



HEALTH CARE
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Date: March 1st, 2026

To: Developmental Disabilities (DD) Waiver Providers and Mi Via Waiver Vendor Providers

From: Alix Dean, Community Inclusion and Employment Lead
Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD)

Subject: Provider Scholarships to Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Conference

The Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD) is pleased to announce a scholarship opportunity for providers to attend the 2026 National Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Conference, held June 8th – 11th, 2026 in Dallas, TX.

The 2026 National APSE Conference is an interdisciplinary event where providers and staff can learn how to support inclusive employment opportunities in their community. This year, the presentations will focus on:

- Technology and Employment First
- Supporting Underserved Populations
- Funding and Managing Employment Services; and
- Innovation in Employment Support Services

The opportunity is available to providers and vendors supporting people receiving services through either the DD Waiver or Mi Via Waiver. Scholarships are intended to strengthen provider capacity, promote best practices, and advance Employment First outcomes statewide.

Attendee selection will prioritize a variety of provider types. All interested providers are encouraged to apply. Selected provider staff must commit to delivering at least one post-conference presentation, either to DDSD staff or through a Partners for Employment (PFE) meeting. Priority will be given to providers in the following areas:

- Community Inclusion and Employment
- Case Management and Consultant Services
- Behavior Support Consultation

Six provider conference scholarships will be administered through PFE to cover:

- Conference registration
- Lodging at conference hotel
- Airfare from Albuquerque Sunport or El Paso International Airport
- Reimbursement for meals, contingent upon compliance with Partners for Employment travel policy

Interested providers can email nsandweiss@salud.unm.edu with questions.

All applicants must submit the NM Provider Delegate Application (attached) along with all required materials, no later than March 6, 2026, to nsandweiss@salud.unm.edu.



**Partners for Employment
2026 APSE National Conference**

DDSD Delegate Application

Thank you for your interest in serving as a New Mexico Provider delegate to the Association of People Supporting Employment First (APSE) Conference in Dallas, TX on June 9-11, 2026.

You can learn more about the 2026 APSE conference [here](#).

If you are selected as a delegate, Partners for Employment at the UNM Center for Development and Disability will purchase your conference registration, lodging at the conference hotel, meals, and travel to and from the Albuquerque Sunport or El Paso International Airport—whichever is closer to you.

Provider delegates will depart from New Mexico on Monday, June 8, 2026 and return on Thursday, June 11, 2026. Arrangements for time off will need to be coordinated between the delegates and their supervisor.

Expenses outside the conference schedule are the responsibility of each delegate or the agency they represent. Please note that Partners for Employment cannot facilitate arrangements for any accompanying family members. If you are chosen as a New Mexico Provider delegate and agree to attend but subsequently cancel, you may be held responsible for any non-refundable expenses.

Delegate spots are limited, so we are interested in your motivation for wanting to attend this year's APSE conference. Please complete the delegate application in the fillable form to nsandweiss@salud.unm.edu by Friday, March 6.

Thank you! We look forward to your application.

DDSD Delegate Application

1. First/Last name:
2. Email:
3. Provider Agency Name (or your name if you provide services for someone on Mi Via)
4. Have you attended an APSE conference in the past? If so, which year(s)?
5. Please check the role that best describes you:
 - Person with a disability seeking employment
 - Employment Support Provider (job coach/job developer)
 - Direct Support Professional
 - Behavior Support Consultant
 - Service Coordinator
 - Case Manager/Consultant
 - Other: _____
6. Are you willing to present what you learned at the APSE conference in various DDSD and/or PFE stakeholder settings?
7. If you are selected as a New Mexico Provider delegate, do you agree to travel to and from Dallas, TX on June 8 and 11, departing either from Albuquerque Sunport or El Paso International Airport?
8. If necessary, are you willing to become a UNM vendor to process reimbursements?

Thank you!

***Please don't forget to submit your completed application to
nsandweiss@salud.unm.edu by Friday, March 6.***

Chosen delegates will be notified by email by Friday, March 13.

Partners for Employment is a collaborative partnership among the New Mexico Division of Vocational Rehabilitation (NMDVR), the New Mexico Health Care Authority/Developmental Disabilities Supports Division (DDSD), and the University of New Mexico's Center for Development and Disability (CDD). Partners for Employment provides training, resources, and technical assistance to professionals, individuals, and families who are building their capacity to deliver high quality Supported Employment, Community Inclusion and School-to-Work Transition services.

