

EPA's Brownfields Job Training Grants Program Listening Session

Listening Session 1

January 14th, 11 am - 12 pm EST

Listening Session 2

January 15th, 5 pm - 6 pm EST

Speakers

Matt Wosje – OBLR

Will Lariviere – Region 1

Ricardo Berrios-Perez – Region 2

Alma Moreno Lahm – Region 7



Agenda

- Brief Overview of the Program
 - Eligible Projects, Costs, and Entities
 - Application Evaluation Criteria
 - Available Funding
 - Technical Assistance Available
- Listening Session
 - Feedback Questions
 - Additional Thoughts to Share with EPA



Brief Overview of Program

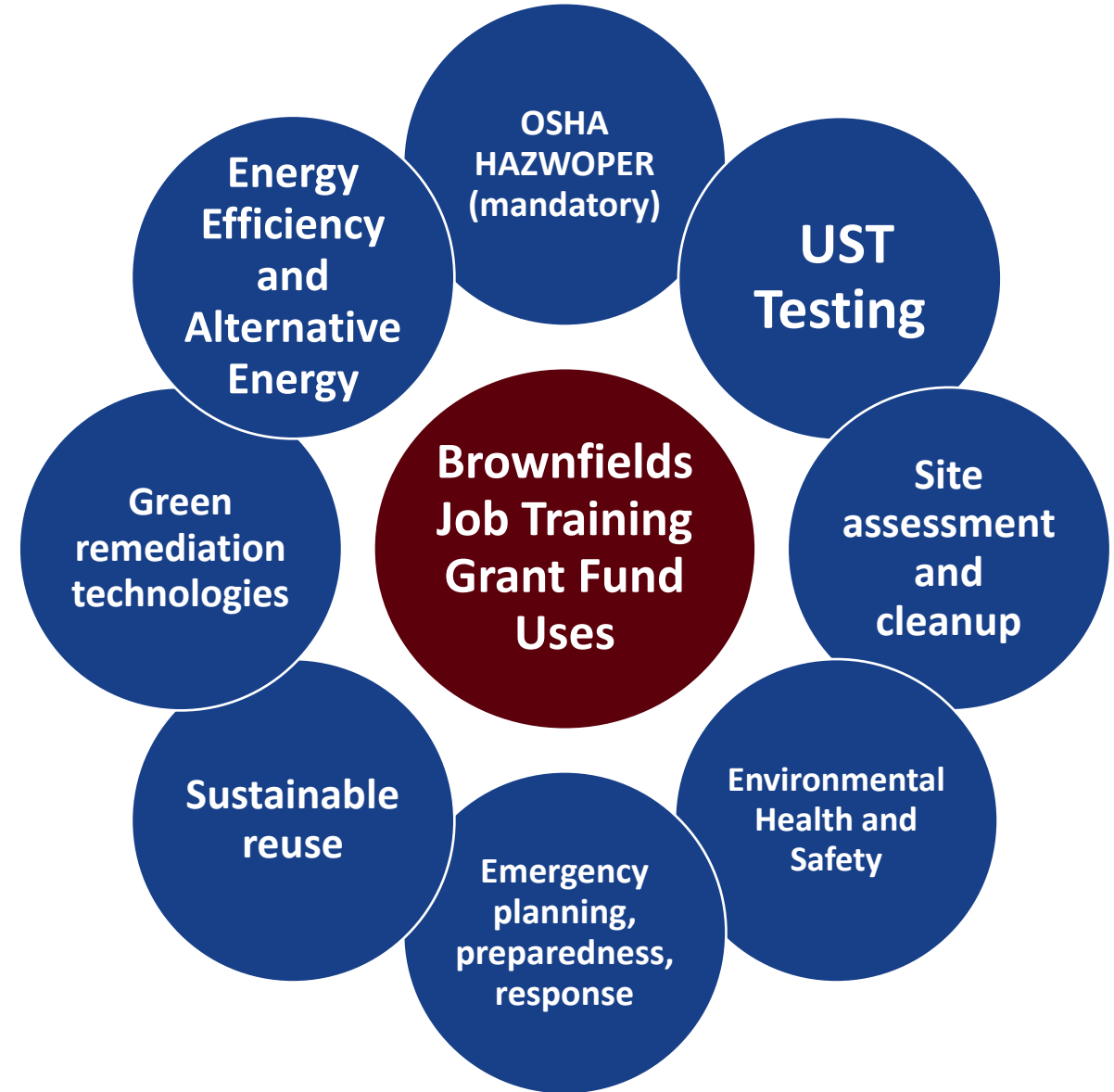
The Brownfields Job Training program is designed to:

- Recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed residents from communities impacted by brownfields.
- Help graduates develop wider skill sets that improve their ability to secure full-time, sustainable employment within the larger environmental field.
- Further environmental justice (EJ) by ensuring that residents benefit from the revitalization and cleanup of brownfields.



What types of trainings are eligible?

All training must relate to facilitating the inventory of brownfield sites, site assessments, remediation of brownfield sites, community involvement, or site preparation.



Note: All the above training can be delivered at awareness, intermediate, or advanced levels. Expanded descriptions of these trainings are available in the [FY25 Grant Guidelines](#) in Section I.D., the [FAQs](#), and the [List of Eligible and Ineligible Brownfield Job Training Courses](#) available on the [Brownfields Job Training page](#).



What other costs are eligible?



Region 9- Job Training class, Los Angeles Conservation Corps

Note: Section I.C. of the grant guidelines provides a list of additional types of direct programmatic costs associated with implementing a Brownfields Job Training program.

Additional eligible uses of grant funds:

- Personnel costs for instructors to conduct training, fringe benefits, and/or tasks associated with programmatic reporting requirements
- Costs for screening and placement of students
- Costs associated with health exams, drug testing, licensing fees
- Costs for training materials and work gear associated with the training curriculum
- Outreach activities directed toward engaging prospective employers to be involved in the job training program and to hire graduates
- Participant support costs (up to 40% of the grant funds)
 - Transportation
 - Childcare
 - Time for participating in training



Who is eligible to apply?

Eligible Entities

- City, county, state, Tribe, other general purpose unit of local government
- Regional council
- Workforce Investment Board or One-Stop Center
- Nonprofit organization
- Redevelopment agencies
- Colleges and universities, including Minority Academic Institutions

You are **NOT** eligible to apply if you are:

- Nonprofit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995
- For-profit or proprietary organization or trade school



Application Evaluation Criteria

- **Community Need**
 - Community Description
 - Labor Market Assessment
- **Training Curriculum**
- **Budget**
- **Program Structure, Anticipated Outputs, and Outcomes**
 - Outputs and Outcomes
 - Recruitment, Screening, and Retention
 - Program Support for Job Placement
 - Program Sustainability
- **Partnerships**
- **Leveraging**
- **Threshold Requirements**



How much funding is available?

- **EPA anticipates that under this funding opportunity:**
 - Applicants can apply for up to \$500,000
 - The project period for these grants is up to five years:
 - Year 1 & 2: recruitment and screening/beginning of training
 - Year 3 & 4: continued recruitment and screening/continuation and conclusion of training
 - Year 5: placement and tracking of graduates and reporting results to EPA
- EPA anticipates issuing a solicitation in late spring 2025



Technical Assistance Resources



Professional Learning Community Call - open to everybody

Held monthly on Wednesday afternoons (3rd week of the month at 2 PM EST). To Join PLC Meetings, go to:

- Submit an inquiry form
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/forms/brownfields-job-training-program-technical-assistance-inquiry-form> and ask to be added to the meeting invite
- View Past PLC's here:
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants-project-learning-community>



- Establishing A Successful Brownfields Job Training Program **- Tips on Writing a Competitive EPA Job Training Proposal Webinars**

<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants-webinars>



Additional Resources

- **FY25 Grant Guidelines, FAQs and Grants.gov Tip Sheet**
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/fy-2025-brownfields-job-training-grants>
- **Brownfields Website for General Information**
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields>
- **Brownfields Job Training Grants – Technical Assistance Resources**
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants-technical-assistance-resources>
- **List of Eligible and Ineligible Brownfield Job Training Courses**
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/list-eligible-and-ineligible-brownfield-job-training-courses>
- **Brownfields Job Training Grants Tip Sheet**
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/interested-applying-brownfields-job-training-funding>



Questions?

Matt Wosje

Brownfields Job Training Program Coordinator

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Regional Brownfields Job Training
Coordinators

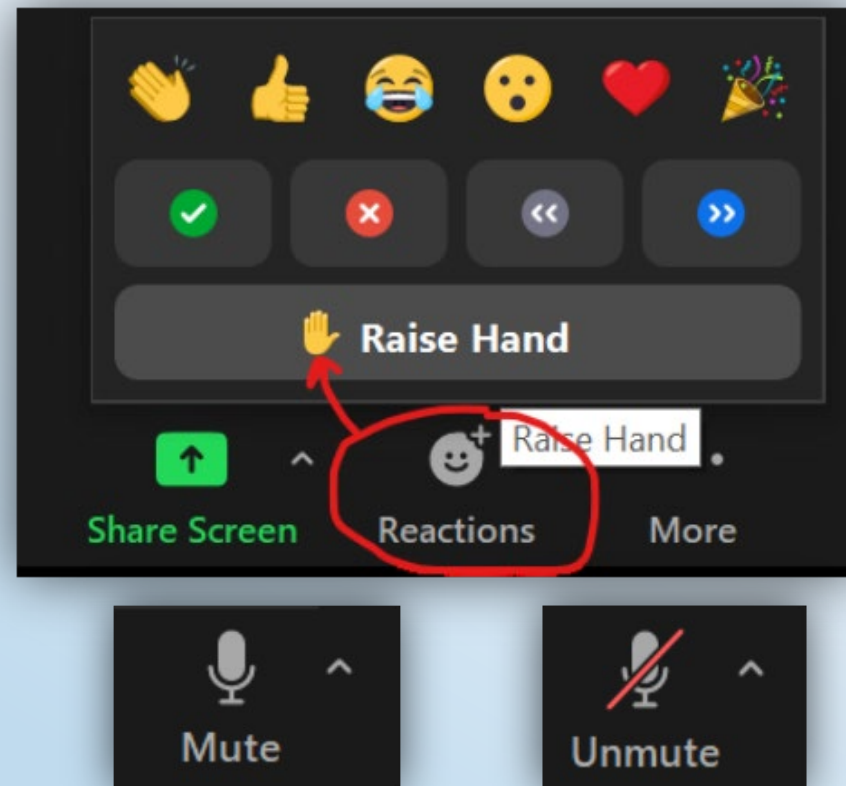
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-program-contacts>



Listening Session

We want to hear from you!

- Participants should raise their hands to confirm they wish to share remarks verbally.
- Please unmute when your name is called.
- Please limit remarks to 2 minutes.



Listening Session

Notice of Funding Opportunity Feedback

1. What specific challenges do you face when completing the application for the Brownfields Job Training Grant?
2. Are there particular sections of the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) that you find confusing or overly complex?
3. Are there any parts of the Narrative (Section IV.E.) of the NOFO you believe are unnecessary?
4. Are there any program requirements stated in the NOFO that you believe are unnecessary or could be streamlined?
5. How do the current requirements impact your ability to apply for or manage the grant?



Listening Session

Future Enhancements



6. As we look to the future, what enhancements, changes, or feedback would you like to share with the EPA regarding the Brownfields Job Training Grant Program?
7. Is there anything else that you would like us to hear related to the NOFO and the program as a whole?



Listening Session

Guidance, Resources, and Support



8. How helpful do you find the guidance documents and resources provided by EPA (including our Technical Assistance provider)? What improvements could be made?
9. Are there additional resources or support that would assist you in preparing a successful application?
10. How effective is the communication from EPA (including our Technical Assistance provider) regarding updates or changes to the grant program?
11. What type of support (e.g., webinars, one-on-one consultations) would you find beneficial during the application process?



Questions?

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