FY 2026 Brownfields Grant Guidelines

Overview of the Submission, Application Information Sheet & Threshold Requirements

Multipurpose Grants







Welcome!

The purpose of this training is to assist applicants with understanding the general application submission, Application Information Sheet, and Threshold requirements for:

Multipurpose Grants

For questions, please reach out to your Regional Brownfields Contact listed at the end of this presentation (also in Section 1.E. of the Guidelines).

The Guidelines supersede any information provided in this presentation or by the presenter.

Applying for an Assessment Grant or a Multipurpose Grant?

Join the live Narrative Criteria webinar on December 3, 2025, at 12 PM ET via Zoom at https://usepa.zoomgov.com/j/1604721613

Applying for a Cleanup Grant?

Join the live Narrative Criteria webinar on December 4, 2025, at 1 PM ET via Zoom at https://usepa.zoomgov.com/j/1617087652





Today's Agenda

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This presentation:

- NEXT: General Overview & Application Submission
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- Wrap-up & Contact Information

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EPA Supports Community Efforts to Revitalize Brownfields

EPA's <u>Brownfields Program</u> provides grants and technical assistance to communities, states, Tribal Nations and others to assess, safely clean up and sustainably reuse contaminated properties.

To learn about EPA's broader efforts to put previously contaminated properties back into productive use, read about our <u>Land Revitalization Program</u>.











Application Guidelines & Guidance Resources



MARC Grant Application Resources – "Open Solicitations"

www.epa.gov/brownfields/marc-grant-application-resources



Applicants interested in applying for more than one grant type in FY 2026, review the FY26 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 FY 2026 grant, review the FY26 Eligibility Chart for Existing Grant Recipients (p.2 of PDF) to determine which other grants are available to you.

Commonly Used Acronyms

AAI	All Appropriate Inquiry	ILO	Innocent Landowner
ABCA	Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives	IR	Intergovernmental Review
ACRES	Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System	MARC	Multipurpose, Assessment, RLF, and Cleanup
AOR	Authorized Organization Representative	MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
ASAP	Automated Standard Application for Payments	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
BABA	Build America, Buy America Act	NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
BFPP	Bona Fide Prospective Purchaser	NPL	National Priority List
CAR	Cooperative Agreement Recipient	OBLR	Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and	PO	Project Officer (or Project Manager)
	Liability Act	POC	Point of Contact
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	PRP	Potential Responsible Parties
CIP	Community Involvement Plan	QEP	Qualified Environmental Professional
COA	Closeout Agreement (for RLF Grants)	RCRA	Resource Conservation and Recovery Act
CWAGST	Community-wide Assessment Grants for States & Tribes	RFA	Request for Application
DBA	Davis-Bacon Act	RLF	Revolving Loan Fund
DUNS	Data Universal Numbering System	SAM	System for Award Management
EPA	Environmental Protection Agency	STRP	State and Tribal Response Program
FAQ	Frequently Asked Question	TAB	Technical Assistance to Brownfields
FON	Funding Opportunity Number	UEI	Unique Entity Identifier
FY	Fiscal Year	USC	United States Code
IC	Institutional Control	UST	Underground Storage Tank
IIJA	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act	VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program

Eligible Entities for Multipurpose Grants & Assessment Grants (Vary by Grant Type)

- General Purpose Unit of Local Government.
- Quasi Governmental Entities.
- Regional Council established under governmental authority.
- Group of General Purpose Units of Local Government established under Federal, State or local law (e.g., councils of governments) to function as a single legal entity with authority to enter into binding agreements with the Federal Government.

See the full list of eligible entities in Section 2.A.

- Redevelopment Agency that is chartered or otherwise sanctioned by a state.
- State.*
- Federally recognized Indian Tribe other than in Alaska.
- Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and the Metlakatla Indian Community.
- Nonprofit organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Qualified community development entity as defined in section 45D(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

*Includes D.C, Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, U.S. Virgin Islands, Northern Marianas, and any other U.S. Territory



Individuals, for-profit organizations, and nonprofit organizations that are **not** tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) are ineligible to receive Brownfields Assessment Grants. Section 501(c)(4) nonprofit organizations may be eligible if they also qualify as an eligible entity type listed in Section 2.A. and demonstrate that they do not lobby the Federal government.



Multipurpose Grants

 A Multipurpose Grant is appropriate for communities that have identified, through community engagement efforts, a discrete area (such as a neighborhood, neighboring towns, a district, a corridor, a shared planning area or a census tract) with one or more brownfield sites.

Communities use funds to carry out a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities, including planning and additional community engagement activities.

• **Funding:** up to \$1,000,000

Project Period: up to 5 years







Submitting Your Application Package

<u>Tips for Submitting Brownfields</u>
<u>Grant Applications Through</u>
<u>www.grants.gov</u>

Applications are due January 28, 2026, via Grants.gov

Grants.gov scheduled maintenance \rightarrow EPA encourages applicants to apply before January 28

December 20-22, 2025	Maintenance	Scheduled Maintenance Outage: Production System will go Offline Saturday December 20, 2025 at 12:01 AM ET. Production System will go Online Monday December 22, 2025 at 6:00 AM ET.
January 17-19, 2026	Maintenance	Scheduled Maintenance Outage: Production System will go Offline Saturday January 17, 2026 at 12:01 AM ET. Production System will go Online Monday January 19, 2026 at 6:00 AM ET.



Help | Register | Login

Grants.gov Resources for Applicants







Requirements to Submit an Application

REQUIREMENT	ACCEPT 🗹	REJECT X
Active www.sam.gov account through January 28, 2026	 The account is active and matches the applying entity's info 	 Inactive/expired account Account is being updated, but is in "processing" status
Obtain a Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) generated in www.sam.gov	 The same UEI must be used on future applications 	 Another organization's/ department's UEI is listed on the Standard Form 424
Active www.grants.gov account	Associated with same, correct UEI number	 Application is not submitted through Grants.gov solely due to an incomplete registration/inactive account
Submission by the Authorized Organization Representative (AOR)	 Designated in Grants.gov by the E-business POC (listed in sam.gov) Has a Grants.gov account Submits the application in Grants.gov 	 Someone other than the designated AOR submits the application

How to Register to Apply for Grants

Advisors from APEX Accelerators can also help with SAM.gov enrollment: www.ap exaccelerators.us





Your www.grants.gov Application Package

REQUIRED FORMS

- 1. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
- 2. Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424 A)
- 3. Preaward Compliance Review Report (EPA Form 4700-4)
- 4. EPA Key Contacts (Form 5700-54)
- 5. Project Narrative Attachment Form, as one file (if possible) include:
 - ✓ Application Information Sheet
 - ✓ Threshold Responses (and related attachments)
 - ✓ Narrative (responses to Narrative/Review criteria)

OPTIONAL FORMS

- 6. Grants.gov Lobbying Form To be submitted by applicants requesting more than \$100,000 of EPA grant funding.
- 7. Negotiated/Proposed Indirect Cost Rate
 Agreement submit using the Project
 Narrative Attachment Form.

- A workplan <u>is not required</u> at time of submission. Applicants that are selected for funding will negotiate a workplan with EPA before the cooperative agreement is awarded.
- EPA BROWNFIELDS AND LAND REVITALIZATION
- Sample forms and submission checklist are available on the MARC Grant Application Resources webpage.

Exception to Applying through Grants.gov

Limited or No Access to Internet

- Must request a waiver at least 15 calendar days before the deadline
- EPA must approve the request
- See procedures in Section 5.E. of Guidelines

There's no guarantee EPA will approve the request.

Every effort must be made to complete all prerequisites in order to apply through www.grants.gov.







The Application Has Been Submitted – Now What?

- After signing and successfully submitting the application package, within 24 to 48 hours the AOR should receive a series of notification emails from www.grants.gov.
- If the AOR did not receive notification emails or the application package did not transmit successfully, immediately contact the www.grants.gov Help Desk (open 24/7; except federal holidays) at 1-800-518-4726. Make sure to get a case number.
- Applications that are not successfully submitted and 'validated' by the deadline will be considered late and will be rejected.

Progress Check

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Changes to the Guidelines



In this presentation, text in magenta denotes information that is new/revised.

For a complete list of changes,
please review the
"Summary of FY26 Brownfields
Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup
Grant Guidelines Changes"
available at
www.epa.gov/brownfields/marc-grant-

application-resources

FY26 Summary of the Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Grant Guidelines Changes (as of 11/18/25)

EPA prepared this Summary of Changes document to assist prospective applicants with preparing Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant applications. Please review the FY26 Application Guidelines (also referred to as Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) 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 FY26, review the <u>FY26 Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications</u> (see p.1) to determine which other grants are available to you.

If you currently have an EPA Brownfields Grant and are interested in applying for an FY26 grant, review the <u>FY26 Eligibility Chart for Existing</u>
Grant Recipients (see p.2) to determine which other grants are available to you.

A solicitation for new Revolving Loan Fund Grants will not be issued in FY26.

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					
Topic	Most Recent Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant	FY26 Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Guidelines			
	Guidelines				
General Information					
New NOFO		EPA is now using the streamlined NOFO template, in line with the			
Template		2024 Uniform Grants Guidance updates. Information has been			
		rearranged into different sections. The new sections for applicant			
		eligibility, the submission checklist, the Applicant Information			
		Sheet, threshold criteria, narrative criteria, review criteria, and			
		submission requirements are identified below. Please review the			
		FY26 guidelines for details.			







Application Information Sheet

- Applicant Name and Address
- Applicant Website URL
- Amount of Funding Requested
- Project Location
- ❖ Target Area and Priority Site Information
- Project Contacts
- Population Data
- Other Factors
- Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority
- **EPA's Plan to Release Copies of Applications**
 - ✓ Provide on official letterhead
 - √ 3-page limit
 - ✓ Do not include a project summary/overview





Target Area and Priority Site

- List the target area(s) discussed in the Narrative.
- Provide the address of the priority site(s) proposed in the Narrative.
- OPTIONAL: As a separate one-page attachment, may include a map to depict the target area(s) and/or priority site(s). Do not include any additional information on the map.
 Maps will not be evaluated and will not count against the Application Information Sheet page limit.

See FAQ C.26 for more information on the optional map.



Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

- Include a current letter acknowledging your specific application and your plans to apply for a grant to conduct/oversee assessment and cleanup activities.
- State and Tribal environmental authorities do not need to provide a letter for themselves.

This request applies to Alaska Native Regional Corporations and Alaska Native Village Corporations.

Do not substitute a letter from local or county oversight agencies.

Do <u>not</u> substitute an enforcement letter from the State regarding a specific site action.

Do not use last year's letter.

Attach letter to the Application Information Sheet.

Does not count toward 3-page limit.





Certifying Confidential/Privileged Information





- EPA recommends that applications not include confidential business information (CBI) or trade secrets. Applicants must not include information that, if disclosed, would invade another individual's personal privacy (e.g., an individual's salary, personal email addresses, etc.).
- On the Application Information Sheet... "All CBI claims must be asserted at the time the application is submitted to EPA. Applicants must clearly indicate CBI claims by including them on the application or attaching a cover sheet, stamped or typed legend, or another appropriate notice. CBI claims should employ language such as "trade secret," "proprietary," or "confidential" as per 40 CFR § 2.203(b). Indicate which portion(s) of the application you claim has CBI. If the application does not include CBI, state 'n/a' or 'not applicable."
- Information that is claimed as confidential will be redacted before release.



Review Section 4.B.(10). for more information



Progress Check

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Threshold Criteria Overview

Every application must clear the Threshold Requirements







You MUST Attach Responses to Your Application and Responses MUST be Separate from the Narrative







Applicant Eligibility

Describe how you are an eligible entity (complete list in Section 2.A.)

- For entities that are cities, counties, Tribes, or states, affirm that the organization is eligible for funding.
- For entities <u>other than</u> cities, counties, Tribes, or states, attach documentation of your eligibility (e.g., resolutions, statutes, etc.).
- 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.
- For nonprofit organizations and qualified community development entities, attach documentation certifying the organization's status.
- All applicants, <u>indicate</u> if your organization is exempt from Federal taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.
 - o If yes, <u>indicate</u> if your organization lobbies the Federal government. *Note, if the organization lobbies the Federal government, the organization is ineligible for an EPA Brownfields Grant.*
 - o If yes, but your organization does not lobby the Federal government, <u>attach</u> a legal opinion that states that the organization does not engage in lobbying activities. *Note, organizations with 501(c)(4) taxexempt status that do not lobby the Federal government must also qualify as an entity type listed in Section 2.A. to be eligible for a Multipurpose Grant.*

Community Involvement

- Applicants must <u>identify</u> how you will "inform and involve the community and other stakeholders."
- Tie this to your response to Narrative criteria 2.e. 2.h. under Community Engagement.
- Community involvement efforts can be implemented using existing meeting.







Target Area

- Identify one target area.
- Target area may include a number of neighboring towns, a district, a shared planning area, or a census tract.









Affirmation of Site Ownership

- Affirm that you own a site in the target area that meets the definition of a brownfield.
- For the purposes of these guidelines, "own" means fee simple title through a legal document (e.g., a recorded deed); unless EPA approves a different ownership arrangement (e.g., a nominee agreement or 99-year irrevocable lease).
- Affirm that the site owned meets the definition of a brownfield...

You are not required to address this site if selected for funding.



Use of Grant Funds

<u>Indicate</u> on which page of the application information can be found on your plan to:

- Conduct assessment activities.
- Conduct remediation activities.
- Develop an overall plan for revitalization of the target area that includes a feasible reuse strategy for at least one priority site, or...

State if an overall plan for revitalization of the target area (and the plan includes a feasible reuse strategy for at least one priority site) already exists.

Information that is referenced can be in the written narrative or the budget table.





Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds

- <u>Indicate</u> if you have an open EPA Brownfields Assessment or Multipurpose Grant.
- <u>Current EPA Multipurpose Grant recipients and Assessment Grant recipients</u> must draw down, and disburse, at least 70.00% of each Multipurpose and Assessment cooperative agreement by <u>October 1, 2025</u>, before applying for funding.
- Attach a copy of a financial record displaying the amount of funds drawn down and corresponding dates (e.g., a report from the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) or general ledger entries documenting receipts for funds drawn down from ASAP or the required State financial system).





Section 4.D. Applicants Using Contractors and/or Subrecipients

Contractors.

Applicants (other than States, territories, Tribes, and eligible Tribal entities) that have procured a contractor(s) where the amount of the contract will be more than the micro-purchase threshold in <u>2 CFR § 200.320(a)(1)</u> must demonstrate how the contractor (including consultants) was selected in compliance with the fair and open competition requirements in <u>2 CFR Part 200</u> and <u>2 CFR Part 1500</u>.

- All applicants must conduct procurement in accordance with the six good faith efforts discussed in 40 CFR Part 33, Subpart C (EPA's Participation by Disadvantaged Business Enterprises regulations).
- **EPA will not accept sole source justifications** for procurement contracts for services such as environmental consulting, engineering, and remediation that are available in the commercial marketplace.
- Firms or individual consultants that develop or draft specifications, requirements, statements of work, or invitations for bids or requests for proposals **must be excluded** from competing for such procurements as provided in <u>2 CFR § 200.319(b)</u>. EPA interprets this regulation to preclude applicants from directly receiving **any assistance** from prospective contractors in developing RFPs if the prospective contractor will be allowed to compete for the work covered by the RFP.
- Consistent with <u>2 CFR § 200.320(b)(2)(iii)</u>, when the value of a procurement transaction exceeds the simplified acquisition threshold, **price must be an evaluation factor** in the review of proposals or quotes.

EPA provides guidance on complying with the competition requirements in the <u>Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services, Supplies,</u> and Equipment Under EPA Assistance Agreements and the Brownfields Grants: Guidance on Competitively Procuring a Contractor.

Contractors and Named Subrecipients

Contractors

Applicants must disclose whether they have already selected a contractor that will be compensated with EPA funds made available under the grant.

States & Tribes (including eligible Tribal entities): Consistent with 2 CFR § 200.317, follow the same competitive policies and procedures used for procurements from non-Federal funds.

- <u>Disclose</u> whether you have already selected a contractor that will be compensated with EPA funds made available under this NOFO and the procurement procedures followed to hire the contractor(s).
- If a contractor(s) has been selected prior to submitting the application to EPA, <u>describe/include</u>:
 - o where and when the Request for Proposals (RFP)/Request for Qualifications (RFQ) was posted;
 - the length of time the RFP/RFQ was advertised;
 - o the number of firms solicited and the number of offers received and considered; and
 - the name(s) of the firm(s) the applicant entered into contract(s) with.
- **Provide** a copy of (or link to) the solicitation document(s) and the signed executed contract(s).
- Alternatively, <u>state</u> 'n/a' or 'not applicable' if a contractor has not been procured at the time of application submission.

Failure to provide the requested information will result in the rejection of the application/award.

See Section D. of the FAQs

Contractors and Named Subrecipients (continued)

From Section 4.D. Applicants Using Contractors and/or Subrecipients

All applicants, including states, territories, and Tribes, that name a specific subrecipient in this application must demonstrate that the subrecipient is eligible for a subaward in compliance with Appendix A of EPA Assistance Agreement Recipients. This policy provides, among other things, that transactions between recipients and for-profit firms and individual consultants are procurement contracts rather than subawards when the transaction involves the acquisition of services from the firm or individual.

Named Subrecipients.

<u>Describe</u> how the named subrecipient is eligible for a subaward (e.g., is a nonprofit organization or unit of government). Alternatively, <u>state</u> 'n/a' or 'not applicable' if a subrecipient is not named at the time of application submission.



Refer to <u>EPA's Contracts and Subawards</u> Solicitation Clause for additional guidance.



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Regional Multipurpose Brownfield Contacts

Headquarters Contacts

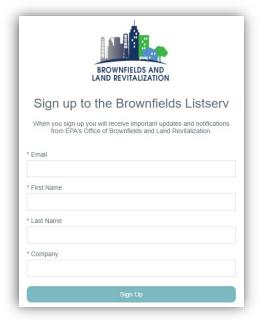
Elyse Salinas

brownfields@epa.gov



REGIONAL CONTACTS & STATES				
EPA Region 1 – Paul Pietrinferni <u>Pietrinferni.Paul@epa.gov</u> (617) 918-1585	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT			
EPA Region 2 – Yocasta DeJesus Dejesus.Yocasta@epa.gov (212) 637-4340	NJ, NY, PR, VI			
EPA Region 3 – Anthony Geiger Geiger.Anthony@epa.gov (215) 814-3367	DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV			
EPA Region 4 – Sara Janovitz Janovitz.Sara@epa.gov I (470) 922-7265	AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN			
EPA Region 5 – Torre Ippolito Ippolito.Torre@epa.gov (312) 353-6556	IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI			
EPA Region 6 – Marsha Lay Lay.Marsha@epa.gov (214) 665-7562	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX			
EPA Region 7 – Tarah Vaughn R7_Brownfields@epa.gov (913) 551-7059	IA, KS, MO, NE			
EPA Region 8 – Melisa Devincenzi Devincenzi.Melisa@epa.gov (303) 312-6377	CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY			
EPA Region 9 – Lisa Hanusiak Hanusiak.Lisa@epa.gov (415) 972-3152 Jennifer Tung Tung.Jennifer@epa.gov (415) 972-3698	AZ, CA, HI, NV, Pacific Island Territories			
EPA Region 10 – Terri Griffith Griffith.Terri@epa.gov (206) 553-8511	AK, ID, OR, WA			

- A copy of today's presentation is available on the Brownfields MARC Grant Application Resources webpage at www.epa.gov/brownfields/marc-grant-applicationresources.
- The live overview of the Assessment and Multipurpose Narrative Criteria will be on 12/03/25 and the recording will be made available. Please check the <u>Brownfields MARC Grant Application Resources</u> webpage (link above) for updates.



Click Here to Join the Brownfields Program Listserv



Thanks for Listening!!

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4721613

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7087652

