal to the market price of the goods or services contributed. Whenever possible, submit the dollar-value in writing.

How to Calculate Government Costs:

Government employee time and services for which they receive government salary, overtime or compensatory time are considered a cost. If a government employee is working on a project on their own time, as a volunteer or board member, calculate their time as a volunteer hour. Government in-kind goods include hauling by sanitation vehicles, printing, and the use of consumable supplies. To calculate the value of in-kind government agency costs, estimate the market value of the goods or services provided to your affiliate and add to that the dollar-value for each hour of work given by government employees.

Volunteer Hours:

All volunteer hours should be documented on a Volunteer Sign-In Sheet. Volunteer Sign-In sheets must include event date, location, and number of hours volunteered. Each volunteer hour should be assigned the applicable state value provided by Independent Sector unless a professional provides a specific value for professional services. Current value for volunteer hours is available at <https://independentsector.org/resource/value-of-volunteer-time>.

REIMBURSEMENT REQUIREMENTS

In order to receive reimbursement for the remaining 50% of the total award amount, Partners must submit the Final Reimbursement Request Packet at project end.

Final Reimbursement Request Packet should be submitted no later than *June 2, 2026*, and include:

- Final Reimbursement Invoice
- Project Expense Worksheet with back-up documentation*
- Youth Employment Verification forms, if applicable
- Event and trainings registration confirmations, and Keep America Beautiful Affiliate dues receipt, if applicable

*Eligible back-up documentation includes:

1. Invoices or receipts

AND

2. Cleared checks, warrants, bank statements or an attestation by Partner's CFO or equivalent financial authority.

Final End-of-Year Packets (Metrics) should include, submitted no later than *July 3, 2026*:

- End-of-Year Report
- Volunteer Sign-in Sheet, if applicable

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS

Submission of all required forms and back-up documentation must be submitted via upload to the Survey Monkey Apply portal located at: <https://nmtourism.smapply.io/>

PROGRAM RESOURCES

All required forms are available for download at the NM Clean & Beautiful Grant Resources webpage at: <https://nmtourism.smapply.io/res/p/nmcbresources/>

PROGRAM ASSISTANCE

To reach NMTD for technical assistance for all applicants, please email grantinfo@td.nm.gov.