

**FY21 Summary of the Brownfield Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Guidelines Changes**  
(as of 8/7/20)

EPA prepared this Summary of Changes document to assist prospective applicants with preparing Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund (RLF), and Cleanup Grant applications. Please review the FY21 Proposal Guidelines (also referred to as Request for Application (RFA)) when preparing your application. If the information in the Summary of Changes differs from information in the statute, regulation, or the Guidelines, then the statute, regulation, or the Guidelines will take precedence.

Applicants applying for a **Multipurpose Grant** are not eligible to apply for an Assessment Grant or Cleanup Grant in the same competition year.

A solicitation for new **Revolving Loan Fund Grants** will not be issued in FY2022. EPA expects to solicit requests from existing, high-performing RLF Grant recipients supplemental funding through a Federal Register notice in early 2021.

CHANGES TO THE MULTIPURPOSE, ASSESSMENT, AND CLEANUP GRANT GUIDELINES		
Topic	Previously Published Guidelines	FY21 Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Guidelines
General Information		
COVID-19 Impacts		Entities that are experiencing technical difficulties in applying through <a href="http://www.grants.gov">www.grants.gov</a> because of operational or other issues related to COVID-19 may request to submit the application by email. See Section IV of <a href="#">EPA's Solicitation Clauses</a> and Section IV.B. of the solicitation for details.
Hazardous Substance and Petroleum Funding Requests	EPA required applicants to indicate the amount being requested for hazardous substance funding and petroleum funding.	The BUILD Act, passed in 2018, removed the requirement to track petroleum funds separately from hazardous substance funds. The 2020 EPA Appropriations Bill removed all references to brownfields petroleum spending, including the 'up to' 25% language that had required the Program to allocate up to 25% of the appropriation to petroleum contaminated sites.  Therefore, EPA no longer requires applicants to separate hazardous substance funding requests from petroleum funding requests. Rather, applicants will request <u>one funding amount</u> to address sites contaminated by hazardous substances and/or petroleum.

		Applicants applying for a Site-specific Assessment Grant and/or Cleanup Grant must still address the eligibility criteria outlined in Section III. of the Guidelines. Additionally, applicants selected for funding, will still be required to submit site eligibility determinations requests to EPA or the state based on the predominant contaminant at the site before grants funds can be expended at the site.
Appendix 1 – Submission Materials	<p>The following forms and documents are required under the announcements.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)</li> <li>2. Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424 A)</li> <li>3. Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424 B)</li> <li>4. Preaward Compliance Review Report (EPA Form 4700-4)</li> <li>5. EPA Key Contacts (Form 5700-54)</li> <li>6. Narrative Information Sheet, the Narrative, and required attachments.</li> </ol>	<p>The <b>Assurances for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424 B)</b> is no longer required at time of submission. The following forms and documents are required under the announcements.</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)</li> <li>2. Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424 A)</li> <li>3. Preaward Compliance Review Report (EPA Form 4700-4)</li> <li>4. EPA Key Contacts (Form 5700-54)</li> <li>5. Narrative Information Sheet, the Narrative, and required attachments.</li> </ol>
IV.G. Confidential Business Information		<p>Reminder to applicants:          “EPA recommends that you do not include confidential business information (CBI) in your application. However, if CBI is included, it will be treated in accordance with 40 CFR 2.203. Applicants must clearly indicate which portion(s) of their application they are claiming as CBI.” See for <a href="#">EPA’s Solicitation Clauses</a> more details.</p>
IV.E. Ranking Criteria & V.A. Evaluation Criteria		
1.b.ii. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy		If applicable, applicants are to describe how the proposed project or revitalization plans will promote the sustainable reuse of existing buildings or structures.
2.a. Threats to Sensitive Populations	<p>“Describe how this grant will address or facilitate the identification and reduction of threats to:</p>	<p>This section has been reorganized to include “Describe how this grant will address or facilitate the identification and reduction of threats to...” in each of the three subcriteria.</p>

	<p>(1) <u>Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations</u> The health or welfare of children, pregnant women, minority or low-income communities, or other sensitive populations in the target area(s).</p> <p>(2) <u>Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions</u> Populations in the target area(s) that suffer from a greater-than-normal incidence of diseases or conditions (including cancer, asthma, or birth defects) that may be associated with exposure to hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum.</p> <p>(3) <u>Disproportionately Impacted Populations</u> Populations in the target area(s) that have environmental justice challenges and/or disproportionately share the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and/or commercial operations or policies.”</p>	<p>(1) <u>“Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations</u> <b>Identify</b> children, pregnant women, minority or low-income communities, or other sensitive populations in the target area(s). <b>Describe how this grant will address or facilitate the identification and reduction of threats to the health or welfare of such groups.</b></p> <p>(2) <u>Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions</u> <b>Describe how this grant will address or facilitate the identification and reduction of threats to</b> populations in the target area that suffer from a greater-than-normal incidence of diseases or conditions (including cancer, asthma, or birth defects) that may be associated with exposure to hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum.</p> <p>(3) <u>Disproportionately Impacted Populations</u> <b>Describe how this grant will address or facilitate the identification and reduction of threats to</b> populations in the target area that have environmental justice challenges and/or disproportionately share the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and/or commercial operations or policies.”</p>
<p>2.b.iii. Incorporating Community Input</p>	<p><i>Ranking Criterion:</i> “Discuss your plan to communicate project progress to the local community, project partners, and residents/groups impacted by the site(s), including the frequency and by what method(s) you will use and how input will be solicited, considered, and responded to.</p>	<p><i>Ranking Criterion:</i> “Discuss your plan to communicate project progress to the local community, <b>the local organizations/entities/groups</b>, and residents/groups impacted by the site(s), including the frequency and by what method(s) you will use <b>(including methods that offer an alternative to in-person community engagement in the event of social distancing or other restrictions as a result of COVID-19)</b> and how input will be solicited, considered, and responded to.</p>

	<p><i>Evaluation Criterion:</i> The extent to which the plan to communicate project progress to the local community, project partners, and residents/groups impacted by the site(s) will be effective and appropriate, and the extent to which their input will be solicited, considered, and responded to in a meaningful way.</p>	<p><i>Evaluation Criterion:</i> The extent to which the plan to communicate project progress to the local community, project partners, and residents/groups impacted by the site(s) will be effective and appropriate, and the extent to which their input will be solicited, considered, and responded to in a meaningful way. <b>The extent to which the proposed methods offer an alternative to in-person community engagement in the event of social distancing or other restrictions as a result of COVID-19.</b></p>
3. Task/Activity Lead	For each task/activity, identify the lead entity(ies) overseeing the various activities (i.e., the applicant, qualified environmental professional, or other identified entity).	For each task/activity, identify the lead entity(ies) overseeing the various activities (i.e., the applicant, qualified environmental professional, or other identified entity). <b>If an entity(ies) other than the applicant is the lead, explain why the lead entity(ies) (and not the applicant) is appropriate to oversee the activity(ies). Note, the local health agency must be involved in health monitoring activities.</b>
3. Budget Table	Applicants distinguished request for hazardous substance funding from petroleum funding by providing two budget tables or two separate line items within one budget.	There will only be <u>one budget table</u> for the total grant award. The applicant will be free to address both hazardous substances and petroleum contaminated sites as they proposed, but will not be required to spend a specific amount on hazardous substances and petroleum sites.
<b>ASSESSMENT GRANT GUIDELINE CHANGES</b>		
<b>Topic</b>	<b>FY20 Assessment Grant Guidelines</b>	<b>FY21 Assessment Grant Guidelines</b>
General Information		
FY19 Multipurpose Grant Recipients	Entities that were awarded (or have been selected for an award for) a Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) Multipurpose Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-18-08) may not apply for an FY20 Assessment Grant.	Entities that were awarded an FY19 Multipurpose Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-18-08) may not apply for an <b>FY21</b> Assessment Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-06).
FY21 Assessment Grant Applicants		Entities applying for an FY21 Assessment Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-06) may not apply for an FY21 Multipurpose Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-05).

III. Eligibility Information and Threshold Criteria		
III.B. Threshold Criteria – Expenditure of Current Assessment Grant Funds	“Current EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant recipients must demonstrate that payment has been received from EPA (also known as ‘drawn down’) for at least 70% of each Assessment cooperative agreement they have with EPA by <b>November 1, 2019</b> , in order to apply for additional Assessment Grant funding under this solicitation.”	“Current EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant recipients must demonstrate that payment has been received from EPA (also known as ‘drawn down’) for at least 70% of each Assessment cooperative agreement they have with EPA by <b>October 1, 2020</b> , in order to apply for additional Assessment Grant funding under this solicitation.”
Point/Percentage Distribution		
Listed in Section V. within the Evaluation Criterion	Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 27% Community Need and Community Engagement – 23% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 33% Programmatic Capability – 17%  Maximum number of points: 150	Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 28% Community Need and Community Engagement – 22% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 31% Programmatic Capability – 19%  Maximum number of points: 160
CLEANUP GRANT GUIDELINE CHANGES		
Topic	FY20 Cleanup Grant Guidelines	FY21 Cleanup Grant Guidelines
General Information		
FY19 Multipurpose Grant Recipients	Entities that were awarded (or have been selected for an award for) a Fiscal Year 2019 (FY19) Multipurpose Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-18-08) may not apply for an FY20 Cleanup Grant.	Entities that were awarded an FY19 Multipurpose Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-18-08) may not apply for an <b>FY21</b> Cleanup Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-07).
FY21 Cleanup Grant Applicants		Entities applying for an FY21 Cleanup Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-07) may not apply for an FY21 Multipurpose Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-05).
III. Threshold Criteria		
Environmental Assessment Required for Cleanup Grant Applications	A written ASTM E1903-11 or equivalent Phase II environmental site assessment report (a draft report is sufficient) must be completed prior to application submission.	A written ASTM <b>E1903-19</b> or equivalent Phase II environmental site assessment report (a draft report is sufficient) must be completed prior to application submission.

Community Notification		Clarified that Community Notification must occur at least two weeks before the application is submitted to EPA. For example, if the application is submitted to EPA on October 26, 2020, then the community must be notified of your intent to apply for funding no later than October 12, 2020. Additionally, the guidelines (and FAQs) include examples of how to comply with this threshold criterion.
<b>Point/Percentage Distribution</b>		
Listed in Section V. within the Evaluation Criterion	Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 29% Community Need and Community Engagement – 21% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 35% Programmatic Capability – 15%  Maximum number of points: 170	Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 25% Community Need and Community Engagement – 20% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 34% Programmatic Capability – 17%  Maximum number of points: 175
<b>MULTIPURPOSE GRANT GUIDELINE CHANGES</b>		
<b>Topic</b>	<b>FY19 Multipurpose Grant Guidelines</b>	<b>FY21 Multipurpose Grant Guidelines</b>
General Information		
FY19 Multipurpose Grant Recipients		Entities that were awarded an FY19 Multipurpose Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-18-08) may not apply for an FY21 Multipurpose Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-05).
FY21 Multipurpose Grant Applicants		Entities applying for an FY21 Multipurpose Grants may not apply for an FY21 Assessment Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-06) or FY21 Cleanup Grant (EPA-OLEM-OBLR-20-07).
IV.C. Content and Form of Proposal Submission		If you submit more than one application for the same, identical project (either in error or to replace a previously submitted application), EPA will only review the most recently received application for that project unless you notify Jerry Minor-Gordon (minor-gordon.jerry@epa.gov) and specify which application you want EPA to review.
Terminology		Replaced “redevelopment” with “reuse” to clarify that EPA supports projects that will stimulate economic development, as well as projects that will facilitate the creation of, preservation of, or addition

		to a park, a greenway, undeveloped property, recreational property, or other property used for nonprofit purposes.
III. Threshold Criteria		
General Threshold Information		<p>Added language clarifies that applicants must include all relevant threshold information in the application.</p> <p>“For purposes of the threshold eligibility review, EPA, if necessary, may seek clarification of applicant information that is included in the application and/or consider information from other sources, including EPA files. Such communications shall not be used to correct application deficiencies or material omissions, materially alter the application or project proposed, or discuss changes to the applicant’s responses to any evaluation or selection criteria.”</p>
General Threshold Information		<p>Added language clarifies that the entity seeking funds must be listed on the federal paperwork and the entity’s AOR must submit the application. Once the agreement is awarded, recipients may choose to subgrant funds to another entity that will oversee work (e.g., cooperative agreement management oversight activities).</p> <p>“Applicants need to ensure that the correct Authorized Organization Representative (AOR) and DUNS number of the entity that will receive the award and will be held accountable by EPA for the proper expenditure of funds are listed on the application.”</p>
III. B.5. Use of Grant Funds		<p>New threshold criterion:</p> <p>“Multipurpose Grant funding must be used to conduct both assessment and cleanup activities, and to develop an overall plan for revitalization of the target area if a plan does not already exist. Indicate on which page of the application information on your plan to conduct assessment and cleanup activities, and to develop an overall plan for revitalization of the target area, if a plan does not exist, can be found. If an overall plan for revitalization of the target area already exists, please state this in your response. Note, information that is referenced can be in the written narrative or the budget table.”</p>

IV.E. Ranking Criteria & V.A. Evaluation Criteria		
Ranking and Evaluation Criteria – Structure		Ranking and evaluation criteria have been rewritten and/or restructured to align with the format of the FY21 Assessment and Cleanup Grant Guidelines. Please review the FY21 Multipurpose Grant Guidelines for details.
1.a.ii. Description of the Priority Brownfield Site		Removed language: <p>“If applicable, describe whether the priority site(s) is located adjacent to a body of water or is a federally designated flood plain.”</p> <p>Note, applicants can document if the priority/proposed site(s) is adjacent to a body of water or is in a federally designated flood plain on the Other Factors Checklist in Section IV.D., <i>Narrative Information Sheet</i>.</p>
1.b.ii. – Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy		Added language on for applicants to provide information on how the outcomes of the overall plan for revitalization will benefit efforts within an Opportunity Zones. <p>“Describe the potential of the overall plan for revitalization to stimulate economic development in the target area upon completion of the cleanup of these properties, and/or how the grant will facilitate the creation of, preservation of, or addition to a park, a greenway, undeveloped property, recreational property, or other property used for nonprofit purposes. <b>Describe how the overall plan for revitalization will help spur economic growth within an Opportunity Zone.</b>”</p>
2.b. Community Engagement	<p><u>Community Engagement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Community Involvement</li> <li>ii. Incorporating Community Input</li> </ul>	<p>The former <i>Community Involvement</i> criterion is divided into two subcriteria, <i>Project Partners</i> and <i>Project Partner Roles</i>.</p> <p><u>Community Engagement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. <b>Project Involvement</b></li> <li>ii. <b>Project Roles</b></li> <li>iii. Incorporating Community Input</li> </ul>



3. Task Descriptions, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Progress	Applicants provided information on outputs under the <i>Cost Estimates and Outputs</i> criterion.	Applicants are to provide information on outputs under the newly created <i>Task Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs</i> criterion.
3. Task Descriptions, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Progress		<p>The ranking criteria under <i>Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs</i> are reformatted to match the evaluation criteria. Applicants may consider using the provided sample table to present their responses.</p> <p><u>Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. Project Implementation</li> <li>ii. Anticipated Project Schedule</li> <li>iii. Task/Activity Lead</li> <li>iv. Outputs</li> </ul>
3.c. Cost Estimates	The cost share was evaluated under the <i>Description of Tasks and Activities</i> criterion.	<p>The cost share will be evaluated under the <i>Cost Estimates</i> criterion.</p> <p><i>Ranking Criterion:</i>  “Describe how cost estimates for each task were developed (per budget category; <b>including the cost share</b>), and, where appropriate, present costs per unit.”</p> <p><i>Evaluation Criterion:</i>  “The extent to which the entire cost share will be met with eligible activities.”</p>
3.c. Cost Estimates		<p>The <i>Cost Estimate</i> evaluation criterion is separated into the following sub-criteria:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. development of cost estimates</li> <li>ii. application of cost estimates</li> <li>iii. funds allocated toward site-specific work, and</li> <li>iv. eligibility of cost share activities</li> </ul>
4.a. Programmatic Capability		The former <i>Organizational Structure and Experience</i> criterion now divided into two sub-criteria, <i>Organizational Structure and Experience</i> and <i>Description of Key Staff</i> .

	<u>Programmatic Capability</u> i. Organizational Structure and Experience ii. Acquiring Additional Resources	<u>Programmatic Capability</u> i. Organizational Structure and Experience ii. <b>Description of Key Staff</b> iii. Acquiring Additional Resources
<b>Point/Percentage Distribution</b>		
Listed in Section V. within the Evaluation Criterion	Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 30% Community Need and Community Engagement – 20% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 35% Programmatic Capability – 15%  Maximum number of points: 100	Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 26% Community Need and Community Engagement – 21% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 32% Programmatic Capability – 21%  Maximum number of points: 170

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