Assessment & Multipurpose Application December 16, 2025, Webinar Slides

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 (R7) FY26 Brownfield Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Grant Competition

Note: FY26 Competition Guidelines supersede information provided during the webinar and/or on these slides.

Notes regarding the following webinar slides:

- Many of the following webinar slides were copied from the FY26 Competition pre-recorded videos and webinar
 presentations hosted by the Office of Brownfields and Revitalization and available at: Multipurpose, Assessment,
 RLF, and Cleanup (MARC) Grant Application Resources | US EPA. See those presentations for more detail.
- Slides developed by EPA Region 7 or substantially edited national slides include the identifier: "U.S.
 Environmental Protection Agency Region 7". Region 7 slides were developed using information from the FY26 competition guidelines, the FY26 FAQs, and other publically available information.
- These slides were formatted to emphasize certain content. A few of slides were revised after the webinar to
 provide the new Region 7 competition contact as of 12/17/2025 (see next slide), correct errors noted during the
 webinar, and cleanup formatting.

The correct deadline for Application submissions for all grant types is January 28, 2026

Regional Brownfields MAC Region 7 Competition Lead

Region 7 Competition Questions?

Contact:



Bobbie Pennington

pennington.bobbie@epa.gov

Phone: 913-551-7209

- ➤ Please **bcc**: R7 <u>Brownfields@epa.gov</u> when submitting questions via email regarding the competition.
- Remember: Threshold Questions may be submitted at any time!



Fiscal Year 2026 (FY26) Brownfield MAC Competition Region 7 Multipurpose and Assessment Application Evaluation Criteria

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) Region 7 (R7)
FY26 Brownfield Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) Grant Competition

December 16, 2025



Use of Artificial Intelligence (AI)

- > EPA does not supply an AI-generated summary of this training.
- An Al-generated summary may not correctly capture the training topics.
- Any Al-generated summary you might receive via email is not from EPA.





Multipurpose

Community-wide Assessment

Assessment Coalition

CWAG States/Tribes

Today's Agenda

- Introduction, Purpose & Agenda
- Overview of Multipurpose & Assessment Grant Programs –
 All applications Due Jan. 28, 2026
- Competition Timeline, Application Package, and Evaluation Process
- Multipurpose & Assessment Grant Proposal Evaluation Criteria
 - 1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION
 - 2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
 - 3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS
 - 3. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE
- Wrap-up

Evaluation Criteria for Cleanup Grant Applications to be discussed in the next Region 7 Webinar.

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Region 7



Today's Agenda

➢Introduction, Purpose & Agenda

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EPA Supports Community Efforts to Revitalize Brownfields

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

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













Region 7's FY26 Brownfields MAC Competition Webinar Series

PURPOSE:

To help strengthen Region 7 applicants' understanding of:

- √ Types of Grants included in the Competition
- ✓ Resources available to help applicants
- ✓ Changes to the competition from previous years
- ✓ Reminders
 - ✓ Process for submitting competition applications
 - ✓ Competition schedule

ALWAYS READ THE GUIDELINES!*

*The guidelines supersede any information presented in these webinars.



Region 7 FY26 Brownfield MAC Competition Guideline Webinar Schedule

Webinar Title	Date	Start (CST)	End (CST)	Link
FY26 Multipurpose & Assessment Grant Competition Webinar	12/16/2025	2:30 PM	4:30 PM	Click here to join the meeting
FY26 Cleanup Grant Competition Webinar	12/17/2025	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	Click here to join the meeting
EPA Region 7 FY26 MAC Office Hour for Applicants Q&A and Key Reminders (Session 1)	1/7/2026	10:00 am	11:00 am	Click here to join the meeting
EPA Region 7 FY26 MAC Office Hour for Applicants Q&A and Key Reminders (Session 2)	1/12/2026	10:00 am	11:00 am	Click here to join the meeting



Minimum Grant Requirements Pre-Recorded Videos

An overview of the FY 2026 grants submission process and Application Information Sheet and threshold requirements for each grant type is available in pre-recorded videos.

FY 2026 Multipurpose Grant Minimum Requirements Recording

FY 2026 Multipurpose Grant Minimum Requirements Presentation (pdf) (2.94 MB)

FY 2026 Assessment Grant Minimum Requirements Recording

FY 2026 Assessment Grant Minimum Requirements Presentation (pdf) (2.99 MB)

FY 2026 Cleanup Grant Minimum Requirements Recording

FY 2026 Cleanup Grant Minimum Requirements Presentation (pdf) (3.1 MB)

EPA Highly Recommends that Applicants view the relevant recordings.

Questions regarding grant eligibility and responses to threshold criterion should be submitted to the Regional Competition Contact as soon as possible.



National Brownfields MAC Application Narrative/Ranking Criteria Webinar Recordings

FY 2026 Narrative/Ranking webinar criteria for entities applying for:

- Multipurpose Grant funding
- Community-Wide Assessment Grant funding
- **Assessment Coalition Grant funding**
- Community-Wide Assessment Grants for States and Tribes funding

Slides: FY 2026 Multipurpose & Assessment Grant Narrative Criteria Outreach Presentation (5.04 MB)

Recording: Not yet posted, but the recording and transcript will be added in the coming weeks at: www.epa.gov/brownfields/marc-grant-application-resources

FY 2026 Narrative/Ranking criteria webinar for entities applying for:

Cleanup Grant funding

Slides: FY 2026 Cleanup Grant Narrative Ranking Criteria Outreach Presentation (pdf) (2.59 MB)

Recording: Not yet posted, but the recording and transcript will be added in the coming weeks at: www.epa.gov/brownfields/marc-grantapplication-resources

Application Guidelines & Guidance Resources



MARC Grant Application Resources – "Open Solicitations"

www.epa.gov/brownfields/marc-grantapplication-resources



Applicants interested in applying for more than one grant type in FY 2026, review the <u>FY26</u> <u>Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications</u> to determine which other grants are available to you.



If you currently have an EPA Brownfields Grant and are interested in applying for an FY 2026 grant, review the FY26 Eligibility Chart for Existing Grant Recipients (p.2 of PDF) to determine which other grants are available to you.

Changes to the Guidelines



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

For a complete list of changes,
please review the
"Summary of FY26 Brownfields
Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup
Grant Guidelines Changes"
available at

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

application-resources

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

EPA prepared this Summary of Changes document to assist prospective applicants with preparing Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant applications. Please review the FY26 Application Guidelines (also referred to as Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) or the solicitation) when preparing your application. If the information in the Summary of Changes differs from information in the statute, regulation, or the Guidelines, then the statute, regulation, or the Guidelines will take precedence.

If you are interested in applying for more than one grant type in FY26, review the <u>FY26 Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications</u> (see p.1) to determine which other grants are available to you.

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

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

Changes to All Grant Types

Changes to the Multipurpose Grant Guidelines

Changes to the Community-wide Assessment Grant Guidelines

Changes to the Assessment Coalition Grant Guidelines

Changes to the Community-wide Assessment Grants for States and Tribes Guidelines

Changes to the Cleanup Grant Guidelines

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



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	NOFO	Notice of Funding Opportunity
CAR	Cooperative Agreement Recipient	NPL	National Priority List
CEJST	Climate and Economic Justice Screening Tool	OBLR	Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization
CERCLA	Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation,	PO	Project Officer (or Project Manager)
	and Liability Act	POC	Point of Contact
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations	PRP	Potential Responsible Party
CIP	Community Involvement Plan	QEP	Qualified Environmental Professional
COA	Closeout Agreement (for RLF Grants)	RFA	Request for Application
CWAGST	Community-Wide Assessment Grants for States and Tribes	RLF	Revolving Loan Fund
DBA	Davis-Bacon Act	SAM	System for Award Management
DUNS	Data Universal Numbering System	STRP	State and Tribal Response Program
EPA	U.S. Environmental Protection Agency	TAB	Technical Assistance to Brownfields
FAQ	Frequently Asked Question	UEI	Unique Entity Identifier
FON	Funding Opportunity Number	USC	United States Code
FY	Fiscal Year	UST	Underground Storage Tank
		VCP	Voluntary Cleanup Program



Key to Color-coded Text

- Pink (Magenta) text highlights something <u>new/revised</u> in this competition (FY26)
- Orange text emphasizes <u>important</u> points
- * Red text emphasizes critical deadlines or things to avoid

The types of grants are highlighted by specific colors as well:



Progress Check

- ✓ Introduction, Purpose & Agenda
- Overview of Multipurpose & Assessment CAs
- Competition Timeline, Application Package and Evaluation Process
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 - 1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION
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Evaluation Criteria for the <u>Cleanup</u> Grant Applications will be discussed in the <u>next Region 7</u> Webinar.

FY26 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Offerings

	Maximum Project Period	Maximum Amount Per Grant	Estimated # of Awards	Total Per Grant Type	
Grant Type				Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act Funds	Regular Appropriated Funds
Multipurpose	5 years	\$1,000,000	20	\$20,0000,000	
Assessment (CW)	4 years	\$500,000	70	\$35,000,000	
Assessment Coalitions	4 years	\$1,500,000	39		\$58,700,000
Assessment (State/Tribal Level)	5 years	\$2,000,000	18	\$35,000,000	
Cleanup	4 years	\$500,000	10	\$5,000,000	
Cleanup	4 years	\$4,000,000	26	\$102,000,000	
			183	\$197,000,000	\$58,700,000







\$255,700,000

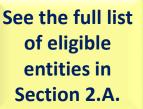
Eligible Entities for Multipurpose and Assessment Grants (Vary by Grant Type)

- General Purpose Unit of Local Government.
- Quasi Governmental Entities.
- Regional Council established under governmental authority.
- Group of General Purpose Units of Local Government established under Federal, State or local law (e.g., councils of governments) to function as a single legal entity with authority to enter into binding agreements with the Federal Government.
- Redevelopment Agency that is chartered or otherwise sanctioned by a state.
- State.*
- Federally recognized Indian Tribe other than in Alaska.
- Alaska Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and the Metlakatla Indian Community.
- Nonprofit organization described in section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code.
- Qualified community development entity as defined in section 45D(c)(1) of the Internal Revenue Code of 1986.

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



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



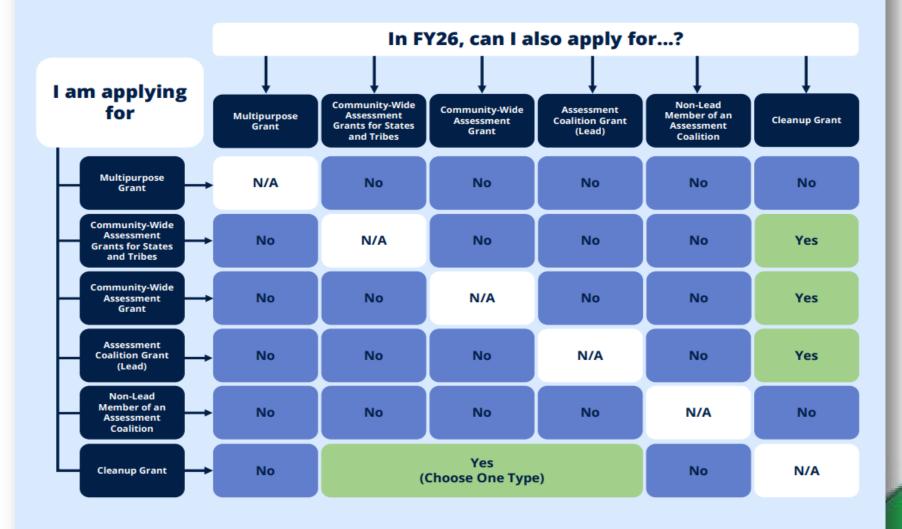




FY 2026 Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications and Existing Grant Recipients (pdf)

- FY26 Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications
- FY26 Eligibility Chart for Existing Grant Recipients

FY26 Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications



Note: To read this chart, identify the relevant grant type from the far-left column. Read across the row for eligibility information on the other grant types. For example, I am applying for a *Community-wide Assessment Grant*. In FY26, can I also apply for a *Cleanup Grant*? The green box indicates yes.



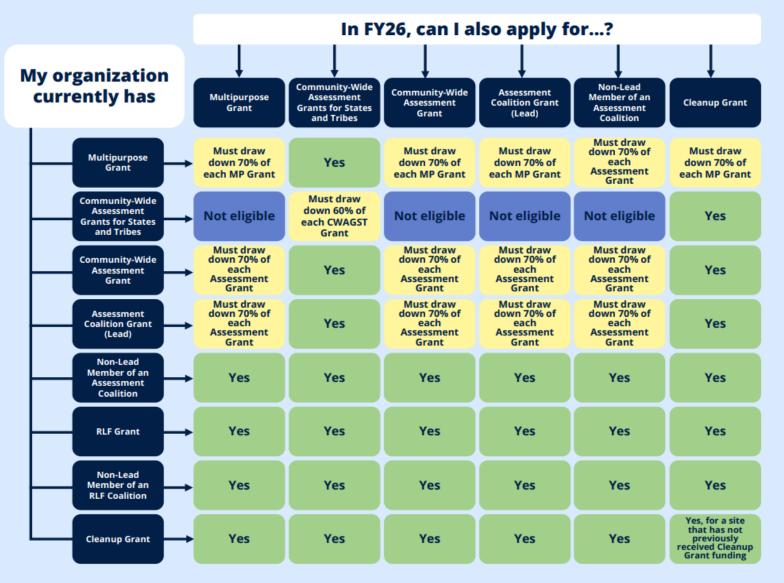


FY 2026 Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications and Existing Grant Recipients (pdf)

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FY26 Eligibility Chart for Existing Grant Recipients



Note: Applicants must also meet all threshold criteria outlined in Section 2. of the guidelines. If you plan to apply for more than one grant type, please refer to the FY26 MARC Grant Eligibility Chart for Multiple Applications to determine which grants are available to you.



Assessment Activities



Springfield, Missouri: Jordan Valley Industrial Park becomes Hammons

Grant funds can be used for a variety of activities:

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





Eligible Planning Activities

Planning activities to initiate brownfields revitalization in a target area:

- Site Reuse Assessment
- Land Use Assessment
- Market Study
- Infrastructure Evaluation
- Community Health Assessment
- Site Disposition Strategy

Planning activities to prepare your brownfield site for redevelopment:

- Site Reuse Vision
- Revitalization Plan
- Cleanup Plan
- Resource Roadmap
- Evaluation of Market Viability

For more information on eligible planning activities, go to: https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/information-eligible-planning-activities



Community-Wide Assessment Grants

Community-wide

 Appropriate for communities that are beginning to address their brownfield challenges, as well as for communities that have ongoing efforts to bring sites into productive reuse.

• Funding: up to \$500,000

Project Period: up to 4 years

Entities that were awarded (or pending an award for) a Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes (CWAGST) are not eligible to apply for other types of Assessment Grant funding.

Assessment Coalition Grants

• Coalitions are designed for one "lead" eligible entity to partner with eligible entities.

- The list of eligible entities is the same for both lead and non-lead coalition members.
- There must be at least two, but not more than four, eligible entities.
 - Must include at least one member that has never been awarded a Brownfields MARC Grant.
 - Entities with an open Brownfields Multipurpose Grant or Assessment Grant that can demonstrate they have drawn down 70.00% of the funding for each open Grant are eligible to be a non-lead member.
 - Members of the coalition may not be an agency or instrumentality of themselves (for example, a county and the redevelopment authority of the same county); except for coalitions in which the State is the lead and one of the members is a regional council or regional commission that is created by a State legislature through a charter or another official action.

Entities that were awarded (or pending an award for) a Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes (CWAGST) are not eligible to apply for other types of Assessment Grant funding.



Coalition



Assessment Coalition Grants continued

Key Features

Partnership with non-lead members that do not have the capacity to apply for and manage their own EPA cooperative agreement and otherwise would not have access to Brownfields Grant resources.

Coalition



- Must identify a target area for each member in the coalition. Target areas may not overlap, and they must be in at least three distinct municipalities or jurisdictions (e.g., town, city, or Tribe).
- Recipients must assess a minimum of 2 sites in each member's geographic boundary throughout the project period.
- Funding: up to \$1.5 million







Community-Wide Assessment Grants for States & Tribes (CWAGST)

Who Can Apply?

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

Current CWAGST recipients are <u>not</u> eligible for an FY26 Community-Wide, FY26 Assessment Coalition Grant or FY26 Multipurpose Grant

Key Features

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



States/Tribes



Multipurpose Grants

Multipurpose

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

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

- Funding: up to \$1,000,000
- Project Period: up to 5 years









Sufficient Progress: within 18 & 30 months

Assessment - Community-wide

- 18 Months: 25% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed
 - † QEP hired, site priorities/inventory determined, community engagement started
- 30 Months 45% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed
 - † Assessments started on at least 2 sites

Assessment Coalition Grants

- 18 Months: 25% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed
 - † MOA, QEP hired, site priorities/inventory determined, community engagement started
- 30 Months: 45% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed
 - † Assessments started on at least 3 sites





Sufficient Progress: within 18 & 36 months

Community-wide Assessment for States and Tribes

- 18 Months: 15% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed
 - > QEP hired, assessments started on at least 2 of 10 sites, community engagement started
- 30 Months: 45% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed
 - > Assessments started on at least 5 of 10 sites

States/Tribes



Sufficient Progress: within 18 & 36 months

Multipurpose

Multipurpose

- 18 Months: 15% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed
 - > QEP hired, assessment **or** cleanup has been initiated, community engagement started
- 30 Months: 45% of funds have been drawn down and disbursed
 - > Phase II Environmental Site Assessment started and cleanup activities ongoing at least one site.





Multipurpose

Community-wide

Coalition

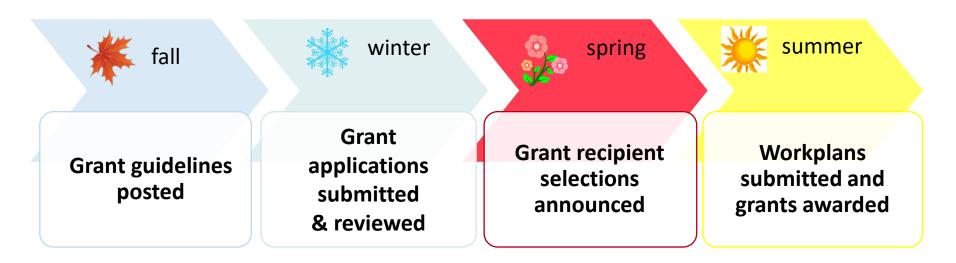
States/Tribes

Progress Check

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Evaluation Criteria for the <u>Cleanup</u> Grant Applications will be discussed in the <u>next Region 7</u>
Webinar.

Anticipated FY26 Competition Timeline



- **❖** January 28, 2026: Application submission deadline
- June 2026: Selections announced
- June September 2026: Workplans and grant paperwork finalized
- September October 2026: Grants awarded/funds become available



The submission due date will not change, however, other dates listed above are subject to change.



Submitting Your Application Package

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

Tips for Submitting Brownfields Grant Applications Through www.grants.gov

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

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



Q

Search site content

Grants.gov Resources for Applicants







Requirements to Submit an Application

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

How to Register to Apply for Grants

Advisors from APEX
Accelerators can also
help with SAM.gov
enrollment:

www.apexaccelerators.us

Tips for Submitting
Brownfields Grant
Applications
Through
www.grants.gov







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



Refer to the Application Submission Checklist in Section 4.A. of the Guidelines

OPTIONAL FORMS

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

Sample forms are available on the Brownfields MARC Application Resources page.





Exception to Applying through Grants.gov

Limited or No Access to Internet

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

There's no guarantee EPA will approve the request.

Every effort must be made [and demonstrated] to complete all prerequisites to apply through www.grants.gov.





Overview of What to Prepare

Application Information Sheet (Section 4.B.)

- 3 pages, single-spaced.
- Do **NOT** include a summary or overview of your narrative/project.
- Place information on your organization's letterhead.

Excess information will be removed/redacted and not reviewed.

Required Attachments (Section 2.B. Threshold)

Limit attachments to required/relevant documents (i.e., threshold criteria).

Narrative (Section 4.C.)

- 12 pages, single-spaced for Multipurpose Grant applications.
- 10 pages, single-spaced for Community-wide Assessment Grant applications.
- 12 pages, single-spaced for Coalitions Grant applications.
- 12 pages, single-spaced for Community-wide Assessment Grants for States and Tribes applications.

Excess pages will be removed/redacted and not reviewed.

Covered in recordings available at MARC **Grant Application** Resources – "Open Solicitations"

www.epa.gov/brownfields/ marc-grant-applicationresources





Application Information Sheet

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





Application Information Sheet

DO NOT SKIP THE "OTHER FACTORS" CHECKLIST!



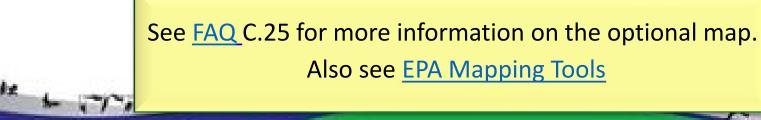
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- Population Data
- Other Factors
- **Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority**
- **EPA's Plan to Release Copies of Applications**
 - ✓ Provide on official letterhead
 - √ 3-page limit
 - ✓ Do <u>not</u> include a project summary/overview





Application Information Sheet Target Area and Priority Site

- List the target area(s) <u>discussed in the Narrative.</u>
 Coalitions: List the coalition members <u>and</u> each member's associated target area.
 - States/Tribes: Must have at least three target areas and at least five priority sites, with at least one priority site in each target area.
- Provide the address(es) of the priority site(s) proposed in the Narrative.
- OPTIONAL: As a separate one-page attachment, may include a map to depict the target area(s) and/or priority site(s). Do not include any additional information on the map. Maps will not be evaluated and will not count against the Application Information Sheet page limit.



Application Information Sheet Target Area and Priority Site

See FAQ C.25 for more information on the optional map.

C.25. Does EPA have a preferred mapping tool for applicants to use if they choose to include an optional map of their target area(s) and/or priority site(s)?

Applicants that choose to include a map as an attachment can use a free mapping tool to visually depict their target area(s) and/or priority site(s).

Additional information included in the map, such as a response to the narrative criteria, will not be considered and should not be included on the map. Applicants are not expected to pay for mapping applications or generate any new data. The inclusion of a map is optional, and applicants will not be penalized if they choose not to include a map.

Application Information Sheet Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority

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

Attach letter to the Application Information Sheet.

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

Does not count toward 3-page limit.

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



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

Do not use last year's letter.



Application Information Sheet Certifying Confidential/Privileged Information

■ EPA intends to post submitted applications on our website after the selections are announced in the spring 2026.



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







Threshold Criteria Overview

Every application must clear the Threshold Requirements.









A Brief (but Important) Note on Threshold

- Prepare responses to all Threshold Criteria and associated threshold attachments
 - ☐ No Page Limit
 - ☐ Applicant <u>and</u> grant- type dependent
- Unless noted NO attachments will be considered during the evaluation (scoring) of the Application/Proposal Narrative

Threshold Criteria Overview

Threshold Criteria					
Multipurpose	Community-Wide	Assessment Coalitions CWAGST			
Applicant Eligibility (includes Non-Lead Coalition Members)					
	Community Involvement				
Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds (includes Non-Lead Coalition Members)					
	Contractors ar	nd Named Subrecipients			
Target Areas		Target Areas	Target Areas and Priority Sites		
Affirmation of Site Ownership					
Use of Grant Funds					
		Non-lead Member(s) that Never Received MARC Grant			
		Legal Authority to Expend Grant Funds on Behalf of Non-Lead Members			
		Coalition Agreement			

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



1.a. Applicant Eligibility

See the list of eligible entities in Section 2.A. and required information by type of eligible organization in 2.B.

Community-wide and Multipurpose:

> Describe how your organization is an eligible entity.

Coalitions:

- ➤ <u>Describe</u> how you <u>and</u> each of the non-lead members are an eligible entity.
 - ☐ The coalition must have **at least two**, but **not more than four**, <u>non-lead</u> members.
 - □ Non-lead members <u>must be</u> **separate legal entities**. They may <u>not</u> be an agency or instrumentality of or affiliated with **the lead member** or **another non-lead member***.
- >States/Tribes: <u>Describe</u> how you are an eligible entity.



^{*}EPA considers departments, agencies, or instrumentalities of the same state, tribal, or city governments to be the same applicant if they are supervised or controlled by the same elected/appointed executive (even if they have different unique entity identifiers).



1.b. Applicant Eligibility:

Required Clarification for 501(c)(4) Organizations

All applicants <u>must indicate</u> if the lead member's organization <u>or</u> any of the non-lead members' organizations is exempt from Federal taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.

If yes,

□ <u>indicate</u> if the organization(s) lobbies the Federal government.

Note: if the **organization lobbies** the Federal government, the organization **is ineligible** for an EPA Brownfields Grant,

<u>OR</u>

if the organization(s) <u>does not lobby</u> the Federal government, <u>attach</u> a legal opinion that states that the organization does not engage in lobbying activities.

Note: organizations with 501(c)(4) tax-exempt status that do not lobby the Federal government must also qualify as an entity type listed in Section 2.A. to be eligible for an Assessment Grant.



Threshold Criteria Overview

Threshold Criteria					
Multipurpose	Community-Wide	Assessment Coalitions CWAGST			
Applicant Eligibility (includes Non-Lead Coalition Members)					
	Commu	nity Involvement			
Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds (includes Non-Lead Coalition Members)					
	Contractors ar	nd Named Subrecipients			
Target Area		Target Areas	Target Areas and Priority Sites		
Affirmation of Site Ownership					
Use of Grant Funds					
		Non-lead Member(s) that Never Received MARC Grant			
		Legal Authority to Expend Grant Funds on Behalf of Non-Lead Members			
		Coalition Agreement			

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

Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds

Community-wide Assessment & Coalitions & Multipurpose

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

States and Tribes:

- Indicate if you have an open EPA CWAGST Grant.
- <u>Current EPA CWAGST Grant recipients</u> must draw down, and disburse, at least 60.00% of their CWAGST cooperative agreement by October 1, 2025, before applying for funding for a FY26 CWAGST Grant.
- Attach a copy of a financial record displaying the amount of funds drawn down and corresponding dates (e.g., a report from the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) or general ledger entries documenting receipts for funds drawn down from ASAP or the required State financial system).

Threshold Criteria Overview

Threshold Criteria				
Multipurpose	Community-Wide	Assessment Coalitions	CWAGST	
Applicant Eligibility (includes Non-Lead Coalition Members)				
Community Involvement				
Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds (includes Non-Lead Coalition Members)				
	Contractors an	d Named Subrecipients		
Target Area		Target Areas	Target Areas and Priority Sites	
Affirmation of Site Ownership				
Use of Grant Funds				
		Non-lead Member(s) that Never Received MARC Grant		
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		Coalition Agreement		

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

Target Area

Identify one target area.

Target area may include several neighboring towns, a district, a shared planning area, or a census tract.









Affirmation of Site Ownership

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

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



Multipurpose



Use of Grant Funds

Multipurpose

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

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

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

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





Threshold Criteria Overview

Threshold Criteria						
Multipurpose	Community-Wide	e Assessment Coalitions CWAGS				
Appli	Applicant Eligibility (includes Non-Lead Coalition Members)					
	Commu	nity Involvement				
Expenditure of Existing Grant Funds (includes Non-Lead Coalition Members)						
	Contractors ar	d Named Subrecipients				
Target Areas		Target Areas	Target Areas and Priority Sites			
Affirmation of Site Ownership						
Use of Grant Funds						
		Non-lead Member(s) that Never Received MARC Grant				
		Legal Authority to Expend Grant Funds on Behalf of Non-Lead Members				
		Coalition Agreement				

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





Coalition

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

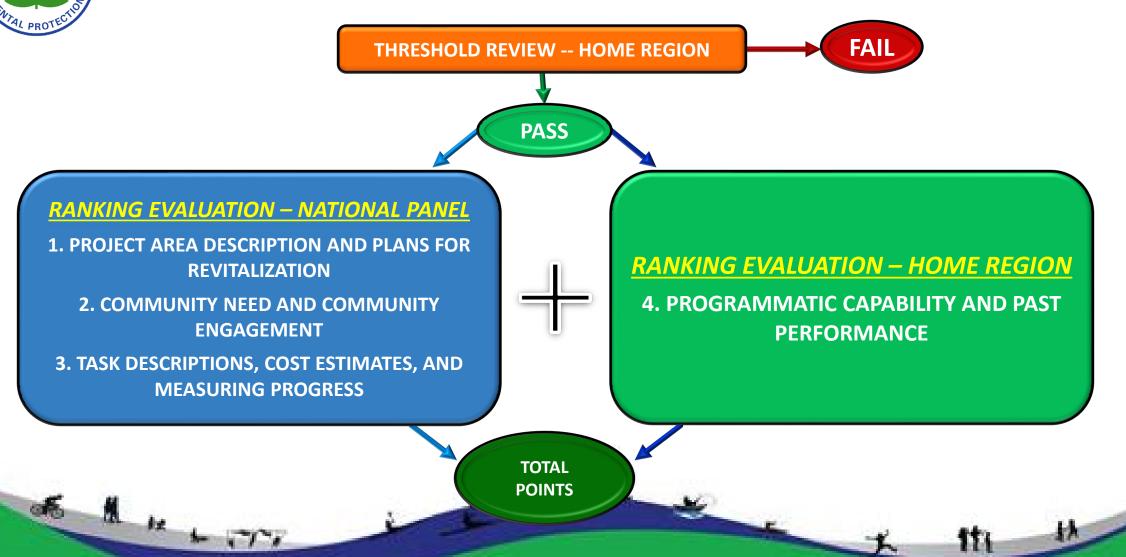
- a) Attest that the lead member has legal authority to expend grant funds on behalf of the non-lead members to conduct the proposed grant activities.
- not encompass the geographic boundaries of the non-lead members, identify the relevant law(s), ordinance(s), or other documentation to demonstrate the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







Application Evaluation Process





Know Your National Evaluators

 National Ranking Panels include brownfield program staff from all over the country, as well as staff from other EPA or federal programs.

National Evaluators

- $\sqrt{\text{May only consider responses in the 10- or 12-page narrative}}$.
- $\sqrt{}$ Do not review threshold or programmatic capability (that is regional)
- √ Must evaluate the quality and the extent (and degree) to which an application's response to the **narrative criteria** (Guidelines Section 4.C.) address the **review criteria** (Guidelines Section 6.B.)
- √ May not review outside sources of information including ACRES, websites, or other information not in the body of the narrative.



Insights into your Reviewers

Who are the Evaluators:

- Geographically Dispersed
 - EPA Brownfields Staff from all 10 Regions, HQ and beyond even a few field offices
- Educationally Diverse
 - Scientists, engineers, chemists, environmentalists, environmental specialists, tanks, CERCLA, Environmental Justice, grants specialists and staff from other programs
- Programmatic and Agency brownfield team member,
 Brownfield staff from another Region/HQ, related program member.



Progress Check

Multipurpose

Community-wide

Coalition

States/Tribes

- ✓ Introduction, Purpose & Agenda
- ✓ Overview of Multipurpose and Assessment CAs
- ✓ Competition Timeline, Application Package and Evaluation Process
- Multipurpose & Assessment Grant Proposal Evaluation Criteria
 - 1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION
 - 2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
 - 3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS
 - 3. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE
- Wrap-up

Evaluation Criteria for the Clean up Grant Applications will be discussed in the next Region 7 Webinar.



What Makes A Strong Application

Strong application narratives will have:

- ✓ Well-defined brownfield challenges
- ✓ Consideration of what it takes to get to revitalization
- Community support
- Clear objectives for the grant





Tips for Writing the Narrative

- Read the entire Guidelines for the grant type for which you're applying.
- Write as though the reader knows <u>NOTHING</u> about your community.
- Avoid using acronyms and technical/organizational jargon.
- Respond to the criterion where asked.
- Number pages and briefly enumerate/identify the criterion.
- Address <u>ALL</u> criteria. If a criterion, or part of a criterion, doesn't apply, state that and <u>explain</u> why.
- The <u>quality</u> of the response is extremely important (see Review Criteria in Section 6.B.).
- Organize attachments, for example:

Attachment A: Threshold Criteria

Attachment B: Documentation of Eligibility

- Use the Application Checklist in Section 4.A. (do not submit with application).
- Readability is important! Advise 1" margins; 12 pts font; Times New Roman/Arial/Calibri font.

Narrative Criteria

Your application will be ranked ONLY IF YOU PASS THRESHOLD

	Multipurpose	Assessment Community- wide	Assessment Coalition	CWAGST
Project Area Description and Plans For Revitalization	45	40 pts	45 pts	40 pts
Community Need and Community Engagement	40	35 pts	35 pts	35 pts
Task Description, Cost Estimates, & Measuring Success	45	45 pts	45 pts	45 pts
Programmatic Capability and Past Performance	35	35 pts	35 pts	35 pts
Total	165	155 pts	160 pts	155 pts

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



Review your responses to the Narrative Criteria in Section 4.C. <u>against</u> the Review Criteria in Section 6.B.



1. Project Area Description & Plans for Revitalization

- Target Area and Brownfields
- Revitalization of the Target Area
- Strategy for Leveraging Resources
 - Set the stage for the rest of your narrative in this criterion.
 - Be as specific as possible when providing responses.
 - <u>Coalition applicants</u>: Provide information on all coalition partners and their respective target areas/priority sites (which may not overlap).

Coalitions: Note a response that does not identify at least one target area in each coalition member's (i.e., the lead and non-lead members) geographic boundary will be evaluated less favorably.



Outputs v. Outcomes

Guidelines Section 3.(4) Measuring Environmental Results

• Output

➤ an environmental activity, effort and/or associated work products 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.

Outcome

➤ 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.

Outputs v. Outcomes

Guidelines Section 3.(4) Measuring Environmental Results

Output

right and activity, effort and/or associated work products 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.

Expected Outputs for the grants awarded under these guidelines may include the:

- number of brownfield sites identified in inventories,
- o development of a site-specific reuse plan or an area-wide plan,
- number of Phase I and Phase II environmental site assessments,
- o number of Analysis of Brownfields Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA) completed,
- number of community meetings held,
- number of underground storage tanks pulled [removed], and/or
- Multipurpose Grant cleanup activities completed at one or more brownfield sites.

Outputs v. Outcomes

Guidelines Section 3.(4) Measuring Environmental Results: Anticipated

Expected outcomes of Brownfield Grants include the

- > number of jobs created <u>and</u> 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.

Outcome

➤ 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.

1. Project Area Description & Plans for Revitalization – Overview

Here is:

- my geographic area and the target area;
- the brownfield issues and their impacts on the community;
- my plan to identify additional sites if grant funds remain
- how this grant fits into the community's revitalization plan;
- the anticipated outcomes and how the target area will benefit from revitalizing the brownfield sites; and
- the strategy to leverage resources to reuse the brownfield sites.









Multipurpose

Community-wide

Coalition

States/Tribes

Target Area and Brownfields:

- Clearly describe the community challenges <u>and</u> a well-defined target area(s) for the project that is consistent <u>throughout</u> the proposal
- Provide a thorough description of the <u>priority brownfield</u> site(s) and demonstrate a <u>detailed understanding of the purpose</u> of the multipurpose, assessment or cleanup grant.

Revitalization of the Target Area

- Provide <u>specific details</u> from the <u>current</u> local government land use plan to demonstrate alignment.
- Will **clearly connect** the proposed project with the use of existing infrastructure.



Target Area and Brownfields:

- Clearly describe the community challenges <u>and</u> a well-defined target area(s) for the project that is consistent <u>throughout</u> the proposal
- Provide a thorough description of the <u>priority brownfield</u> site(s) and demonstrate a **detailed understanding of the purpose** of the multipurpose, assessment or cleanup grant.

Coalitions: Note a response that does not identify at least one target area in each coalition member's (i.e., the lead and non-lead members) geographic boundary will be evaluated less favorably.

to

vin clearly connect the proposed project with the use of existing

infra

Multipurpose Grant recipients may only use grant funds for site remediation if they own the site and are not responsible for the contamination.

Infrastructure includes buildings, roads, and power supplies, transportation lines, etc.

- Describe how the proposed project <u>will improve</u> local resilience to the impacts of extreme weather events and natural disasters. See FAQ section S. BROWNFIELDS, PUBLIC HEALTH, EXTREME WEATHER, AND NATURAL DISASTERS
- Describe how the reuse of the priority site(s) <u>will facilitate</u> renewable energy from wind, solar, or geothermal energy; <u>or will incorporate</u> energy efficiency measures (if applicable). See <u>Renewable Energy or Energy-Efficient Approaches in Brownfields</u>

 <u>Redevelopment (pdf)</u>

Revitalization of the Target Area

- Provide <u>specific details</u> from the <u>current</u> local government land use plan to demonstrate alignment.
- Will clearly connect the proposed project with the use of existing infrastructure.

Quotes/excerpts from local land use plans consistent with proposed project is one way to successfully demonstrate alignment

1. Project Area Description & Plans for Revitalization

Revitalization of the Target Area

Multipurpose: 1.d. Overall Plan for Revitalization

Option 1: If an overall plan for revitalization <u>already exists</u>:

- Identify the overall plan for revitalization.
- Indicate if a feasible site reuse strategy already exists for at least one of the priority sites.
- Discuss how the proposed grant activities align with that plan.
- Discuss how the plan aligns with and advances the local government's broader land use and revitalization plans or related community priorities.

Option 2: If an overall plan for revitalization does not exist, describe:

- How the activities performed will result in an overall plan for revitalization of brownfield sites, including a feasible site reuse strategy for a priority site(s).
- How the plan will align with and advances the local government's broader land use and revitalization plans or related community priorities.







1. Project Area Description & Plans for Revitalization STRONG PROPOSALS (continued):

Strategy for Leveraging Resources

- Demonstrate <u>how</u> funds from federal, state, local, non-profit and private sources <u>will be leveraged</u> and/or <u>have</u>
 <u>been secured</u> and <u>how</u> these funds <u>will advance</u> the state of the <u>priority brownfield</u> site(s) toward completed <u>remediation</u> and/or <u>revitalization</u>
- Demonstrate that funds can be/will be sought for <u>all</u> activities necessary to get to site redevelopment.

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

2. Community Need & Engagement – Overview

- ❖The extent to which the grant will meet the needs of communities that are unable to secure other funding.
- ❖ How this grant will help populations that have a high incidence of adverse health conditions and greater-than-normal incidence of disease in the target area.
- How this grant will help economically impoverished populations in the target area
- Types of roles/involvement/mission of community groups.
- The plan for communicating project progress <u>based upon</u> <u>public input.</u>





Community Need

Applicants are encouraged to <u>include data in the Narrative to help characterize</u> and describe the target area(s) and their community(ies). Data can come from geospatial mapping tools and other sources (e.g., studies, census, and third-party reports).

2.a. The Community's Need for Funding

- Describe why the community is unable to secure funding for brownfield activities because the population is small and/or low-income.
- Describe how this grant will meet the needs of the small and/or low-income community.





Community Need

Applicants are encouraged to <u>include data in the Narrative to help characterize</u> and describe the target area(s) and their community(ies). Data can come from geospatial mapping tools and other sources (e.g., studies, census, and third-party reports).

For more information on available tools to find demographic information about your community see FAQ C.13. For the purposes of the Community Need criterion for Brownfield Grants, what are examples of health, welfare, environmental, and other demographic information I could provide about my community? Where do I find demographic information about my community?

community.





Community Need

Applicants are encouraged to include data in the Narrative to help characterize

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.

2.a. The Community's Need for Funding

- Describe why the community is unable to secure funding for brownfield activities because the population is small and/or low-income.
- Describe how this grant will meet the needs of the small and/or low-income community.







Community Need (cont'd)

2.b. Health of Welfare of Sensitive Populations

- Identify sensitive populations in the target area(s) and describe their health or welfare issues.
- Discuss how this grant and reuse strategy/site reuse(s) will address those issues and/or help identify
 and reduce related threats.

See the <u>Fiscal Year 2026 Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)</u> for more information on welfare, sensitive populations, and health or welfare issues that may result from extreme weather impacts.

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

Describe how this grant and reuse strategy/site reuse(s) will address, or help identify and reduce, threats to populations with a greater-than-normal incidence of diseases or conditions (including cancer, asthma, or birth defects) that may be associated with the brownfield sites.



If populations in the target area(s) <u>do not suffer from a greater-than-normal incidence</u> of cancer, asthma, or birth defects, then the response <u>may only earn up to 2 points</u>.





Community Need (cont'd)

2.d. Economically Impoverished/Disproportionately Impacted Populations

Describe how this grant and reuse strategy/projected site reuse(s) will address, or help identify and reduce, related threats to populations in the target area(s) that are economically impoverished and/or disproportionately share the negative environmental consequences resulting from industrial, governmental, and/or commercial operations or policies.









Review Criterion:

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









Community Engagement

+Multipurpose: 2.e. Prior/Ongoing Community Involvement

 Discuss how the community has been meaningfully involved in efforts to address brownfield sites in the target area, including the priority site(s).

2.e./2.f. Project Involvement

Identify the local organizations/entities/groups (i.e., project partners) that will assist with the project.

2.f./2.g. Project Roles

- Discuss the role each identified partner will play in the project.
- Discuss how partners will be meaningfully involved in decision-making for site selection, cleanup, and future reuse of the brownfield sites.

+Coalitions: Discuss how each non-lead member will be engaged and informed.

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





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

See <u>E.4. For the purposes of the Brownfield Grant Guidelines, what</u> <u>are examples of local organizations/entities/groups?</u>

- **►**<u>Involve</u> different types of partners.
- > Involve partners that are relevant to your project plans.

EPA is most interested_in the role each community partner will play for the proposed project, and <u>will not more favorably evaluate</u> <u>applications based the number</u> of community partners identified.



Community Engagement (cont'd)

2.g./2.h. Incorporating Community Input

- Discuss plan for communicating progress to:
 - the local community
 - o residents directly affected by the project work
 - project partners
- Include:
 - the <u>frequency</u> of communication
 - the <u>communication method(s)</u> (including an alternative to in-person community engagement)
 - o **how** you will meaningfully **solicit, consider, and respond** to community input



Click here view the factsheet on

SOCIALLY DISTANT ENGAGEMENT IDEAS FOR EPA BROWNFIELD GRANT APPLICANTS







2.g./2.h. Incorporating Community Input Review Criteria (5 points)

The <u>extent to which the plan</u> to communicate project progress to **the** local community, <u>including residents directly affected</u> by the project work, <u>and</u>

the involved organizations/entities/groups will be effective and appropriate, and offer an alternative to in-person engagement.

The <u>extent to which</u> the applicant will <u>meaningfully</u> solicit, consider, <u>and</u> <u>respond</u> to community input.







M 12

3. Tasks, Costs, & Measuring Progress – Overview

Tell Reviewers:

- ❖ Your step-by-step plan for implementing the brownfields project in the target area(s).
 - What tasks need to be accomplished and when.
 - Who's involved, and who's the lead in implementing those tasks.
 - How funding will be <u>budgeted</u> to pay for those tasks <u>and how</u> you <u>developed</u> those numbers.
 - How you track/measure project progress and results to make sure it stays on schedule, on budget, and will accomplish goals within the grant period.

Community-wide, Coalitions, & Multipurpose

Local government applicants may use up to 10% of the total grant award for health monitoring activities.

All Grant Types Administrative costs (direct costs and indirect costs) may not exceed 5% of the total award amount.





Community-wide, Coalitions, & Multipurpose

Local government applicants may use up to 10% of the total grant award for health monitoring activities.

Remember, the <u>local health agency must be involved</u> in health monitoring activities.

See review EPA's Health Monitoring Fact Sheet for more information.





Community-wide, Coalitions, & Multipurpose

Local government applicants may use up to 10% of the total grant award for health monitoring activities.

All Grant Types Administrative costs (direct costs and indirect costs) may not exceed
 5% of the total award amount.

Example: If EPA awards \$500,000 to an applicant, the 5% cap for administrative costs is \$25,000.





Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs

3.a. Project Implementation

- Discuss major tasks/activities that will take place under this grant.
- If you plan to issue a **subaward**, indicate what tasks/activities or services will be provided.
- If you plan to include **participant support costs** to pay for a community liaison, describe your process for determining the stipend amount, accounting, and documenting allowable costs.
- If applicable, identify tasks/activities that will be funded from other sources; such as leveraged resources or funding contributed by your organization (do not include those costs in the budget).

- a. Project Implementation
- b. Anticipated Project Schedule
- c. Task/Activity Lead
- l. Outputs



Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs

3.a. Project Implementation

- Disc
- If yo
- If yo dete
- If ap func
- ✓ Develop a list of the EPA-funded tasks/activities to implement the project.
- ✓ Group logically into 4-5 <u>major</u> tasks (that will coincide with the project tasks in the budget table).
- ✓ Relate tasks and outputs to target area(s)/priority sites.
- ✓ Establish task/activity time frames to demonstrate that work will be completed within the allowed period of performance.

- a. Project Implementation
- b. Anticipated Project Schedule
- c. Task/Activity Lead
- d. Outputs

ess for

sources or



Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs

3.a. Project Implementation

- Disc
- If yo
- If vo dete
- If ap fund

Anticipated Project Schedule

Project Implementation

- Task/Activity Lead
- Outputs

Responses will be evaluated less favorably if:

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

less for

sources or



Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs

3.a. Project Implementation

- Discuss major tasks/activities that will take place under this grant.
- If you plan to issue a subaward, indicate what tasks/activities or services will be provided.
- If you plan to include **participant support costs** to pay for a community liaison, describe your process for determining the stipend amount, accounting, and documenting allowable costs.
- <u>If applicable</u>, identify tasks/activities that **will be funded from other sources**; such as leveraged resources or funding contributed by your organization (**but <u>do not include those costs in the budget</u>**).

Do not duplicate sources listed in 1.f./1.g. Resources Needed for Site Reuse.



- a. Project Implementation
- b. Anticipated Project Schedule
- c. Task/Activity Lead
- d. Outputs



Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs (cont'd)

3.a. Project Implementation (cont'd)

Typical eligible tasks/activities may include:

- <u>Program Management</u> procuring a Qualified Environmental Professional, EPA reporting, financial and records management, internal progress meetings, etc.
- <u>Assessment Related</u> inventory work, community engagement (including participant support costs for up to one community liaison per target area), site selection, securing site access, Phase I and Phase II investigations, cleanup and reuse planning for a specific site, coordinated planning around multiple brownfield sites, etc.
- <u>Planning Tasks/Activities</u> develop an area wide plan, conduct a market feasibility study, evaluate infrastructure needs, etc.
- Health Monitoring coordination with the local health agency on health monitoring activities.
- Additional Multipurpose Activities remediation (cleanup), site enrollment in State's Voluntary Response Program, cleanup complete certification, etc.



Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs (cont'd)

- a. Project Implementation
- b. Anticipated Project Schedule
- c. Task/Activity Lead
- d. Outputs

3.b. Anticipated Project Schedule

 Discuss the anticipated schedule milestones and timeline for the EPA-funded activities during the grant period.

Applicants may include pre-award costs incurred up to 90 days before award. See FAQ G.8. for more on pre-award costs.

3.c. Task/Activity Lead

- Identify the lead entity overseeing each task.
- If not the applicant, explain why the lead entity(ies) is appropriate.

- a. Project Implementation
- b. Anticipated Project Schedule
- c. Task/Activity Lead
- d. Outputs



Community-wide Coalitions & Multipurpose: Remember, the local health agency must be involved in health monitoring activities.

See review EPA's <u>Health Monitoring Fact Sheet</u> for more information.



Description of Tasks/Activities and Outputs (cont'd)

3.d. Outputs

- Identify and quantify the anticipated outputs/deliverables for each task/activity.
 - Outputs may include, but are not limited to quarterly reports, site inventories, environmental site assessment reports, site cleanup plans, planning activity deliverables, number of community meetings, community involvement plans, cleanup plans, and final ABCAs.

Optional: Use table to present responses

Also see Guidelines
Section 3.(4)
Measuring
Environmental Results

Task/Activity:

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





- b. Anticipated Project Schedule
- c. Task/Activity Lead
- d. Outputs



Tasks, Costs, & Measuring Progress Cost Estimates

Cost Estimates

- Recommend using the sample table format in Guidelines
- Only include EPA grant funds. Leveraged resources should not be included in the budget table.
- Describe how cost estimates for <u>each</u> task were developed (<u>per budget category</u>).
- Where appropriate; present costs per unit.
- Describe how the cost share was developed.

Interim General Budget

Development Guidance

for Applicants and

Recipients of EPA

Financial Assistance

3.e. Cost Estimates (cont'd)

EPA will evaluate:

- The degree of clarity on how <u>each</u> cost estimate was developed and the extent to which costs per unit are presented in detail.
- The extent to which <u>each</u> proposed cost estimate is reasonable, realistic, and correlated to the proposed project/grant and tasks/activities.

Take note of the <u>Review Criteria</u> in Section 6.B. of the Guidelines

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

- Administrative costs exceed 5% of the total EPA-requested funds.
- Cost estimates are not reasonable or realistic to implement the project/grant.

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

Community-wide allocate at least 40% funds /

Coalition and States/Tribes allocate at least 60% funds

to tasks <u>directly associated with site-specific work</u> (i.e., Phase I and II site assessments and site-specific cleanup planning).

Multipurpose allocate at least: 70% funds

to tasks <u>directly associated with site-specific work</u> (i.e., site assessments, remediation, and associated tasks (with at least 25% for tasks directly associated with site remediation).

+Multipurpose:

- To determine costs for the "Construction" budget line, apply the "principal purpose of the contract" test:
 - If 50% or more of the estimated costs of the contract are for construction services, then the cost for the entire contract belongs on the "Construction" budget line.
 - A contract on the construction budget line may still include costs (<50%) for non-construction services (e.g., confirmatory sampling, researching site history, etc.).
- Remediation activities that are construction services may include abatement of asbestos and lead-based paint, installation of concrete caps or other designed to limit migration of contamination, and excavation and removal of contaminated soils.

If the cleanup site(s) <u>is unknown</u> at the time of application, place the **estimated remediation costs on the 'Other'** budget line. If awarded, the recipient will work with EPA's Project Officer and Grant Specialist to amend the budget lines as needed.

See FAQs C.18. – C.25. for more information on construction costs.

Cost Estimates – EXAMPLES

- **Prog. Mgmt/Personnel:** \$24,000 480 hrs. Planner/Finance avg rate \$50/hr.. (per quarter est: 10-hrs EPA reporting/records management, 10-hrs. Monthly progress meetings, and 20-hrs site-specific and community engagement work). Additional hours required will not be charged to the grant.
- **Travel:** 2 people to attend National Brownfield Conference: \$3,600 (per person: \$500 airfare, 4 nights hotel \$800, 4 days per diem and incidentals \$500).
- Phase I & II Environmental Site Assessments: \$359,700 (\$5,000 for personnel for overseeing assessments [100 hours @ \$50/hour]; \$200 for supplies [copies, toner, postage]; and \$354,500 contractual for QEP to conduct Phase I ESAs [8 @ \$4,500/each = \$36,000] and Phase II ESAs [10 @ \$31,850/each = \$318,500]).
- **Site-Specific Cleanup Planning:** \$10,000 (finalize ABCA \$1,000; prepare Remedial Action Plan \$5,000; stormwater management design plans \$3,000; State fee for entering VCP \$1,000).
- Cleanup (Remediation): \$479,800 ("Other" enrollment in State Voluntary Cleanup Program, 2 sites @ \$2000/site); "Construction" or "Other": removal and proper disposal of X tons of soil @ \$Y/ton, clean fill (X tons @ \$Z/ton), site grading, and confirmation sampling [add unit or hourly cost estimates].
- Direct and Indirect Administrative Costs (not to exceed 5% total grant award): \$4,200 (30 hrs Project Manager @\$50/hr. for Subaward and Executive Compensation Reporting and preparation of amendments such as no-cost time extensions; 45 hrs Planner/Finance avg rate of \$60/hr. for preparing ASAP payment requests and annual and final federal financial reports [SF 425's]).

Multipurpose

Multipurpose Grant Application BUDGET EXAMPLE 1

EXAMPLE 1
Estimated
<u>Cleanup</u>
Costs for
KNOWN
Cleanup
Site(s)

Budget Categories		Separate assessment, cleanup and planning activities						
	Program Management	Comm Outre	unity	Assessment	Cleanup		nistrative Costs	Total
Personnel	\$35,000	\$	3,000				\$15,000	\$53,000
Fringe Benefits		If 50% or	r more o	f the estimated co	ntract costs ar	e for		
Travel			•	hen the cost for th		act		
- Equipment		bel	ongs on	the "Construction	" budget line.			
Supplies	\$10,000							\$10,000
Contractual		\$	5,000	\$195,200				\$200,200
Construction (Cleanup contract)					\$479,800			\$479,800
Other (Cleanup budget)								
Other (subaward)		\$1	5,900					\$15,900
Other (participant support costs)		\$1	5,000					\$15,000
Other (conference registration fees)	\$1,100							\$1,100
Total Direct	\$46,100	\$3	8,900	\$195,200	\$479,800		\$15,000	\$775,000
Total Indirect	\$0		\$0	\$0	\$0		\$25,000	\$25,000
Total Federal (Direct + Indirect)	\$46,100		8,900	\$195,200	\$479,800		\$40,000	\$800,000

Multipurpose Grant Application BUDGET EXAMPLE 2

EXAMPLE 2:
Estimated
Cleanup
Sites for
UNKNOWN
Cleanup
Site(s)

Budget Categories	Project Tasks	Separate assessment, cleanup and planning activities						
	Program Management	Commi Outre		Assessment	С	Cleanup	Administrative Costs	Total
Personnel	\$35,000	\$:	3,000				\$15,000	\$53,000
Fringe Benefits								
Travel						If the clea	anup site(s) is unknown,	
Equipment							estimated remediation	
Supplies	\$10,000						he 'Other' budget line. If the recipient will work	\$10,000
Contractual		\$:	5,000	\$195,200		with EPA's	Project Officer and Grant	. ,
Construction						Specialist to	o amend the budget lines	
(Cleanup contract)								
Other (Cleanup budget)					\$	479,800		\$479,000
Other (subaward)		\$1	5,900					\$15,900
Other (participant support costs)		\$1	5,000					\$15,000
Other (conference registration fees)	\$1,100							\$1,100
Total Direct	\$46,100	\$3	8,900	\$195,200	\$	479,800	\$15,000	\$775,000
Total Indirect	\$0		\$0	\$0		\$0	\$25,000	\$25,000
Total Federal (Direct + Indirect)	340.100		8,900	\$195,2 <u>00</u>		479.800	\$40,000	\$800,000

3.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.

Tracking tools to consider

- **≻**ACRES
- ➤ Software products
- ➤ Formal progress reporting
- ➤ Routine team progress meetings

Tracking your accomplishments – big picture

- ➤ Status on leveraging other critical funding
- Strides toward accomplishing redevelopment vision plans





4. Programmatic Capability & Past Performance – Overview

Applicants should:

- Demonstrate ability to successfully manage the grant and produce the measurable results discussed in the application.
- Describe the organizational structure and key staff.
- Highlight past performance on Brownfield Grants, federal or non-federal grants.

Adhere to the total page limits:

- **❖ 12 pages for Multipurpose Grant applications**
- **❖ 10 pages for Community-wide Assessment Grant applications**
- **12** pages for Coalitions Grant applications
- **12 pages for Community-wide Assessment Grant for States/Tribes applications**





Programmatic Capability

4.a. Organizational Capacity

- Explain your organization's capacity to oversee grant tasks/activities and carry out and manage the grant's programmatic, administrative, and financial requirements.
 - +Coalitions: Discuss the lead coalition member's capacity to do this on the coalition's behalf.

4.b. Organizational Structure

- Explain how your team will be structured to ensure the grant will be carried out successfully.
 - +Coalitions: Describe the proposed governance/decision-making structure among your coalition members and each member's meaningful involvement in determining how grant funds benefit their communities.

4.c. Description of Key Staff

Discuss key staff that will work together to successfully administer the grant.

4.d. Acquiring Additional Resources

Discuss your system(s) and/or procedure(s) to acquire additional expertise and resources.

If a contractor or subrecipient was selected without complying with applicable requirements in Section 2.B. *Contractors and Named Subrecipients*, the response to 4.d. will be evaluated less favorably.



4.b. Past Performance and Accomplishments

Currently have/previously received EPA Brownfields

Grant

Have <u>not received</u> an EPA

Brownfields Grant but

Have received other federal/nonfederal assistance agreements

ii.

iii.

Have never received federal or non-federal assistance agreements

4.b.i. and 4.b.ii. Reviewers evaluate

Demonstrated ability to successfully manage grant based on past experience, progress, accomplishments and successful performance of all phase of work.

Successful compliance with workplan, schedule and award conditions accomplishments

4.b.iii. Neutral Score

Clearly affirmed that the organization never received any type of federal or non-federal assistance agreement.

Applicants that fail to indicate anything in response to this sub-criterion may result in zero points.



4.e.(1). Accomplishments & 4.e.(2). Compliance with Grant Requirements

Past/present Brownfield Grant recipients:

BF Grants to Include	BF Grants/Resources to Exclude			
 Multipurpose Grants 	 Area-wide Planning Grants (for all Assessment types) 			
 Assessment Grants 	Job Training Grants			
RLF Grants	Activities conducted under a Targeted Brownfield			
Cleanup Grants	Assessment			
• 128(a)/STRP Grants	Subawards issued from a Brownfields Grant			

- Describe (for your current/most recent but no more than three recent grants):
 - Accomplishments (specific outputs and outcomes)
 - Compliance with the workplan, schedule, and terms and conditions
 - History of timely and acceptable reporting of deliverables, including ACRES!!
 - Corrective action for past grant management issues
- For <u>all open</u> EPA Brownfields Grants, describe your plans to expend remaining funds.
- For <u>all closed</u> EPA Brownfields Grants, indicate if any funds remained, how much, and briefly explain why.



4.f.(1). Purpose and Accomplishments & 4.f.(2). Compliance with Grant Requirements

Applicants who are not past/present Brownfield Grant recipients, but <a href="https://example.com/have-received-other-received

- Describe (for your current/most recent but no more than three recent/relevant/similar grants in terms of structure, community engagement and/or deliverables):
 - The awarding agency/organization, amount, and purpose of funding
 - Project accomplishments (specific outputs and outcomes) and measures of success
 - Compliance with the workplan, schedule, and terms and conditions
 - History of timely and acceptable reporting
 - Corrective action for past grant management issues





4.g. Affirmative Statement of Not Receiving Financial Assistance Agreements

Applicants who have never received federal or non-federal financial assistance agreements:

- Affirm that your organization has never received any type of federal or non-federal financial assistance agreements
 - <u>Or</u> -
- Affirm that your organization recently received a financial assistance agreement but has not had an opportunity to demonstrate compliance with requirements.

Will receive a neutral score

Be sure to respond to the correct *Past Performance* & *Accomplishments* criterion!





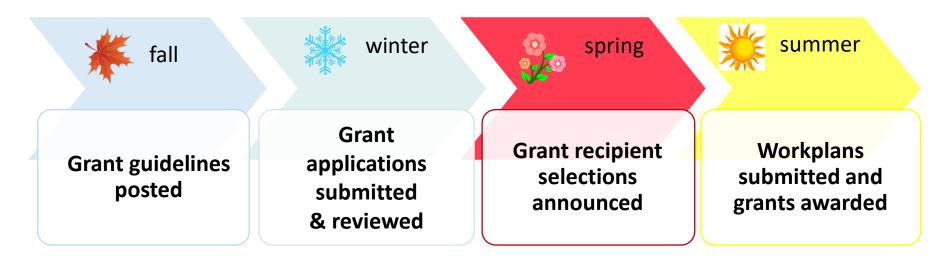


Progress Check

- ✓ Introduction, Purpose & Agenda
- ✓ Overview of Multipurpose and Assessment CAs
- ✓ Competition Timeline, Application Package and Evaluation Process
- ✓ Multipurpose and Assessment Grant Proposal Evaluation Criteria
 - 1. PROJECT AREA DESCRIPTION AND PLANS FOR REVITALIZATION
 - 2. COMMUNITY NEED AND COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT
 - 3. TASK DESCRIPTIONS, COST ESTIMATES, AND MEASURING PROGRESS
 - 3. PROGRAMMATIC CAPABILITY AND PAST PERFORMANCE

≻Wrap-up

Anticipated FY26 Competition Timeline



- January 28, 2026: Application submission deadline
- June 2026: Selections announced
- June September 2026: Workplans and grant paperwork finalized
- September October 2026: Grants awarded/funds become available



* SUBJECT TO CHANGE

The submission due date will not change, however, other dates listed above are subject to change.





Free Application Writing Resources for Brownfields Grants

- Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization Website
- Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MARC) Grant Application Resources
 - FY26 Summary of Brownfields Guidelines Changes
 - Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
 - Brownfields Program Factsheets
 - Area-Wide Planning and other eligible planning activities (for Assessment and Multipurpose Grants)
 - Health monitoring activities
 - ☐ Social distance engagement ideas
 - ☐ Renewable energy and energy-efficient approaches in brownfields redevelopment
- Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB)
 - Kansas State University (KSU)
- State/Tribal Brownfield/Response Program Contacts

Use TAB EZ: A Grant Writing Tool and Request a TAB or State Review



https://etools.ksutab.org/tools/tabez

Visit www.tabez.org and select the Tab EZ E-tool get started!

Join TAB Professionals for the FY26 MAC Application Webinar and Get Grant-Ready!

Click to register!

FY26 MAC Application Webinar

Tips from the TAB Programs

Join this free webinar and a panel of highly experienced grant writers and reviewers from the five Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities (TAB) providers.

Wed, Dec 17 2025 1:30 PM - 2:45 PM CST

Register today to save your spot.

This **free webinar** will feature a panel of highly experienced grant writers and reviewers from the five Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities (TAB) providers:

- Center for Creative Land Recycling (CCLR) Supports applicants in EPA Regions 9 & 10
- Kansas State University (KSU) TAB Supports applicants in EPA Regions 5-8
- Mid-Atlantic TAB Supports applicants in EPA Region 3
- New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) TAB Supports applicants in EPA Regions 2 & 4
- University of Connecticut (UCONN) TAB Supports applicants in EPA Region 1

Each panelist will give their perspective on how best to respond to the EPA's recent Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for EPA Brownfield Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup (MAC) grants.

Attendees will also learn about the free TAB EZ grant writing tool, that has been recreated and updated for use during this application cycle.

This is the last year increased levels of funding from the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law will be available for these Brownfields grants — don't miss out on tips, strategies, and other information that factor into a winning application!



Free Application Writing Resources: Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) Communities Providers

Assist specific regions with technical assistance and training to communities and other stakeholders on brownfield issues, such as:

- preparing grant applications;
- performing site inventories;
- reviewing historical information;
- design of investigation/sampling/field analysis; and
- cleanup and redevelopment planning.

Kansas State University (KSU)

Serves **EPA Regions** 5, 6, 7, and 8

Scott Nightingale

Scottnight@ksu.edu





Region 7 FY26 Brownfield MAC Competition Guideline Webinar Schedule

Webinar Title	Date	Start (CST)	End (CST)	Link
FY26 Multipurpose & Assessment Grant Competition Webinar	12/16/2025	2:30 PM	4:30 PM	Click here to join the meeting
FY26 Cleanup Grant Competition Webinar	12/17/2025	9:00 AM	11:00 AM	Click here to join the meeting
EPA Region 7 FY26 MAC Office Hour for Applicants Q&A and Key Reminders (Session 1)	1/7/2026	10:00 am	11:00 am	Click here to join the meeting
EPA Region 7 FY26 MAC Office Hour for Applicants Q&A and Key Reminders (Session 2)	1/12/2026	10:00 am	11:00 am	Click here to join the meeting



Thanks for Joining Us!

For training on General **Submission, Narrative** Information Sheet, and **Threshold Criteria, see recording** on MARC Grant Application Resources – "Open Solicitations" webpage

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

 A copy of today's presentation and a recording will be available on the FY 2026 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grants in Region 7 | US EPA webpage.

 Check the National Brownfields MARC **Grant Application Resources webpage for** other competition updates.





Regional Brownfields MAC **Competition Lead**

Competition Questions?

Contact:

Tarah Vaughn

vaughn.tarah@epa.gov

Phone: 913-551-7059

- ➤ Please cc: R7_Brownfields@epa.gov when submitting questions via email regarding the competition.
- > Remember: Threshold Questions may be submitted at any time!



