



# Brownfields Job Training

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**Professional Learning Community (PLC)**

December 18, 2024

Please mute your lines when you're not speaking.

We welcome open discussion and invite participants to unmute or raise their hand at any time during this call if you have a question or something to share.

We encourage participation through the MentiMeter polls and Teams Chat.

Out of respect for everyone's time, we ask that lengthy discussions be held in the open Q&A session or taken offline with a followup meeting.

# Meeting Logistics





# Disclaimer

This project has been funded wholly or in part by the United States Environmental Protection Agency under a contract with Tetra Tech and Adaapta. The contents of this document do not necessarily reflect the views and policies of the Environmental Protection Agency, nor does the EPA endorse trade names or recommend the use of commercial products mentioned in this document.



# Agenda

1. Introductions (5 min)
2. News & Announcements (5 min)
3. Learning Topic: Getting Started Early (FY26 Grant Applications) (20 min)
4. Open Q&A – any topic (Optional – 30 min)





# Introductions





[www.tetratech.com](http://www.tetratech.com)



Steve Michener  
*Project Manager, Tetra Tech*



Sherry Weedman  
*Sr. Enviro. Health Scientist/ Program  
Manager, Tetra Tech*



Eric Eisiminger  
*Project Manager, Tetra Tech*



[www.adaapta.com](http://www.adaapta.com)



Danielle Getsinger  
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Krisandra Provencher  
*Sustainability Manager, Adaapta*



Mike Senew  
*Senior Advisor*

[brownfieldsjobtraining@adaapta.com](mailto:brownfieldsjobtraining@adaapta.com)





# Hi! Name, Org, and Favorite Holiday Treat

Hadassah Eley Evolution  
Safety Any sweet gluten  
free cookie!

Krisandra Provencher,  
Adaapta,  
Snickerdoodles!

Egg nog and red velvet  
cake

Becka Civic works  
Sweet and spicy mixed  
nuts

Everett Roberts,  
Excalibur, and I love  
peppermint bark

Ignacio Dayrit CCLR  
Ensaymada (buttery Filipino  
cheesey panatoni like treat)

Mary Hashem, Adaapta,  
ribbon candy and my  
grandmother's Lebanese  
Christmas cookies

Devon Hayes, Coalfield  
Development, Molasses  
Gingerbread Cookies





# Hi! Name, Org, and Favorite Holiday Treat

Josiah Hannah,  
Coalfield Development,  
Hot Cider

David Rogers, WV  
Department of Economic  
Development Favorite treat  
- egg nog! Too fattening!

Laljeet Sangha, UCANR  
Cookies!

Ngoc Gaiser,  
Municipality of  
Norristown, Hot Cocoa

Emily Jimenez, EPA R6,  
Pecan Pie

Nelson Gonzalez, The  
HOPE Program. No  
favorites

Almond kolaczki

Jacob Berger, Fort Peck  
Tribes, Brownfields  
Coordinator. Everything's  
my favorite





# Hi! Name, Org, and Favorite Holiday Treat

Jean Franklin, Executive  
Director, Anchor of Hope  
International Ministries, Inc.  
"Opportunity Works" program.  
Located in Los Angeles.  
[www.aohworks4u.org](http://www.aohworks4u.org)

Roslyn Kygar, City of  
Austin, gingerbread & all  
the chocolate





# Who is applying for FY2026?





# News & Announcements

The background of the slide features a black and white photograph of a firefighter in a tunnel. The firefighter is wearing a helmet and is positioned near some equipment, including a radio. A large, semi-transparent blue circle is overlaid on the right side of the image, partially obscuring the firefighter. The text "News & Announcements" is written in a large, white, sans-serif font across the upper portion of the image, with the blue circle also partially covering the text.



# Congratulations

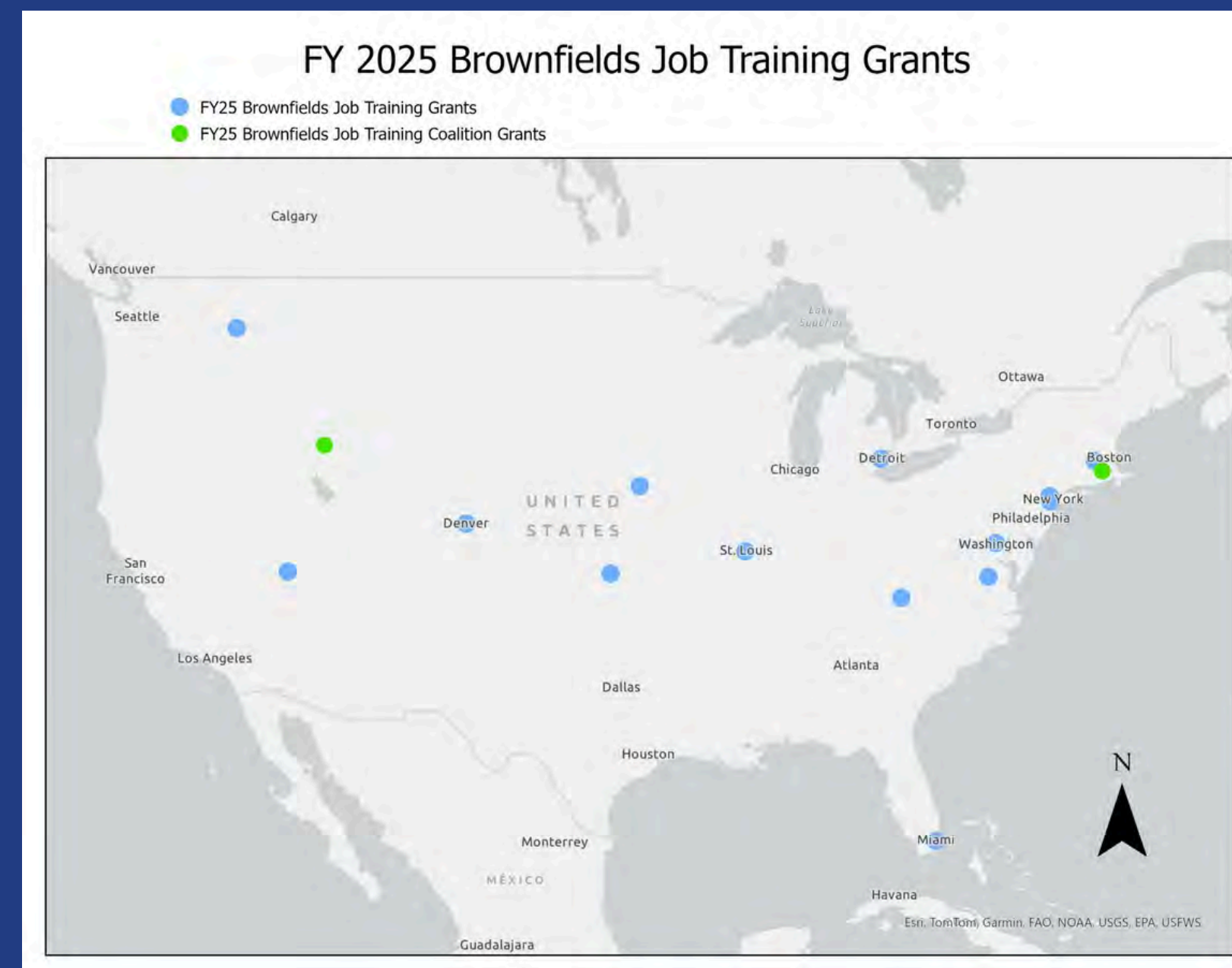


## U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION AGENCY

**Applicants Selected for FY 2025 Brownfields Job Training Grants**

New JT page for 2025 grants

U.S. EPA | Dec. 12





Congratulations

# Angelo Lampousis named in New York’s The 2024 Responsible 100!

*Executive Director, Charles B. Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative, The City College of New York*



“The best advice I have received is to always measure success not by personal achievements, but by the positive impact made on others. This perspective shapes my work, driving me to foster opportunities, mentorship and resources for students and professionals, ensuring their growth also contributes to a stronger, more equitable society.”



Each year, City & State, a New York news source, recognizes 100 civic-minded nonprofit leaders. City & State spotlights a select group of individuals who exemplify what it means to be socially responsible – whether it’s through community engagement and volunteerism, diversity, equity and inclusion, ethics and transparency, or philanthropy and charity. Angelo Lampousis is the executive director of the Charles B. Rangel Infrastructure Workforce Initiative at The City College of New York, a sub-recipient of Worker Training Program award recipient Atlantic Center for Occupational Health and Safety Training. Lampousis’ work combines education, workforce development, and sustainability, creating transformative opportunities for underserved communities

[www.cityandstateny.com/power-lists/2024/12/2024-responsible-100/401414/](http://www.cityandstateny.com/power-lists/2024/12/2024-responsible-100/401414/)





# Brownfields 2025

*Sustainable Communities Start Here*

Save the Date | August 5-8, 2025 | Chicago, IL



*answer the*  
**CALL FOR IDEAS**

Submit Your Idea Now!

The Call for Ideas will  
close on December 20,  
2024 at 11:59pm ET.

<http://gobrownfields.org>



# Upcoming EPA Job Training Listening Sessions

- 1. January 14, 2025 @ 11:00 am -12:00 pm ET**
- 2. January 15, 2025 @ 5:00 - 6:00 pm ET**

*\*\*\*Dates tentative and are subject to change. More details to come in the new year.\*\*\**





# Learning Topic:

## *Getting Started Early*

### *FY 26 Grant Application*

# BFJT Grant Application Resources

Get started early!



**U.S. ENVIRONMENTAL  
PROTECTION AGENCY**

## **Interested in Applying for Brownfields Job Training Funding?**

Interested in Applying for Brownfields Job Training Funding?

 U.S. EPA | Sep 18

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/interested-applying-brownfields-job-training-funding>



# What we know today...

1. EPA is hoping to release guidelines in Spring 2025.
2. We anticipate grant amounts will be up to \$500,000 for a 5 year grant cycle.
3. No significant changes to the FY25 guidelines.

[https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-05/fy25jt-nofo\\_final\\_0.pdf](https://www.epa.gov/system/files/documents/2024-05/fy25jt-nofo_final_0.pdf)

*The above statements are speculations based on conversations with the EPA. These speculations should be used for planning purposes only and do not represent an official EPA position.*

# Before you get too excited...

- ☐ Why do you need this funding? What will it specifically fund?
- ☐ Who are you targeting? And why?
- ☐ Is your organization ready to take the lead? Or should you play another role?
- ☐ What approvals or buy-in do you need in order to apply and accept this funding?
- ☐ Who is going to champion your grant application and your program?



# FY25 NOFO as Guideline

## **Community Need**

Demographics & labor market demand

## **Training Program Description**

Curriculum development.

## **Budget**

Curriculum development.

## **Program Structure**

Outputs/Outcomes, Recruitment/  
Screening/Retention, Job Placement,  
Program Sustainability

## **Partnerships**

Environmental, Job Readiness, Community,  
Employers

## **Leveraging**

You'll need more money!

## **Programmatic Capacity**

Grant Management Systems,  
organizational Experience, Past  
Performance

**Make sure your organization is active  
and updated in [www.sam.gov](http://www.sam.gov)!**

# Let's talk!

A discussion with EPA directly.

*Drop questions into chat or Menti.*

*-or-*

*Raise hand to share your experience  
or tips.*

## Guiding Questions

1. Common challenges. Where are folks getting hung up?
2. Common mistakes. Where are you seeing the most mistakes or misunderstanding of the guidelines?
3. Your top 3 tips for starting early. What should people be doing right now?





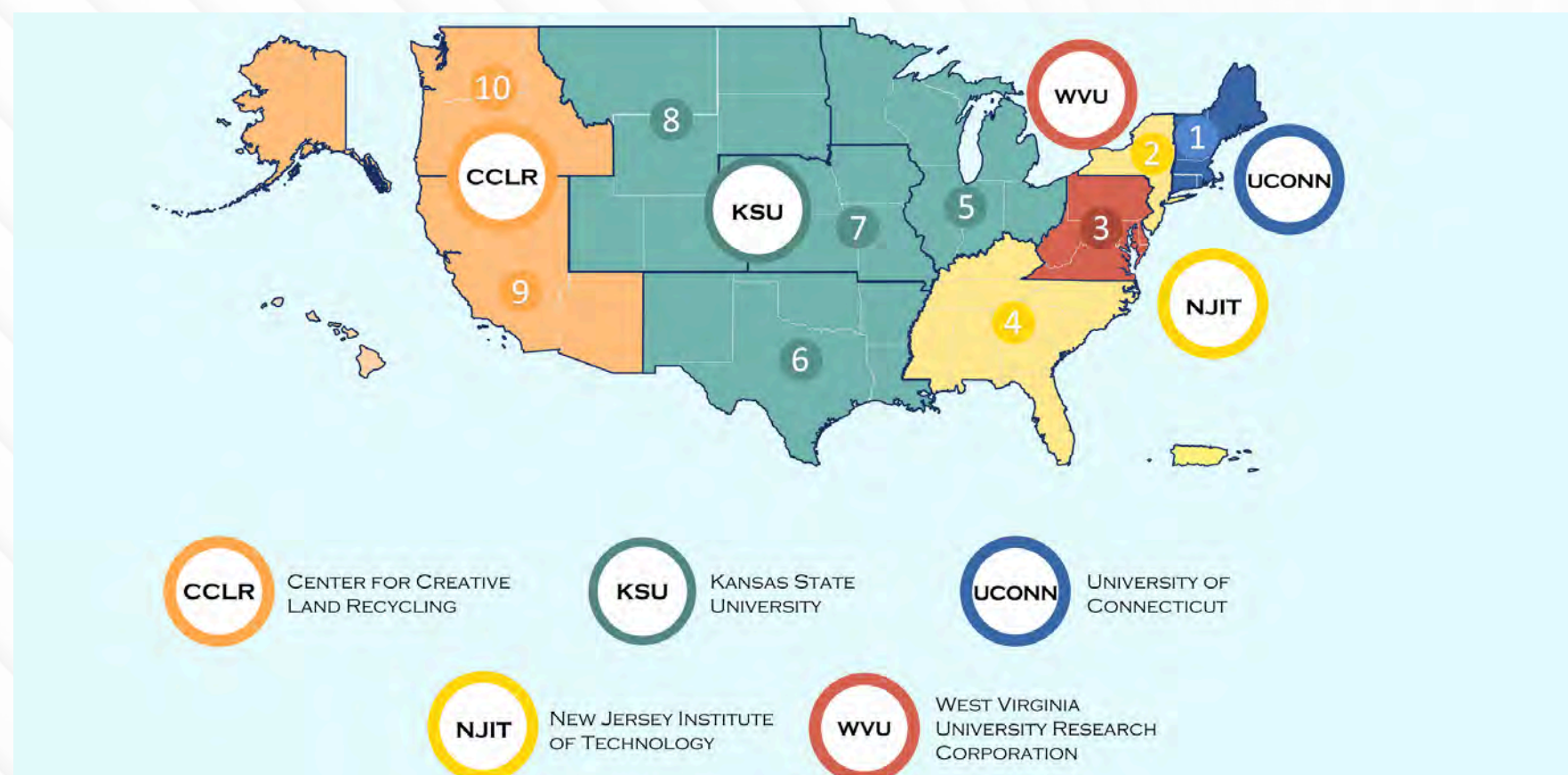
# Resources





[brownfieldsjobtraining@adaapta.com](mailto:brownfieldsjobtraining@adaapta.com)

[www.epa.gov/brownfields/forms/brownfields-job-training-program-technical-assistance-inquiry-form](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/forms/brownfields-job-training-program-technical-assistance-inquiry-form)



# Resources & Support

Previous PLC Calls and Webinars

EPA Technical Assistance to Job Training

EPA Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Programs

Previous Grantees

[https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants-technical-assistance-resources#Grantees\\_Map](https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants-technical-assistance-resources#Grantees_Map)

[www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants)



# Previous PLCs

1. *Anticipating the FY25 RFA* on May 15, 2024,
2. *FY25 RFA Highlights and Resources* on June 26, 2024
3. *Supercharging FY25 Job Training Applications* on July 17, 2024

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants-professional-learning-community>

# Open Q&A





# Next PLC

January 15, 2025 at 2pm ET

Topic: TBD – *Grant Application Related*



**Brownfields Job Training Program  
PLC Call – Additional Notes  
December 18, 2024**

The December 2024 PLC Call featured a discussion about what it takes to establish a job training program and develop an effective application for funding, and common mistakes made in grant applications. A successful Brownfields Job Training grant application requires more than just good grant writing skills. Successful applicants get started months in advance by conducting research, identifying community needs, and formalizing partnerships. It is important for prospective applicants to critically evaluate their storyline and identify potential areas for improvement, research needs, and strategies to strengthen their positioning for funding.

During the call, EPA Headquarters staff and Regional Brownfields Job Training Coordinators provided insights about:

**Common challenges and mistakes in applications**

- Applicants not addressing each threshold criterion of the Notice of Funding Opportunity. If applicants don't address/pass each of the threshold criteria, the application doesn't move on to be merit reviewed.
- Applicants not reading the guidelines carefully and responding to each of the evaluation criteria. Applicants should be sure to review Section V.A. Evaluation Criteria multiple times, which is what EPA uses to score applications. For example, common evaluation criteria that are overlooked by applicants include:
  - Describing how the training program incorporates sustainable practices
  - Providing a detailed description for each training course that will use Brownfield Job Training Grant funds
- Applicants not taking advantage of [TAB Providers](#). TAB Providers can help do preliminary application reviews and connect you with other organizations in your area.
- Common sections that often pose challenges for applicants include those related to describing community need, labor market assessment, training program description/details about courses, partnerships, student recruitment/screening/retention, and program support.

**Tips for starting the application process early**

- Start with easy initial steps and build momentum.
- Identify employers and community leaders in the area. Interested applicants can use the [Brownfields Grant Fact Sheet Search tool](#) to find entities that are conducting brownfields assessments and cleanups.
- Talk with your [TAB Provider](#) and [EPA Regional Job Training Coordinator](#) and engage them early.
- Engage with nearby cities to see if they would be interested in supporting a job training program or consider being a coalition member.
- Talk with employers regularly and involve them as you develop your program.
- Talk with the community stakeholders early and often. Find community leaders and educate them about the benefits of the program and impact it can have on people's lives.
- Conduct partnership building and get buy-in from local organizations early; it can take a lot of time, but it is one of the most important aspects of a successful program.