

Frances Padilla

District Director



Frances A. Padilla was named the district director for the Colorado District Office in January 2017. As Director, she is the Chief Executive Officer responsible for directing the expansion and delivery of SBA's various loan and business training services throughout the State of Colorado.

Prior to her current position, she was the deputy district director where she led the Entrepreneurial Development and Lender Relations divisions in the Colorado office. As deputy district director, Ms. Padilla managed the agency's relationships and collaborations with financial institutions, resource partners, local government officials, and economic development organizations.

Before coming to Colorado, Ms. Padilla served as the deputy district director and chief of finance in the New Mexico District Office providing direction, management, oversight, and deployment of the SBA's Capital Access programs to internal and external stakeholders. In addition to her responsibilities at the district office level, Ms. Padilla also served as a regional lender relations trainer, and has participated on several field advisory committees at SBA headquarters.

During her SBA career, Frances has served as the statewide point of contact for commercial and community-based lending institutions providing lender training and technical assistance. She has also served as the District International Trade Officer, Brand Manager, Public Information Officer, District Office Technical Representative, and Women's Business Ownership Liaison.

Before joining the SBA team in 2007, Ms. Padilla worked for USDA Rural Development, the State of New Mexico's Department of Finance & Administration, and the New Mexico Finance Authority. Her career includes over 20 years of experience in public finance, guaranteed lending, governmental relations, project management, strategic planning, and community development. A native of Santa Fe, New Mexico, Ms. Padilla earned her Bachelor of Arts in business management from the College of Santa Fe.