

# Brownfield Cleanup Grants

PCFO IGAP Grant Snapshot

September 16, 2022

<u>Agency:</u> Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)	<u>Bureau:</u> Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR)
<u>Application Deadline:</u> November 22, 2022	<u>Max Award:</u> \$2 million

## Description

EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower states, tribal nations, communities, and nonprofit organizations to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites. Cleanup Grants provide funding for eligible entities to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites. An applicant must own the site for which it is requesting funding.

## Eligible Recipients

1. Local governments
2. Land Clearance Authority
3. Government entity created by State Legislature
4. Regional Council established under governmental authority
5. Redevelopment agency that is chartered or otherwise sanctioned by a state
6. State
7. Indian tribe other than in Alaska
8. Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and Metlakatla Indian Community
9. Nonprofit organization with 501(c)(3) status
10. Limited liability corporation in which all managing members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations or limited liability corporations whose sole members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations.
11. Limited partnership in which all general partners are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations or limited corporations whose sole members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations
12. Qualified community development entity
13. Other nonprofit organizations

An applicant must be the sole owner of the site(s) that is the subject of its Cleanup Grant application and must own the site(s) by November 22, 2022, to be eligible to receive a Cleanup Grant.

## Matching Grant Requirements

None required

## Eligible Projects

Cleanup Grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant. An applicant may only submit ONE Cleanup Grant application in the FY23 competition cycle. Applicants may request either:

- Up to \$500,000 to clean up one brownfield site or to allocate up to \$500,000 among multiple sites;
- Between \$500,001 and \$1,000,000 to clean up one brownfield site or to allocate among multiple sites; or
- Between \$1,000,001 and \$2,000,000 to clean up one brownfield site or to allocate among multiple sites.

### Eligible uses of funds include:

- Direct costs associated with programmatic management of the grant, such as required performance reporting, cleanup oversight, and environmental monitoring of cleanup work.
- A local government may use up to 10% of its grant funds for the following activities:
  - health monitoring of populations exposed to hazardous substances from a brownfield site
  - monitoring and enforcement of any institutional control used to prevent human exposure to any hazardous substance from a brownfield site.
- A portion of the Brownfields Grant may be used to purchase environmental insurance.

Cleanup Grant applicants must have an ASTM E1903-19 Phase II environmental site assessment report(s) or equivalent site investigation report(s) completed that indicates a basic understanding of what contaminants need to be cleaned up on each site, even if further Phase II assessment work is required prior to application submission.

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## New or Existing Program

Existing program

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## Tips for Being Competitive

A critical part of EPA's Brownfields Program is to ensure that residents living in communities historically affected by economic disinvestment, health disparities, and environmental contamination have an opportunity to benefit from brownfields redevelopment. EPA's Brownfields Program has a rich history rooted in environmental justice and is committed to helping communities revitalize brownfield properties, mitigate potential health risks, and restore economic vitality. EPA expects that funding awarded will advance the Biden Administration's Justice40 priorities which promises to deliver at least 40 percent of the overall benefits from key federal investments to disadvantaged communities. Applicants should discuss and provide specific examples of how the proposed grant project will address environmental justice challenges.

In addition, the EPA may consider whether reuse of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy in evaluating applicants.

**Labor Requirements**      None listed

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**Examples of Prior Award Recipients**

In May 2022, the City of Douglas, MI was awarded a \$500,000 Brownfield Cleanup Grant to conduct cleanup and remediation activities of hazardous substances at 200 Blue Star Highway. This is the City's second attempt to apply for an EPA Brownfield Cleanup grant for 200 Blue Star Highway. The feedback obtained from the City's first grant application focused on including more detail about the concentration and location of the PCB contamination located on the site, as well as including an estimate of the associated removal costs. The PCBs are mostly concentrated under the northern section of the former building, which includes the cement floor, underlying soil, and northerly concrete block wall. As a result of this feedback, the City began working with the EPA's, Region 5, Targeted Brownfield Assessment (TBA) group to assist with conducting additional assessment activities within these locations. As such, EPA will utilize their TBA program to employ their own professional services to undertake the additional sampling activities needed to supplement the existing information. Once complete, the information will be used to develop a cleanup workplan, which is the initial step of the cleanup process that is funded by the grant.

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**Agency Contact**

Brownfields Contact in your EPA Regional Office can be found [here](#).

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**Upcoming Webinars and Information Sessions**

None listed

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**Types of Partners Required**

Partnership with the local health agency is required for local government applicants that are conducting health monitoring activities.

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**Total Allocation**

\$60 million

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**Anticipated Award Date**

EPA anticipated that successful applicants will be notified in late Spring 2023.

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**Links to Grant Opportunity**

- [Grant Opportunity on Grants.gov](#)
- [Brownfields Cleanup Grants - EPA Program Page](#)