

Brownfield Assessment 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> \$500,000

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. Assessment Grants provide funding for developing inventories of brownfield sites, prioritizing sites, conducting community involvement activities, conducting planning, conducting site assessments, developing site-specific cleanup plans, and developing reuse plans related to brownfield sites. Community-wide Assessment Grants are appropriate for communities that are beginning to address their brownfield challenges, as well as for communities that have ongoing efforts to bring sites into productive reuse.

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

Matching Grant Requirements

None required

Eligible Projects

Assessment Grant funds can be used for the direct costs associated with the inventory, site prioritization, community involvement, site reuse planning, assessment, and cleanup planning for brownfield sites. Eligible uses include:

- Conducting Brownfields Planning & Developing Site Reuse Plans: EPA encourages communities to take an area-wide approach to planning for the assessment, cleanup, and reuse of these brownfield sites. This focus on multiple brownfield sites will result in more coordinated strategies for cleanup and area revitalization versus a site-by-site focus.
- Participant Support Costs: Recipients may use a portion of the Assessment Grant for eligible participant support costs associated with one community liaison per target area who is not an employee of the recipient. A community liaison can serve as a key resource to help ensure the citizens' goals and interests are reflected in the planned reuse of individual brownfield sites as well as the revitalization of the areas in which they live, work, play, learn, and pray.
- Direct costs associated with programmatic management of the grant, such as required performance reporting and environmental oversight.
- 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.

Assessment Grant funds may not be used to conduct cleanup activities.

New or Existing Program

Existing program

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.

Successful applicants should also provide information that demonstrates how you intend to inform and involve the community and other stakeholders in the planning, implementation, and other brownfield assessment activities described in your application.

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

Examples of Prior Award Recipients In FY22, the City of Toledo, OH was awarded a \$500,000 Brownfield Community-Wide Assessment Grant. The grant will be utilized to update the local brownfield inventory, assess sites with hazardous substances and petroleum contamination, prepare risk assessments, and develop reuse plans at sites within two target areas within the City of Toledo. The City partnered with the Toledo-Lucas County Port Authority, Lucas County Land Bank, ConnecToledo, and Metroparks Toledo to apply for the funding in December 2021.

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

Upcoming Webinars and Information Sessions None listed

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

Total Allocation \$30.5 million

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

Links to Grant Opportunity

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