



NEW MEXICO CORRECTIONS DEPARTMENT

MICHELLE LUJAN GRISHAM, GOVERNOR

Alisha Tafoya Lucero, Cabinet Secretary

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

Contact: Brittany Roembach
Public Information Officer, Corrections Department
Brittany.roembach@cd.nm.gov
505-382-3541

Tuesday, August 6, 2024

Inmates earn Class A CDL in pioneering program

Program allows inmates to earn CDL license for immediate post-incarceration employment

HAGERMAN– In a groundbreaking achievement, the New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) proudly announces that eight inmates at the Roswell Correctional Center (RCC) have successfully obtained their Class A Commercial Driver's License (CDL) after completing a rigorous certification process.

“The success of this CDL program underscores the value of working together as a state, to foster positive change,” said **NMCD Cabinet Secretary Alisha Tafoya Lucero**. “These vocational opportunities empower inmates to acquire valuable skills and secure employment upon their release, ultimately contributing to safer communities across New Mexico.”

The program spans five weeks and consists of one week of theoretical instruction, followed by four weeks of practical driving instruction. Two additional RCC inmates are scheduled to take the CDL test next week, further expanding the program's impact.

The Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act (WIOA) Eastern Board has been instrumental in funding this unique initiative. Other key community partnerships include the Eastern Area Local Workforce Development Board (EAWDB), the New Mexico Department of Workforce Solutions (NMDWS), and the Mountain View Vocational Institute.

Post-incarceration tracking

Career consultants at New Mexico Workforce Connection Centers and the Mountain View Vocational Institute will support participants in finding post-incarceration employment. Additionally, they will track participant progress and report that data to NMCD.

###

The New Mexico Corrections Department (NMCD) is one of the largest state departments in New Mexico. The department staff and volunteers are fully committed to integrating programs in its facilities for rehabilitation. It is through programs and services the department aims to improve outcomes for offenders and enhance public safety in communities. For more information, visit cd.nm.gov or follow NMCD on [Facebook](#), [Instagram](#), [LinkedIn](#), [X](#) at @NMCDPIO.