

EPA REGION I FY26 BROWNFIELDS GRANT GUIDELINES

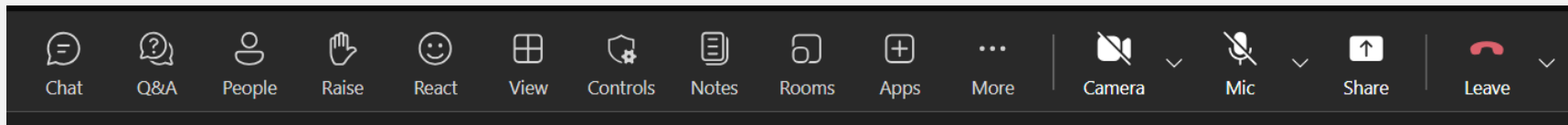
Assessment Grant Webinar

Monday, December 8 | 10 am – 12 pm



MICROSOFT TEAMS WEBINAR TIPS

Make sure your **camera is off**.



Click on the **“Q&A”** icon and enter your questions for the moderator to respond.



Make sure **you are muted**.

USE OF ARTIFICIAL INTELLIGENCE (AI)

- EPA does not supply an AI-generated summary of this training.
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PURPOSE OF THIS WEBINAR

- FY26 Brownfields **Assessment Grant** Guidelines
 - Application Submission Process
 - Threshold Criteria
 - Due Date & Submission Instructions
 - Content & Form of Application Submission
 - Application Information Sheet
 - Ranking & Evaluation Criteria
 - Question & Answer



Applications
are due January
28, 2026!



Should any information provided in the following slides or by the presenters differ from the **Guidelines**, the language written in the **Guidelines** shall prevail.

COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

AAI	All Appropriate Inquiry	IC	Institutional Control
ABCA	Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives	IJA	Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act
ACRES	Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System	ILO	Innocent Landowner
AOR	Authorized Organization Representative	IR	Intergovernmental Review
ASAP	Automated Standard Application for Payments	MARC	Multipurpose, Assessment, RLF, and Cleanup
BABA	Build America, Buy America Act	MOA	Memorandum of Agreement
BFPP	Bona Fide Prospective Purchaser	NHPA	National Historic Preservation Act
BIL	Bipartisan Infrastructure Law	NPL	National Priority List
CAR	Cooperative Agreement Recipient	OBLR	Office of Brownfields & Land Revitalization
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act	PO	Project Officer (or Project Manager)
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	POC	Point of Contact
CIP	Community Involvement Plan	PRP	Potential Responsible Parties
COA	Closeout Agreement (for RLF Grants)	QEP	Qualified Environmental Professional
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
		UST	Underground Storage Tank
		VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program

FY26 BROWNFIELDS MULTIPURPOSE, ASSESSMENT, AND CLEANUP GRANT OFFERINGS

*Amounts
are subject to
change

Grant Type	Maximum Project Period	Maximum Amount Per Grant	Estimated # of Awards	Total Per Grant Type	
				Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funds	Regular Appropriated Funds
Multipurpose	5 years	\$1,000,000	20	\$20,000,000	
Assessment (CW)	4 years	\$500,000	70	\$35,000,000	
Assessment Coalitions	4 years	\$1,500,000	39		\$58,700,000
Assessment (State/Tribal Level)	5 years	\$2,000,000	18	\$35,000,000	
Cleanup	4 years	\$500,000	10	\$5,000,000	
Cleanup	4 years	\$4,000,000	26	\$102,000,000	
			183	\$197,000,000	\$58,700,000

\$255,700,000

NO COST SHARE

SUMMARY OF GUIDELINES CHANGES

NEW

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 11/20/25)

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 [FY26 Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications](#) (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 [FY26 Eligibility Chart for Existing 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 Guidelines	FY26 Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Guidelines
General Information		
New NOFO Template		EPA is now using the streamlined NOFO template, in line with the 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.

ASSESSMENT GRANTS

Grant funds can be used for a **variety of activities:**

- **Inventory:** Compile a list of brownfield sites
- **Characterization:** Identify past uses
- **Assessment:** Determine existing contamination
- **Site-specific Cleanup Planning, Area-Wide and Revitalization Planning:** Scope and plan process for site assessment, cleanup, and reuse
- **Community Involvement:** Inform and engage stakeholders



Community-wide Assessment Grants

- Is appropriate for communities that are beginning to address their brownfield challenges, as well as for communities that have ongoing efforts to bring sites into productive reuse.
- **Funding:** up to \$500,000
- **Project Period:** up to 4 years

ASSESSMENT COALITION GRANTS

- Coalition grants are **designed to award larger grants**, with a broader reach, that allows for funding to go to entities that may not currently have capacity to apply for and manage their own grant.
- Coalitions are designed for one “lead” eligible entity to partner with eligible entities.

The list of eligible entities is the same for both lead and non-lead coalition members.

Lead entity must attest that they have legal authority to expend grant funds on behalf of non-lead members.

- Information on **non-lead** members:
 - There must be at least **two**, but not more than **four**, eligible entities (cannot be the state).
 - **Must include at least one member that has never been awarded a Brownfields MARC Grant.**
 - **If entities with an open Brownfields Multipurpose or Assessment Grant can demonstrate they have drawn down 70.00% of the funding for each open Multipurpose or Assessment Grant, they are eligible to be a non-lead member.**
 - Members of the coalition **may not be an agency or instrumentality of themselves** (for example, a city and the redevelopment authority of the same city); a city and an affiliated nonprofit organization that the city controls; or an affiliated 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization (for example, nonprofit organizations that have the same board of directors or staff).

NEW

ASSESSMENT COALITION GRANTS

Key Features

- Partnership with **non-lead members that do not have the capacity** to apply for and manage their own EPA cooperative agreement and otherwise would not have access to Brownfields Grant resources.
- Must identify a **target area** for each member in the coalition – target areas may **not** overlap, and they must be in at least three distinct municipalities or jurisdictions (e.g., town, city, or Tribe).
- Recipients must assess **a minimum of 2 sites** in each member's geographic boundary throughout the project period.
- **Funding:** up to \$1.5 million
- **Project Period:** up to 4 years

NEW

COMMUNITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT GRANTS FOR STATES & TRIBES

Who Can Apply?

- **States**
- **Indian tribes** other than in Alaska; including Intertribal Consortia, comprised of eligible Indian tribes.
- Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and the Metlakatla Indian Community.

Current CWAGST recipients are **NOT** eligible for an **FY26 Community-wide Assessment Grant, FY26 Assessment Coalition Grant, or FY26 Multipurpose Grant.**

Key Features

- Identify at least **3 target areas** and at least **5 priority sites** in the application (at least 1 priority site in each target area).
- Target areas of **higher and lower population densities**.
- Recipients must assess **a minimum of 10 sites** throughout the project period.
- **Funding:** up to \$2 million
- **Project Period:** up to 5 years

OVERVIEW OF THRESHOLD FOR COMMUNITY-WIDE ASSESSMENT GRANTS

1

Applicant Eligibility

2

Community Involvement

3

Expenditure of Existing Grant
Funds

4

Contractors and Named
Subrecipients



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

I. APPLICANT ELIGIBILITY

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

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

Individuals, for-profit organizations, and organizations exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that lobby the Federal government, and nonprofit organizations that are not tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) are ineligible to receive Brownfields Assessment Grants.

2. COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT

- Applicants must **identify** how you will “inform and involve the community and other stakeholders.”
- Tie this to your response to Narrative criteria 2.e-2.g. under Community Engagement.
- Community involvement efforts can be implemented using existing meetings.
- If you are applying for **Assessment Grant** and **Cleanup Grant** funding, the Assessment Community Involvement threshold criterion can be satisfied by using the Cleanup Grant Community Notification process.

3. EXPENDITURE OF EXISTING GRANT FUNDS

Current EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant recipients and Multipurpose Grant recipients must:

- Demonstrate that payment has been received from EPA (drawn down) and **drawn down funds have been disbursed** for at least **70.00%** of funds of each Assessment and Multipurpose cooperative agreement you have with EPA by **October 1, 2025**, to apply for additional Assessment Grant funding.
- Applicants **must attach** a copy of a financial record displaying the amount of funds drawn down (ASAP or general ledger entries).
- Talk to your Project Officer or Meena Mortazavi (mortazavi.meena@epa.gov) if you have any questions and/or need to verify your drawdowns.



Alternatively, the applicant must **affirm it does not have an open EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant or Multipurpose Grant.**

4. CONTRACTORS AND NAMED SUBRECIPIENTS

Contractors:

- EPA **does not** require or encourage applicants to procure contractors (including consultants) before the EPA cooperative agreement is awarded, but applicants may choose to do so.
- Applicants, other than state applicants, that **have procured a contractor(s)** where the amount of the contract will be more than the micro-purchase threshold in 2 CFR § 200.320(a)(1) (\$15,000 for most applicants) must demonstrate how the contractor (including consultants) was selected in compliance with the **fair and open competition** requirements in 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500. EPA provides guidance on complying with the competition requirements in the Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services, Supplies, and Equipment Under EPA Assistance Agreements.

4. CONTRACTORS AND NAMED SUBRECIPIENTS

Contractors, continued:

Applicants **must disclose** whether they have already selected a contractor that will be compensated with EPA funds made available under this NOFO. If a contractor(s) has been selected prior to submitting the application to EPA (including when a contractor(s) has been selected under a “dual procurement process” for both grant proposal writing and services necessary to help you carry out the grant), applicants **must describe**:

- the procurement procedures that were followed to hire the contractor(s) and include information on **where and when** the Request for Proposals/Request for Qualifications was posted;
- the **length of time** the RFP/RFQ was advertised;
- the number of **firms solicited** and the number of **offers received** and considered;
- the name(s) of the firm(s) the applicant entered into contract with; and
- **provide a copy** of (or link to) the solicitation documents and the signed executed contract.



Alternatively, state ‘n/a’ or ‘not applicable’ if a contractor has not been procured.

4. CONTRACTORS AND NAMED SUBRECIPIENTS

Named Subrecipients:

- EPA **does not require or encourage** applicants to name a specific subrecipient(s) in the application for Brownfields Grant funding.
- All applicants, including states, 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's Subaward Policy for EPA Assistance Agreement Recipients.
- **Describe** how the named subrecipient is eligible for a subaward (e.g., is a nonprofit organization or unit of government).



Alternatively, state 'n/a' or 'not applicable' if a subrecipient is not named.

ASSESSMENT **COALITION**- SPECIFIC THRESHOLD CRITERIA



COALITION THRESHOLD CRITERIA

1

Eligibility of Lead and Non-Lead Coalition Members

2

Target Areas

3

Non-lead Member(s) that Never Received an EPA MARC Grant

4

Legal Authority to Expend Grant Funds on Behalf of Non-Lead Coalition Members

5

Coalition Agreement

6

Community Involvement

7

Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds

8

Contractors and Named Subrecipients




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

I. ELIGIBILITY OF LEAD AND NON-LEAD COALITION MEMBERS

Describe how you and each of the non-lead members are an eligible entity (complete list in Section 2.A.). The coalition must have **at least two**, but **not more than four**, non-lead members.

- **For entities that are cities, counties, Tribes, or states:**
 - **Affirm** that the organization is eligible for funding.
- **For entities other than 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** the submission of an application.
- **Indicate if your organization and any of the non-lead members' organizations are exempt from Federal taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.**
 - **If yes**, indicate if your organization **lobbies** the Federal government.
 - **If yes**, but your organization **does not lobby** the Federal government, attach a legal opinion that states that the organization does not engage in lobbying activities.

2. TARGET AREAS



In the **Narrative**, the applicant **must identify** a target area for **each** coalition member (i.e., the lead and non-lead members), and the target areas **may not overlap** and **must be in three distinct municipalities or jurisdictions (e.g., town, city, or Tribe)**.



Address this **threshold criterion** by providing a response to Section 4.B.5. in the Application Information Sheet.

3. NON-LEAD MEMBER(S) THAT NEVER RECEIVED AN EPA MARC GRANT



The coalition must have **at least one non-lead member** that has **never been awarded** an EPA Brownfields MARC grant.

Indicate which non-lead coalition member(s) have never been awarded an EPA Brownfields MARC grant.

4. LEGAL AUTHORITY TO EXPEND GRANT FUNDS ON BEHALF OF NON-LEAD COALITION MEMBERS




The lead member must have **legal authority** to **expend grant funds on behalf of the non-lead members** to conduct the proposed grant activities.

- **Attest** that the lead member has **legal authority** to **expend grant funds on behalf of the non-lead members** to conduct the proposed grant activities.
- For an entity with a geographic boundary that does not encompass the geographic boundaries of the non-lead members, **identify** the relevant law(s), ordinance(s), or other documentation to demonstrate the lead member has **legal authority** to **expend grant funds** outside of their geographic boundary.

5. COALITION AGREEMENT

- Each non-lead coalition member **must submit** a signed letter to the grant applicant (the lead coalition member) in which they **agree** to be part of the coalition.
- An active Memorandum of Agreement that includes a **description and role** of each coalition member may serve in place of the individual coalition members' letters. Include the document(s), **as an attachment**, in your application.



Documentation that is not included with the application will render that non-lead member **ineligible from participating in the coalition, and potentially render the **entire application ineligible** if there are fewer than two non-lead members.**

QUESTIONS ON THRESHOLD CRITERIA?

As a reminder, **Threshold is PASS/FAIL!**

**Your application will be
ranked ONLY IF YOU PASS
THRESHOLD.**

RANKING CRITERIA

	Assessment Community-wide	Assessment Coalition	CWAGST
Project Area Description and Plans For Revitalization	40 pts	45 pts	40 pts
Community Need and Community Engagement	35 pts	35 pts	35 pts
Task Description, Cost Estimates, & Measuring Progress	45 pts	45 pts	45 pts
Programmatic Capability and Past Performance	35 pts	35 pts	35 pts
Total	155 pts	160 pts	155 pts



- Criteria are **further** made up of sub-criteria.
- **A response to a criterion/sub-criterion that is included in a different section of the Narrative may not be scored as favorably.**
- **Provide** the sub-criteria number in your application and follow it with a **detailed response**.
- Sub-criteria language and points **may differ** between grant types.

Review your responses to the Ranking Criteria in Section 4.C. against the Evaluation Criteria in Section 6.B.

Current CWAGST recipients are NOT eligible for an FY26 Community-wide Assessment Grant or Assessment Coalition Grant.

NARRATIVE/RANKING CRITERIA

Logistics:

- Any criterion left unanswered may result in a **zero**.
- Include page numbers, criteria numbers, and titles in narrative.
- **Community-wide:** Narrative **MUST NOT** exceed **10** single-spaced pages.
- **Coalition** and **States/Tribes:** Narrative **MUST NOT** exceed **12** single-spaced pages.



Key Points:

- Provide **FULL** detail for **EVERY** section.
- You will be **EVALUATED** on the level of detail you provide. You will be evaluated **less favorably** for missing or incomplete information.

NARRATIVE/ RANKING CRITERIA

1

Project Area Description & Plans for Revitalization

2

Community Need & Community Engagement

3

Task Descriptions, Cost Estimates, & Measuring Progress

4

Programmatic Capability & Past Performance

I. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION & PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Target Area and Brownfields (20 points)

- a. Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Area (5 Points)
- b. Description of the Priority Brownfield Site(s) (10 Points)
- c. Identifying Additional Sites (5 Points)

Revitalization of the Target Area (10 Points)

- d. Reuse Strategy and Alignment with Revitalization Plans (5 Points)
- e. Outcomes and Benefits of Reuse Strategy (5 Points)

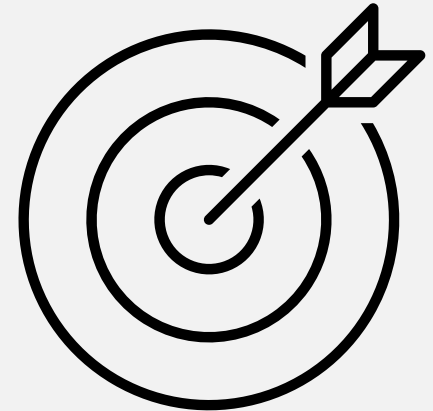
Strategy for Leveraging Resources (10 Points)

- f. Resources Needed for Site Reuse (5 Points)
- g. Use of Existing Infrastructure (5 Points)

I. TARGET AREA & BROWNFIELDS

I.a. Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Area

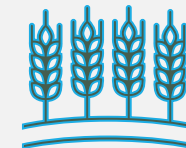
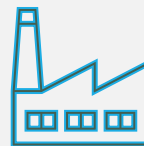
- The **extent** to which the geographic boundary(ies) where the applicant is proposing to conduct **eligible activities** under this grant is clearly identified.
- The **extent** to which the **brownfield challenges** are clearly discussed and the degree to which the brownfield challenges **impact the area(s)** in the geographic boundary(ies).
- The applicant should discuss how **this grant** will potentially help address those challenges and impacts.
- **Identify and describe** the specific target area(s) within the geographic boundary(ies) where grant activities are **focused**.



I. TARGET AREA & BROWNFIELDS

I.b. Description of the Priority Brownfield Site(s)

- Provide an **overview** of the brownfield sites in the target areas with information such as number, size, and environmental concerns. Then, specifically highlight **one or more sites** that are a **priority**, and **discuss why** the sites are a **priority** for assessment and reuse.
 - **States/Tribes**: Identify at **least five priority sites**, including at least one priority site in each target area.
- **Include** information such as past and current land uses, current site conditions (including structures), and potentially related environmental issues.



I. TARGET AREA & BROWNFIELDS

I.c. Identifying Additional Sites

- The **extent** to which there is a logical plan to identify additional sites for **eligible activities** and the degree to which the **prioritization criteria** that will be used to select additional sites are identified.
 - **States/Tribes:** Include criteria that consider **new** communities that have not previously benefited from Brownfields Grant Resources **and** identify criteria that consider sites in metropolitan **and** non-metropolitan statistical areas.



ASSESSMENT **COALITION**-SPECIFIC INFORMATION IN NARRATIVE/RANKING CRITERIA

1



I. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION & PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Coalition Members, Target Areas, and Brownfields (25 Points)

- a. Coalition Members (5 Points)
- b. Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Areas (5 Points)
- c. Description of the Priority Brownfield Sites (10 Points)
- d. Identifying Additional Sites (5 Points)

Revitalization of the Target Areas (10 Points)

- e. Reuse Strategy & Alignment with Revitalization Plans (5 Points)
- f. Outcomes & Benefits of Reuse Strategy (5 Points)

Strategy for Leveraging Resources (10 Points)

- g. Resources Needed for Site Reuse (5 Points)
- h. Use of Existing Infrastructure (5 Points)

I. COALITION MEMBERS, TARGET AREAS, & BROWNFIELDS

I.a. Coalition Members

- **Identify** the non-lead members of the **coalition** and **indicate** what kind of organization each non-lead member is (e.g., local government, regional planning organization, community-based organization, etc.).
- **Describe** the non-lead members' **lack of capacity** to apply for and manage their own Brownfields Grant and their **lack of access** to Brownfield Grant resources to address brownfield sites.



I. COALITION MEMBERS, TARGET AREAS, & BROWNFIELDS

I.b. Overview of Brownfield Challenges and Description of Target Areas

- **Identify** the geographic boundary(ies) where you are proposing to conduct **eligible activities** under this grant and discuss the brownfield challenges and their impacts.
- **Provide** a brief overview of how this grant will potentially help address those challenges and impacts.
- Within the geographic boundary(ies) discussed above, **identify and describe** the **specific target areas** where you plan to focus grant activities. In your response, include the area(s) targeted by the lead member and area(s) targeted by each non-lead (*Examples of a target area include a neighborhood, district, corridor, or census tract*).



I. COALITION MEMBERS, TARGET AREAS, & BROWNFIELDS

I.c. Description of the Priority Brownfield Sites

- **Provide** an overview of the brownfield sites in the target areas with information such as number of sites, size, and environmental concerns.
- Then, specifically **highlight at least one priority site** in the lead member's target area and **at least one priority site** in each non-lead member's target area.
- **Discuss why the sites are a priority** for assessment and reuse. Include information such as past and current land uses, current site conditions (including structures), and potentially related environmental issues.



I. COALITION MEMBERS, TARGET AREAS, & BROWNFIELDS

I.d. Identifying Additional Sites

- Describe the **extent** to which there is a logical plan to identify additional sites for **eligible activities** and the degree to which the **prioritization criteria** that will be used to select additional sites are identified.



I. REVITALIZATION OF THE TARGET AREA

I.d. Reuse Strategy & Alignment with Revitalization Plans

- **Describe** the reuse strategy, or projected reuse, for the priority site(s) to be assessed in the target area(s) and **discuss** how the reuse strategy/projected **reuse aligns with and advances** the local government's land use and revitalization plans or related community priorities.
 - **Reference** your current land use and revitalization plans and **describe** how your priority site(s) contribute to the overall community vision.



If your plans are **older**, explain if they are being updated and if the work associated with this application will be consistent with the updated plans.

I. REVITALIZATION OF THE TARGET AREA

I.e. Outcomes & Benefits of Reuse Strategy

- Given the type of community being served (e.g., urban, rural, Tribal, etc.), the degree to which the proposed project or revitalization plans will **potentially stimulate** economic development in the target area(s) upon completion of the cleanup of the priority site(s)

AND/OR

- The degree to which the grant will **facilitate** the creation of, preservation of, or addition to a park, greenway, undeveloped property, recreational property, or other property used for nonprofit purposes in the target area(s).
- The extent to which the proposed project will **improve local resilience to the impacts of extreme weather events and natural disasters** to protect residents and community investments.

I. REVITALIZATION OF THE TARGET AREA

I.e. Outcomes & Benefits of Reuse Strategy, continued...

- **When applicable**, the extent to which the reuse of the priority site(s) will **facilitate renewable energy** from wind, solar, or geothermal energy, or will incorporate energy efficiency measures.
- See Renewable Energy and Energy-Efficient Approaches in Brownfield Redevelopment for ideas on renewable energy options.
 - **Explain** which of these are part of your reuse strategies and **how** they will help your targeted community.



These outcomes should clearly correlate with reuse strategy and projected site reuse(s).

I. STRATEGY FOR LEVERAGING RESOURCES

I.f. Resources Needed for Site Reuse

- **Describe** your access to monetary funding from other resources and how the grant will stimulate the availability of additional funds to support the completion of the environmental site assessment or remediation, **AND** subsequent reuse strategy at the priority site(s).
 - **Discuss** the funds you may already have for your project site(s).
 - **Discuss** any funding you are considering applying for.

 How will this grant make other funding available? **Clearly identify** the sources of your funding. **Convince the reviewer** that you are aware of funding sources.

Note: A response may not earn full points if the applicant duplicates sources that are listed in 3.a-3.d. Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs.

I. STRATEGY FOR LEVERAGING RESOURCES

I.f. Resources Needed for Site Reuse, continued...

- **Examples** of potential key funding resources:
 - Other grants
 - Historic tax credits
 - Federal (HUD HOME, HUD CDBG, EDA, DOI, TBA, Brownfields Tax Incentive)
 - State (State TBA, Tax Credits, RLF)
 - Local (TIF, Tax, Bond)
 - Private (Foundation, Investors, Donations)

I. STRATEGY FOR LEVERAGING RESOURCES

I.g. Use of Existing Infrastructure

- **Describe** how work performed under this grant will facilitate the use of existing infrastructure at the priority sites and/or within the target areas.
- If you need additional/upgraded infrastructure, you must **describe** these needs/upgrades and **how** you are going to obtain the infrastructure.

QUESTIONS ON PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION & PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION?



Note: This presentation is the last opportunity
to ask questions for ranking criteria!



2. COMMUNITY NEED & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Need (20 Points)

- a. The Community's Need for Funding (5 Points)
- b. Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations (5 Points)
- c. Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease and Adverse Health Conditions (5 Points)
- d. **Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations (5 points)**

NEW

Community Engagement (15 Points)

- e. Project Involvement (5 Points)
- f. Project Roles (5 Points)
- g. Incorporating Community Input (5 Points)

2. COMMUNITY NEED

2.a. The Community's Need for Funding

- **Describe** how this grant will meet the needs of the community(ies) (i.e., the communities located within the geographic boundary(ies)) that have an inability to draw on other sources of funding to carry out environmental assessment or remediation, and subsequent reuse in the target area(s) **because of the small population and/or low-income of the community.**
- **Explain** how your grant will meet community needs.



The applicant **MUST** discuss communities that have a small population (15,000 people or less) and/or are low income to be evaluated favorably. **If you do not have one of these, you will only earn up to 2 points.**

2. COMMUNITY NEED

2.b. Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations

- **Identify** children, pregnant women, older adults, minority, or low-income communities, **OR** other sensitive populations in the target area.
- **Describe** the severity of health or welfare issues of such groups and discuss how **this grant** and reuse strategy/projected site reuse(s) **will address** those issues and/or will facilitate the identification and reduction of threats to the health or welfare of such groups.

2. COMMUNITY NEED

2.b. Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations, continued....

HEALTH ISSUES	WELFARE ISSUES
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Cancer• Asthma• Lead poisoning• Asbestos related illness or birth defects	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Blight• Crime• Vandalism• Illegal dumping• People moving out• Lack of neighborhood upkeep• Lower education levels• Lack of prosperity• Abandoned properties• Community disinvestment• Burden on municipal services

2. COMMUNITY NEED

2.c. Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease & Adverse Health Conditions

- **Discuss** the potential contaminants and their health threats that may be connected to your site(s). See [Environmental Contaminants Often Found at Brownfield Sites](#).
- **Describe** how this grant and reuse strategy/projected site reuse(s) will address, or help identify and reduce, threats to populations in the target area(s) that suffer from a **greater-than-normal incidence** of diseases or conditions.

Link back to the incidences of **cancer**, **asthma**, or **birth defects** you identified in the previous section and how **this grant** will help to reduce these threats.

If populations in the target areas do not suffer from **greater-than-normal incidence** of **cancer**, **asthma**, or **birth defects** your response may only earn up to **2 points**.



2. COMMUNITY NEED

2.d. Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations

- **Identify** which populations in the target areas are **economically impoverished** and/or **disproportionately** share the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and/or commercial operations or policies.
- **Describe** the extent to which this grant and reuse strategy/projected site reuse(s) will address these issues and/or help identify and reduce related threats.

 **Link back to the issues you identified in the previous sections and how this grant will help your impacted community:**

- Increasing job opportunities
- Increasing access to services & health care
- Increasing public transportation
- Improving zoning issues
- Eliminating food deserts
- Providing educational opportunities

2. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

- 2.e. Project Involvement
- 2.f. Project Roles
- 2.g. Incorporating Community Input

Sample Format for List of Organizations/Entities/Groups & Roles

Name of organization/entity /group	Entity’s Mission	Point of contact (name & email)	Specific involvement in the project/assistance provided
Add rows as needed			

2. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2.e. Project Involvement

- **Identify** the local organizations/entities/groups (i.e., project partners) that will be involved in the project.
- **Include** community-based organizations and/or community liaisons that represent residents affected by the project work.
- **Responses that do not involve at least one relevant community-based organization or community liaison will be evaluated less favorably.**



2.f. Project Roles

- **Discuss** the role each identified partner will play in the project. including how they will be **meaningfully involved** in making decisions with respect to site selection, cleanup, **AND** future reuse of the brownfield sites, including the priority site(s).
- **Coalitions:** **Discuss** how each non-lead coalition member will be engaged and informed.

2. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Local project partners may include community-based organizations (e.g., neighborhood groups, citizen groups, business organizations, etc.), community liaisons, property owners, lenders, developers, and the general public).

Project roles **can include** assistance with:

- Site selection
- Community outreach
- Reuse planning
- Finding a potential developer

Involve different types
of partners

Involve partners that are
relevant to your project plans

Do **NOT** include
letters of support

2. COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

2.g. Incorporating Community Input

Discuss your plan to communicate project progress to the local community, residents/groups directly affected by the project work, and the local organizations/entities/groups that will be involved in the project. **Include the frequency and methods** you will use (including an alternative to in-person community engagement) and **how input** will be solicited, considered, and responded to.



Be sure to **consider and respond** to any community input.

QUESTIONS ON COMMUNITY NEED & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT?



Note: This presentation is the last opportunity
to ask questions for ranking criteria!



3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Description of Tasks/Activities & Outputs (45 Points)

- a. Project Implementation (10 Points)
- b. Anticipated Project Schedule (5 Points)
- c. Task/Activity Lead (5 Points)
- d. Outputs (5 Points)
- e. **Cost Estimates (15 Points)**
- f. **Plan to Measure and Evaluate Environmental Progress and Results (5 Points)**

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

- **Community-wide & Coalitions:** *Local government applicants* may use up to 10% of the total grant award for health monitoring activities.
- **All Assessment Grants:** Administrative costs (direct costs and indirect costs) **may not** exceed 5% of the total award amount (e.g., if EPA awards \$500,000 to an applicant, the 5% cap for administrative costs is \$25,000).
- **Do not** include activities that are **ineligible uses** of funds under EPA's Assessment Grant (e.g., land acquisition; building demolition that is not necessary to assess contamination at the site; building construction, site preparation, or remediation).
- Please refer to the **FY26 FAQs** for additional examples of **eligible and ineligible uses of funds** (including administrative costs). For questions not covered by the **FY26 FAQs** contact your Regional Brownfields Coordinator listed in Section I.E.

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Community-wide

Coalition

States/Tribes

Responses will be **evaluated less favorably** if:

- **Ineligible activities** are included.
- **Coalitions** & **States/Tribes**: The project proposes to subaward aspects of the programmatic, administrative, and financial requirements of the grant.

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

- **Provide** a list and description of the tasks/activities required to implement the proposed project.
- You may **respond to all four parts** of this criterion using the following format for each task/activity. See the guidelines for more information.

Task/Activity:

a. Project Implementation

❖ EPA-funded tasks/activities:

❖ Non-EPA grant resources needed to carry out tasks/activities, if applicable:

b. Anticipated Project Schedule:

c. Task/Activity Lead:

d. Outputs:

3. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS/ACTIVITIES & OUTPUTS

3.a. Project Implementation

- **Discuss** the EPA-funded tasks/activities that will take place under this grant.
- **If you plan to include participant support costs** in your project to pay for activities associated with a community liaison(s), **describe** the sound process and procedures that you will follow for determining the amounts of the allowable stipend(s), **procedures** for accounting for participant support cost payments (including receipts), and **documenting** that the costs are allowable and **do not duplicate** other support provided through other federal, state, Tribal, or local programs.
- **When applicable**, identify tasks/activities that are necessary to carry out the grant that will be contributed by sources other than the EPA grant, such as in-kind resources or funding contributed by your organization.

3. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS/ACTIVITIES & OUTPUTS

3.a. Project Implementation, continued...

- **Some Examples of Eligible Activities:**

- Procuring a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP)
- Community Engagement
- Preparing Quality Assurance Project Plans (QAPPs)
- Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessments
- Cleanup and Reuse Planning Activities
- Area-wide Planning
- Enrolling sites into the state's voluntary cleanup program (if appropriate)

3. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS/ACTIVITIES & OUTPUTS

3.b. Anticipated Project Schedule

- **Discuss** the anticipated schedule and timing for the EPA-funded activities outlined above in 3.a.i. Project Implementation during the **4-year (5-year for States/Tribes) period of performance.**
 - Name milestones and show that they expand over the 4-year (5-year for States/Tribes) period.
 - Make sure it is detailed and achievable.



DO NOT use vague phrases like "throughout the period of performance."

3. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS/ACTIVITIES & OUTPUTS

3.c. Task/Activity Lead

For each task/activity, **identify** the lead entity(ies) overseeing the various activities (i.e., the applicant, qualified environmental professional, or other identified entity). If an entity(ies) **other than the applicant is the lead**, explain why the lead entity(ies) (and not the applicant) is appropriate to oversee the activity(ies).

Consider:

- The extent to which the lead entity(ies) for each task/activity is **clearly identified** and the extent to which the lead entity(ies) overseeing each task/activity is appropriate.
- When applicable, the **degree** to which the local health agency is involved in health monitoring activities.



Applicant should be involved in all tasks.

3. DESCRIPTION OF TASKS/ACTIVITIES & OUTPUTS

3.d. Outputs

- **Identify and quantify** as appropriate, the anticipated outputs/deliverables for each task/activity:
 - Quarterly Reports
 - Site Inventories
 - Phase I and Phase II Environmental Site Assessment Reports
 - Site Cleanup Plans
 - Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA)
 - Area-wide Plans or Community Meetings



Include specific deliverables (number of quarterly reports, number of cleanup plans, etc.).

3. COST ESTIMATES

- **Provide** information on **how** cost estimates for each task were developed per budget category.
 - The **extent** to which each proposed cost estimate is reasonable and realistic to implement the project/grant and clearly correlates with the proposed tasks/activities.
 - The total amount of direct and indirect administrative costs **cannot exceed 5%** of the total EPA-requested funds.
- For information on best practices for preparing budgets for applications for EPA grants, refer to the [Interim General Budget Development Guidance for Applicants and Recipients of EPA Financial Assistance](#).

3. COST ESTIMATES

3.e. Cost Estimates, continued...

- **Community-wide** - Projects that **allocate at least 40%** of the funds to tasks directly associated with site-specific work (i.e., Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments and site-specific cleanup planning) will be evaluated more favorably.
- **Coalitions** - Projects that **allocate at least 60%** of the funds to tasks directly associated with site-specific work (i.e., Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments and site-specific cleanup planning) will be evaluated more favorably.
- A response that **includes cost estimates that are not reasonable or realistic** to implement the project/grant will be evaluated less favorably (For example, applicants that request more funds than is reasonably justified in the Narrative to complete the proposed project/grant).
- Only include costs to be covered by EPA grant funds in the budget table. **Leveraged resources should not be included in the budget table.**

3. COST ESTIMATES

Sample Format for Budget (**DO NOT** change budget categories or add more tasks)

Budget Categories		Project Tasks (\$)				Total
		(Task 1)	(Task 2)	(Task 3)	Administrative Costs	
Direct Costs	Personnel					
	Fringe Benefits					
	Travel ¹					
	Equipment ²					
	Supplies					
	Contractual					
	Construction ³					
	Other (include subawards, conference registration fees and specific participant support costs such as stipends) (specify type) _____					
Total Direct Costs ⁴						
Indirect Costs ⁴						
Total Budget (Total Direct Costs + Indirect Costs)						

(1) Travel to brownfields-related training conferences is an acceptable use of these grant funds.

(2) EPA defines equipment as items that cost \$10,000 or more with a useful life of more than one year unless the applicant has a lower threshold for equipment costs. Items costing less than \$10,000 (e.g., laptop computers) are considered supplies. Generally, equipment is not required for Brownfield Grants.

(3) Costs must be placed on the Construction budget line when at least 50% of the estimated amount of the contract(s) will be for the remediation of contamination at the brownfield site. Construction costs do not typically apply to assessment activities. See the FY26 FAQs for more information.

(4) Administrative costs (direct and/or indirect) for the Assessment Grant applicant itself cannot exceed 5% of the total EPA-requested funds

3. COST ESTIMATES

3.e. Cost Estimates, continued...

- **Examples of Cost Estimates:**

- **Personnel Costs:** Be precise in explaining what your personnel cost will be. Project Manager at \$xx/hr times xx hours = \$xx. Describe what each person is going to do. If applicable, identify any in-kind personnel resources that you are contributing to the project.
- **Travel Costs:** 2 people to 1 Brownfields conference, estimate \$xx Airfare/lodging/per diem for each = \$xx; \$xx set aside for local travel (estimate xx miles at \$0.55/mile).
- **Supplies:** Provide a list of supplies and their estimated costs reflective of cost in table.
- **Phase I Assessments:** Estimate x number of Phase Is at \$xx each = \$xx total contractual in task.
- **Phase II Assessments:** Estimate x number of Phase IIs at \$xx each = \$xx total contractual in task.
- **Area-wide Planning:** Estimate one area-wide plan at \$xx total contractual in task.



Clarify how you arrived at these costs (previous grant, QEP, etc.).

3. PLAN TO MEASURE AND EVALUATE ENVIRONMENTAL PROGRESS AND RESULTS

- **Discuss** your plan and system to **track, measure, and evaluate** progress in achieving expected project outputs, overall project results, and eventual project outcomes.
- **Ensure** project outputs and outcomes are reasonable, appropriate, and clearly correlate with information previously presented in the Narrative.
- **Discuss** what resources you are using to monitor your progress.
 - What **internal processes** do you have to **ensure** you will meet the goals and timelines discussed in your narrative?
 - See **Section 3.A.** of the Guidelines for definitions of outputs and outcomes.

QUESTIONS ON TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS?



Note: This presentation is the last opportunity
to ask questions for ranking criteria!



4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY & PAST PERFORMANCE

Programmatic Capability (20 Points)

- a. Organizational Capacity (5 Points)
- b. Organizational Structure (5 Points)
- c. Description of Key Staff (5 Points)
- d. Acquiring Additional Resources (5 Points)

Past Performance and Accomplishments (15 Points)

- e. Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant (15 Points)
- f. Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Grant but has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements (15 Points)
- g. Never Received Any Type of Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements (8 Points)

Community-wide

Coalition

States/Tribes

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY

- 4.a. Organizational Capacity
- 4.b. Organizational Structure
- 4.c. Description of Key Staff
- 4.d. Acquiring Additional Resources



Per the Ranking Criterion in Section 4.C.(4) of the Guidelines, applicants may present information for 4.a.- 4.c. in the same response.

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY

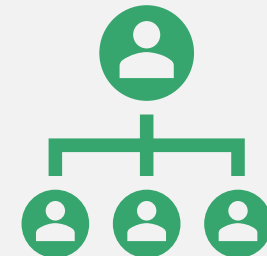
4.a. Organizational Capacity

- **Community-wide & States/Tribes:** Discuss the applicant's organizational capacity to oversee grant task/activities and carry out and manage the programmatic, administrative, and financial requirements of the project and grant.
- **Coalitions:** Discuss the lead coalition member's/applicant's organizational capacity to oversee grant task/activities and carry out and manage the programmatic, administrative, and financial requirements of the project and grant on the coalition's behalf.

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY

4.b. Organizational Structure

- **Community-wide & States/Tribes:** Describe the organizational structure you will utilize to ensure the timely and successful expenditure of funds **AND** completion of all technical, administrative, and financial requirements of the project and grant.
- **Coalitions:** Additionally, describe the proposed governance/decision-making structure among your coalition members and each member's meaningful involvement in determining how grant funds benefit their communities.



4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY

4.c. Description of Key Staff

- **Provide** a brief discussion of the key staff that will work together to successfully administer the grant, **including** their roles, expertise, qualifications, and experience.
- **Consider** the degree to which **key staff** have expertise, qualifications, and experience that will result in the successful administration of the grant.



Focus on working together successfully!

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY

4.d. Acquiring Additional Resources

- **Describe** the system(s) and/or procedures you have in place to appropriately acquire any additional **expertise and resources** (e.g., contractors or subrecipients) required to successfully complete the project.
- **Typically**, you will be procuring:
 - Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP)
 - Legal assistance for access agreements



If an applicant has selected a contractor or subrecipient **without complying** with applicable requirements as described in Section 2.B.(4) of the Guidelines, **the response will be evaluated less favorably.**

Community-wide

Coalition

States/Tribes

4. PAST PERFORMANCE & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

4.e. Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant
(15 Points)

- Accomplishments
- Compliance with Grant Requirements
- **Respond to item e.**

4.f. Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Grant but has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements
(15 Points)

- Purpose and Accomplishments
- **Respond to item f.**

4.g. Never Received Any Type of Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements
(8 Points)

- Applicants will receive a “neutral” score of 8 points. Applicants that fail to indicate anything in response to this sub-criterion may result in zero points
- **Respond to item g.**



You **MUST** respond to only **ONE** of these criteria.

4. PAST PERFORMANCE & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

4.e. Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant

1) Accomplishments

- **Describe** the accomplishments (including specific outputs and outcomes) achieved under the current/most recent grant(s) (no more than three), including at a minimum, the number of sites assessed and/or cleaned up.
- **Discuss** whether these outputs and outcomes were accurately reflected in ACRES at the time of this application submission. **If not, please explain why.**

2) Compliance with Grant Requirements

- **Discuss** the degree to which **progress** was made (and reported on), or is being made, towards achieving the expected results of the grant(s) in a timely manner.
- If expected **results** were not being reported on, **describe** the extent to which the measures taken to correct the situation were **reasonable and appropriate** or the extent to which there is an adequate explanation for lack of reporting.

4. PAST PERFORMANCE & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

4.e. Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant, continued...

- The **extent** to which funds from any open EPA Brownfields Grants (i.e., MARC Grants, and/or 128(a) Grants) are committed to **ongoing eligible grant activities** or will support the tasks/activities described in the Narrative. The likelihood that all grant funds under the current grant(s) will be **expended** by the end of the period of performance as defined in [2 CFR § 200.1](#).
- For all closed EPA Brownfield Grants, **if funds remained**, the extent to which there is a **reasonable explanation** of why funds remained when the grant closed, and the **degree** to which the applicant made every effort to spend the remaining funds within the period of performance. **If no funds remained, state that in the response.**

4. PAST PERFORMANCE & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

4.f. Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Grant but has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements

Identify and describe each of your current and/or most recent federally and non-federally funded assistance agreements (**no more than three**) that are most similar in scope and relevance in terms of structure, community engagement, and/or deliverables to the proposed project.

I) Purpose and Accomplishments

- **Describe** the awarding agency/organization, amount of funding awarded, and purpose of the current/most recent assistance agreement(s) you have received.
- **Discuss** the project accomplishments (including specific outputs and outcomes and measures of success) achieved under the current/most recent assistance agreement(s).

4. PAST PERFORMANCE & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

4.f. Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Grant but has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements, continued...

2) Compliance with Grant Requirements

- **Describe** your compliance with the workplan, schedule, and terms and conditions under the current/most recent assistance agreement(s), and **discuss** your history of timely and acceptable reporting, as required by the awarding agency/organization.
- **Include** whether you have made and have reported on progress towards achieving the expected results of the agreement in a timely manner. **If not, discuss** what corrective measures you took and how the corrective measures were effective, documented, and communicated.

4. PAST PERFORMANCE & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

4.g. Never Received Any Type of Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements

- **Clearly affirm** that the organization never received any type of federal or non-federal financial assistance agreement **or, discuss** how your organization has recently received an assistance agreement, but has not had an opportunity to demonstrate compliance with the award requirements.
- **You will receive a score of 8 points (Note: Applicant is only competing with other first-time applicants).**
- **Failure** to indicate anything in response to this sub-criterion will result in **zero points**.



QUESTIONS ON PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY & PAST PERFORMANCE?



Note: This presentation is the last opportunity
to ask questions for ranking criteria!



SECTION 5. DUE DATE & SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

- Have an active System for Award Management (**SAM**) account in www.sam.gov **BEFORE** you submit, **AND** throughout the application, award and cooperative agreement time frame.
- Have an active Unique Entity Identifier (**UEI**). Information found at www.sam.gov.
- Be registered in www.grants.gov.
- Have your designated Authorized Organization Representative (**AOR**) be available to submit your application via www.grants.gov no later than 11:59 pm ET on **January 28, 2026**.



See Section 5 of the Guidelines.

SECTION 5. DUE DATE & SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

Helpful Tips:

- Make sure your organization's information is consistent with EPA, UEI, and SAM.
- The registration process for www.sam.gov and www.grants.gov can take up to 2 weeks or more so register ASAP.
- Any issues with www.grants.gov submittals, follow the instructions in Section 5.



Applications received after the due date **will not be considered.**

SECTION 5. CONTENT & FORM OF APPLICATION SUBMISSION

- Your application **must:**
 - Be in English.
 - Be typed, single-spaced, on letter sized paper (8 ½ x 11).
 - Use standard Times New Roman, Arial, or Calibri fonts with a **12-point font size.**
- Do **NOT** include:
 - Color printing, photos, graphics* (inclusion of a map will be discussed under the Application Information Sheet section), and unnecessary attachments.



Attachments outside of threshold criteria and excess pages **WILL BE REMOVED and **NOT** evaluated.**



**CHECK APPLICATION SUBMISSION
CHECKLIST BEFORE SUBMITTING**

SECTION 4.B. APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

1. Applicant Identification
2. Website URL
3. Funding Requested
4. Location
5. Target Area and Priority Site Information
 - Note: For **Coalition** applicants, describe Coalition Members' Target Areas and Priority Site Information Contacts
6. Contacts
7. Population
8. Other Factors
9. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority
10. Releasing Copies of Applications

SECTION 4.B. APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

Logistics

- Do **NOT** exceed 3 single-spaced pages.
- Do **NOT** include a summary or overview of your project.
- EPA does **NOT** consider information in the Application Information Sheet to be responses to the ranking criteria.
- Any pages over the page limit will not be considered.



Application Information Sheet **MUST** be on your organization's official letterhead and **MUST** address **ALL** the requested items. If something is not applicable, provide a statement to indicate that it does not apply.

SECTION 4.B. APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

5. Target Area and Priority Site Information

- **Community-wide**: List the target area(s) discussed in the Narrative.
- **Coalition**: List the coalition members (i.e., the lead and non-lead members) and each member's associated target area discussed in the Narrative.
- **States/Tribes**: See the Guidelines for more information.
- For **each target area** that is smaller than a city/town, **list** the census tract number(s) within the target area. Please see the **FAQs** for guidance on how to find a census tract.
- **Provide** the address of the priority site(s) proposed in the Narrative.

SECTION 4.B. APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

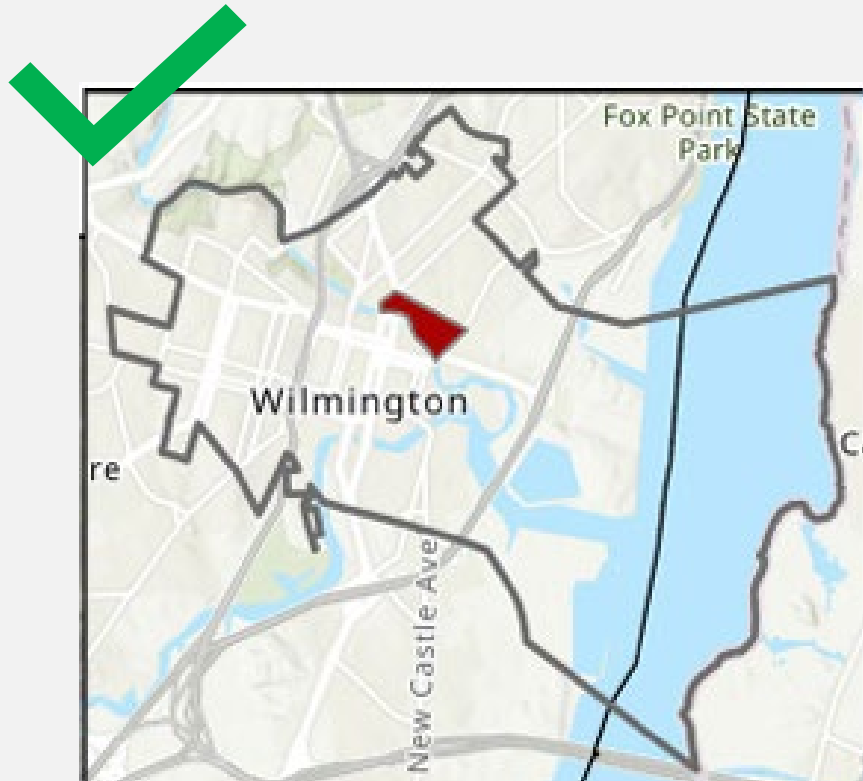
5. Target Area and Priority Site Information, continued...

(Optional) As a separate one-page attachment, you may include a map to visually depict the proposed site(s). **Do not** include any additional information or data on the map. Maps will not be evaluated and will not count against the 3-page limit. **Applicants that do not include a map will not be penalized.**

SECTION 4.B. APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

5. Target Area and Priority Site Information, continued...

Map examples for target area(s) and/or site(s):



SECTION 4.B. APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

9. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

- To request a letter from your State Brownfields Program Contact, please email the following information at least 2 weeks before the grant submittal deadline:
 - Grant(s) for which you are applying
 - Site(s) for which you are applying
 - To whom the letter should be addressed



This is not part of the 3-page limit. The letter can be addressed to the EPA Regional Contact in Section I.E. of the guidelines.

SECTION 4.B. APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

9. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority that are **NOT** Acceptable:

- General letters of correspondence
- Letters from prior years
- Documents evidencing state involvement (i.e., state enforcement orders or state notice letters)



SECTION 4.B. APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET



Kelly J. Owens
kelly.owens@dem.ri.gov
RI DEM
Office of Land Revitalization and
Sustainable Materials Management



Sarah Bartlett
sarah.bartlett@vermont.gov
VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation



David Foss
david.foss@mass.gov
MADEP
Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup



Melinda Bubier
melinda.s.bubier@des.nh.gov
NHDES
Hazardous Waste Remediation Bureau



Amanda R. Limacher
DEEP.Brownfields@ct.gov
CTDEEP
Remediation Division



Christopher Redmond
christopher.redmond@maine.gov
MEDEP
Brownfields Program

SECTION 4.B. APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

I0. Releasing Copies of Applications

- **Clearly indicate** which portion(s) of the application you are claiming as confidential, privileged, or sensitive information, or state 'n/a' or 'not applicable' if the application does not have confidential, privileged, or sensitive information.
- As provided at 40 CFR § 2.203(b), **if no claim of confidential** treatment accompanies the information when it is received by EPA, it may be made available to the public by EPA **without further notice to the submitter.**

**QUESTIONS ON
SUBMISSION
INSTRUCTIONS OR
APPLICATION
INFORMATION SHEET?**

6.C. REVIEW & SELECTION PROCESS

- EPA **Regional Offices** review **Threshold Criteria** to determine compliance with the applicable threshold criteria for Assessment Grants (**Section 2.B.**).
- All applications that pass **Threshold Criteria** will have **National Evaluation Panels** review **Ranking Criteria (Section 6.B.)**.
- The Headquarters Selection Official is responsible for further consideration of the applications and final selection of grant recipients.



Applications will be selected for award based on their evaluated point scores, the availability of funds, and, as appropriate, the other factors and considerations described in **Section 6.C.(I) of the Guidelines.**

WHAT TO DO NOW?

Draft Your Application

[Use the FY26 NOFOs/Guidelines](#)

- Contact EPA with eligibility questions.
- Contact any partners for assistance in preparing and/or reviewing your application.

Get Your Acknowledgement Letter

- New State letter.
- Make sure [SAM.gov](#) registration is active; and
- Register now for [www.grants.gov](#) if you are not already registered.

Check In With Your Project Officer

- Make sure your reporting is up to date.
- If you owe us reports, get them done ASAP! Update your quarterly report submissions and do your ACRES data input!

REGIONAL COURTESY COPY (REQUESTED)

We request you send an **email (PDF)** of your application to the EPA Regional Brownfields Contact for New England:



Katy Deng
Deng.Katy@epa.gov



The regional courtesy copy is **NOT** the official application submission.

EPA NATIONAL OUTREACH

- Recorded Webinars:
 - [Multipurpose Grant Funding](#)
 - [Assessment Grant Funding](#)
 - [Cleanup Grant Funding](#)
- PowerPoints:
 - [Cleanup Grant Funding](#)
 - [Multipurpose and Assessment Grant Funding](#)
- Check the [national brownfields application resource page](#) for webinar presentations, recordings, and Q&A.

UConn TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE TO BROWNFIELDS (TAB) PROVIDER

- The UConn TAB team will provide reviews for the upcoming EPA Assessment, Cleanup, and Multipurpose grant cycle. They provide reviews of the narrative and application package, offering two rounds of review upon time availability: [UConn TAB EPA MAC Grant Review Request](#)
- [See resources and webinars to prepare grants.](#)



UConn is NOT the EPA!



GRANT GUIDELINES

- [FY26 MAC Proposal Announcement Page](#)
 - [FY26 Community-wide Assessment Grant](#)
 - [FY26 Assessment Coalition Grant](#)
 - [FY26 Community-wide Assessment Grants for States and Tribes](#)
 - [FY26 Multipurpose Grant](#)
 - [FY26 Cleanup Grant](#)
- [FY26 Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)
- [FY26 Summary of Changes](#)
- [FY26 Sample Federal Forms](#)
- [Tips for Submitting Through Grants.gov](#)
- [Eligible Planning Activities](#)

WEB RESOURCES

- [EPA Brownfields Page](#)
- [EPA Region I Brownfields Page](#)
- [UCONN TAB Program](#)
- [Cleanups in My Community](#)





Applications
are due
January
28, 2026!



**PLEASE ASK ANY RANKING
CRITERIA QUESTIONS
NOW!**

We will be unable to answer any ranking
criteria questions after this session.

