

NEW MEXICO

No Response From 2003 Survey

1. WAGE/BENEFIT ENHANCEMENTS		2. TRAINING AND OTHER INITIATIVES	3. TASK FORCES & COMMISSIONS
<p>Wages (includes wage pass-throughs)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Mexico's Personal Care Option program raised the bar for salaries paid to direct-care staff (currently \$9 per hour). This is influencing salaries in other program areas by moving direct-caregivers more towards a "livable wage." 	<p>Benefits</p>	<p>(Includes career ladders)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Mexico has recently taken steps to standardize the way in which Nurse Aides can become and maintain their certifications. These changes also allow CNAs from non-Medicaid facilities throughout the state to utilize the same standardized process, making it easier for CNAs to remain certified. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Mexico currently has two Quality Cabinet sub-committees focusing on recruitment, retention, career ladder development, minimum staffing, and other issues related to direct-caregivers. The State Legislature recently passed a memorial in both houses that will study these areas and report back to the body by November 2002.

4. STAFFING RATIOS	5. SYSTEMS CHANGE GRANT WORKFORCE INITIATIVES	6. OTHER INITIATIVES NOT COVERED ABOVE
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> New Mexico is currently in the middle of a Quality Cabinet subcommittee process to make recommendations on staffing 		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Medicaid has two advisory bodies that focus planning and funding on the state's most urgent health care needs, the Medicaid Advisory Council and the Medicaid Long-Term Care Advisory Committee.