

THE COOPERATIVE CATALYST

OF NEW MEXICO
fostering cooperative enterprise



What is a cooperative?

Cooperatives (also known as co-ops) are member-owned organizations democratically controlled by individuals or groups who come together for a business or community-oriented purpose. They exist in every industry and range in size from a few owners to thousands.

Only members vote and govern the cooperative. Members can include producers, consumers, organizations, employees or multiple small businesses. Every member/owner gets one equal vote, regardless of how much money the member invests in the business.

A cooperative is different from other business structures because ownership is achieved through participation in the organization, not by purchasing shares on the open market or through a private investment. Typically, co-ops distribute their profits back to owners based on their participation in the business.

Whether formal or informal, they support communities and increase opportunities.

7 COOPERATIVES PRINCIPLES

1. Open and Voluntary Membership
2. Democratic Member Control
3. Members' Economic Participation
4. Autonomy and Independence
5. Education, Training & Information
6. Cooperation Among Cooperatives
7. Concern for Community

POTENTIAL BENEFITS OF COOPERATIVES

1. Increased income
2. Better living conditions
3. Increased visibility & marketing
4. More economic power
5. Better quality products
6. Shared services, equipment & resources
7. Reduced operating costs
8. More opportunities to succeed



Cooperatives work for:

- Employees who want to own a business.
- Retiring business owners who want to convert to an employee-owned business.
- A group of consumers who want access to food or other products.
- Individuals or businesses who have a concept better pursued as a collective.

We're here to help.

- Explore business ideas.
- Consult on cooperative structures.
- Facilitate cooperative business development.



About Us

The Cooperative Catalyst of New Mexico empowers communities and individuals to create more economic opportunities by catalyzing and fostering local cooperatives.

We serve as a resource for individuals, groups, companies, and other organizations interested in forming, converting to, or growing cooperatives.

We follow a proven process to help cooperatives form, grow, and succeed. We provide training, education, and mentorship and connect current or potential cooperatives to other resource providers, including financing.



**Are you ready to be a
part of a cooperative?
Get started today!**

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