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**For Immediate Release**

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## **Sandoval County Treasurer's Office Now Accepting Applications for the 2025 Junior County Treasurers' Program**

*This year's program offers high school elective course credit*

Bernalillo, NM, March 31, 2025—**Jennifer A. Taylor**, Sandoval County Treasurer, announced today that applications for the *Sandoval County Treasurer's Office 2025 Junior County Treasurers' Program* will be accepted starting **Monday, March 31, 2025**. In making the announcement, *Treasurer Taylor* said, "This is our third year, and our goal is to offer the most beneficial program possible. We appreciate the support of the education community as participating schools will give elective course credits this year to the selected Junior County Treasurers."

All Sandoval County high school juniors and seniors are invited to apply. The semester-long program begins in August 2025. Treasurer Taylor reminds applicants that this program is an excellent addition to a student's resume or higher education application.

### **How to Apply**

Interested students (high school juniors and seniors in Sandoval County) must submit a short essay (200 words or more) that explains why they would like to participate in the program. A panel of three will review all the submitted essays and select four Junior County Treasurers. **Essays are due Friday, May 16, 2025, by 5:00 p.m. The four selected candidates will be announced on Friday, May 23, 2025.**

Essays should be emailed in PDF format to Treasurer Taylor at [jtaylor@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:jtaylor@sandovalcountynm.gov). If you have questions, contact Orlando A. Jacquez, Administrative Assistant to the Treasurer's Office, at 505-867-7579 or [ojacquez@sandovalcountynm.gov](mailto:ojacquez@sandovalcountynm.gov).

### **About the Program**

Treasurer Taylor explained that each year the program evolves building upon the success of the year before. This is the only program of its type in the State. "Our goal is to enhance the curriculum and the experience of this *free-of-charge*, hands-on local government learning program that benefits our youth. We are fortunate in that we will enroll four Junior County Treasurers in 2025." (In prior years, there were two Junior County Treasurers.)

Upon completing the activities described below, each Junior County Treasurer will receive a Plaque of Recognition and a medallion at a Sandoval County Board of County Commissioners Meeting.

During the program, the Junior County Treasurers will follow a curriculum that includes learning about:

- Property tax collection processes.
- Allocation of collected funds to various services, including DWI programs, fire, and 911 services, libraries, public safety initiatives, senior programs, road and infrastructure projects, landfill operations, and detention center management.
- Development of essential customer service skills for interacting with the public in the Treasurer's Office.
- Fundamental principles of government investments and the relevant state law criteria.
- The critical role of transparency in all county financial reporting.

Mandatory curriculum requirements are:

1. Attendance at a County Commission Meeting.
2. Attendance at a Board of Finance Meeting.
3. Attendance at a Sandoval County Investment Committee Meeting.
4. Weekly on-the-job shadowing in the Treasurer's Office equaling 90 hours (elective earning HS credit).
5. Participation in a mock Board of Finance Meeting.

Please note that students are responsible for transportation to and from the County.

*Sandoval County, the fastest-growing county in New Mexico, encompasses 3,714 square miles of diverse geography and has a population of approximately 156,000 people. It includes the incorporated municipalities of Bernalillo, Cuba, Corrales, Jemez Springs, Rio Rancho, San Ysidro, and the Town of Cochiti Lake as well as numerous unincorporated communities, and all or portions of 12 Indian Pueblos and Tribal Nations. For more information, visit [www.sandovalcountynm.gov](http://www.sandovalcountynm.gov).*

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## RECOGNIZING ACHIEVEMENT

March 26, 2025, Sandoval County Board of County Commissioners Meeting.

After receiving their plaques and medallions signifying the official completion of their semester-long *Junior County Treasurers Program*, *Giavanna Almanzar* (left center) and *Mario Templeton* (right center) stood with Sandoval County Treasurer **Jennifer A. Taylor** (center) and the entire Sandoval County Board of County Commissioners (from left: **Jordan Juarez**, Vice Chair, District 4; **Jon Herr**, Commissioner, District 2; **Katherine A. Bruch**, Commissioner, District 1; **Michael Meek**, Chair, District 3; and **Joshua A. Jones**, Commissioner, District 5) to celebrate their achievement. The Junior County Treasurers Program, the only one of its kind in the State, provides a hands-on learning opportunity and public service experience.

