

# Empowering Communities: Understanding the EPA's Brownfields Job Training Grant Program



## What Is It?

The EPA's BFJT Grant Program provides up to **\$500,000 over 5 years** to recruit, train, and place unemployed and underemployed residents into environmental careers. It builds local workforce capacity to safely clean up and reuse brownfield sites. The goal is to equip residents with environmental job skills that support revitalization and long-term employment.

## Why It Matters

- Creates career pathways for people facing employment barriers
- Prioritizes pollution-burdened communities
- Helps graduates access careers in:
  - Environmental remediation
  - Site assessment and investigation
  - Hazardous waste operations
  - And more!

### What is funded?

- Instructors, training materials, licensing & testing fees
- Work gear, drug testing, and health exams
- Job placement & employer outreach
- Participant support (childcare, stipends, transportation)

**Not Funded:** Site cleanup, general construction or life skills training, and administrative costs over 5%

### What training can be provided?

All trainees must receive 40-hour HAZWOPER certification.

Additional training should relate to:

- Site assessment & remediation
- Brownfield inventories
- Community engagement
- Environmental health & safety
- Site preparation and reuse

### Who is eligible to apply?

- Local, county, state, and Tribal governments
- Regional planning or redevelopment agencies
- Workforce Investment Boards and One-Stop Centers
- Colleges & universities
- 501(c)(3) nonprofits

Local governments, nonprofits, colleges, and workforce agencies can apply alone or form a coalition to share capacity and expand impact.

## See Job Training in Action!

Rebuilding Puerto Rico - PathStone's Environmental Job Training Program  
Hands-On Learning for a Stronger Louisville – BluePrint502 Revitalizing Appalachia – Coalfield Development

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

Contact your Regional Coordinator or View Updates on the FY26 Notice of Funding Opportunity