

Brownfields Program (Assessment, Cleanup and Multipurpose Grants) Fact Sheet and Guide

Fact Sheet

Agency: Environmental Protection Agency

Category: Environment/Community Development

Eligible Applicants: According to FY26 ([Community-wide Assessment](#), [Assessment Coalition](#), [Cleanup](#), [Multipurpose](#))¹ guidelines, eligible applicants may include local, state, and regional government entities, qualifying community development entities, federally recognized Indian tribes, and 501(c)(3) non-profit organizations.

Overview: The Brownfields grant program has supported environmental remediation since 1993. The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2022 added \$1.5 billion over a five-year period to EPA's annual brownfields appropriation, which helps communities assess, clean up, and reuse contaminated properties. The Brownfields Reauthorization Act of 2025 authorized an additional \$375 million over a six-year period, ending in 2030.

Cleanup Grants support remediation of contaminated sites owned by the applicant.

Multipurpose Grants serve communities working to address multiple brownfield sites within a defined area. **Community-wide Assessment Grants** provide funding for planning, site inventories, environmental reviews, site assessments, and development of cleanup and reuse plans. **Assessment Coalition Grants** allow one eligible "lead" entity to partner with two to four eligible partners to jointly assess brownfield sites, coordinate site inventories, assessments, and redevelopment planning.

FY27 Grant Funding: TBD. For reference, [\\$35 million](#) in Community-wide Assessment grant funding, [\\$58.7 million](#) in Assessment Coalition grant funding, [\\$107 million](#) in Cleanup grant funding, and [\\$20 million](#) in Multipurpose grant funding were offered in FY26.

Number of Awards: For reference, approximately 70 awards in Community-wide Assessment grant funding, 39 in Assessment Coalition grant funding, 36 in Cleanup grant funding, and 20 in Multipurpose grant funding were expected in FY26.

Match Requirements: TBD. Per the Bipartisan Infrastructure Law, Brownfields grants have not required a matching contribution.

Key Dates: The FY27 NOFO has yet to be released. For reference, the FY26 NOFOs opened on November 20, 2025 and closed on January 28, 2026.

¹ The EPA also offered [Community-wide Assessment Grants for States and Tribes](#) in FY26. Please see their guidelines for further eligibility information regarding local government coalitions, tribal governments, regional councils, and other qualified entities.

Key Funding Criteria: Based on the FY26 NOFOs, key funding criteria may vary for each grant type. For specifics on each grant, please refer to their respective previous NOFOs. In general:

- **Community-wide Assessment Grants:** Applicants must provide information that demonstrates how they intend to inform and involve the community in brownfield assessment activities.
- **Assessment Coalition Grants:** Applicants must have at latest two, but not more than four, non-lead coalition members. Coalition must have at least one non-lead member that has never been awarded an EPA Brownfields Grant. Applicants must also provide information demonstrating how they intend to inform and involve the community in assessment activities.
- **Cleanup Grants:** Applicants must be the sole owner of the site by the application deadline. Applicants must complete an environmental site assessment report prior to application submission.
- **Multipurpose Grants:** Applicants must be the sole owner of at least one site(s) in the target area by the application deadline.

Eligible Activities (based on FY26 NOFOs):

- **Assessment Grants (Community-wide and Coalition):** Developing inventories of brownfield sites, prioritizing sites, conducting community involvement activities, conducting planning, conducting site assessments, developing site-specific cleanup plans, and developing reuse plans related to brownfield sites. A portion of the Assessment Grant funding must be used to conduct site assessments. Funding may NOT be used to conduct cleanup activities.
- **Cleanup Grants:** Carrying out and overseeing cleanup activities at sites contaminated by petroleum and/or hazardous substances, pollutants, or other contaminants. Up to 10% of grant funds may be used for health monitoring and monitoring and enforcement of institutional controls.

Multipurpose Grants: Developing inventories of brownfield sites; prioritizing sites; conducting community involvement activities, conducting environmental site assessments; developing cleanup plans and reuse plans related to brownfield sites; carrying out cleanup activities on brownfield sites owned by the applicant, and developing an overall plan for revitalization.

Comprehensive guide

The Local Infrastructure Hub has developed a [comprehensive guide](#) designed to help cities successfully navigate the EPA’s Brownfields Program. The materials provide practical steps, examples, and tools to help cities plan, apply, and manage Brownfields projects that safely clean up and revitalize contaminated sites—supporting environmental restoration, economic development, and community wellbeing.

Topics Covered

Click the section titles below to view materials covering each topic:

1. **[Grant Overview](#)**: Start with the fundamentals of the Brownfields Program, including its purpose, eligible applicants, and key definitions related to site contamination and redevelopment.
2. **[Managing Partnerships and Engaging the Community](#)**: Discover how to build strong partnerships and explore effective ways to engage residents and stakeholders, ensuring community priorities shape project goals and outcomes.
3. **[Incorporating Data](#)**: Learn how to use environmental data, maps, and impact metrics to create persuasive, evidence-based grant narratives.
4. **[Demystifying Capital Stacks & Budgeting](#)**: Find strategies to align budgets with eligible activities, identify matching funds, and leverage complementary grant and financing opportunities.
5. **[Writing and Packaging a Strong Grant](#)**: Get tips on crafting a clear, well-structured application that highlights readiness, impact, and alignment with EPA priorities.
6. **[Access Tools & Resources](#)**: A curated list of templates, data tools, and funding resources to help cities prepare strong, compliant, and competitive Brownfields grant applications.

Explore more resources at <https://www.nlc.org/initiative/local-infrastructure-hub-initiative/>

The Local Infrastructure Hub was a US-focused, nationwide program that helped city leaders connect with resources and expert advice to access and implement federal infrastructure funding from July 2022 to March 2026. This resource was created in January 2026 and is intended to be used as a general guide to the Brownfields grant program; consult each Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for specific guidance.



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