

State of New Mexico  
Energy, Minerals and Natural Resources Department

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**Tommy Mutz, Division Director**  
State Parks Division



## News Release

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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# NM State Parks and Friends Support Transportation Grants for Outdoor Classrooms

**Santa Fe, NM** – This fall teachers can apply for several different transportation grants for fieldtrips to NM State Parks. The following are the most recent grant opportunities available.

### ***Kids 'n Parks Transportation Grants***

NM State Parks invites schools and teachers to apply for transportation grants to take school children to State Parks during the 2014-15 school year. The *Kids 'n Parks Transportation Grants* are a component of the highly successful New Mexico Outdoor Classroom Program. **Applications are due by October 24, 2014.**

“State Parks strongly supports meaningful, hands-on outdoor classroom experiences,” said State Park Director Tommy Mutz. “These grants provide opportunities for children to learn about stewardship of the beautiful resources in our State Parks in a fun and interactive way.”

The State Parks Division has formed lasting partnerships with schools and teachers. Previous grant recipients are encouraged to apply again, and State Parks is also seeking first-time applicants who are willing to commit to participate in the Outdoor Classroom Program.

Outdoor Classroom Program trips must be to a New Mexico State Park and a list of parks is available at [www.nmparks.com](http://www.nmparks.com). The applicant must be a teacher or representative of a public or public-charter school within a New Mexico school district. The strongest applications are those that most clearly link classroom study with the proposed field trip. Teachers may plan one or more field trips, but cost will be a selection consideration.

### ***Cerrillos Hills State Park Transportation Grants***

The Amigos de Cerrillos Hills support group is sponsoring transportation grants to Santa Fe area schools for educational field trips to Cerrillos Hills State Park. This park is located approximately 16 miles south of Santa Fe and 3 miles north of Madrid and features hiking trails, mining history and interesting geology.

The grant covers the cost of the bus rental with a maximum of 2 buses per trip at \$130 per bus, plus the park day use fee of \$15 per bus.

Classes must participate in a ranger-guided program or provide a lesson plan for approval as part of the application. Funds are limited and the grant cycle will remain open until all funds are expended. Contact

Regional Interpretive Ranger, Peter Lipscomb at [peter.lipscomb@state.nm.us](mailto:peter.lipscomb@state.nm.us) or 505-474-0196 for more information.

### ***Hyde Memorial State Park Transportation Grants***

The Friends of Hyde Memorial State Park are sponsoring transportation grants to Santa Fe area schools for educational field trips to Hyde Memorial State Park. This park is located north of Santa Fe on Hyde Park Road and is set in the Sangre de Cristo Mountains, featuring trails, group facilities, and the Little Tesuque Creek.

The grant covers the cost of the bus rental with a maximum of 2 buses per trip at \$130 per bus, plus the park day use fee of \$15 per bus.

Classes must participate in a ranger-guided program or provide a lesson plan for approval as part of the application. Funds are limited and the grant cycle will remain open until all funds are expended.

Contact Regional Interpretive Ranger, Peter Lipscomb at [peter.lipscomb@state.nm.us](mailto:peter.lipscomb@state.nm.us) or 505-474-0196 for more information.

### ***How to Apply***

Teachers are encouraged to apply soon and are invited to bring students to any of the 35 NM State Parks. Detailed information and applications for all grants described above can be found at [www.nmparks.com](http://www.nmparks.com).

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*Conditions are Right for Adventure at Your 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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