

FY24 Summary of the Brownfield Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Grant Guidelines Changes
(as of 9/21/23)

EPA prepared this Summary of Changes document to assist prospective applicants with preparing Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant applications. **Please review the FY24 Application Guidelines** (also referred to as Request for Application (RFA) or the solicitation) **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.

If you are interested in **applying for more than one grant type in FY24**, review the [FY24 Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications](#) to determine which other grants are available to you.

If you currently have an EPA Brownfields Grant and are interested in applying for an FY24 grant, review the [FY24 Eligibility Chart for Existing Grant Recipients](#) to determine which other grants are available to you.

A solicitation for new Revolving Loan Fund Grants will not be issued in FY24. EPA expects to solicit requests from existing, high-performing RLF Grant recipients for supplemental funding through a Federal Register notice in early 2024.

[Changes to All Grant Types](#)

[Changes to the Multipurpose Grant Guidelines](#)

[Changes to the Community-wide Assessment Grant Guidelines](#)

[Changes to the Assessment Coalition Grant Guidelines](#)

[Changes to the Community-wide Assessment Grants for States and Tribes Guidelines](#)

[Changes to the Cleanup Grant Guidelines](#)

| CHANGES TO THE MULTIPURPOSE, ASSESSMENT, AND CLEANUP GRANT GUIDELINES | | |
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| Topic | FY23 Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Guidelines | FY24 Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Guidelines |
| General Information | | |
| EPA's Flexibility for Applicants Experiencing Challenges Related to COVID-19 | EPA provided flexibility to applicants experiencing challenges related to COVID-19. | EPA is no longer providing flexibility to applicants experiencing challenges related to COVID-19. |

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| I.B. Participant Support Costs | | Section I.B. in the Assessment Grant and Multipurpose Grant Guidelines provides additional information on how entities may use grant funds for Participant Support Costs to enhance community engagement activities, such as stipends for attendees at community meetings. See the FY24 FAQs for more information. |
| I.F. Supporting Climate Adaptation and Resilience | | EPA is providing guidance on the impacts of climate change as it relates to brownfield sites. Applicants should provide specific examples of how the proposed Brownfields Grant project will address climate vulnerabilities in Section IV.E. and responses will be evaluated against the criteria in Section V.A. |
| I.G. Supporting High-Quality Jobs, Strong Labor Practices, and Equitable Workforce Pathways | | EPA is providing guidance on how brownfield projects can support strong labor practices. Applicants should provide specific examples of how the proposed Brownfields Grant project will meaningfully and equitably promote jobs in Section IV.E. and responses will be evaluated against the criteria in Section V.A. |
| Narrative Information Sheet - Target Area/Priority Site | Applicants were requested to provide census tract number(s) with the target area(s). | Applicants are requested to provide the census tract number(s) within the target area(s) using the eleven-digit format. See the FY24 FAQs for more information. |
| III. Eligibility Information and Threshold Criteria | | |
| Intertribal Consortia Documentation | | Added the following language to the existing Applicant Eligibility threshold criterion: For Intertribal consortia, attach documentation that meets the requirements in 40 CFR 35.504(a) and (c). All members of the Intertribal consortium must authorize submission of an application. |
| Organizations that are 501(c)(4) tax-exempt | | Added to the existing Applicant Eligibility threshold criterion (for all grant types except CWAGST): Indicate if your organization is exempt from Federal taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • If yes, indicate if your organization lobbies the Federal government. |

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| | | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> If yes, but your organization does not lobby the Federal government, attach a legal opinion that states that the organization does not engage in lobbying activities. |
| Procuring Contractors | Applicants that have already procured a contractor to conduct work proposed in its application must provide information to demonstrate that the procurement was conducted in compliance with applicable competition requirements, regardless of if the contractor is named in the application. | <p>Required information for applicants to demonstrate that the procurement of contractor(s) was conducted in compliance with applicable requirements has been enhanced. Brownfields Grants: Guidance of Competitively Procuring a Contractor is linked in the guidelines and applicants are advised that for contracts over \$250,000, price must be an evaluation factor in the review of proposals or quotes. Additional information for applicants to provide include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> the length of time the RFP/RFQ was advertised; the name(s) of the firm(s) the applicant entered into contract with; and a copy or link to the solicitation documents and the signed executed contract. |
| IV.E. Ranking Criteria & V.A. Evaluation Criteria | | |
| General Criteria Alignment | | Minor changes are made to better align narrative/ranking criteria in Section IV and the corresponding evaluation criteria in Section V. |
| 1.a.iii. Identifying Additional Sites | <p>EPA requested the information in Criterion 3. The previous criterion stated:</p> <p>“Describe how additional sites will be identified for eligible activities throughout the geographic boundary(ies) identified in <i>1.a.i. Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Area</i> in the event that grant funds remain after addressing the target area(s)/priority site(s) discussed in the Narrative. Identify the criteria that will be used to prioritize additional sites for selection, including criteria that consider underserved communities.”</p> | <p>EPA is requesting the information in Criterion 1.</p> <p>“Describe the plan to identify additional sites for eligible activities throughout the geographic boundary(ies) identified in <i>1.a.i. Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Area</i> in the event that grant funds remain after addressing the target area(s)/priority site(s) discussed in the Narrative. Identify the criteria that will be used to prioritize additional sites for selection.</p> <p>All applicants except Tribes or eligible Tribal entities – Describe how your prioritization criteria will consider whether a site is located in an underserved community or disadvantaged census tract.</p> |
| 1.b.ii. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy | | Added to the criterion: applicants should describe how the proposed project will improve local climate adaptation/mitigation capacity and |

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| | | resilience to protect residents and community investments. <i>(Climate adaptation/mitigation is defined in Section I.F.)</i> |
| 1.c.i. Resources Needed for Site Reuse (all grant types except Cleanup Grants) | <p>The previous criterion stated: “Describe your access to monetary funding from other resources and how the grant will stimulate the availability of additional funds for environmental site assessment or remediation, and subsequent reuse.</p> <p>Identify potential key funding resources that will be sought to support the completion of the assessment, remediation, and/or reuse strategy (e.g., demolition activities, redevelopment activities, etc.) at the priority site(s). <i>(Do not duplicate sources discussed in 3.a. Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs.)</i>”</p> | <p>Consolidated two criteria into one criterion. “Describe your access to monetary funding from other resources and how the grant will stimulate the availability of additional funds to support the completion of the environmental site assessment or remediation, <u>and</u> subsequent reuse strategy at the priority site(s). <i>(Do not duplicate sources discussed in 3.a. Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs.)</i>”</p> |
| 2.a.ii. Threats to Sensitive Populations | <p>Applicants were directed to the beta Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) as an optional mapping tool.</p> <p>“Applicants may consider using the beta version of the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) as an optional tool to help identify disadvantaged communities, as defined by the White House Council on Environmental Quality, for purposes of Justice40. For more information on using CEJST data in your Brownfields Grant application, please refer to the FY23 FAQs.”</p> | <p>Applicants are also encouraged to use CEJST.</p> <p>“Applicants are also encouraged to use the Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool (CEJST) ¹ to identify whether their priority site(s) is located within a disadvantaged census tract, for purposes of Justice40. For more information on using CEJST data in your Brownfields Grant application, please refer to the FY24 FAQs.”</p> |
| 2.a.ii.(3) Environmental Justice | <p>The previous criterion stated: “<u>Promoting Environmental Justice</u></p> <p>Describe the environmental justice issues and how they affect underserved populations in the target area(s). Further, discuss how this grant and reuse strategy/projected site reuse(s) will promote environmental justice among the underserved populations in the target area(s). <i>(Environmental justice is defined in Section I.E.)</i>”</p> | <p>The criterion is separated into two criteria and modified and includes information EPA previously requested in Section 1.b.ii. <i>Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy</i> on anti-displacement efforts.</p> <p>“(a) <u>Identification of Environmental Justice Issues</u> Describe the environmental justice issues and how they affect an underserved community(ies) or disadvantaged census tract(s) in the target area(s). <i>(Environmental justice is defined in Section I.E.)</i></p> <p>All applicants except Tribes or eligible Tribal entities – Additionally, indicate if a priority site(s) identified in 1.a.ii. Description of the</p> |

¹ CEJST is available at screeningtool.geoplatform.gov/en/.

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| | | <p><i>Priority Brownfield Site(s)</i> is located within a disadvantaged census tract according to CEJST.</p> <p><u>(b) Advancing Environmental Justice</u> Discuss how this grant and reuse strategy/projected site reuse(s) will advance environmental justice and minimize the displacement of residents and/or businesses among the underserved community(ies) in the target area(s).”</p> |
| 2.b.iii. Incorporating Community Input | The previous criterion stated: “Discuss your plan to communicate project progress to the local community, the local organizations/entities/groups that will be involved in the project, and residents/groups in (or in closest proximity to) the target area(s), including the frequency and by what method(s) you will use (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) and how input will be solicited, considered, and responded to.” | EPA modified the criterion to remove specific language about COVID-19. “Discuss your plan to communicate project progress to the local community, the underserved community(ies) and residents/groups directly affected by the project work, and the local organizations/entities/groups that will be involved in the project, including the frequency and by what method(s) you will use (including methods that offer an alternative to in-person community engagement) and how input will be solicited, considered, and responded to.” |
| 3.c. Plan to Measure and Evaluate Environmental Progress and Results | Previously titled: <i>Measuring Environmental Results</i> | EPA retitled the criterion to <i>Plan to Measure and Evaluate Environmental Progress and Results</i> to help clarify that EPA is requesting applicants to discuss their plan to track and evaluate progress and project results versus simply listing expected outputs. |
| 4.a.iv. Acquiring Additional Resources | The previous evaluation criterion did not include a note to clarify what may result in a response being evaluated less favorably. | EPA added a note to the evaluation criteria to clarify what may result in a response being evaluated less favorably. Additionally, EPA added a ranking and evaluation criterion regarding labor practices and local hiring. “The degree to which the applicant’s organization has a system(s) in place to appropriately acquire any additional expertise and resources (e.g., contractors or subrecipients) required to successfully complete the project. <i>(Note, if an applicant has selected a contractor or subrecipient without complying with applicable requirements as</i> |

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| | | <p><i>described in Section III.B.4., the response will be evaluated less favorably.)”</i></p> <p>“The degree to which the applicant will promote strong labor practices, local hiring/procurement, or will link members of the community to potential employment opportunities in brownfields assessment, cleanup, or redevelopment related to the proposed project in a meaningful and equitable way.”</p> |
| 4.b.ii. Past Performance | <p>The previous criterion stated: “Identify and describe each of your current and/or most recent federally and non-federally funded assistance agreements (no more than three) <i>that are most similar in scope and relevance to the proposed project.</i>”</p> | <p>EPA modified the criterion to: “Identify and describe each of your current and/or most recent federally and non-federally funded assistance agreements (no more than three) <i>that are most similar in scope and relevance in terms of structure, community engagement, and/or deliverables to the proposed project.</i>”</p> |
| V.B. Other Factors and Considerations | <p>The previous other factor stated: “Whether the reuse strategy or projected reuse of the priority site(s) considers climate adaptation and/or mitigation measures.”</p> | <p>EPA revised the other factor: “Whether the proposed project will improve local climate adaptation/mitigation capacity and resilience to protect residents and community investments.”</p> |
| V.B. Other Factors and Considerations | <p>The previous other factor stated: “Whether a target area(s) is located within, or includes, a census tract in which 20% or more of the population lives below the national poverty level as measured by the 2019 American Community Survey (ACS) 5-year estimates from the United States Census Bureau.”</p> | <p>EPA replaced the other factor: “Whether a target area(s) is located within, or includes, a disadvantaged census tract according to CEJST.”</p> |

MULTIPURPOSE GRANT GUIDELINE CHANGES

A Multipurpose Grant is appropriate for communities that have identified, through community engagement efforts, a discrete area (such as a neighborhood, a number of neighboring towns, a district, a corridor, a shared planning area or a census tract) with one or more brownfield sites. The target area may not include communities that are located in distinctly different geographic areas.

| Multipurpose Grant funds allow communities to carry out a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities, including planning and additional community engagement activities. | | |
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| Topic | FY23 Multipurpose Grant Guidelines | FY24 Multipurpose Grant Guidelines |
| General Information | | |
| Award Information | An applicant could apply for up to \$800,000. | An applicant can apply for up to \$1,000,000 . |
| III. Eligibility Information and Threshold Criteria | | |
| Ineligible Applicants | Entities that were awarded an FY22 Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes are not eligible to apply for Multipurpose Grant funding. | Entities that were awarded (or pending an award for) an FY22 or FY23 Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes are not eligible to apply for Multipurpose Grant funding. |
| III.B.6. Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds | Current EPA Brownfields Multipurpose Grant and Assessment Grant recipients must demonstrate that payment has been received from EPA (also known as ‘drawn down’), and drawn down funds have been disbursed, for at least 70.00% of each Multipurpose and Assessment cooperative agreement they have with EPA by October 1, 2022, in order to apply for an FY23 Multipurpose Grant. | Current EPA Brownfields Multipurpose Grant and Assessment Grant recipients must demonstrate that payment has been received from EPA (also known as ‘drawn down’), and drawn down funds have been disbursed, for at least 70.00% of each Multipurpose and Assessment cooperative agreement they have with EPA by October 1, 2023 , in order to apply for an FY24 Multipurpose Grant. Review the eligibility criteria in Section III. of the Guidelines for details. |
| IV.E. Ranking Criteria & V.A. Evaluation Criteria | | |
| 2.b.i. Prior/Ongoing Community Involvement | The previous criterion stated: Discuss how the community has been involved/engaged in your efforts to address the brownfield sites in the target area, including the priority site(s). | EPA modified the criterion to: Discuss how the community, including underserved populations in the target area , has been involved/engaged in your efforts to address the brownfield sites in the target area, including the priority site(s). |
| 3. Guidance on Classifying Construction Costs | | In determining costs to include on the “Construction” budget line, EPA recommends that applicants apply the “principal purpose of the contract” test, instead of characterizing discrete tasks that the same contractor will perform. If the principal purpose (i.e., 50% or more of the estimated costs) of the contract is for construction services, then the cost for the contract should be placed on the “Construction” budget line. If the site(s) to be remediated under the cooperative agreement is unknown when the application is submitted, applicants should place |

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| | | <p>the estimated remediation costs on the ‘Other’ budget line. When the recipient identifies sites during the period of performance, the recipient and EPA’s Project Officer and Grant Specialist will work together to amend the cooperative agreement to update the budget.</p> <p>For more information, including a list of remediation activities that are classified as “Construction” costs, review the RFA and FAQs.</p> |
| 3.b. Cost Estimates | <p>The previous criterion stated: The degree of clarity on how each cost estimate was developed (including direct and/or indirect administrative costs, when applicable) and the extent to which costs per unit are presented in detail. The extent to which each proposed cost estimate is reasonable and realistic to implement the project/grant and clearly correlates with the proposed tasks/activities. (Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects that allocate at least 70% of the funds for tasks directly related to site-specific work, including site assessments, remediation, and associated tasks (with at least \$200,000 designated for tasks directly associated with site remediation) will be evaluated more favorably. • Administrative costs that exceed 5% of total EPA-requested funds will be evaluated less favorably.) | <p>EPA modified the criterion to: The degree of clarity on how each cost estimate was developed (including direct and/or indirect administrative costs, when applicable) and the extent to which costs per unit are presented in detail. The extent to which each proposed cost estimate is reasonable and realistic to implement the project/grant and clearly correlates with the proposed tasks/activities. (Notes:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Projects that allocate at least 70% of the funds for tasks directly related to site-specific work, including site assessments, remediation, and associated tasks (with at least 25% of the total award amount designated for tasks directly associated with site remediation) will be evaluated more favorably. • Administrative costs that exceed 5% of total EPA-requested funds will be evaluated less favorably.) |
| Point/Percentage Distribution | | |
| Listed in Section V. within the Evaluation Criterion | <p>Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 26% Community Need and Community Engagement – 26% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 28% Programmatic Capability – 20%</p> <p>Maximum number of points: 175</p> | <p>Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 26% Community Need and Community Engagement – 26% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 26% Programmatic Capability – 21%</p> <p>Maximum number of points: 170</p> |
| COMMUNITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT GRANT GUIDELINE CHANGES | | |
| <p>A Community-wide Assessment Grant is 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.</p> | | |

| Topic | FY23 Assessment Grant Guidelines | FY24 Assessment Grant Guidelines |
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| General Information | | |
| N/A | | No significant changes to highlight |
| III. Eligibility Information and Threshold Criteria | | |
| Ineligible Applicants | Entities that were awarded an FY22 Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes are not eligible to apply for additional Assessment Grant funding. | Entities that were awarded (or pending an award for) an FY22 or FY23 Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes are not eligible to apply for additional Assessment Grant funding. |
| III.B.3. Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds | Current Assessment Grant recipients and Multipurpose Grant recipients that want to apply for funding must meet the 70.00% drawdown requirement by October 1, 2022, to apply for an FY23 Community-wide Assessment Grant. | Current Assessment Grant recipients and Multipurpose Grant recipients that want to apply for funding must meet the 70.00% drawdown requirement by October 1, 2023, to apply for an FY24 Community-wide Assessment Grant. Review the eligibility criteria in Section III. of the Guidelines for details. |
| IV.E. Ranking Criteria & V.A. Evaluation Criteria | | |
| N/A | | No significant changes to highlight |
| Point/Percentage Distribution | | |
| Listed in Section V. within the Evaluation Criterion | Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 24% Community Need and Community Engagement – 24% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 30% Programmatic Capability – 22% Maximum number of points: 165 | Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 25% Community Need and Community Engagement – 25% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 28% Programmatic Capability – 22% Maximum number of points: 160 |
| ASSESSMENT COALITION GRANT GUIDELINE CHANGES | | |
| <p>Assessment Coalitions are designed for one “lead” eligible entity to partner with two to four eligible entities that do not have the capacity to apply for and manage their own EPA cooperative agreement and otherwise would not have access to Brownfields Grant resources.</p> <p>Additionally, EPA strongly encourages coalitions to include eligible community-based nonprofit organizations as non-lead members to help promote strong local engagement and to ensure the community’s concerns and vision for revitalization are incorporated into the project.</p> | | |
| Topic | FY23 Assessment Grant Guidelines | FY24 Assessment Grant Guidelines |
| General Information | | |
| Award Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awards are available for up to \$1,000,000. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awards are available for up to \$1,500,000. |

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| Use of Funds | | At least 80% of the funding for site-specific activities must be for sites located in underserved communities. |
| Narrative Information Sheet – Coalition Members’ Target Areas and Priority Site Information | <p>The previous requested information stated: <u>Target Area and Priority Site Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List the target areas discussed in the Narrative. <p>Applicants, other than tribal governments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For each target area that is smaller than a city/town, list the census tract number(s) within the target area. (Please see the FY23 FAQs for guidance on how to find a census tract.) Provide the address of the priority sites proposed in the Narrative. | <p>Applicants are requested to provide details specific to each coalition member.</p> <p><u>Coalition Members’ Target Areas and Priority Site Information</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> List the coalition members (i.e., the lead and non-lead members) and each member’s associated target area discussed in the Narrative. <p>Applicants, other than Tribal governments:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> For each target area that is smaller than a city/town, list the eleven-digit census tract number(s) within the target area. (Please see the FY24 FAQs for guidance on how to find the eleven-digit census tract number for a target area.) Provide the address of each priority site and the associated target area proposed in the Narrative. |
| III. Eligibility Information and Threshold Criteria | | |
| Ineligible Applicants | Entities that were awarded an FY22 Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes are not eligible to apply for additional Assessment Grant funding. | Entities that were awarded (or pending an award for) an FY22 or FY23 Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes are not eligible to apply for additional Assessment Grant funding. |
| III.B.2. and III.B.3. | <p>III.B.2. Number of Non-lead Coalition Members and Target Areas</p> <p>III.B.3. Eligibility of Non-lead Coalition Members</p> | <p>III.B.2. Number and Eligibility of Non-lead Coalition Members</p> <p>III.B.3. Target Areas</p> |
| III.B.4. Existing Brownfields Grants to Non-lead Members | <p>Entities that have an open* Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, or Cleanup (MARC) Grant and entities that were awarded a MARC Grant that closed in 2015 or later, are not eligible to be a non-lead coalition member.</p> <p>(*Open = The grant period of performance has not ended)</p> | <p>Entities that have an open* Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, or Cleanup (MARC) Grant and entities that were awarded a MARC Grant that closed in 2016 or later, are not eligible to be a non-lead coalition member.</p> <p>(*Open = The grant period of performance has not ended)</p> |

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| III.B.7. Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds | Current Assessment Grant recipients and Multipurpose Grant recipients that want to apply for funding must meet the 70.00% drawdown requirement by October 1, 2022, to apply for an FY23 Assessment Coalition Grant. | Current Assessment Grant recipients and Multipurpose Grant recipients that want to apply for funding must meet the 70.00% drawdown requirement by October 1, 2023, to apply for an FY24 Assessment Coalition Grant. Review the eligibility criteria in Section III. of the Guidelines for details. |
| IV.E. Ranking Criteria & V.A. Evaluation Criteria | | |
| N/A | | No significant changes to highlight |
| Point/Percentage Distribution | | |
| Listed in Section V. within the Evaluation Criterion | Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 26% Community Need and Community Engagement – 24% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 29% Programmatic Capability – 21% Maximum number of points: 170 | Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 27% Community Need and Community Engagement – 24% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 27% Programmatic Capability – 21% Maximum number of points: 165 |
| COMMUNITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT GRANTS FOR STATES AND TRIBES (CWAGST) | | |
| This funding is only available to states, Tribes, and eligible native corporations in Alaska to address brownfield sites throughout their entire jurisdiction. | | |
| Topic | FY23 Assessment Grant Guidelines | FY24 Assessment Grant Guidelines |
| General Information | | |
| III.B.3. Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds | Entities that were awarded an FY22 Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes are not eligible to apply for additional Assessment Grant funding. | Current Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes recipients that want to apply for funding must meet the 70.00% drawdown requirement by October 1, 2023, to apply for an FY24 Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes. Review the eligibility criteria in Section III. of the Guidelines for details. |
| IV.E. Ranking Criteria & V.A. Evaluation Criteria | | |
| N/A | | No significant changes to highlight |
| Point/Percentage Distribution | | |

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| Listed in Section V. within the Evaluation Criterion | Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 24% Community Need and Community Engagement – 26% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 29% Programmatic Capability – 21% Maximum number of points: 170 | Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 24% Community Need and Community Engagement – 27% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 27% Programmatic Capability – 21% Maximum number of points: 165 |
| CLEANUP GRANT GUIDELINE CHANGES | | |
| Cleanup Grants provide funding for eligible entities to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites. The applicant must own the site for which it is requesting funding. | | |
| Topic | FY23 Cleanup Grant Guidelines | FY24 Cleanup Grant Guidelines |
| General Information | | |
| Award Information | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awards are available in three categories: up to \$500,000, up to \$1,000,000, or up to \$2,000,000. Applications in each category will be placed on separate selection lists. | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awards are available in three categories: up to \$500,000, up to \$2,000,000, or up to \$5,000,000. Applications in each category will be placed on separate selection lists. |
| III. Eligibility Information and Threshold Criteria | | |
| III.B.3. Expenditure of Existing Multipurpose Grant Funds | Current Multipurpose Grant recipients that wanted to apply for funding had to meet the 70.00% drawdown requirement by October 1, 2022. | Current Multipurpose Grant recipients that want to apply for funding must meet the 70.00% drawdown requirement by October 1, 2023 , to apply for an FY23 Cleanup Grant. Review the eligibility criteria in Section III. of the Guidelines for details. |
| III.B.9. Site Characterization | | The letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority must clearly indicate that the information is for the FY24 Cleanup Grant application and not a previously submitted application. EPA is providing an optional letter template for the State or Tribal Environmental Authority to use. See the MARC Grant Application Resources Page for a copy of the template. |
| III.B.12. Threshold Criteria Related to CERCLA | EPA previously recognized the Phase I Standard ASTM E1527-13 as meeting All Appropriate Inquiry. | On February 13, 2023, approved the Phase I Standard ASTM E1527-21 as meeting All Appropriate Inquiry. |

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| III.B.12. Threshold Criteria Related to Petroleum | | The state determination letter must clearly indicate that the applicant is applying for the current (i.e., FY24) Brownfields Cleanup Grant competition. |
| IV.E. Ranking Criteria & V.A. Evaluation Criteria | | |
| 3. Guidance on Classifying Construction Costs | | In determining costs to include on the “Construction” budget line, EPA recommends that applicants apply the “principal purpose of the contract” test, instead of characterizing discrete tasks that the same contractor will perform. If the principal purpose (i.e., 50% or more of the estimated costs) of the contract is for construction services, then the cost for the contract should be placed on the “Construction” budget line. For more information, including a list of remediation activities that are classified as “Construction” costs, review the RFA and FAQs . |
| Point/Percentage Distribution | | |
| Listed in Section V. within the Evaluation Criterion | Project Area Description and Plan for Revitalization – 31% Community Need and Community Engagement – 21% Task Description, Cost Estimates, and Measuring Success – 31% Programmatic Capability – 17% Maximum number of points: 180 | No changes |