



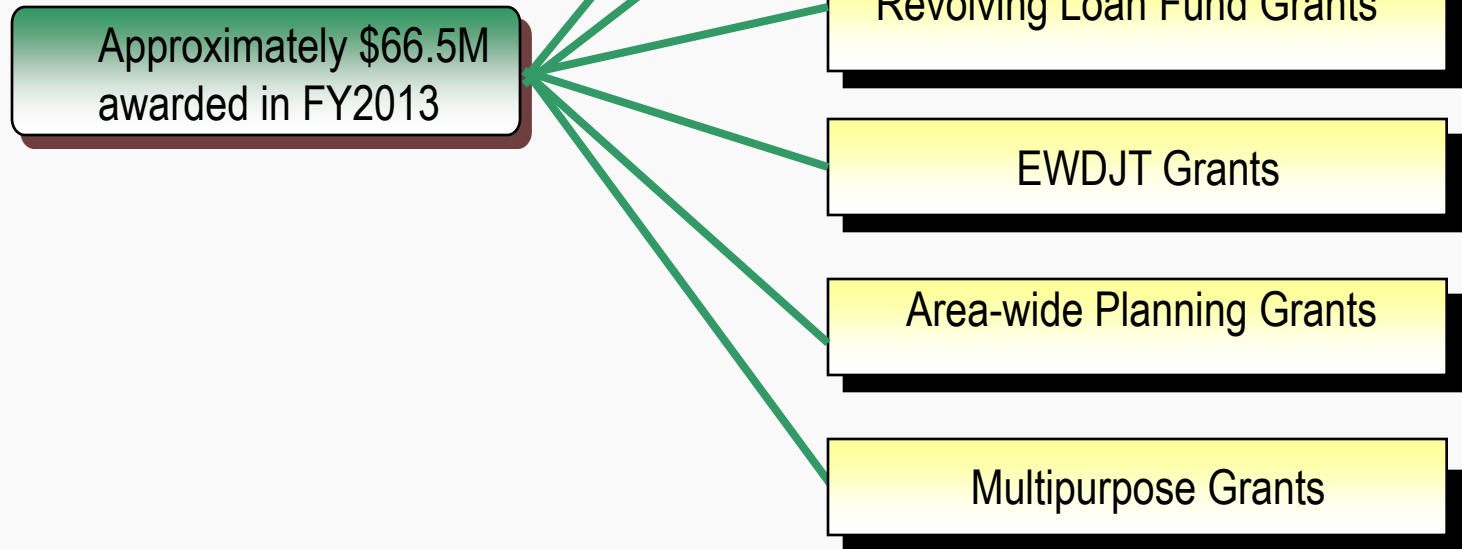
# U.S. EPA Region 8 Brownfields Grants



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# Competitive Brownfield Grants





# Assessment Grant Overview

**Uses:** Develop inventories of brownfield sites, site prioritizations, community involvement activities, Phase I (All Appropriate Inquiries) and Phase II environmental assessments, cleanup planning

**Who Can Apply:** Local or state governmental agency, Tribe, redevelopment agencies (chartered or sanctioned by State), **non-profits are not eligible**

**Ways to Apply:** Site-specific, Area-wide, Assessment Coalition

**Funding Amounts:** \$200k hazardous substances and \$200k petroleum, up to \$600k for a Coalition, up to \$350k for a site-specific proposal with a waiver

**Timing:** RFP typically issued mid-August, proposals due mid-November



# Assessment Grants Proposal Checklist

Transmittal Letter (2 page limit last funding cycle)

Narrative Proposal (ranking criteria responses, 15 page limit last funding cycle)

Documentation of applicant eligibility if other than a city, county, state, or tribe

*Current* letter from the state or tribal environmental authority

Documentation in support letters indicating committed leveraged resources, if applicable

Letters of support from all community based organizations identified in the community engagement and partnerships ranking criteria (not form letters)

## **Site-Specific Proposals**

- 1) Justification for requested waiver of the \$200k limit for a site-specific assessment, if applicable**
- 2) Property-specific determination for eligibility, if applicable**
- 3) Property ownership eligibility**
- 4) Petroleum eligibility determination information, if applicable**

## **Assessment Coalitions**

- 1) Letters of commitment for assessment coalition members, if applicable**
- 2) Documentation of applicant eligibility for all coalition members**

Special Considerations Checklist



# Cleanup Grant Overview

**Uses:** Carry out cleanup activities at specific brownfield sites owned by the applicant

**Who Can Apply:** Local or state governmental agency, tribe, redevelopment agencies (chartered or sanctioned by State), non-profits, property owner

**Funding Amount:** \$200k with 20% match/cost-share

**Timing:** RFP typically issued mid-August, proposals due mid-November



# Cleanup Grant Proposal Checklist

Transmittal Letter (2 page limit last funding cycle)

Narrative Proposal (ranking criteria responses, 15 page limit last funding cycle)

Documentation of applicant eligibility if other than a city, county, state, or tribe

*Current* letter from the state or tribal environmental authority

Documentation in support letters indicating committed leveraged resources, if applicable

Letters of support from all community based organizations identified in the community engagement and partnerships ranking criteria (not form letters)

**Draft Analysis of Brownfield Cleanup Alternatives (ABCA)**

**Documentation of community notification, including copies of ads, comments received, responses to comments, meeting notes and meeting sign-in sheets**

**Justification for cleanup cost-share waiver, if applicable**

**Property-specific determination information, if applicable**

Special Considerations Checklist



# Revolving Loan Fund Grant Overview

**Uses:** Capitalize a RLF from which to provide loans and subgrants to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites

**Who Can Apply:** Local or state governmental agency, redevelopment agencies (chartered or sanctioned by State), etc.

**Funding Amount:** Up to \$1M, 20% match/cost share

**Timing:** RFP typically issued mid-August, proposals due mid-November



# RLF Grant Proposal Checklist

Transmittal Letter (2 page limit last funding cycle)

Narrative Proposal (ranking criteria responses, 15 page limit last funding cycle)

Documentation of applicant eligibility if other than a city, county, state, or tribe

*Current* letter from the state or tribal environmental authority

Documentation in support letters indicating committed leveraged resources, if applicable

Letters of support from all community based organizations identified in the community engagement and partnerships ranking criteria (not form letters)

Letters of commitment from coalition members, if applicable

**Legal opinion establishing that the applicant has authority to (1) access and secure sites in the event of an emergency or default of a loan agreement or non-performance under a subgrant; and (2) to make loans and accept payments of fees, interest, and principal**

**Justification for RLF cost-share waiver, if applicable**

Special Considerations Checklist





# Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grants

**Uses:** Recruit, train and place under or unemployed individuals in the environmental workforce

**Who Can Apply:** Local or state governmental agency, redevelopment agencies (chartered or sanctioned by State), non-profits, community colleges, etc.

**Funding Amount:** Likely \$200k

**Timing:** RFP expected to be issued in December, proposals will be due in February or March



# Area-wide Planning Grants

**Uses:** advancing an ongoing local planning process, developing a brownfields area-wide plan, and identifying next steps and resources needed to implement the plan

**Who Can Apply:** Local or state governmental agency, redevelopment agencies (chartered or sanctioned by State), non-profits, etc.

**Funding Amount:** Likely \$200k

**Timing:** RFP expected to be issued in late August to early September, proposals will likely be due in November



# Multi-purpose Grants

**Uses:** Assessment and Cleanup of brownfield site

**Who Can Apply:** Local or state governmental agency, Tribe, redevelopment agencies (chartered or sanctioned by State), *non-profits are not eligible, must have received an EPA grant in the past*

**Funding Amount:** Up to \$550 (\$350 assessment and \$200 cleanup)

**Timing:** Last RFP was in 2012



# Special Considerations Checklist

- Community population is 10,000 or less
- Federally recognized Indian tribe
- Applicant will be assisting a tribe or territory
- Targeted brownfield sites are impacted by mine-scarred land
- Targeted brownfield sites are contaminated with controlled substances
- Community is impacted by recent natural disaster(s) (2005 or later).
- Project is primarily focusing on Phase II assessments (for assessment proposals )



# Special Considerations Checklist (cont)

- Firm leveraging commitments
- Community experiencing plant closures (or other significant economic disruptions) (2007 or later)
- Applicant is a recipient or a core partner of a HUD-DOT-EPA Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) grant
- Applicant is a recipient of an EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning grant
- Community is implementing green remediation plans.



# General Lessons Learned

- The narrative should tell a story that ties all the sections together
- Write as though the reader knows nothing about your community
- Answer each and every criterion
- Highlight redevelopment opportunities that will be realized
- Tie into previous and ongoing master planning efforts and economic development initiatives
- Include details of any applicable “Special Considerations” in the narrative



## General Lessons Learned (cont)

- Adhere to the same outline format as presented in the guidelines
- Adhere to page limitations
- Make sure to carefully read the current fiscal year guidelines
- Avoid using acronyms
- Avoid maps and other graphics
- Use the Proposal Checklist



# Community Need

- Identify contaminants associated with brownfield sites and make the connection to their impact on the community
- Provide specific examples of brownfield sites that will likely be addressed
- Identify sensitive populations
- Utilize the table format provided
- Explain why other funding sources are not available





## **Project Description and Feasibility of Success**

- Demonstrate that the majority of grant funds will be allocated to tasks directly associated with assessment or cleanup
- Provide a cost estimate for each grant-funded task
- Use the budget table provided
- Do not include administrative costs in your budget
- State that you will utilize the ACRES database for tracking accomplishments
- Quantify in-kind support
- Demonstrate concrete leveraging resources



# Community Engagement and Partnerships

- Support letters should provide specific commitments and involvement
- Host a community meeting prior to submitting application
- If your community does not have many community based organizations, state why
- Demonstrate a plan for developing partnerships or describe existing partnerships
- Demonstrate your plan to connect with appropriate health agencies



## Project Benefits

- Tie back to the community needs section
- Demonstrate how the outcomes of the project will contribute to the overall community vision for the revitalization of brownfield sites
- Describe planning efforts to integrate equitable development or livability principles for cleanup and revitalization of brownfields
- Make an effort to promote local hiring; if there is a job training program in your community, include the program in your outreach



## Programmatic Capability and Past Performance

- Include a discussion of the key staff that will be involved in the project
- Demonstrate an understanding of the required competitive process for acquiring any additional expertise – 40 CFR Parts 30 or 31, as appropriate
- If you have had no adverse audit findings, be sure to state this
- Provide specific details about past projects



# Frequently Asked Questions

<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/applicat.htm>

- Definitions
- Applicant Eligibility
- Administrative Cost Prohibition
- Use of Grant Funds
- Property-specific funding determinations
- Site eligibility
- General guidelines questions
- Sections specific to Assessment, Cleanup, and RLF
- All Appropriate Inquiries
- Petroleum sites
- Public health and brownfield sites
- Project benefits



# QUESTIONS?