

Brownfields Program



EPA's Brownfield Definition

A brownfield is a property --the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of -- which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. Brownfields can be former residential, commercial and/or industrial properties.

It is estimated that there are more than 450,000 brownfields in the United States.















Brownfields and CERCLA

Potentially Responsible Parties, or PRP, are responsible for the costs associated with the remediation of contaminated sites.

- Current owners and operators.
- Owners and operators of the facility at the time hazardous substances were released.
- Hazardous waste generators.
- Transporters and those who dispose of hazardous substances.

A person who acquires ownership of a facility after January 11, 2002, and is not legally responsible for remediation costs.

- Disposal of hazardous substances occurred prior to the acquisition of the property.
- Appropriate investigation as to previous owners and uses (Phase I) was conducted prior to purchasing the property.
- Caution was exercised to prevent and limit human or environmental exposure

Public properties acquired before January 11, 2002, may apply for assessment and remediation grants if the entity is not responsible for the contamination.

Brownfields and **CERCLA**

<u>Involuntary Acquisitions</u>: Municipalities or government units that did not cause or contribute to a spill or threatened spill of a hazardous substance on the property are not liable as owners or operators if they acquired the property involuntarily. Involuntary acquisition methods include:

- Bankruptcy or tax debt
- Abandonment
- seizure or confiscation
- Properties donated to municipalities or other organizations are NOT considered involuntary acquisition.

When should an appropriate environmental site assessment be carried out?

The environmental evaluation of the place or property must be carried out within a maximum of 180 days from the effective date of the acquisition of the property.

Types of EPA Brownfields Grants

Brownfields grants continue to serve as the foundation of EPA's Brownfields Program. These grants support revitalization efforts by funding environmental assessment, cleanup, and job training activities.

- Brownfields Assessment Grants provide funding for Brownfields inventories, planning, environmental assessments, and community outreach.
- Brownfields Cleanup Grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant.
- Brownfields Multipurpose Grants provide funding to conduct a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites in a target area.
- Brownfields Revolving Loan Fund Grants provide funding to capitalize loans that are used to clean up brownfields.
- Brownfields Job Training Grants provide environmental training for residents of Brownfields communities.

Brownfield Assessment Grants

	ASSESSMENT
Applicant Eligibility	Government, Quasi Government, Regional Council, States, Tribes, and Non-profit
Amount of Funding Available	Community-wide Up to \$500,000 for a combination of hazardous substances AND petroleum (not to exceed \$200,000 for any one site) Site-specific Up to \$200,000 or up to \$350,000 with a waiver Community-Wide Assessment for States and Tribes-Up to \$2,000,000
Cost share Requirement	N/A
Period of Performance	4 years, 5 Years for State and Tribes
Common Eligible Grant Activities	inventory, characterize, assess, reuse planning, cleanup planning, and conduct community involvement

Brownfield Cleanup Grants

	CLEANUP
Applicant Eligibility	Government, Quasi Government, Regional Council, Tribe, Non-profit
Amount of Funding Available	One Site or Multiple sites • Up to \$500,000
Cost share Requirement	20% cost share, no cost share under BILL
Period of Performance	4 years
Common Eligible Grant Activities	cleanup activities, reuse planning, and community involvement

Brownfield Multipurpose Grants

	MULTIPURPOSE
Applicant Eligibility	Government, Quasi Government, Regional Council, Tribe, Non-profit
Amount of Funding Available	 An applicant can apply for up to \$800,000 per site Demonstrate how Funds will result in at least: one Phase II environmental site assessment; one brownfield site cleanup; and an overall plan for revitalization of one or more brownfield sites, if there is not already a plan in place.
Cost share Requirement	\$40,000 cost share, no cost share under BILL
Period of Performance	5 years
Common Eligible Grant Activities	inventory, characterize, assess, reuse planning, cleanup planning, and conduct community involvement cleanup activities, reuse planning, and community involvement

Brownfield Revolving Loan Fund Grants

	REVOLVING LOAN FUND
Applicant Eligibility	Government, Quasi Government, Regional Council, Tribe, Non-profit
Amount of Funding Available	One Applicant • Up to \$1,000,000 RLF Coalition • Up to \$1,000,000
Cost share Requirement	20% cost share, no cost share under BILL
Period of Performance	5 years
Common Eligible Grant Activities	capitalize a RLF program; provide loans and sub-grants to carry out cleanup activities

Brownfield Job Training Grants

	JOB TRAINING
Applicant Eligibility	Government, Quasi Government, Regional Council, Tribe, Non-profit, Universities
Amount of Funding Available	Community-wide BIL Funding • Up to \$200,000 Up to \$500,000
Cost share Requirement	N/A
Period of Performance	3 years BIL 5 years
Common Eligible Grant Activities	 Eligible activities include training, recruitment, and screening of residents impacted by brownfields. Training may include: Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response Superfund and brownfields site-specific assessment and cleanup Environmental health and chemical safety Mold remediation, Lead and asbestos abatement OSHA disaster site worker and emergency response Leaking underground storage tank removal

Targeted Brownfields Assessments Program

EPA's Targeted Brownfields Assessment (TBA) program helps states, tribes, and municipalities minimize the uncertainties of contamination often associated with Brownfields. This program supplements other efforts under the Brownfields program to promote the cleanup and redevelopment of brownfields.

TBAs are conducted by an EPA contractor on behalf of an eligible entity. Services include site assessments, cleanup options and cost estimates, and community outreach. Services are for an average of \$100,000. The sites for this program are selected on a rolling basis.

Technical Assistance to Brownfields Communities (TAB)

The TAB Program provides technical assistance to communities and stakeholders to help address their brownfield sites, and to increase their understanding and involvement in brownfields cleanup, revitalization and reuse. The TAB Program is funded by EPA and available to all stakeholders.

TAB grant recipients (also known as TAB providers) serve as an independent resource and can provide expert technical assistance and guidance to help communities, among other things, understand:

- acquiring, assessing, cleaning up and redeveloping brownfield properties;
- the health impacts of brownfield sites;
- how science and technology are used for site assessment, remediation, redevelopment and reuse;
 and
- how to comply with voluntary cleanup requirements.

New Jersey Institute of Technology (NJIT) is Region 2's current TAB provider.



EPA Brownfields Program & The Bipartisan Infrastructure Law

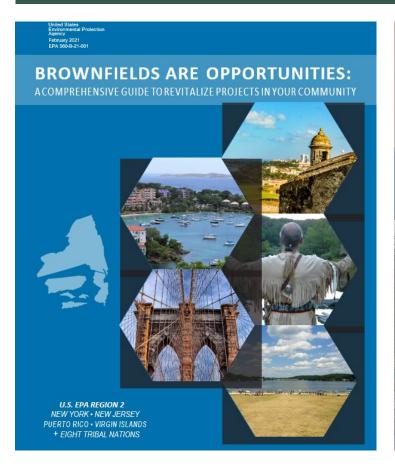
Historic \$1.5 B Investment in EPA's Brownfields Program

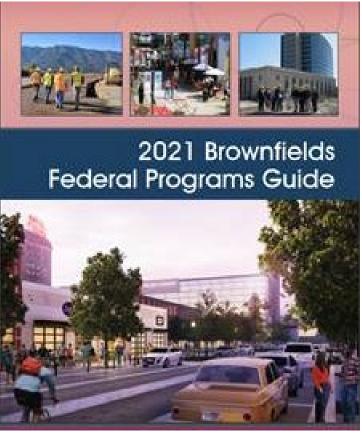
- President Biden signed into law on November 15, 2021
- > \$1.5 Billion over 5 years to EPA's Brownfields Program
 - \$1.2 B for projects authorized by CERCLA Section 104(k)
 - \$300 M to carry out CERCLA Section 128(a)

EPA is using these funds to provide a variety of resources to help communities address the environmental, economic, and social challenges caused by brownfields.



Useful Links and Publications





TABEZ: A Grant Writing Tool:

- Free tool to assist communities in preparing assessment, RLF, and cleanup grant applications.
- Helpful hints and support for every criteria

www.tabez.org

Upcoming Solicitations

FY 2024 Brownfields Job Training (JT)
Grants
EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-23-08 - Closes August
2nd, 2023.

Brownfields FY24 New Guidelines are expected to be published during the fall



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THANK YOU!!



Region 2 Brownfields Team!!!