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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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\$15,000 grants available to take school kids on State Park field trips
Kids in Parks travel grants open to all New Mexico public schools

SANTA FE – The New Mexico State Parks Division is accepting applications from public schools and teachers for grants up to \$15,000 to help pay for buses or other forms of transportation to get students out to state parks.

The grant funds must be expended during the 2025-2026 school year. November 14 is the application deadline.

“Our 35 state parks serve as outdoor classrooms, with outstanding curriculum-based programs for connecting students to natural and cultural resources throughout our state,” said **State Parks Director Toby Velásquez**. “The Kids in Parks grants are essential to making sure schools have the necessary funds to bring students to the parks. We are proud of this long-standing educational outdoor classroom program.”

The New Mexico State Parks Division has built lasting partnerships with schools and teachers through its travel program. The program welcomes new grant applicants each year and encourages previous recipients to apply again.

Applicants must be teachers or representatives of a public or public-charter school within a New Mexico school district. The strongest applications are those that clearly link classroom study with the proposed field trip. The trip must be to a New Mexico State Park. A list of state parks is available at <http://www.emnrd.nm.gov/spd>.

Details on how to apply for a grant can be found at <http://bit.ly/42WtJAp>.

Teachers who received grants in the 2024-2025 school year rated their overall park experience a 9.3 on a 10-point scale.

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A student on a field trip to Sugarite Canyon State Park - photo courtesy of New Mexico State Parks

The Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department provides resource protection and renewable energy resource development services to the public and other state agencies.

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