

EPA REGION
I FY26
BROWNFIELDS
GRANT
GUIDELINES

Multipurpose Grant Session

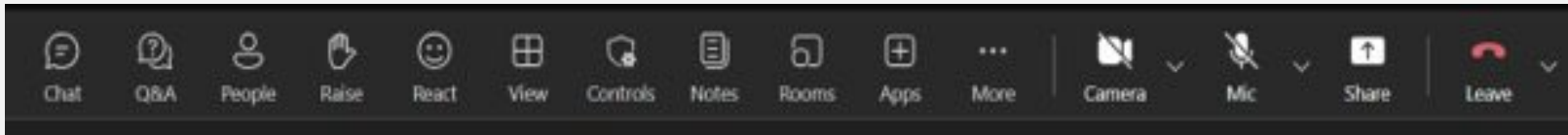
December 9

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.

An AI-generated summary may not correctly capture the training topics.

Any AI-generated summary you might receive via email is **NOT** from EPA.

COMMONLY USED ACRONYMS

AAI	All Appropriate Inquiry	IC	Institutional Control
ABCA	Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives	IIJA	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

**SHOULD ANY INFORMATION
PROVIDED IN THE FOLLOWING
SLIDES OR BY THE PRESENTERS
DIFFER FROM THE NOFOS, THE
LANGUAGE WRITTEN IN THE
NOFOS SHALL PREVAIL.**

NOFO AGENDA

1. Section 1) Basic Summary
2. **Section 2) Eligibility**
3. Section 3) Program Description
4. Section 4) Application Contents and Format
5. Section 5) Submission Requirements
6. **Section 6) Application Review Information**
7. Section 7) Award Notices
8. Section 8) Post-Award Requirements and Administration
9. Section 9) Other Information

SECTION I

BASIC INFORMATION

SECTION I.A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

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.

The grant provides funding to carry out a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities, including planning and additional community engagement activities. Applicants can apply for funding **up to \$1,000,000** per grant under this solicitation.

Applicants should have the capacity to conduct a range of eligible activities:

- **Developing** inventories of brownfield sites;
- **Prioritizing** sites;
- **Conducting** community involvement activities;
- **Conducting** environmental site assessments;
- **Developing** cleanup plans and reuse plans related to brownfield sites;
- **Conducting** cleanup activities on brownfield sites owned by the applicant;
- **Developing** an overall plan for revitalization

SECTION 1.A

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

To be eligible for Brownfield Grant funding, sites must meet the definition of a brownfield site under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) § 101(39) as described in the [Information on Sites Eligible for Brownfields Funding under CERCLA § 104\(k\)](#).

Consistent with the direction on site limits in the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act, activities carried out at each approved, eligible site **MAY** exceed \$200,000. EPA will determine eligibility for site-specific assessment and cleanup activities after the award of the grant throughout the project period.

A Multipurpose Grant recipient may **ONLY** expend grant funds for the remediation of a brownfield site it owns and may not issue a subaward to another site owner to conduct the remediation.

For the purposes of these guidelines, the term “grant” refers to the cooperative agreement that EPA will award to a successful applicant.

SECTION I.B & I.C

KEY INFORMATION

Key Information

Opportunity Number.....EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-25-03
Assistance Listing.....66.818
Announcement Type.....Initial
Funding Available.....\$20,000,000
Number of Awards.....Approximately 20

Key Dates

December 3, 2025 12:00 pm ET.....National Outreach Webinar
December 9, 2025 10:00 am ET.....Region I Outreach Webinar
January 28, 2026 11:59 pm ET.....Application Submission Deadline
June 2026.....Anticipated Notification of Selection
September 2026.....Anticipated Award Notification

You are here

SECTION 1.D

FUNDING DETAILS

It is anticipated that up to **20 awards** will be made under this announcement. The amount of funding is expected to be **\$20,000,000**, depending on Agency funding levels, the quality of applications received, agency priorities, and other applicable considerations.

Awards funded under this opportunity are expected to have a **5-year** project period. Applicants may apply for **up to \$1,000,000** of EPA funds. (Note, applicants may also request an amount that is less than \$1,000,000.)

EPA reserves the right to make additional awards under this competition, consistent with Agency policy, if additional funding becomes available. Any additional selections for awards will be made **no later than six (6) months** from the date of the original selection decision. EPA reserves the right to reject all applications and make no awards under this announcement or make fewer awards than anticipated.

In appropriate circumstances, EPA reserves the right to partially fund applications by funding discrete portions or phases of proposed projects. To maintain the integrity of the competition and selection process, EPA, if it decides to partially fund an application, will do so in a manner that does not prejudice any applicants or affect the basis upon which the application, or portion thereof, was evaluated and selected for award.

Awards may be fully or incrementally funded, as appropriate, based on funding availability, satisfactory performance, and other applicable considerations.

SECTION I.E

AGENCY CONTACT INFO

Technical Contact - **Elyse Salinas**

- 202-564-2858
- brownfields@epa.gov

Eligibility Contact - **Paul Pietrinferni**

- 617-918-1585
- Pietrinferni.paul@epa.gov

Electronic Submissions Contact: **Grants.gov**

- 1-800-518-4726
- support@grants.gov

SECTION 2. ELIGIBILITY

SECTION 2.A

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Only types of organizations consistent with CERCLA § 104(k)(1) and [2 CFR § 200.1](#) may apply for a Multipurpose Grant. :

- **General Purpose Unit of Local Government.** Local government means a county, borough, municipality, city, town, township, parish, local public authority (including any public housing agency under the United States Housing Act of 1937), school district, special district, intrastate district, council of governments (whether or not incorporated as a nonprofit corporation under State law), and any other agency or instrumentality of a multi-, regional, or intra-State or local government.
- **Land Clearance Authority or another quasi-governmental entity** that operates under the supervision and control of, or as an agent of, a General Purpose Unit of Local Government.
- **Government Entity Created by State Legislature.**
- **Regional Council established under governmental authority or 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.
- **Redevelopment Agency** that is chartered or otherwise sanctioned by a State.
- **State**
- **Federally recognized Indian Tribe other than in Alaska.** (The exclusion of Tribes from Alaska, with the exception of the Metlakatla Indian Community, from Brownfields Grant eligibility is statutory at CERCLA § 104(k)(1). Intertribal Consortia, comprised of eligible Indian Tribes, are eligible for funding in accordance with EPA's policy for funding intertribal consortia published in the Federal Register on November 4, 2002, at 67 Fed. Reg. 67181. This policy also may be obtained from your Regional Brownfields Contact listed in Section 1.E.)

SECTION 2.A

ELIGIBLE APPLICANTS

Types of organizations (cont.)

- **Nonprofit organization** described in section 501(c)(3) of title 26 (the Internal Revenue Code (IRC)) and exempt from taxation under 501(a) of that title.
- **Limited liability corporation** in which all managing members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations exempt from taxation under 501(a) of the IRC or limited liability corporations whose sole members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations exempt from taxation under 501(a) of the IRC.
- **Limited partnership** in which all general partners are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations exempt from taxation under 501(a) of the IRC or limited liability corporations whose sole members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations exempt from taxation under 501(a) of the IRC.
- **Qualified community development entity** as defined in section 45D(c)(1) of the IRC.

Individuals, for-profit organizations, and nonprofit organizations that are **NOT** tax exempt under section 501(c)(3) are **ineligible** to receive Brownfields Multipurpose Grants.

Organizations exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the IRC **MAY** be eligible for a Brownfields Multipurpose Grant if they also qualify as an eligible entity type listed above and demonstrate that they **DO NOT** lobby the Federal government

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

Threshold criteria are pass/fail.

Entities that are applying for an FY26 Multipurpose Grant **MAY NOT** apply for an FY26 Cleanup Grant **OR** an FY26 Assessment Grant.

Entities with an open award (or pending an award for) a Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes are **NOT** eligible to apply for Multipurpose Grant funding under this funding opportunity.

Applicants **MAY NOT** submit multiple applications (i.e., submit applications for different projects) under this funding opportunity. EPA considers departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the same State, Tribal, or city governments to be the same applicant if they are directly supervised or controlled by the same elected/appointed executive (even if they have different unique entity identifier numbers).

Applicants that exceed the number and type of applications allowable will be contacted, prior to review of any of the applications by EPA, to determine which application(s) the applicant will withdraw from the competition.

If an application is submitted that includes any ineligible tasks or activities, that portion of the application will be ineligible for funding and **MAY**, depending on the extent to which it affects the application, render the entire application **ineligible** for funding.

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

EPA staff will respond to questions regarding threshold eligibility criteria, administrative issues related to the submission of the application, and requests for clarification about this announcement.

For purposes of the threshold eligibility review, an EPA Brownfields Program representative, if necessary, **MAY** seek clarification of applicant information that is included in the application and/or consider information from other sources, including EPA files.

Such communications **SHALL NOT** be used to correct application deficiencies or material omissions, materially alter the application or project proposed, or discuss changes to the applicant's responses to any review or selection criteria.

To maintain the integrity of the competition process, EPA staff cannot meet with individual applicants to discuss draft applications, provide informal comments on draft applications, or provide advice to applicants on how to respond to narrative criteria. EPA's limitations on staff involvement with grant applicants are described in [EPA's Policy for Competition of Assistance Agreements](#).

Applications **MUST** substantially comply with the submission instructions and requirements set forth in Section 4 of this announcement or **they will be rejected**. Responses to each item in the following slides are **REQUIRED** and **MUST** be included as an attachment to the Narrative that is included in the application submitted to EPA.

See Section 4.A. for a complete list of required documents that must be submitted.

SECTION 2.B THRESHOLD CRITERIA

Responses to each item are **REQUIRED** and must be included as an attachment to the Narrative that is included in the application submitted to EPA.

See Section 4.A. for a complete list of required documents that must be submitted.



1. Applicant Eligibility



2. Community Involvement



3. Target Area



4. Affirmation of Brownfield Site Ownership



5. Use of Grant Funds



6. Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds



7. Contractors and Named Subrecipients

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

I) Applicant Eligibility

- a. From the list of eligible entities in Section 2.A. *Eligible Applicants*, **indicate** your applicant type and **provide** information that demonstrates how you are an eligible entity for a Multipurpose Grant.
 - For entities that are cities, counties, Tribes, or States, **affirm** that the organization is eligible for funding.
 - For government 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, or organizations comprised of nonprofit organizations, **provide** documentation as an attachment to the Narrative demonstrating tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the IRC.
 - For qualified community development entities, **provide** documentation as an attachment to the Narrative certifying the organization's status.

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

1) Applicant Eligibility (cont.)

b. All applicants: **indicate** if your organization is exempt from Federal taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the IRC.

- 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 a Multipurpose Grant.

2) Community Involvement

Provide information that demonstrates how you intend to inform and involve the community and other stakeholders in the planning, implementation, and other brownfield assessment activities described in your application.

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

3) Target Area

In the Narrative, the applicant **MUST identify** one target area where they propose to conduct eligible activities, such as a neighborhood, neighboring towns, a district, a corridor, a shared planning area, or a census tract. The target area **MAY NOT** include communities that are located in distinctly different geographic areas. **Provide** a response to Section 4.B.(5) in the Application Information Sheet to address this threshold criterion.

4) Affirmation of Brownfield Site Ownership

To be eligible for Multipurpose Grant funding, an applicant must own a site(s) that meets the CERCLA § 101(39) definition of a brownfield. For the purposes of eligibility determinations in these guidelines only, the term “own” means fee simple title through a legal document (for example, a recorded deed); unless EPA approves a different ownership arrangement (for example, a nominee agreement or 99-year irrevocable lease).

An applicant must own a brownfield site(s) within their target area where cleanup activities may be conducted by **January 28, 2026**. Entities liable for contamination on the site are not eligible for Brownfields Grant funding. Site eligibility related to liability is determined differently at sites contaminated with hazardous substances than at sites contaminated by petroleum or petroleum product.

EPA will determine eligibility for site-specific assessment and cleanup activities after the award of the grant throughout the project period.

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

4) Affirmation of Brownfield Site Ownership (cont.)

Affirm that you own a site that meets the CERCLA § 101(39) definition of a brownfield **AND** is:

- a) **NOT** listed (or proposed for listing) on the National Priorities List;
- b) **NOT** subject to unilateral administrative orders, court orders, administrative orders on consent, or judicial consent decrees issued to or entered into by parties under CERCLA; and
- c) **NOT** subject to the jurisdiction, custody, or control of the U.S. government.

Land held in trust by the U.S. government for an Indian Tribe is eligible for funding.) For more information on sites eligible for Brownfields Grant funding, please see the Information on Sites Eligible for Brownfields Funding under CERCLA § 104(k).

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

5) Use of Grant Funds

Multipurpose Grant recipients will be **required** to, at a minimum, conduct one Phase II environmental site assessment and remediate one site.

Additionally, Multipurpose Grant recipients will be **required** to develop an overall plan for revitalization of the target area (if a plan does not already exist) and the plan **MUST** include a feasible reuse strategy for at least one priority site.

Indicate the page number where there is information on your plan to:

- Complete at least one Phase II environmental site assessment.
- Remediate at least one site.
- Develop an overall plan for revitalization of the target area that includes a feasible reuse strategy for at least one priority site. If an overall plan for revitalization of the target area that includes a feasible reuse strategy for at least one priority site already exists, please state this in your response.

Note: information that is referenced can be in the written narrative or the budget table.

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

6) Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds

Indicate if the applicant has an open EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant or Multipurpose Grant.

Current EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant recipients and Multipurpose Grant recipients must demonstrate that payment has been received from EPA (also known as “drawn down”), and drawn down funds have been disbursed for at least **70.00%** of the funding for each Assessment and Multipurpose cooperative agreement they have with EPA by **October 1, 2025**, in order to apply for Multipurpose Grant funding under this funding opportunity.

To demonstrate this, applicants **MUST** attach a copy of a financial record displaying the amount of cooperative agreement 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).

If necessary, applicants may contact the assigned EPA Project Officer for the cooperative agreement(s) or Elyse Salinas (brownfields@epa.gov) to obtain draw down information from EPA’s grant financial database (Compass Data Warehouse).

Disbursements of drawn down funds must comply with requirements in [EPA’s General Terms and Conditions](#) for timely disbursement of EPA funds (i.e., recipients other than States must substantially disburse all of the funds within 5 business days of draw down)

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

7) Contractors and Named Subrecipients

Applicants using contractors and/or subrecipients should review Section 4.D. to ensure they comply with all applicable competitive procurement and/or subaward requirements.

- **Contractors**

All applicants must disclose whether they have already selected a contractor that will be compensated with EPA funds made available under this NOFO and the procurement procedures that were followed to hire the contractor(s).

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 grant implementation services), applicants (other than State, territory, Tribal, or eligible Tribal entity applicants) **MUST** describe:

- 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; and
- the name(s) of the firm(s) the applicant entered into contract(s) with.

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

7) Contractors and Named Subrecipients (cont.)

- **Contractors (Cont.)**

Provide a copy of (or link to) the solicitation document(s) and the signed executed contract(s).

Alternatively, state 'n/a' or 'not applicable' if a contractor has **NOT** been procured at the time of application submission.

- **Named Subrecipients**

All applicants, **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 at the time of application submission.

SECTION 2.B

THRESHOLD CRITERIA

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

EPA staff may contact the applicant to clarify issues or obtain additional information before making a final eligibility determination. If EPA determines that the process you completed to select a contractor was not compliant with the federal regulations in 2 CFR Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500 and 40 CFR Part 33, and your application is selected for funding, you may need to prepare and issue a new RFP/RFQ that is compliant with federal procurement regulations.

Additionally, EPA may review the new RFP/RFQ and selection process to ensure compliance with fair and open competition requirements. Please see Section 4.D. and Section D. in the FY26 FAQs for additional guidance.

Please see Section 6 for additional information on threshold review.

SECTION 2.C

COST SHARING

Consistent with CERCLA § 104(k)(7), cost sharing and matching funds are **NOT REQUIRED** under this competition.

As provided in 2 CFR § 200.1, voluntary committed cost sharing is when an applicant voluntarily proposes to legally commit to provide costs or contributions to support the project when a cost share is not required.

Voluntary cost share will NOT be accepted under this competition.

SECTION 3.

PROGRAM DESCRIPTION

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

I) Purpose

EPA's Brownfields Program provides funds to empower States, Tribal Nations, communities, and nonprofit organizations to prevent, inventory, assess, clean up, and reuse brownfield sites.

A brownfield site is defined in CERCLA § 101(39) as real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, contaminant, controlled substance, petroleum, or petroleum product, or is mine-scarred land.

A critical part of EPA's Brownfields Program is to ensure that residents living in communities historically affected by economic disinvestment, health disparities, and environmental contamination have an opportunity to benefit from brownfields redevelopment. EPA's Brownfields Program is committed to helping communities revitalize brownfield properties, mitigate potential health risks, and restore economic vitality.

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

1) Purpose (cont.)

As described in Section 6 of this announcement, applications will be evaluated based on the extent to which the applicant demonstrates: a vision for the reuse and redevelopment of brownfield sites and a strategy for leveraging resources to help accomplish the vision; the environmental, social, health, and economic needs and benefits of the target area; strong community engagement; reasonable costs, eligible tasks, and appropriate use of grant funding; the capacity for managing and successfully implementing the cooperative agreement; and other factors.

Note, projects that allocate at least **70%** of the funds for tasks directly related to site-specific work, including site assessments, remediation, and associated tasks (with at least **25%** of the total award amount designated for tasks directly associated with site remediation) **WILL BE** reviewed more favorably.

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

2) Eligible Uses of Grant Funds

Multipurpose Grant funds can be used for the direct costs associated with the inventory, site prioritization, community involvement, site reuse planning, assessment, and cleanup planning for brownfield sites. For examples of grant project accomplishments across the country, please see the [EPA Brownfields Grant Recipients Success Stories](#).

Conducting Brownfields Planning & Developing Site Reuse Plans

- Successful brownfields reuse and redevelopment often depend on early consideration of the range of potential future uses for each brownfield site. Local community priorities, market conditions, infrastructure availability, environmental contamination, public health issues, and local ordinances shape brownfield site reuse opportunities.
- Having a site reuse plan grounded in these local conditions will directly influence how that site is characterized, assessed, and cleaned up.
- Where multiple sites are connected through location, infrastructure, economic, social, and environmental conditions, EPA encourages communities to take an area-wide approach to planning for the assessment, cleanup, and reuse of these brownfield sites. This focus on multiple brownfield sites will result in more coordinated strategies for cleanup and area revitalization versus a site-by-site focus.
- For more information on site reuse plans and examples of eligible planning activities, please refer to the [FAQs](#) and [Planning Program Fact Sheets](#).

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

2) Eligible Uses of Grant Funds (cont.)

Participant Support Costs

- Participant support costs, as defined in [2 CFR § 200.1](#), are allowable under Multipurpose Grants. Examples of potentially allowable participant support costs include stipends for attendees at community meetings, attendee travel to community meetings, or childcare expenses to encourage attendance at community meetings.
 - Please refer to the FY26 [FAQs](#) for additional details on the use of participant support costs.
- A community liaison can serve as a key resource to help ensure the community members' goals and interests are reflected in the planned reuse of individual brownfield sites as well as the revitalization of the areas in which they live, work, play, learn, and pray.
- In addition to the eligible uses of participant support costs described above, recipients may use a portion of the Multipurpose Grant for eligible participant support costs associated with a community liaison(s) who is not an employee of the grant recipient. This may include reasonable stipends to compensate an individual community member's time and travel costs for participating in project-related meetings (e.g., meetings with the community, meetings held by a brownfields advisory board, etc.) and time associated with other specific tasks that are directly tied to related community engagement efforts.
- Note that stipends may only be paid for actual time spent working on tasks associated with the project and must not duplicate support provided through other Federal, State, Tribal, or local programs.

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

2) Eligible Uses of Grant Funds (cont.)

In addition to direct costs associated with the inventory, site prioritization, community involvement, site reuse planning, assessment, cleanup planning, and cleanup of a brownfield site, Multipurpose Grant funds may be used for:

1. Direct costs associated with programmatic management, such as required performance reporting and environmental oversight.
 - All costs charged to Multipurpose Grants must be consistent with the requirements at 2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E.
2. A local government (as defined in 2 CFR § 200.1, Local Government, and summarized in Section 2.A. of these guidelines and the Health Monitoring Fact Sheet) may use up to 10% of its grant funds for the following activities:
 - a. health monitoring of populations exposed to hazardous substances from a brownfield site; and
 - b. monitoring and enforcement of any institutional control used to prevent human exposure to any hazardous substance from a brownfield site.
3. A portion of the Brownfields Grant may be used to purchase environmental insurance. (See the FY26 [FAQs](#) for additional information on purchasing environmental insurance.)

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

3) Ineligible Uses of Grant Funds

Grant funds cannot be used for the payment of:

1. Direct costs for proposal preparation;
2. A penalty or fine;
3. A federal cost share requirement consistent with [2 CFR § 200.306\(b\)\(5\)](#) (i.e., a cost share required by other federal funds unless there is authority in another Federal statute to use Federal funds for cost share);
4. Administrative costs, including all indirect costs and direct costs for grant administration, in excess of five (5) percent of the total amount of EPA grant funding, with the exception of financial and performance reporting costs (which are considered allowable programmatic costs and not subject to the 5% limitation);
5. A response cost at a brownfield site for which the recipient of the grant or a subaward is potentially liable under CERCLA § 107;
6. A cost of compliance with any federal law, excluding the cost of compliance with laws applicable to the cleanup; or
7. Unallowable costs (e.g., lobbying) under [2 CFR Part 200, Subpart E](#).

See the FY26 [FAQs](#) for additional information on ineligible grant activities and unallowable costs.

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

4) Measuring Environmental Results

EPA requires that applicants adequately describe environmental outputs (performance measures) and outcomes to be achieved under assistance agreements.

Applicants **MUST** include specific statements describing the environmental results of the proposed project in terms of well-defined outputs and, to the maximum extent practicable, well-defined outcomes that will demonstrate how the project will contribute to EPA's goals and objectives described in Section 3.B.

Applicants are **REQUIRED** to describe how funding will help EPA achieve environmental outputs and outcomes in their responses to the narrative criteria in Section 4.C. Outputs and outcomes specific to each project will be identified as deliverables in the negotiated workplan if the application is selected for award.

Recipients will be expected to report progress toward the attainment of expected project outputs and outcomes during the project performance period.

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

4) Measuring Environmental Results (cont.)

Outputs and outcomes are defined as follows:

I. Outputs

The term “outputs” refers to an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work product(s) related to an environmental goal or objective that will be produced or provided over a period of time or by a specified date.

Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during the project period.

The expected outputs for the grants awarded under these guidelines may include but are not limited to the number of brownfield sites identified in inventories, development of a site-specific reuse plan or an area-wide plan, number of Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments, number of Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) completed, cleanup activities completed at one or more brownfield sites, number of community meetings held, and/or the number of underground storage tanks pulled.

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

4) Measuring Environmental Results (cont.)

Outputs and outcomes are defined as follows:

2. Outcomes

The term “outcomes” refers to the result, effect, or consequence that will occur from carrying out the activities under the grant.

Outcomes may be environmental, behavioral, health-related, or programmatic; must be qualitative or quantitative, and may not necessarily be achievable during the project period. Expected outcomes of Brownfield Grants include the number of jobs created and funding leveraged through the economic reuse of sites; the number of acres made ready for reuse; acres of greenspace created for communities; and the minimized exposure to hazardous substances and petroleum contamination.

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

5) Leveraging

Leveraging is generally when an applicant commits to contributing additional funds or resources, either from its own assets or from third-party sources, such as private organizations or other federal grants, to support or complement the project they are seeking to fund.

This contribution goes above and beyond the financial support provided by the EPA grant funds awarded and is intended to amplify the project's impact. Leveraging demonstrates the applicant's ability to secure and utilize supplementary resources to achieve greater outcomes. These resources are different from legally binding voluntary committed cost sharing as defined in [2 CFR § 200.1](#).

Leveraged resources may materialize during the grant period of performance or after the grant has ended. **Any leveraged funds/resources and their source must be identified in the Narrative.** However, the **leveraged funds/resources should NOT be included in the budget.** Costs paid with leveraged funds/resources do not need to be eligible and allowable project costs under the EPA assistance agreement as would be the case for voluntary committed cost sharing, which is not allowed under this funding opportunity.

SECTION 3.A

PURPOSE, PRIORITIES, AND ACTIVITIES

5) Leveraging (cont.)

- **Leveraging that will materialize during the grant:** Leveraging that typically materializes during a Brownfields Grant Period of performance includes resources that are needed to support or complement the grant.¹⁵ Examples include additional public or private funds or in-kind resources for assessment, remediation, and/or subsequent reuse of the site. If applicants describe leveraged funds/resources, EPA expects applicants to make the effort to secure the leveraged resources described in their Narrative. If the proposed leveraging does not materialize during grant performance, then EPA may reconsider the legitimacy of the award and/or take other appropriate action as authorized by CERCLA § 104(k)(8)(C) and 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500.
- The grant workplan **MUST** include a statement indicating that the applicant is expected to produce the proposed leveraging consistent with the terms of the announcement and the applicant's Narrative.
- **Leveraging that will materialize after the Brownfields Grant has ended:** Examples of leveraging that typically materialize after the Brownfields Grant has ended include resources for remediation, infrastructure updates, and reuse.

SECTION 3.B

PROGRAM GOALS AND OBJECTIVES

The activities to be funded under this funding announcement support Pillar 1: Clean Air, Land, and Water for Every American and Pillar 3: Permitting Reform, Cooperative Federalism, and Cross-Agency Partnership of [EPA's "Powering the Great American Comeback" initiative](#).

The goal of the Brownfields Program is to provide grants to communities, States, Tribes, and others to assess and clean up contaminated properties with the aim of facilitating their sustainable reuse.

SECTION 3.C

STATUTORY AUTHORITY

CERCLA was amended by the Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act in 2002 to include Section 104(k), which provides federal financial assistance authorities for brownfields revitalization, including grants for assessment, cleanup, and revolving loan funds.

The Brownfields Utilization, Investment, and Local Development (BUILD) Act (Public Law 115-141) enacted in 2018 reauthorized EPA's Brownfields Program and made additional amendments to CERCLA that affect EPA's brownfield grant authorities, and ownership and liability provisions. (Note: References to CERCLA in this funding opportunity refer to CERCLA as amended by the 2002 Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act and the 2018 BUILD Act.)

The statutory authority for assistance agreements expected to be awarded by EPA under this announcement is CERCLA § 104(k)(4). This program is being funded by the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (Public Law 117-58).

SECTION 3.D

FUNDING TYPE

It is anticipated that cooperative agreements will be funded under this funding opportunity. Cooperative agreements provide for **substantial involvement** between the EPA Project Officer and the selected applicant(s) in the performance of the work supported.

Although EPA will negotiate precise terms and conditions relating to substantial involvement as part of the award process, the anticipated substantial federal involvement for these projects may include, but is not limited to:

- Close monitoring of the successful applicant's performance to verify the results proposed by the applicant.
- Collaboration during performance of the scope of work, including participation in project activities, to the extent permissible under EPA policies. Examples of collaboration include:
 - Consultation between EPA staff and the recipients on effective methods of carrying out the scope of work provided the recipient makes the final decision on how to perform authorized activities.
 - Advice from EPA staff on how to access publicly available information on EPA or other federal agency websites.
 - With the consent of the recipient, EPA staff may provide technical advice to recipient contractors or subrecipients provided the recipient approves any expenditures of funds necessary to follow advice from EPA staff. (The recipient remains accountable for performing contract and subaward management as specified in 2 CFR §§ 200.317, 200.318, and 200.332, as well as the terms of the EPA cooperative agreement.)
- EPA staff participation in meetings, webinars, and similar events upon the request of the recipient or in connection with a co-sponsorship agreement.

SECTION 3.D

FUNDING TYPE

- Reviewing and approving Quality Assurance Project Plans and related documents or verifying that appropriate Quality Assurance requirements have been met where quality assurance activities are being conducted pursuant to an EPA-approved Quality Assurance Management Plan.
- In accordance with [2 CFR § 200.325](#), review of proposed procurements, as well as the substantive terms of proposed contracts or subawards as appropriate. This may include reviewing requests for proposals, invitations for bids, scopes of work, and/or plans and specifications for contracts over the simplified acquisition threshold prior to advertising for bids.
- Approving qualifications of key personnel (EPA does not have the authority to and will not select employees or contractors employed by the award recipient).
- Review and comment on reports prepared under the cooperative agreement (the final decision on the content of reports rests with the recipient).
- Reviewing and approving that the Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA), or equivalent State Brownfields program document, meets the Brownfields Program's requirements for an ABCA.
- Verifying sites meet applicable site eligibility criteria and ensuring that sites are consistent with the selection criteria outlined in the workplan.
- Participation in periodic telephone conference calls to share ideas, project successes and challenges, etc., with EPA.

SECTION 4.

APPLICATION CONTENTS AND FORMAT

SECTION 4.A

APPLICATION FORMS (SUBMISSION CHECKLIST)

The following forms and documents are required under this announcement:

Mandatory Documents:

1. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
2. Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A)
3. EPA Key Contacts Form 5700-54
4. EPA Form 4700-4 Preaward Compliance Review Report [Guidance on how to complete this form is available at this [link](#)]
5. Project Narrative Attachment Form (See next slide).

Optional Documents:

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 – To be submitted using the Project Narrative Attachment Form by applicants proposing to charge indirect costs to the EPA grant. Please note that applicants may budget for indirect costs pending approval of their Indirect Cost Rate Agreement by the cognizant Federal agency or an exception granted by EPA under section 6.3 or 6.4 of EPA's Indirect Cost Policy for Recipients of EPA Assistance Agreements. However, recipients may not draw down indirect costs until their rate is approved or EPA grants an exception.

SECTION 4.A

APPLICATION FORMS (SUBMISSION CHECKLIST)

Project Narrative Attachment Form: use this to submit the following as one file, if possible.

- **Application Information Sheet** (3-page limit, single-spaced)
- **Application Information Sheet Attachment:** Letter from the State or Tribal environmental authority
- **Narrative**, which includes responses to the narrative criteria (12-page limit, single-spaced)
- **Threshold Criteria Responses** (as an attachment(s))

SECTION 4.A

APPLICATION FORMS (SUBMISSION CHECKLIST)

The application must stand on its own merits based on the responses to the relevant narrative criteria in Section 4.C.

All application materials must be in English. The Application Information Sheet and the Narrative must be typed, single-spaced, on letter-sized (8.5 x 11-inch) paper, and should **use standard Times New Roman, Arial, or Calibri fonts with a 12-point font size**. The Application Submission Checklist above outlines the documents to include in the application.

Extraneous materials, including photos, graphics, and attachments not listed, will **NOT** be considered.

SECTION 4.B

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

The Application Information Sheet should address the information below and **SHALL NOT** exceed three single-spaced pages. **DO NOT** include a summary or overview of your narrative/project.

Any pages submitted over the page limit or information beyond what is requested below will **NOT** be considered and may be redacted. EPA does not consider information in the Application Information Sheet to be responses to the narrative criteria. Provide the Application Information Sheet **on the applicant's official letterhead**. You will not be penalized if you provide this information to EPA in a different format.

SECTION 4.B

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

1) Applicant Identification

Provide the name and full address of the entity applying for funds. This is the agency or organization that will receive the grant and be accountable to EPA for the proper expenditure of funds.

2) Website URL

Provide the website URL of your organization. If selected for funding, EPA will include the link to your website on the Brownfields Grant Factsheet Tool.

3) Funding Requested

- a. Grant Type **Indicate** “Multipurpose.”
- b. Federal Funds Requested \$1,000,000.00 or amount you are requesting.

SECTION 4.B

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

4) Location

Provide the a) city, b) county, and c) State or reservation, Tribally owned lands, Tribal fee lands, etc., of the community(ies) that you propose to serve.

5) Target Area and Priority Site Information

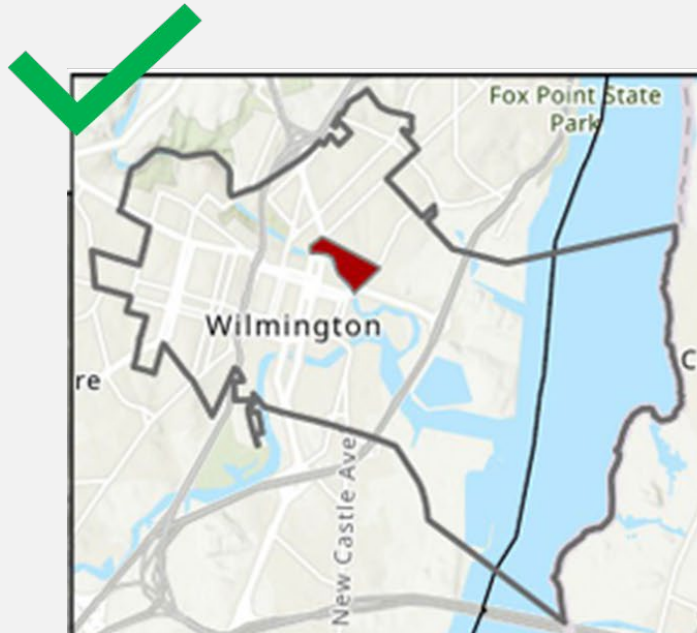
- List the Target Area
- Provide the address(es) of the priority site(s) proposed in your narrative.
- (Optional) As a separate one-page attachment, you may include a map to visually depict the target area and/or priority site(s). Do not include any additional information or data on the map. Maps will 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

- Map examples:



SECTION 4.B

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

6) Contacts

- a. Project Director: Provide the name, phone number, email address, and mailing address of the Project Director assigned to this proposed project. This person should be the main point of contact for the project and should be the person responsible for the project's day-to-day operations. The Project Director may be contacted if other information is needed.
- b. Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Official: Provide the name, phone number, email address, and mailing address of the applicant's Chief Executive or highest-ranking elected official. For example, if your organization is a municipal form of government, provide this information for the Mayor or County Commissioner. Otherwise, provide this information for your organization's Executive Director or President. These individuals may be contacted if other information is needed.

SECTION 4.B

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

7) Population

- If you are a city/town, **provide** the population of your jurisdiction.
- If you are a county/parish/borough, State, or regional organization that covers a geographic area with more than one city/town, **provide** the population of the city(ies)/town(s) in which each priority site/target area is located.
- If you are a nonprofit organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) or a qualified community development entity, **provide** the population of the city(ies)/town(s) in which each priority site/target area is located.
- If you are a Tribe, **provide** the number of Tribal/non-tribal members affected.

Population data can be found at www.census.gov.

SECTION 4.B

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

8) Other Factors

- Applicants claiming one or more of the other factors **MUST** provide a summary in the Narrative on the applicable other factor(s).
- Please **identify** which of the items apply to your community/proposed project by noting the corresponding Narrative page number.
- If none of the Other Factors apply to your community/proposed project, please **provide** a statement to that effect. EPA may verify this information prior to selection.

SECTION 4.B

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

- 9) Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority (not included in the three-page limit)
- For an applicant other than a State or Tribal environmental authority, attach a current letter from the appropriate State or Tribal environmental authority (or equivalent State or Tribal regulatory oversight authority) acknowledging that the applicant plans to conduct assessment activities and is planning to apply for FY26 federal Brownfields Grant funds.
 - Letters regarding applications from prior years will **NOT** be accepted.
 - If you are applying for multiple types of grants, you only need to receive one letter from your State or Tribal environmental authority acknowledging the relevant grant activities. However, you must provide a copy of this letter, as an attachment, with each of your applications. Please note that general correspondence and documents evidencing State involvement with the project (i.e., State enforcement orders or State notice letters) will not be accepted. Coordinate early with your State or Tribal environmental authority in order to allow adequate time for you to obtain the acknowledgment letter and include it in your application.

SECTION 4.B

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET



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RI DEM

Office of Land Revitalization and
Sustainable Materials Management



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NHDES

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David Foss

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MADEP

Bureau of Waste Site Cleanup



Christopher Redmond

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MEDEP

Brownfields Program

SECTION 4.B

APPLICATION INFORMATION SHEET

10) Releasing Copies of Applications

In concert with EPA's commitment to conducting business in an open and transparent manner, copies of applications submitted under this funding opportunity may be made publicly available on [EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization website](#) or other public website for approximately 3 months after the selected applications are announced. 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.).

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.'

Confidential portions of otherwise non-confidential documents should be clearly identified and may be submitted separately to facilitate identification and handling by EPA. If confidential treatment is only requested until a certain date or until the occurrence of a certain event, the notice should identify the date or event. Information covered by a CBI claim will be treated in accordance with, and disclosed only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, set forth in 40 CFR Part 2, Subpart B. If no CBI 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. See 40 CFR § 2.203(a)(2), 41 Fed. Reg. 36,907.

SECTION 4.C

NARRATIVE CRITERIA

The Narrative (including citations) shall not exceed 12 single-spaced pages. Pages submitted over the page limit will not be evaluated.

The Narrative must provide clear, concise, and factual responses to all narrative criteria and sub-criteria below, with sufficient detail to allow for an evaluation of the application's merits. **A response to a criterion/sub-criterion that is included in a different section of the Narrative may not be scored as favorably.** If a criterion does not apply, clearly state this. **Any criterion left unanswered may result in zero points given for that criterion.** Responses should include the criteria number and title but need not restate the entire text of the criteria.

If selected for funding, the information in your Narrative will be incorporated into the workplan, subject to any adjustments to clarify issues with carrying out the project's scope of work made during the post-selection negotiation process. The workplan is a legally binding document. Therefore, applicants should carefully consider and accurately respond to the criteria, including the identification of the target area, criteria used to select additional sites, use of grant funds, and leveraged resources committed to the project that will materialize during the period of performance. EPA may not permit material changes to the workplan.

This section includes sample format tables that applicants may use to present all or a portion of their response. Applicants that do not use the sample format tables will not be penalized.

SECTION 4.C

NARRATIVE/RANKING CRITERIA

1. Project Area Description & Plans for Revitalization

45 Points

2. Community Need & Community Engagement

40 Points

3. Task Descriptions, Cost Estimates, & Measuring Progress

45 Points

4. Programmatic Capability & Past Performance

35 Points

SECTION 4.C

I. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Target Area and Brownfields (15 points)

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

Revitalizing the Target Area (20 points)

- d. Overall Plan for Revitalization (10 points)
- e. Outcomes and Benefits of Overall Plan for Revitalization (10 points)

Strategy for Leveraging Resources (10 points)

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

SECTION 4.C

I. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Target Area and Brownfields

a. Overview of Brownfields Challenges and Description of Target Area

- **Identify** and **describe** the target area for the focused grant activities, such as a neighborhood, district, corridor, shared planning area, or census tract.
- **Discuss** the brownfield challenges and their impact on the target area.
- Briefly **explain** how this grant may help address these challenges and impacts.

b. Description of the Priority Brownfield Site(s)

- **Provide** an overview of the brownfield sites in the target area with information such as the number of sites, size, and environmental concerns.
- **Highlight** one or more priority sites and discuss why the site(s) is prioritized for assessment, cleanup, and/or reuse. Make it clear as to why the site has been selected as a priority site.
- **Include** information such as past and current land uses, current site conditions (including structures), and potentially related environmental issues.

Note: A recipient of a Multipurpose Grant **MAY NOT** expend any grant funds for the remediation of a brownfield site unless they own the brownfield site and **ARE NOT** responsible for the contamination.

SECTION 4.C

I. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Target Area and Brownfields

c. Identifying Additional Sites

- **Describe** the process you will use to identify additional sites for eligible activities within the target area identified in I.a. above if grant funds remain after addressing the priority site(s).
- **Identify** the criteria for prioritizing additional sites.
- Answer this section even if you think you will not have funds left over.

SECTION 4.C

I. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Revitalizing the Target Area

d. Overall Plan for Revitalization

- If an overall plan for the revitalization of brownfield sites within the target area already exists-
 - **Identify** the overall plan for revitalization
 - **Indicate** if it includes a feasible site reuse strategy for at least one priority site.
 - **Discuss** how the proposed grant activities align with that plan.
 - **Discuss** how the plan aligns with and advances the local government's land use and revitalization plans or related community priorities.
 - Plans that **DO NOT** include a clear vision for the use of revitalized properties will be **evaluated less favorably**.
- If an overall plan for revitalization of brownfield sites within the target area does not exist –
 - **Describe** how the proposed grant activities will result in an overall plan for revitalization of brownfield sites, including a feasible site reuse strategy for a priority site(s).
 - **Discuss** how your brownfields revitalization plan will align with and advance the local government's land use and revitalization plans or related community priorities.
 - Plans that **DO NOT** include a clear vision for the use of revitalized properties will be **evaluated less favorably**.

SECTION 4.C

I. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Revitalizing the Target Area

e. Outcome and Benefits of Overall Plan for Revitalization

- **Describe** the potential for the overall plan for revitalization to stimulate economic development in the target area post-cleanup of the priority site(s), **and/or** may facilitate the creation of, preservation of, or addition to a park, a greenway, undeveloped property, recreational property, or other property used for nonprofit purposes in the target area.
- **Describe** how the proposed project will improve local resilience to the impacts of extreme weather events and natural disasters.
- If applicable, **describe** how the reuse of the priority site(s) will facilitate renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy; or will incorporate energy efficiency measures.

For more information on energy efficiency measures, please refer to the FY26 [FAQs](#) and [Renewable Energy or Energy-Efficient Approaches in Brownfields Redevelopment Fact Sheet](#).

SECTION 4.C

I. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION

Strategy for Leveraging Resources

f. Resources Needed for Site Reuse

- **Describe** your eligibility for and likelihood to obtain funding from other resources (e.g., any other EPA Brownfields resources or public or private resources)
- **Describe** 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).
- Do **NOT** duplicate sources discussed in 3.a-3.d under Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs. A response that duplicates sources that are listed in 3.a-3.d. under Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs **may not earn full points**.

g. Use of Existing Infrastructure

- **Describe** how this grant will facilitate the use of existing infrastructure (e.g., utilities, roads, buildings, etc.) at the priority site(s) and/or within the target area.
- If additional infrastructure needs or upgrades are key to the revitalization plans for the priority site(s), **describe** these needs/upgrades and funding resources that will be sought to implement that work.

SECTION 4.C

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 & Adverse Health Conditions (5 points)
- d. Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations (5 points)

Community Engagement (20 points)

- e. Prior/Ongoing Community Involvement (5 points)
- f. Project Involvement (5 points)
- g. Project Roles (5 points)
- h. Incorporating Community Input (5 points)

SECTION 4.C

2. COMMUNITY NEED & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Need

Applicants are encouraged to use geospatial mapping tools to better understand the communities that may be adversely and disproportionately affected by environmental or human health harms and risks. Applicants can include data in the Narrative to help characterize and describe the target area and its community(ies). Data from other sources (e.g., studies, census, and third-party reports) can also be included to give a more complete picture of the impacted communities and populations.

a. The Community's Need for Funding

- **Describe** how this grant will meet the needs of the community(ies) within the target area that has an inability to draw on other sources of funding to carry out environmental assessment or remediation, planning activities, and subsequent reuse in the target area **because of the small population and/or low-income of the community**.
- If the inability to draw on other sources of funding is not because the community has a small population or is low-income, then the response **may only earn up to 2 points**.

SECTION 4.C

2. COMMUNITY NEED & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Need

b. Health or Welfare of Sensitive Populations (Cont.)

- **Identify** sensitive populations in the target area
 - Sensitive populations are those populations that are likely to experience elevated health risks from pollution, including populations based on age (young children and the elderly), pregnant women, and serious disease burden (such as, high rates of cancer, asthma, chronic respiratory disease, coronary heart disease, low birth weights, etc.), as well as low-income populations.
- **Describe** the health or welfare issues of the identified sensitive populations
 - Think about social negatives such as: crime, vandalism, illegal dumping, people moving out, lack of neighborhood upkeep, lower education levels, abandoned properties, burden on municipal services
- **Discuss** how this grant and revitalization plan(s)/projected site reuse(s) will address these issues **AND/OR** help identify and reduce related threats.
 - Link all health and welfare disparities back to the potential contaminants **AND** tell us how **THIS** grant funding will help to overcome those disparities and reduce these threats.

SECTION 4.C

2. COMMUNITY NEED & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Need

- c. Greater Than Normal Incidence of Disease & Adverse Health Conditions
 - **Describe** how this grant and revitalization plan(s)/projected site reuse(s) will address, or help identify and reduce, threats to populations in the target area with a greater-than-normal incidence of diseases or conditions (including cancer, asthma, or birth defects) that may be associated with exposure to hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, or petroleum.
 - If populations in the target area **DO NOT** suffer from a greater-than-normal incidence of cancer, asthma, or birth defects, then the response **may only earn up to 2 points.**
- d. Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations
 - **Describe** how this grant and revitalization plan(s)/projected site reuse(s) will address, or help identify and reduce, related threats to populations in the target area that are economically impoverished and/or disproportionately share the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and/or commercial operations or policies.

SECTION 4.C

2. COMMUNITY NEED & COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Community Engagement

- e. Prior/Ongoing Community Involvement
 - **Discuss** how the community has been meaningfully involved/engaged in your efforts to address the brownfield sites in the target area, including the priority site(s).
- f. Project Involvement
 - **Identify** the local organizations/entities/groups that will assist with this project.
- g. Project Roles
 - **Describe** each identified local organization/entity/group's role in the project, including how they will be **meaningfully involved in decision-making for site selection, cleanup, and future reuse** of the brownfield sites, including the priority site(s).
- h. Incorporating Community Input
 - **Discuss** your plan to communicate project progress to the local community, including residents directly affected by the project work, and the involved organizations/entities/ groups.
 - **Include** the frequency and method(s) you will use (including an alternative to in-person engagement) and how you will meaningfully solicit, consider, and respond to community input.

*To conserve space, you may present information for 2.f. – 2.g. in the same response and/or use the suggested table format on **page 23** of the NOFOs.*

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Description of Tasks/Activities & Outputs (25 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)**

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Local government applicants may use up to 10% of the total grant award for health monitoring activities. The health monitoring activities must be associated with brownfield sites at which at least a Phase II environmental site assessment is conducted and that are contaminated with hazardous substances.

Coordination with the local health agency is required. Please review the [Health Monitoring Fact Sheet](#) for more information.

In determining costs to include on the “Construction” budget line, EPA recommends that applicants apply the “principal purpose of the contract” test, instead of characterizing discrete tasks that the same contractor will perform.

If the principal purpose (i.e., 50% or more of the estimated costs) of the contract is for construction services as defined on **page 23** of the NOFOs , then the cost for the contract should be placed on the “Construction” budget line.

Note, a contract that is principally purposed for construction may include tasks performed by the contractor or its subcontractor that are more characteristic of site assessment (e.g., confirmatory sampling, research into the history of the site), incidental engineering work (e.g., inspections to verify that the remedy is complete), or similar ancillary tasks.

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Remediation activities that are classified as “Construction” costs include:

- excavation and removal or treatment of contaminated soil,
- installation of concrete caps and other barriers to migration of contamination,
- abatement of asbestos or lead-based paint contamination in buildings,
- construction or assembly of structures housing equipment to pump and treat contamination,
- permanent installation of equipment purchased by the contractor or the recipient, and
- site restoration activities, such as grading, that prepare a site for reuse and similar activities that improve real property.

If the site(s) to be remediated under the cooperative agreement is unknown when the application is submitted, applicants should place the estimated remediation costs on the ‘Other’ budget line.

When the recipient identifies sites during the period of performance, the recipient and EPA’s Project Officer and Grant Specialist will work together to amend the cooperative agreement to update the budget.

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Cooperative agreements with successful applicants under this funding opportunity will be subject to the administrative cost limitation described at CERCLA § 104(k)(5)(E). Successful applicants may **ONLY** use up to **5%** of the total amount of EPA funds for their own administrative costs (direct costs for grant administration and indirect costs).

- For example, if EPA awards **\$1,000,000** to an applicant, the **5%** cap for administrative costs equals **\$50,000**.

Costs must be classified as direct or indirect consistently and applicants may not classify the same cost in both categories. The limitation on administrative costs does not apply to otherwise allowable programmatic costs (including indirect costs) charged by procurement contractors.

- Note that EPA considers costs for performance and financial reporting to be allowable programmatic costs that are **NOT** subject to the **5%** limitation.

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

For applications that include indirect costs in the budget and are selected for funding, an EPA Grants Specialist or Grants Management Officer may request a copy of the indirect cost rate agreement that was negotiated with the cognizant agency before the cooperative agreement is awarded.

DO NOT include activities that are ineligible uses of EPA Multipurpose Grant funds (e.g., land acquisition; building demolition that is not necessary to assess or remediate contamination at the site; building construction).

Please refer to the FY26 [FAQs](#) for additional examples of eligible and ineligible uses of funds (including administrative costs) and information on classifying construction costs. For questions not covered by the FY26 [FAQs](#), contact your Regional Brownfields Contact listed in Section I.E.

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Description of Tasks/Activities & Outputs

Provide a list and description of the tasks/activities required to implement the proposed project. You may respond to this criterion using the sample format for each task/activity.

Sample Format for Task/Activities

Task/Activity:

- a. Project Implementation
 - EPA-funded tasks/activities:
 - Non-EPA grant resources needed to carry out task/activity, if applicable:
- b. Anticipated Project Schedule:
- c. Task/Activity Lead(s):
- d. Output(s):

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Description of Tasks/Activities & Outputs

a. Project Implementation

- **Discuss** the proposed EPA-funded tasks/activities under this grant.
 - If you plan to issue a subaward(s), **indicate** what tasks/activities or services will be provided.
 - If you plan to include participant support costs in your project to pay for activities associated with a community liaison(s), **describe** the process you will follow for determining the allowable stipend(s) amounts, procedures for accounting for participant support cost payments (including receipts), and documenting that the costs are allowable.
 - **DO NOT** duplicate other support provided through other Federal, State, Tribal, or local programs.
- If applicable, **identify** tasks/activities needed to support or complement the grant that will be contributed by sources other than the EPA grant, such as leveraged resources or funding contributed by your organization.
 - For example: The applicant does not charge the EPA grant for salary dollars and therefore contributes its own resources to carry out programmatic oversight activities or grant administration.
 - **DO NOT** duplicate sources listed in I.f. Resources Needed for Site Reuse.

Note, a response that includes ineligible tasks/activities **will be evaluated less favorably**.

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

a. Project Implementation (cont.)

Typical eligible tasks/activities may include:

- Cooperative agreement oversight,
- Procuring a Qualified Environmental Professional,
- Inventory work,
- Community engagement (including using participant support costs)
- Site selection,
- Securing site access,
- Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments
- Cleanup planning at a specific site, including developing an Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA)
- Coordination with the local health agency on health monitoring activities.

Additional eligible tasks/activities may include remediation, submitting and obtaining approval of Quality Assurance Project Plans, enrollment of sites in the State's Voluntary Cleanup Program, and certifying cleanup is complete.

Planning tasks/activities may include reuse planning, the development of an area-wide plan, conducting market feasibility studies, evaluating infrastructure needs, etc.

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

b. Anticipated Project Schedule

- **Discuss** the anticipated schedule milestones and timeline for the EPA-funded activities outlined in *3.a. Project Implementation* during the 5-year period of performance.
- EPA may reimburse successful applicants for eligible programmatic pre-award costs incurred up to 90 days prior to award.
- Applicants may include pre-award costs for eligible activities in their proposed project. Travel expenses associated with brownfields-related training, such as the National Brownfields Training Conference, are eligible expenses.
- The budget/project period start date must be before the date that any proposed pre-award costs are incurred.
- For more information on pre-award costs, please see the FY26 [FAQs](#).

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Description of Tasks/Activities & Outputs

c. Task/Activity Lead

- **Identify** the lead entity(ies) overseeing each task/activity (i.e., the applicant, qualified environmental professional, or other identified entity).
- If not the applicant, **explain** why the lead entity(ies) is appropriate.

Note, the local health agency **MUST** be involved in health monitoring activities.

d. Outputs

- **Identify** and **quantify** the anticipated outputs/deliverables for each task/activity.
- Outputs may include, but are not limited to:
 - Quarterly reports
 - Site prioritization
 - Assessment and/or cleanup plans
 - Community involvement plans
 - Brownfield site-specific and area-wide reuse plans
 - Final Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) documents
 - Administrative records
 - Cleanup completion report or letter

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

e. Cost Estimates

- **Describe** how cost estimates for each task were developed per budget category, including direct and indirect administrative costs (if applicable).
- **Present** costs per unit where appropriate.
 - Note, the total amount of direct and indirect administrative costs **CANNOT** exceed 5% of the total EPA-requested funds.
- Cost estimates may come from a Phase II report. For information on best practices for preparing budgets for EPA grant applications, refer to the [Interim General Budget Development Guidance for Applicants and Recipients of EPA Financial Assistance](#).
- You may use the sample table format on **page 26** of the NOFOs to present how you plan to allocate grant funds for tasks/activities described in Section 4.C.(3) by budget category.
- Replace the task number heading in the sample table with the actual title of the task.

Sample Format for Budget (do not change Budget Categories)

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. If the costs are unknown at the time of application submission, place the costs on the Other budget line. 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 Multipurpose Grant applicant itself cannot exceed 5% of the total EPA-requested funds.

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

Only include costs to be covered by EPA grant funds in this table.

Leveraged resources should not be included in the budget table.

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

e. Cost Estimates

- Personnel costs: Be **precise** in explaining what your personnel cost will be. Project Manager at \$xx/hour 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.
- Cleanup: Estimate costs associated with anticipated cleanup plan.

SECTION 4.C

3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES & MEASURING PROGRESS

f. 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 results, and eventual outcomes.
 - Definitions of outputs and outcomes are provided in Section 3.A.(4).
- Metrics to help monitor progress include:
 - Accomplishments in ACRES
 - Quarterly Reporting
 - Work Plans/Project Schedule/Other Deliverables
 - Spreadsheets/Tracking Software

SECTION 4.C

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)

To conserve space, you may present information for 4.a. – 4.c. in the same response.

- d. Acquiring Additional Resources (5 points)

Past Performance and Accomplishments (15 Points)

- e. Currently Has or Previously Received an EPA Brownfields Grant (15 points)

--OR--

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

--OR--

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

SECTION 4.C

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY & PAST PERFORMANCE

Programmatic Capability

To conserve space, you may present information for 4.a. – 4.c. in the same response.

a. Organizational Capacity

- **Discuss** the applicant's organizational capacity to oversee grant tasks/activities and carry out and manage the grant's programmatic, administrative, and financial requirements.

b. Organizational Structure

- **Describe** the organizational structure you will utilize to ensure the timely and successful expenditure of funds and completion of the grant's technical, administrative, and financial requirements.

c. Description of Key Staff

- Briefly **describe** the key staff who will successfully administer the grant, including their roles, expertise, qualifications, and experience.
- Name names and discuss the experience and qualifications of your key staff members (a short bio for each member works well here).
- This is your project management team (technical, financial & administrative); tell us how they will successfully manage this grant.

d. Acquiring Additional Resources

- **Describe** your system(s) and/or procedure(s) to appropriately acquire additional expertise and resources (e.g., contractors or subrecipients) required to complete the project.
- Refer to Section IV of EPA NOFO Clauses regarding the difference between contractors and subrecipients.
- If an applicant has selected a contractor or subrecipient without complying with applicable requirements as described in Section 2.B.(7), the response will be **evaluated less favorably**.

SECTION 4.C

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY & PAST PERFORMANCE

Past Performance and Accomplishments

You must respond to only **ONE** of the following criteria.

If you have ever received an EPA Brownfields Multipurpose Grant, Assessment Grant, Revolving Loan Fund Grant, Cleanup (MARC) Grant, and/or I 28(a) Grant, please respond to **item e**.

--OR--

If you have never received an EPA Brownfields MARC or I 28(a) Grant but have received other federal or non-federal financial assistance agreements (including only receiving an Area-Wide Planning Grant or Job Training Grant), please respond to **item f**.

--OR--

If you have never received any type of federal or non-federal financial assistance agreement, or if you have recently received a financial assistance agreement (including a Brownfields Grant) but have not had an opportunity to demonstrate compliance with the award requirements, please indicate this in response to **item g**.

SECTION 4.C

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY & PAST PERFORMANCE

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 the Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) at the time of this application submission; if not, explain why.

2) Compliance with Grant Requirements

- **Discuss** your compliance with the workplan, schedule, and terms and conditions under the current/most recent grant(s) (no more than three), including your history of timely and acceptable quarterly performance, grant deliverables, and ongoing ACRES reporting.
- **Include** whether you have made and have reported progress towards achieving the expected results of the grant in a timely manner. If not, **discuss** what corrective measures you took and how the corrective measures were effective, documented, and communicated.
- For all open EPA Brownfields Grants, **indicate** the grant period (start and end date), if funds remain, and the plan to expend the funds on eligible activities by the end of the Period of performance.
- For all closed EPA Brownfields Grants, **indicate** if there were funds remaining, the amount of remaining funds, and a brief explanation for why any remaining funds were not expended within the *Period of Performance*.
- EPA will not penalize the applicant for closure of a Revolving Loan Fund cooperative agreement

SECTION 4.C

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY & PAST PERFORMANCE

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 financial 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.

Demonstrate how you successfully managed the agreement(s) and performed all phases of work by providing the following information.

1) Purpose and Accomplishments

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

2) Compliance with Grant Requirements

- **Describe** your compliance with the workplan, schedule, and terms and conditions under the current/most recent financial assistance agreement(s), including your history of timely and acceptable reporting, as required by the awarding agency/organization.
- **Include** whether you have made and have reported 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.

SECTION 4.C

4. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY & PAST PERFORMANCE

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

- **Affirm** that your organization has never received any type of federal or non-federal financial assistance agreement (grant or cooperative agreement).

--OR--

- **Affirm** that your organization has recently received a financial assistance agreement but has **NOT** had an opportunity to demonstrate compliance with the award requirements.
- Applicants that **indicate** that they **do not** have a history of performing financial assistance agreements will receive a “neutral” 8-point score for this factor.

Failure to **indicate** anything in response to this sub-criterion **may result in zero points.**

SECTION 4.D. APPLICANTS USING CONTRACTORS AND/OR 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 (which includes territories) or Tribal 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\(a\)\(1\)](#) **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](#).

Additionally, **all** applicants (including State, territory, and Tribal), regardless of the amount of the contract, must conduct their procurements 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 provides guidance on complying with the competition requirements in the [Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services, Supplies, and Equipment Under EPA Assistance Agreements](#) and the [Brownfields Grants: Guidance on Competitively Procuring a Contractor](#).

SECTION 4.D.

APPLICANTS USING CONTRACTORS AND/OR SUBRECIPIENTS

Contractors

- 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 [2 CFR § 200.319\(b\)](#).
- Consistent with [2 CFR § 200.320\(b\)\(2\)\(iii\)](#), 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. As provided in [2 CFR § 200.320\(b\)\(2\)\(iv\)](#), “[q]ualifications-based procurement,” where price is not a factor, may be used when acquiring services that can only be provided by a licensed Architectural and Engineering (A/E) firm; such as when State or local law requires that an A/E firm develop specifications for construction work that is part of a remediation project.
- When the remediation activities do not require the services of an A/E firm, price must be evaluated for those activities. Qualifications-based procurement does not apply to assessment-related activities that occur under a Brownfields Multipurpose Grant. Although A/E firms are one potential source for a Qualified Environmental Professional (QEP) for site assessments as indicated in the definition of Environmental Professional in the All-Appropriate Inquiry Rule, [40 CFR § 312.10](#), other types of firms and individuals may also provide QEP services.

SECTION 4.D. APPLICANTS USING CONTRACTORS AND/OR SUBRECIPIENTS

Contractors

Regardless of whether the solicitation is issued as a Request for Proposals or a Request for Qualifications, price reasonableness for the grant implementation work must be a selection factor in the evaluation of proposals or quotes for Brownfields Multipurpose Grants. See the [Brownfields Grants: Guidance on Competitively Procuring a Contractor for additional guidance](#).

Successful applicants that procure a contractor(s) after being advised by EPA of selection, but prior to award, **MUST** describe how they complied with the procurement procedures described above when submitting the final workplan for the award.

Recipients of EPA funding that select a contractor(s) after award **MUST** fully comply with the procurement standards at [2 CFR Part 200](#), [2 CFR Part 1500](#), and [40 CFR Part 33](#).

SECTION 4.D. APPLICANTS USING CONTRACTORS AND/OR SUBRECIPIENTS

Subrecipient

EPA **does not** require or encourage applicants to name a specific subrecipient(s) in the application for Brownfields Grant funding. However, if an applicant chooses to identify a specific subrecipient(s) to conduct work proposed in this application, the applicant must comply with the following requirements even if the entity is referred to as a “partner” in the application.

Successful applicants that do not name a specific subrecipient(s) in their application but identify a subrecipient(s) after being advised of selection, **MUST** also comply with the requirements.

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’s Subaward Policy for 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.

For additional guidance, applicants should review [EPA’s Subaward Policy Frequent Questions](#).

Refer to EPA's Contracts and Subawards NOFO Clause for additional guidance on these requirements which must be met for all contractors (except for micro-purchases as described above) and/or subrecipients specifically named in the application.

SECTION 5.

SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINES

SECTION 5.A

SUBMISSION DATES AND TIMES

Application Submission Deadline: 11:59pm on **January 28, 2026**

Grants.gov creates a date and time record when it receives the application. If you submit the same application more than once, we will accept the last on-time submission.

Additional provisions that apply to this funding opportunity and/or awards made under this funding opportunity can be found at [EPA NOFO Clauses](#). If you are unable to access these provisions electronically at the website above, please contact the EPA point of contact to obtain the provisions.

These provisions are important for applying to this funding opportunity and applicants must review them when preparing applications.

SECTION 5.B

UNIQUE ENTITY IDENTIFIER (UEI) AND SYSTEM FOR AWARD MANAGEMENT (SAM.GOV)

You **MUST** have an active account with SAM.gov. SAM.gov will provide a UEI for your organization, which is required to apply for grants using Grants.gov. To register, go to [SAM.gov Entity Registration](#) and click Get Started. From the same page, you can also click on the [Entity Registration Checklist](#) for the information you will need to register. Make sure you are current with SAM.gov and UEI requirements before applying for the award. SAM.gov registration can take several weeks. [Begin that process today.](#)

You **MUST** also have an active account with [Grants.gov](#). You can see step-by-step instructions at the Grants.gov [Quick Start Guide for Applicants](#). Please visit [How to Register to Apply for Grants](#) for additional information.

The registration process for all the above items **may take a month or more to complete.**

SECTION 5.C

SUBMISSION INSTRUCTIONS

You **MUST** submit your application through [Grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

Important tips:

- To begin the application process under this grant announcement, go to Grants.gov and click the red “Apply” button at the top of the view grant opportunity page associated with this opportunity.
- See the Quick Start Guide for Applicants for instructions on how to submit.
- Make sure your application passes the Grants.gov validation checks.
- Do not encrypt, zip, or password protect any files.
- Your application must be submitted by an official representative of your organization who is registered with Grants.gov and is authorized to sign applications for Federal financial assistance.
- If you receive an error or the button is grayed out, it may be because you do not have the appropriate role to submit in your organization. Contact your organization’s EBiz point of contact or contact Grants.gov for assistance at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.
- See Grants.gov Errors for information on other Grants.gov errors.
- The UEI listed on the application must be registered to the applicant organization's SAM.gov account. If not, the application may be deemed **ineligible**.

SECTION 5.D

TECHNICAL ISSUES WITH SUBMISSION

If applicants experience technical issues during the submission of an application that they are unable to resolve, follow these procedures **before** the application deadline date:

- Contact Grants.gov Support Center before the application deadline date.
- Document the Grants.gov ticket/case number.
- Send an email with Funding Opportunity Number (FON): EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-25-03 in the subject line to brownfields@epa.gov before the application deadline time and date and must include the following:
 - Grants.gov ticket/case number(s)
 - Description of the issue
 - The entire application package in PDF format.

SECTION 5.D

TECHNICAL ISSUES WITH SUBMISSION

Without this information, EPA may not be able to consider applications submitted outside of Grants.gov. Any application submitted after the application deadline time and date deadline will be deemed ineligible and **NOT** be considered.

Please note that successful submission through Grants.gov or email does **NOT** necessarily mean your application is eligible for award.

EPA will make decisions concerning acceptance of each application submitted outside of Grants.gov on a case-by-case basis. EPA will **ONLY** consider accepting applications that were unable to submit through Grants.gov due to Grants.gov or relevant SAM.gov system issues **OR** for unforeseen exigent circumstances, such as extreme weather interfering with Internet access.

Failure of an applicant to submit prior to the application submission deadline time and date because they did not properly or timely register in SAM.gov or Grants.gov is **NOT** an acceptable reason to justify acceptance of an application outside of Grants.gov.

SECTION 5.E

REQUIREMENTS TO SUBMIT THROUGH GRANTS.GOV AND LIMITED EXCEPTION PROCEDURES

Applicants must apply electronically through Grants.gov under this funding opportunity based on the Grants.gov instructions in this announcement. If your organization has no access to the Internet or access is very limited, you may request an exception for the remainder of this calendar year by following the procedures outlined at www.epa.gov/grants/exceptions-grantsgov-submission-requirement.

Please note that your request must be received **at least 15 calendar days** before the application due date to allow enough time to negotiate alternative submission methods.

Issues with submissions with respect to this opportunity only are addressed in Section *D. Technical Issues with Submission*.

SECTION 5.F

INTERGOVERNMENTAL REVIEW

Applicants may need to submit application information for [Intergovernmental Review](#). Some States have adopted Single Points of Contact (SPOC) for coordinating the review.

See the FY26 [FAQs](#) for more information.

This requirement does not apply to American Indian and Alaska Native Tribes or Tribal organizations.

SECTION 6.

APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

SECTION 6.A

RESPONSIVENESS REVIEW

Applications must meet the eligibility requirements described in Section 2 to be evaluated. Applicants **NOT** meeting these requirements will be deemed ineligible and will be notified within 15 calendar days of the determination.

- Applications must adhere to the page limit requirements. Any pages over the limit(s) in Section 4 will **NOT** be reviewed.
- Initial applications must be submitted *on or before* the application deadline through Grants.gov or through limited circumstances as expressed in Section 5. EPA will not evaluate applications that are not submitted on time.
- Applicants having technical difficulties applying **MUST** contact the Grants.gov hotline at 1-800-518-4726 **AND** then must email a PDF of the full application to the EPA contact listed in Section 1. The submission **MUST** be received prior to the application deadline for consideration.

SECTION 6.B

REVIEW CRITERIA

Applicants will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which they demonstrate that they have the capability to successfully perform the project as described in Section 3 of this funding opportunity.

Only eligible entities whose applications meet the threshold criteria in Section 2 of this announcement will be evaluated.

Applicants should explicitly address these criteria as part of their application package submittal in the project narrative.

Each application will be rated using a point system. Applications will be evaluated based on a total of 165 possible points.

SECTION 6.C

REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

Timely submitted applications will initially be reviewed by the EPA Regional Office, which covers the location of the project, to determine compliance with the applicable threshold eligibility criteria for Multipurpose Grants (Section 2.B.). All applications that pass the threshold criteria review will be evaluated by national evaluation panels.

The national evaluation panels will be comprised of EPA staff and potentially other federal agency representatives chosen for their expertise in the range of activities associated with the Brownfield Multipurpose Grants.

Eligible applications will be evaluated based on the criteria described in Section 6.B. and a ranking list of applicants will be developed.

OBLR will provide the list to the Headquarters Selection Official, who 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).

SECTION 6.C

REVIEW AND SELECTION PROCESS

I) Other Evaluation Factors

In making the final selections from among the most highly ranked applicants, EPA's Headquarters Selection Official may consider the factors below as appropriate. Applicants should provide a summary in the Narrative on the applicable other factors and note the corresponding page number in the Application Information Sheet (Section 4.B starting on **page 16**).

Additionally, EPA's Headquarters Selection Official **MAY** take the following considerations into account when making final selections:

- Distribution of funds between urban and non-urban areas
- Whether the applicant's target area is located within, or includes, a county experiencing "persistent poverty" where 20% or more of its population has lived in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates;
- Distribution of funds among EPA's ten Regions; and
- Whether the applicant has not previously been awarded a Brownfield Multipurpose Grant.

SECTION 6.C

RISK REVIEW

EPA will consider any comments by the applicant, along with information available in the responsibility/qualification records in SAM.gov, when doing the risk review as required by [2 CFR § 200.206](#).

SECTION 7. AWARD NOTICES

SECTION 7. AWARD NOTICES

EPA anticipates notification to successful applicants will be made by Jerry Minor-Gordon-English, OBLR, Acting Deputy Director.

The notification will be sent to the Project Director and Chief Executive/Highest-Ranking Elected Official listed in the Application Information Sheet in Section 4.B. This notification is not an authorization to begin work.

The applicants that are selected for award will work with an EPA Project Officer to finalize the required federal application package, the proposed budget, and to negotiate the cooperative agreement workplan.

The official notification of an award will be made by the Regional Award Official (EPA Grants Officer) assigned to the cooperative agreement. Selection does not guarantee an award will be made. Statutory authorization, funding, or other issues during the award process may affect the ability of EPA to make an award. The award notice, signed by an EPA grants officer, is the authorizing document and will be provided through electronic or postal mail.

The successful applicant may need to prepare and submit additional documents and forms, which must be approved by EPA, before the grant can officially be awarded. The time between notification of selection and award of a grant can take up to 90 days or longer.

SECTION 8.
POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS
AND ADMINISTRATION

SECTION 8.

POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

A. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

- The recipient and any sub-recipient **MUST** comply with the applicable [General Terms and Conditions](#). These terms and conditions are in addition to the assurances and certifications made as part of the award, terms and conditions, and restrictions reflected on the official assistance award document.
- Awards issued as a result of this funding opportunity are subject to the requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; [Title 2 CFR Part 200](#) and [2 CFR Part 1500](#).

B. Reporting

- EPA's General Terms and Conditions in the Notice of Award will have information on performance and financial reports, including:
 - How often you will report.
 - Any Required form or formating.
 - How to submit them.

SECTION 8.

POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION

C. Subaward and Executive Compensation Reporting

The Federal Financial Accountability and Transparency Act (FFATA) requires:

- Data entry at SAM.gov for all subawards and subcontracts issued for \$30,000 or more.
- Reporting executive compensation for both recipient and subaward organizations.

D. Brownfield Programmatic Requirements

Approved cooperative agreements will include terms and conditions (including any applicable Davis-Bacon labor standards and prevailing wage requirements for construction) that will be binding on the recipient.

Brownfield Grant recipients must comply with all applicable federal and State laws to ensure that the assessment and cleanup protect human health and the environment.

Brownfield Grant recipients also must comply with the program's technical requirements, which may include, but are not limited to, requirements for: reporting of progress and site-specific accomplishments, Quality Assurance requirements, historic properties or threatened and endangered species, all appropriate inquiries, environmental cleanup responsibilities, sufficient progress, collection of post-grant information, and protections of nearby and sensitive populations.

The assistance agreement will include terms and conditions implementing these requirements. For additional information, please review the Brownfield Programmatic Requirements.

SECTION 9.

OTHER INFORMATION

SECTION 9. OTHER INFORMATION

A. Additional Provisions for Applicants

Additional provisions that apply to this funding opportunity and/or awards made under this funding opportunity can be found at [EPA NOFO Clauses](#).

If you are unable to access these provisions electronically at the website above, please contact the EPA point of contact to obtain the provisions.

These provisions are important for applying to this funding opportunity and applicants must review them when preparing applications.

**SHOULD ANY INFORMATION
PROVIDED IN THE PRECEDING
SLIDES OR BY THE PRESENTERS
DIFFER FROM THE GUIDELINES,
THE LANGUAGE WRITTEN IN THE
GUIDELINES SHALL PREVAIL.**

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 TAB

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.](#)

Reminder: UCONN is **NOT** the EPA!



GRANT GUIDELINES & WEB RESOURCES

- [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](#)
- [EPA Brownfields Page](#)
- [EPA Region I Brownfields Page](#)
- [UConn TAB Program](#)
- [Build Act Summary](#)
- [Cleanups in My Community](#)



QUESTIONS?