



Brownfields Job Training

Professional Learning Community (PLC)

January 15th, 2025

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 & Discussion: Partnerships & Leveraging Support (20 min)
4. Open Q&A – Any Topic (Optional – 30 min)



Introductions



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



Danielle Getsinger
CEO, Adaapta



Krisandra Provencher
Sustainability Manager, Adaapta



Mike Senew
Senior Advisor

brownfieldsjobtraining@adaapta.com

News & Announcements





Next FY 2025 Brownfields Job Training Listening Sessions

- January 15th, 5:00pm-6:00pm ET
- Provide written feedback to brownfields@epa.gov



<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/fy-2025-brownfields-job-training-listening-sessions>

BFJT Quarterly Outreach Call

- February 5th
- Timing TBD
- Learn from successful grantees and subject matter experts
- Registration information will be available online



NIEHS Worker Training Program

- The National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training
 - A national resource for hazardous waste worker curricula, technical reports, and weekly news on hazardous materials, waste operations, and emergency response.
 - Funded by the NIEHS Worker Training Program (WTP)
 - Provides technical assistance to WTP staff, award recipients, and the general public.
- Training materials and information available at:
https://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/?utm_medium=email&utm_source=govdelivery



National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences
Your Environment. Your Health.



Great Environmental Safety Training (GreatEST) Institute

- HAZWOPER TTT (Train-the-Trainer)
 - Provide required certifications for public/private responders and workers including:
 - 40-hour Waste Site Worker Health and Safety
 - Hazard Awareness and Communication
 - Confined Space Non Entry Rescue
- April 28 – May 3, 2025 at Scott Community College, Bettendorf, IA 52722
- 24 scholarships for travel, tuition, lodging, and Per Diem available from NPETE
- **Applications due February 24, 2025**
 - Electronic Applications are available at www.nationalpete.org

<https://nationalpete.org/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/GreatEST-Announcement-with-link.pdf>

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, 2024

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

Additional Resources

- For the latest BFJT news and resources, go to www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants
- Submit an inquiry for technical assistance at www.epa.gov/brownfields/forms/brownfields-job-training-program-technical-assistance-inquiry-form or email us directly at brownfieldsjobtraining@adaapta.com



Learning Topic: *Partnerships & Leveraging Support*

Types of Partners

FISCAL PARTNERS

Exchange of money for goods and services provided

- Federal, state, county, municipal, and community organizations; suppliers; and contractors.
- Provide funds to assist in operations and/or provide goods and services to assist in program delivery.
- When money is exchanged, it must be tracked and conform to specific rules, which can vary from contributor to vendor to contractor.
- Don't wait until awards to start!

IN-KIND PARTNERS

Goods and services are provided without charge

- May offer materials, equipment, classroom space, or services.
- May require formal partnership agreements (e.g., MOUs).
- Voluntary cost share is not accepted under BFJT grant competitions, and in-kind services should not be provided as a voluntary cost share in BFJT grant application budgets.

CLIENT PARTNERS

Stakeholders including the community, students, and employers

- May be formal or informal (e.g., employer agreements are less binding).
- Maintaining community support for job training programs is an essential part of the recruitment process.
- Stakeholder engagement is critical to find the best program participants and communicate the value of the BFJT program to the community.

Reminder for Prospective Applicants

- Document your partners' commitments in your Partnership Letters
- Include specific details about their support



Coalitions

- Structure: Lead Entity + Non-Lead Members
- Application Requirements
 - Memorandum of Agreement (MOA)
 - Non-lead members must adhere to the same regulations as the lead entity, including financial and operational audits.
- Benefits of a Coalition Approach:
 - Facilitates access to a broader range of technical and financial support.
 - Demonstrates a united front with comprehensive planning and resource allocation.
 - Builds a robust framework for long-term program impact and success.

Leveraging Support

Support for life skills training, remedial education, student assistance, and other technical skills are not eligible activities under BFJT grants and must come from leveraged partners.



- Supplemental and matching grants that expand program offerings.
- Recruitment, screening, student support, and placement services from governmental employment agencies.
- In-kind contributions of staff and volunteers for day-to-day operation.
- Training services from education, municipal, and private sector partners.
- Equipment and facilities from education, municipal, and private sector partners.
- Services and support from other existing grant and assistance programs.

Federal Support



KEY AGENCIES & PROGRAMS:

- Grant Programs: HAZMAT Safety & Training, Susan Harwood Training Grant, etc.
- Other Resources: EPA, NIEHS, DOE, HUD, and more offer technical and financial support for training and workforce development.

CAREERONESTOP CENTERS:

- Provide training referrals, career counseling, and job listings.

SPECIALIZED TRAINING PROGRAMS:

- NIEHS Worker Training Program and EPA focus on safety and environmental remediation.

ADDITIONAL FEDERAL SUPPORT:

- AmeriCorps for community and veteran-focused programs.
- HUD grants for lead and asbestos remediation.

State & Local Gov't Support

FUNDING SOURCES:

- Legislative appropriations, environmental fines, and federal block grants.

TARGETED COMMUNITY PROGRAMS:

- Empowerment zones and areas with economic or environmental distress.

ROLE OF ENVIRONMENTAL AGENCIES:

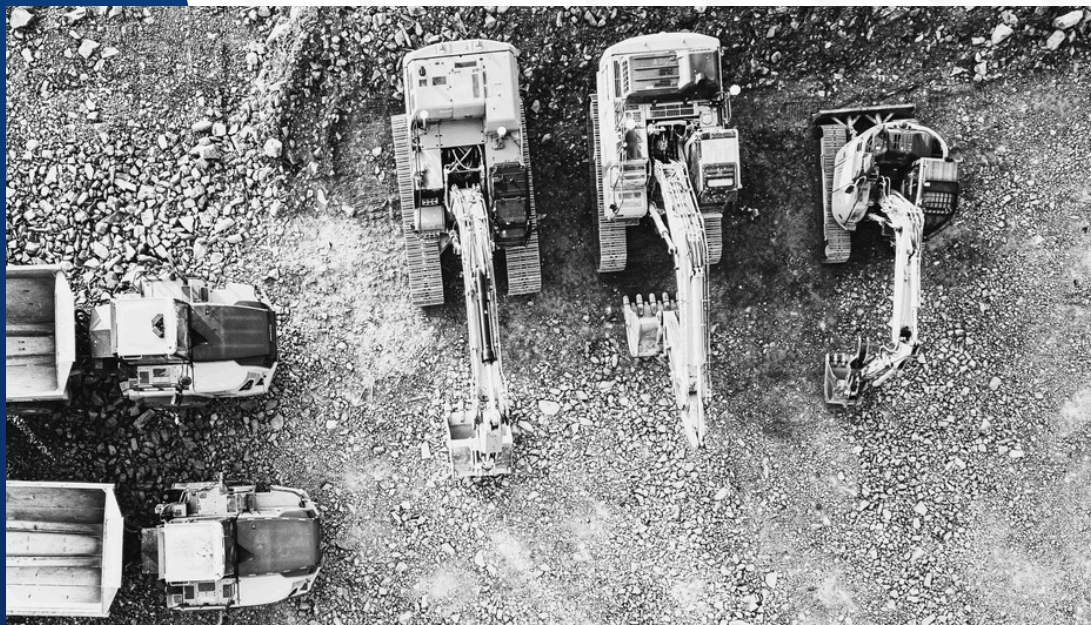
- Training, technical expertise, and advisory board participation.

ACADEMIC INSTITUTIONS:

- In-kind support like facilities, curriculum design, training, and placement services.



Local Business, Foundations, Non-Profit, Labor Organizations, and CDCs



PRIVATE SECTOR SUPPORT:

- Advisory roles, donations of facilities/equipment, and employment opportunities from local firms.

FOUNDATIONS & CHARITIES:

- Direct funding and support from trusts and family foundations.

NON-PROFIT PARTNERSHIPS:

- Assistance with recruitment, screening, life skills, and logistical support.

ORGANIZED LABOR:

- Pre-apprenticeship programs and pathways to union jobs.

COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT CORPORATIONS:

- Focus on affordable housing and job creation, offering grant submission expertise.

Open Discussion

- How did you identify and form your partnerships?
- How did you incorporate partnerships into your grant application?
- How have partnerships helped your program succeed?
- What are key challenges to partnerships that you have faced and how have you overcome them?
- Do you have any advice for new programs when building partnerships?

Open Q&A



Brownfields Job Training Program
PLC Call – Additional Notes
January 15, 2025

The January 15 PLC Call featured a discussion about the intricacies of forming and managing job training partnerships, exploring the various types of job training partners (fiscal, in-kind, and client), and their roles in program success. Strong Brownfields Job Training Programs rely heavily on strategic partnerships and effective resource leveraging. Establishing these partnerships goes beyond simple agreements; it involves identifying potential collaborators early, formalizing relationships, and ensuring all contributions are well-documented.

During the call, several participants provided insights and lessons learned about establishing and sustaining job training partnerships. A summary of key highlights is presented below:

- Partnerships are critical to the success of a job training program, from receiving a grant to successful implementation.
- When describing partnerships in your Brownfields Job Training grant application, you must effectively describe how you are leveraging and using each partnership for the success of your program; describe what each partner will be doing and the support that they will be providing (e.g., helping with the recruiting process, screening process, etc.).
- Look for options to leverage resources from complementary programs, such as AmeriCorps; Department of Housing and Urban Development grants; state programs, state workforce boards, and other incentive and economic development programs within state and local governments; or local foundations and non-profits.
- If you are a new program, you must consider what type of job training program you are going to implement, and then identify partners who can help you design the program to make it a reality.
- Partnerships and curriculum design are linked. Identifying employer partners will provide insight on how to design a curriculum to train people for in-demand jobs.
- Figure out where the environmental job need is and form partnerships with employers in those fields; design the program curriculum to address employer needs.
- Communities with existing Multi-Purpose Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (MARC) brownfield grants are valuable in every form of partnership and can help job training programs in numerous ways:
 - MARC grantees who are doing work at environmental sites in an area know the environmental contractors and job needs; ask them about the environmental contractors in the area and who they have worked with to support the MARC grant. They can provide insights on what jobs/skills are needed and what courses/skills they need to have staff trained.
 - The end goal of a job training program is to get people hired into environmental career paths, and MARC grantees use and know contractors and they can help with student placement by connecting students with potential employers.
 - MARC grantees can also assist with by providing community space and assisting with community outreach efforts.
 - Some job training programs may need partners who can help administer grants and run a program. Job training programs run by small non-profits or a one-person team might not be able to manage a grant. MARC grantees know how to manage EPA grant money and can help with administration.
- The right kind of partnerships is important. You may be able to get a city or county partner to come in and conduct trainings as part of the job training program. This enables potential employers to be involved in the certification process, and can introduce students to potential employers. It also better prepares students because they become skilled in equipment, technology, or other topics that match employer needs. Partners who conduct training can also inform the call about employers with whom they work and provide advice about potential positions or employment opportunities.