

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs) – About DWS

Question: How can I find out about employer opportunities at DWS?

Answer: Open positions for all state government agencies can be found on the state personnel website www.spo.state.nm.us.

Question: What does the Department of Workforce Solutions do?

Answer: The New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions fosters and promotes the welfare of the job seekers and wage earners by improving their working conditions, advancing their opportunities for profitable employment, helping employers find workers, and tracking changes in employment, prices, and other local economic measurements. The Department also administers a variety of Federal labor laws including those that guarantee workers' rights to safe and healthful working conditions; a minimum hourly wage and overtime pay; freedom from employment discrimination; unemployment insurance; and other income support.

The Vision of the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions is a world-class, market-driven workforce delivery system that prepares New Mexico job seekers to meet current and emerging needs of New Mexico businesses; and ensures that every New Mexico citizen who needs a job will have one; and every business who needs an employee will find one with the necessary skills and work readiness to allow New Mexico businesses to compete in a global economy.

Question: What is the Veterans' Employment Service?

Answer: The Veterans' Employment & Training Section (VETS) ensures that job and training services are offered to Veterans on a priority of service with regard to job placement, counseling, testing, referral to supportive services, job development, and job training.

Question: What is the Employment and Training Administration (ETA)?

Answer: Employment and Training Administration is a federal agency that operates under the U.S. Department of Labor. The agency's responsibilities include monitoring and administering information to the U.S. Labor market. It is focused on employee development and training, increasing employment opportunities and helping manager local and state unemployment insurance.

Question: How can I locate key DWS Personnel?

Answer: Look under our [Department Directory](#) located on our home page for numbers to specific divisions and bureaus.

Question: What is the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS)?

Answer: The Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is the principal fact-finding agency for the federal government in the broad field of labor economics and statistics. BLS is an independent national statistical agency that collects, processes, analyzes, and disseminates essential statistical data to the American public, the U.S. Congress, other federal agencies, state and local governments, business, and labor. BLS also serves as a statistical resource to the Department of Labor.

BLS data must satisfy a number of criteria, including relevance to current social and economic issues, timeliness in reflecting today's rapidly changing economic conditions, accuracy and consistently high statistical quality, and impartiality in both subject matter and presentation.

Question: How do I become a Department of Workforce Solutions Vendor?

Answer: State Purchasing Division (SPD) is responsible for the administration of the New Mexico State Procurement Code that involves identifying products and services that are biddable items and contacting vendors who wish to participate in bids for such times on a statewide or specific agency basis. SPD seeks to conserve public funds and ensure fairness to vendors by procuring goods, services, and construction at competitive prices consistent with required quality and timeliness standards. SPD practices and supports. For more information please visit <http://www.generalservices.state.nm.us/spd/> or call 505-827-0472, or fax 505-827-2484.

For more information on doing business with State agencies, please visit:
http://www.generalservices.state.nm.us/spd/spd_how.html

Question: How can I obtain a copy of the DWS organizational structure?

Answer: The organizational chart for the department is located under [About NMDWS](#) off of the home page.

Question: What is the Workforce Investment Act (WIA)?

Answer: The Workforce Investment Act of 1998 (WIA) supersedes the Job Training Partnership Act (JTPA) and amends the Wagner-Peyser Act. WIA also contains the Adult Education and Family Literacy Act (title II) and the Rehabilitation Act Amendments of 1998 (title IV). WIA reforms federal job training programs and creates a new, comprehensive workforce investment system. The reformed system is intended to be customer-focused, to help Americans access the tools they need to manage their careers through information and high quality services, and to help U.S. companies find skilled workers. This new law embodies seven key principles. The Department of Labor (DOL) has issued a Final Rule implementing provisions of titles I, III and V of the Workforce Investment Act. For further information click [here](#).

Question: What is the Foreign Labor Certification (FLC) process for hiring foreign workers?

Answer: Hiring foreign workers for employment in the U.S. normally requires approval from several government agencies. In most instances, employers first seek labor certification from the U.S. Department of Labor (DOL). Once the application is certified (approved) by DOL, the employer must petition the U.S. Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) for a visa. Approval of a labor certification application does not guarantee a visa issuance. The Department of State (DOS) will issue a visa number to the foreign worker for U.S. entry. Applicants must also establish that they are admissible to the U.S. under the provisions of the Immigration and Nationality Act (INA).

The FLC process is the responsibility of the employer, not the employee; however, the employee can benefit from understanding these programs. The actual procedures depend on the nature of the visa being requested: [Permanent](#), [H-1B](#), [H-1B1](#), [E-3](#), [H-1C](#), [H-2A](#), [H-2B](#), [D-1](#).