Notice of Funding Opportunity

Applications Due: September 26, 2025



FY26 BROWNFIELDS JOB TRAINING (JT) GRANTS

Funding Opportunity Number: EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-25-01



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1. Basic Information

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR)

FY26 BROWNFIELDS JOB TRAINING (JT) GRANTS

https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/fy-2026-brownfields-job-training-grants

https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants

https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-job-training-grants-technical-assistance-resources

A. Executive Summary:

This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits applications from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to deliver Brownfields Job Training programs that recruit, train, and place local, unemployed, and under-employed residents with the skills needed to secure full-time employment in the environmental field.

Brownfields Job Training Grants fund training programs that provide program graduates with the skills and opportunity to seek and obtain environmental jobs that contractors may otherwise fill from outside the affected community². Brownfields Job Training Grants help residents take advantage of jobs across a spectrum of brownfield-related activities, including the assessment, cleanup, remediation, and planning/site preparation for the revitalization of brownfields. This can involve the assessment and cleanup of solid and hazardous waste; chemical risk management; stormwater management relating to site cleanup; planning and site preparation for low-impact development activities; site preparation for green infrastructure installation; and vulnerability assessment and contamination mitigation planning.

B. Key Information:

Opportunity Number:

EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-25-01

Assistance Listing:

66.815

Announcement Type:

Initial

Funding Available:

\$10,000,000 - \$14,000,000

Number of Awards:

Up to 20 awards

NOTE: EPA urges applicants to review the Frequently Asked Questions, which can be found at https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/frequently-asked-questions-about-brownfields-job-training-jt-grants.

¹ Underemployment is the condition in which people in a labor force are employed less than full-time or at jobs inconsistent with respect to their experience, training, or economic needs.

² Affected communities are those where development, redevelopment, or reuse of real properties is complicated by the presence or potential presence of hazardous substances or pollutants.

C. Key Dates:

July 2025 <u>National Outreach Webinar</u>

September 26, 2025, 11:59 pm ET Application Submission Deadline

December 2025 Anticipated Notification of Selection

April 2026 Award Notification

D. Funding Details:

It is anticipated that up to **20 awards** will be made under this announcement. The amount of funding is expected to be **\$10,000,000** - **\$14,000,000**, depending on Agency funding levels, the quality of applications received, agency priorities, and other applicable considerations. Awards funded under this opportunity are expected to have up to a **5-year** project period. Applicants may apply for up to \$500,000 of EPA funds. (Note, applicants may also request an amount that is less than \$500,000.)

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

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

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

E. Agency Contact Information:

Further information, if needed, may be obtained from the EPA contact(s) indicated below.

Technical Contact: Matt Wosje, 202-566-1060, Wosje.Matthew@epa.gov

Eligibility Contact: See Regional Contacts below

Electronic Submissions Contact: Grants.gov, 1-800-518-4726, support@grants.gov

Regional Contact(s): **EPA Region 1** Will Lariviere, (617) 918-1231,

Lariviere.William@epa.gov

EPA Region 2 Ricardo Berrios-Perez, (212) 637-5033,

BerriosPerez.Ricardo@epa.gov

EPA Region 3 Dawn Farver, (215) 814-5179, Farver.Dawn@epa.gov **EPA Region 4** Olga Perry, (404) 562-8534, Perry.Olga@epa.gov

EPA Region 5 Torre Ippolito, (312) 353-6556,

Ippolito.Torre@epa.gov

EPA Region 6 Emily Jimenez, (214) 665-2176,

Jimenez.Emily@epa.gov

EPA Region 7 Idallis Shaffer, <u>Shaffer.Idallis@epa.gov</u> **EPA Region 8** Andrew Riddle, (303) 312-6398,
Riddle.Andrew@epa.gov

EPA Region 9 Daniel Moher, (415) 972-3210, Moher.Daniel@epa.gov Jacqueline Aybar, (415) 972-3774, Aybar.Jacqueline@epa.gov **EPA Region 10** Robert Miller, (206) 553-8321,

Miller.Robert01@epa.gov

Aytaj Gasimova, (206) 533-6326, Gasimova. Aytaj@epa.gov

2. Eligibility

A. Eligible Applicants

Only these types of organizations may apply. Organization types are consistent with definitions at Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation and Liability Act (CERCLA) § 101 and 2 CFR 200.1:

- <u>General Purpose Unit of Local Government</u> (EPA uses the definition of *Local government* in 2 CFR § 200.1.)
- Land Clearance Authority or other quasi-governmental entity that operates under the supervision and control of, or as an agent of, a general purpose unit of local government.
- Government entity created by State Legislature.
- Regional Council or group of General Purpose Units of Local Government.
- Redevelopment Agency that is chartered or otherwise sanctioned by a State.
- State.³

• Federally recognized Indian Tribe other than in Alaska. (The exclusion of Tribes in Alaska, with the exception of the Metlakatla Indian Community as noted below, from grant eligibility is statutory at CERCLA §104(k)(1)(G)). Intertribal Consortia are eligible for funding in accordance with EPA's policy for funding intertribal consortia published in the Federal Register on November 4, 2002, at 67 Fed. Reg. 67181. (This policy also may be obtained from your EPA Regional Job Training Coordinator listed.)

- Alaskan Native Regional Corporation, Alaska Native Village Corporation, and the Metlakatla Indian Community. (Alaskan Native Regional Corporation and Alaska Native Village Corporation as those terms are defined in the Alaska Native Claims Settlement Act (43 U.S.C. 1601 and following).)
- Nonprofit organizations. EPA uses the definition of Nonprofit organization in 2 CFR § 200.1, which means any organization that is operated mainly for scientific, educational, service, charitable, or similar purposes in the public interest; is not organized primarily for profit; uses net proceeds to maintain, improve, or expand the operation of the organization; and is not an Institution of Higher Education (IHE). Eligible nonprofit organizations under this announcement

³ As defined in CERCLA § 101(27), the definition of *State* for purposes of the Brownfields Program "include[s] the several States of the United States, the District of Columbia, the Commonwealth of Puerto Rico, Guam, American Samoa, the United States Virgin Islands, the Commonwealth of the Northern Marianas, and any other territory or possession over which the United States has jurisdiction."

may, but are not required to be, exempt from taxation under section 501 of the Internal Revenue Code. Workforce Investment Boards and organized Labor Unions that meet these criteria may be eligible nonprofit organizations. Public and nonprofit private institutions of higher education (including community colleges and similar 2-year institutions) are eligible to apply. However, nonprofit organizations described in Section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code that engage in lobbying activities as defined in Section 3 of the Lobbying Disclosure Act of 1995 are <u>not</u> eligible to apply.

For-profit or proprietary training organizations or trade schools are **not** eligible to apply.

1. Other Eligibility Requirements

Applications must meet the following threshold criteria to be considered eligible:

a. Applicant Eligibility

Applicants and non-lead coalition members (if applicable) must be eligible entities as discussed in Section 2.A.

- (i) Provide information that demonstrates how you (your organization) and each non-lead coalition member, if applicable, are an eligible entity for this grant.
 - For entities that are cities, counties, Tribes, or states, affirm that the organization is eligible for funding.
 - For government entities other than cities, counties, Tribes, or states, attach documentation of your eligibility (e.g., resolutions, statutes, etc.).
 - For nonprofit organizations, or organizations comprised of nonprofit organizations, provide documentation as an attachment to the Narrative demonstrating tax-exempt status under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code, another provision of the Internal Revenue Code, or recognition as a nonprofit organization under applicable state or tribal law.
 - For qualified community development entities, provide documentation as an attachment to the Narrative certifying the organization's status.
 - Intertribal consortia must attach documentation that they meet the requirements in 40 CFR § 35.504(a) and (c). All members of the Intertribal consortium must authorize the submission of an application to provide nationwide technical assistance.
- (ii) Indicate if your organization (and non-lead coalition members, if applicable) is exempt from Federal taxation under section 501(c)(4) of the Internal Revenue Code.
 - If yes, indicate if your organization lobbies within the meaning of the Lobbying Disclosure Act 2 U.S.C. 1601 et. seq.
 - If yes, but your organization does not lobby, attach a legal opinion that states that the organization does not engage in lobbying activities within the meaning of the Lobbying Disclosure Act 2 U.S.C. 1601 et. seq.

Coalition Agreement (Only applicable to Job Training Coalition applications)

Each non-lead coalition member must submit a signed letter to the grant applicant (the lead coalition member) in which they agree to be part of the coalition. An active Memorandum of Agreement that includes a description and role of each coalition member may serve in place of

the individual coalition members' letters. Include the document(s), as an attachment, in your application. Documentation that is not included with the application will render that non-lead member ineligible from participating in the coalition, and potentially render the entire application ineligible if there is only one non-lead member.

Alternatively, if this application does not include non-lead coalition members, state 'n/a' or 'not applicable'.

c. Demonstration that Proposed Project Does Not Duplicate Other Federally Funded Environmental Job Training Programs

Demonstrate that the proposed training project does not duplicate other federally funded programs for environmental job training in your target community, including training provided through EPA's Superfund Job Training Initiative (SuperJTI). Applicants must demonstrate that the proposed training project does not duplicate National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences (NIEHS) Hazardous Waste Worker Training programs in their target community or Department of Labor (DOL) grant funds that include brownfields remediation, renewable energy, HVAC, or other energy-related training or wastewater treatment technology operator training. Federal agencies maintain lists of these grant programs at the following websites:

EPA: www.epa.gov/superfund/superfund-job-training-initiative,

NIEHS: www.niehs.nih.gov/careers/hazmat/about wetp/ecwtp/index.cfm

DOL: www.dol.gov/general/grants/howto

If you are listed on any of these websites as a recipient, you must demonstrate how services under this proposed project will complement, but not duplicate, the existing federal environmental job training activities (i.e., different target audience, such as a different age group, differing types of certification training).

If you are not listed on the above websites but are the recipient of other federally funded environmental job training programs serving your area or community(ies), you must similarly demonstrate how services under this proposed project will complement, but not duplicate, the existing federal environmental job training activities. These other programs may include funding provided by Housing and Urban Development (HUD), Department of Energy (DOE), Health and Human Services (HHS), and other federal agencies. EPA may also conduct internal screening to ensure non-duplication and will coordinate duplication screening with federal partners.

If your proposed target community is not a recipient of any federally funded environmental job training programs, a statement to this effect must be included in your response to this threshold criterion.

d. Required HAZWOPER Training

Your application must document that OSHA 29 CFR § 1910.120 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) training will be included in your training curriculum and be provided to all trainees in the proposed program. <u>Applications that do not include 40-hour HAZWOPER in their training curriculum will be rejected</u>. Indicate on which page of the Narrative this information can be found.

e. Federal Funds Requested and Estimated Project Period

Please indicate your requested funding amount and estimated project period. Note, however, that applications with project periods exceeding five (5) years or requesting more than \$500,000 in EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant funds for the entire project period will not be reviewed.

f. Substantial Conformity with Instructions and Format Requirements

Applications must substantially conform to the application submission instructions and format requirements set forth in <u>Section 4</u>. of this announcement or they will be rejected. EPA will not review pages in excess of the page limitations stated in <u>Section 4</u>.

g. Training Curriculum Chart Indicating the Cost of Each Course

As part of the application, applicants must submit a detailed training curriculum chart/table with associated costs for each training course as referenced in Section 3.A.1. Applicants must calculate and indicate what percentage of the grant budget will be allocated for each training course within this chart. The training curriculum chart with associated costs for each training course is not considered an attachment and must be included with responses to the ranking criteria as part of the Narrative. When addressing this threshold criterion, indicate on which page of the Narrative your training curriculum chart can be found. Note that applicants may use training curriculum chart formats other than the one EPA provides as a sample to meet this requirement and applicants who use a different training curriculum chart format will not be penalized in the evaluation process.

h. Target Area

Identify one target area you propose to serve (as defined in Section 3.A.1.), such as county(ies), Tribal lands, a number of neighboring towns or cities, a district, a corridor, a shared planning area, or a census tract. Applicants cannot propose to serve multiple target areas. However, EPA will consider applications that propose to serve large areas, especially in rural communities, that may include a number of towns in a county(ies), and/or Tribal lands as well as applications seeking to serve sister-cities (i.e., a partnership between U.S. cities located in different states). An example of an application that proposes to serve multiple target areas in a rural location, which is not allowed, would be if the applicant listed an area in the northeast part of a state and an area in the southwest part of the state.

i. Previous Funding Requirement

Please note that applicants who were awarded an EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant (EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-24-02) in Fiscal Year 2025 (FY25) are not eligible to apply under this competition under any circumstance, even if the applicant proposes to serve a different city or target area. Applicants who received a Brownfields Job Training Grant in, or before, FY24, and who did not receive funding in FY25 as described previously, are eligible to apply for funding under this competition.

Non-lead coalition members may not be members of other FY26 Job Training Coalition Grant applications, nor may non-lead coalition members submit a Brownfields Job Training Grant

application as an individual applicant. A non-lead member of a coalition may not have an open⁴ Brownfields Job Training cooperative agreement with EPA.

List the most recent year you received a Brownfields Job Training Grant from EPA or state that you have not received a grant in the past. If applying as a coalition, state the most recent year you or a non-lead member of the coalition has received a Brownfields Job Training Grant from EPA or state that you and all of your non-lead members of the coalition have never received a grant in the past.

j. Expenditure of Existing Brownfields Job Training Grant Funds

Current EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant recipients must demonstrate that the recipient has received payment from EPA (also known as "drawn down"), and drawn down funds have been disbursed, for at least 50.00% of the funding for each Brownfields Job Training cooperative agreement by August 01, 2025, in order to apply for funding under this solicitation.

To demonstrate this, applicants must attach a copy of a financial record displaying the amount of cooperative agreement funds drawn down (e.g., a report from the Automated Standard Application for Payments (ASAP) or general ledger entries). If necessary, applicants may contact the assigned EPA Project Officer for the cooperative agreement or Brownfields@epa.gov to obtain draw down information from EPA's grant financial database (Compass Data Warehouse). Disbursements of drawn down funds must comply with the requirements in EPA's General Terms and Conditions for timely disbursement of EPA funds (i.e., recipients other than states must substantially disburse all of the funds within five (5) business days of draw down).

Alternatively, the applicant must affirm it does not have an open EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant.

Please see Section 6. for additional threshold criteria.

B. Cost Sharing

Cost sharing is not a requirement to be eligible to apply to this funding opportunity. Please note only Federal funds should be listed on the SF-424, SF-424A, and Budget Detail. As provided in 2 CFR § 200.1, cost sharing or matching means the portion of project costs not paid by Federal funds or contributions. Consistent with CERCLA § 104(k)(7), cost sharing and matching funds are not required under this competition. As provided in 2 CFR § 200.1, voluntary committed cost sharing is when an applicant voluntarily proposes to legally commit to provide costs or contributions to support the project when a cost share is not required. Voluntary cost share will not be accepted under this competition.

There is no cost share requirement under this program as authorized under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act -- Pub. L. 117-58, 135 Stat. 1396-1406.

⁴ For the purposes of this requirement, the term "open" refers to a grant period of performance that has not ended.

3. Program Description

A. Purpose, Priorities, and Activities

1. Purpose

As stated in the Assistance Listing for this program, "The objective of the Brownfields Job Training Program is to recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed residents of solid and hazardous waste-impacted communities. This funding is intended to equip individuals with the skills needed to obtain full-time, sustainable employment. This program promotes the facilitation of activities related to assessment, cleanup, or preparation of contaminated sites, including brownfields, for reuse, while simultaneously building a local workforce with the skills needed to perform remediation work that is supportive of environmental protection and environmental health and safety." A critical part of EPA's Brownfields Job Training program is to further sustainable community revitalization by ensuring that all residents living in communities historically affected by economic disinvestment, health disparities, and disproportionate and adverse exposures to environmental contamination, which may include low-income, sensitive populations⁵, Tribal, and Indigenous communities, have an opportunity to reap the benefits of revitalization and environmental cleanup. Brownfields Job Training Grants provide funding to attract, train, and retain a skilled local workforce by prioritizing unemployed and under-employed residents of communities impacted by a variety of waste facilities, blighted properties, and contaminated sites.

Brownfields Job Training Grants fund training programs that provide program graduates with the opportunity to seek and obtain environmental jobs that contractors may otherwise fill from outside the affected community. Brownfields Job Training Grants help residents take advantage of jobs across a spectrum of brownfield-related activities, including the assessment, cleanup, remediation, and planning/site preparation for the revitalization of brownfields. This can involve the assessment and cleanup of solid and hazardous waste; chemical risk management; stormwater management relating to site cleanup; planning and site preparation for low-impact development activities; site preparation for green infrastructure installation; and vulnerability assessment and contamination mitigation planning.

Applications for grants under this funding announcement will be reviewed more favorably under Section 6.B.1.A. Community Description evaluation criterion if the applicant targets high-need individuals in the target area who will benefit from the program. Examples of high-need individuals are: unemployed or severely under-employed individuals, dislocated workers, formerly incarcerated persons, veterans, individuals with little to no advanced education past high school level, opportunity youth⁶, single custodial parents, Tribal Nations, and residents of communities disproportionately impacted by environmental or human health harms or risks (including disproportionately impacted low-income, sensitive populations, Tribal, and Indigenous communities). Applicants proposing to serve populations facing significant barriers to employment should articulate how they will work with training participants to address those barriers and support their success in both the training program and in achieving and retaining steady employment beyond completion of the training program through strategies such as supportive services to

⁵ Sensitive populations are discussed in CERCLA § 104(k)(6)(C)(x).

⁶ Opportunity Youth is defined as young people who are between the ages of 16 to 24 years old and are disconnected from school and work.

address barriers to employment and mentorship, and other proven strategies. Applicants must identify the target area that they intend to serve. A target area can be any area (e.g., county(ies), lands of Federally Recognized Tribes, a number of neighboring towns or cities, a district, a corridor, a shared planning area, or a census tract, etc.) that is impacted by the presence of one or more brownfield sites. EPA will consider applications that propose to serve large geographical areas, especially rural communities that include a number of towns and/or Tribal lands, as well as applicants able to serve sister-cities (i.e., a partnership between U.S. cities located in different states).

Applicants will be evaluated, as described in <u>Section 6.B.5.</u>, on the extent to which they partner with and secure hiring commitments from local contractors and other stakeholders in communities where EPA-funded projects are located. Such projects may include brownfields assessment, cleanup and redevelopment activities, solid and hazardous waste management, or the remediation of oil spills located on brownfield or Superfund cleanup sites. Applicants should have clear strategies to connect graduates of Brownfields Job Training programs with environmental employment that involves preventing, assessing, managing, and cleaning up contaminated sites or working in environmental areas in the graduates' respective communities. Proposed training should be employer-informed, demand-driven, and directly linked to ongoing environmental employment opportunities taking place in the respective community.

To date, EPA has funded 431 job training grants totaling approximately \$107.8 million through the Brownfields Job Training Program, previously known as the Environmental Workforce Development Training Program. As of April 22, 2025, excluding pilot program years, approximately 21,700 individuals completed training, and over 16,100 of those graduates obtained employment in the environmental field. This results in a placement rate of 74%, with starting wages of approximately \$16.5 per hour. Over the last five (5) years, the average starting wage was approximately \$22 per hour.

Brownfields Job Training Coalition

Applicants may propose forming a coalition to carry out their Brownfields Job Training Program. Applying as a Brownfields Job Training Coalition may be beneficial to allow the Brownfields Job Training Provider to recruit, train, and place students in environmental jobs, especially in rural communities where the geographic area is larger. City and county governments may also benefit from forming a coalition, as this approach can expand the jurisdiction of the target area. By doing so, they can create a more integrated strategy for job training and placement, ultimately enhancing the effectiveness of their initiatives.

A Job Training Coalition is comprised of one eligible "lead" entity that partners with one or more eligible non-lead entities. The lead entity submits an application on behalf of the coalition members, who may receive subawards. The Job Training Coalition may request up to \$500,000 to recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed residents of solid and hazardous waste-impacted communities. This funding is intended to equip individuals with the skills needed to obtain full-time, sustainable employment. The non-lead coalition members may not be an agency or instrumentality of, or be affiliated with, the lead member (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.

A non-lead member of a coalition may not have an open Brownfields Job Training cooperative agreement with EPA. Coalition members may not be members of other FY26 Job Training Coalition Grant applications, nor may coalition members submit a Brownfields Job Training Grant application as an individual applicant. A coalition member wishing to apply as part of a different Brownfields Job Training Coalition or as an individual applicant must withdraw from the coalition. Also, the coalition members must be separate legal entities. For example, the following groups/organizations may not be members of the same coalition:

- 1. Different departments within the same unit of government;
- 2. A unit of government and an affiliated nonprofit organization exempt from taxation under section 501(c)(3) of the Internal Revenue Code that the city controls; or
- 3. Affiliated 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations (e.g., nonprofit organizations that have the same board of directors or staff). This does not preclude separately incorporated chapters of a national nonprofit organization from being non-lead members of coalitions in different geographic areas. For example, an organization is a national nonprofit with local chapters that are separately incorporated and have their own board of directors and staff. Local chapter "A" conducts programming in the state of "Y." Local chapter "B" conducts programming in the state of "Z." Both chapters may be non-lead members of different FY26 Job Training Grant applications.

If selected, the lead entity will be the point of contact for the other coalition members. The lead entity will be the grant recipient and must administer the grant and be accountable to EPA for effectively carrying out the scope of work and the proper financial management of the grant.⁷

Please note that once the lead entity submits the application, it becomes the applicant, and the coalition members may not substitute another eligible entity as the lead entity after the deadline for submitting applications has passed. Additionally, the non-lead coalition members may not be substituted after the deadline for submitting applications has passed. If the application is selected for funding, the lead member must partner with the other coalition members that were named in the application unless EPA approves a post-award change to these arrangements pursuant to 2 CFR § 200.308(f).

The terms and conditions of the cooperative agreement will require recipients to have a Memorandum of Agreement documenting the coalition's process prior to the expenditure and draw down of any funds that are awarded. The coalition members should identify and establish relationships necessary to achieve the project's goals. A process for the successful execution of the project's goals, including a description and role of each coalition member, should be established along with the Memorandum of Agreement. The purpose of the Memorandum of Agreement is for coalition members to agree internally on the distribution of funds and the mechanisms for implementing the Brownfields Job Training Program.

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⁷ If the application is successful, the lead applicant is the Recipient, as defined in 2 CFR § 200.1, that is accountable to EPA for performance of the assistance agreement. A lead applicant who provides subawards to coalition members is also a Pass-through entity, as defined in 2 CFR § 200.1, and must comply with the Subrecipient Monitoring and Management requirements in 2 CFR Part 200 (including 2 CFR § 200.332) EPA's Subaward Policy, and EPA's General T&Cs.

2. Use Of Grant Funds

Brownfields Job Training Grant funds can be used for brownfields assessment and cleanup training, as well as training in the areas of community involvement and site preparation for sustainability and equitable reuse and development. Applicants may choose to deliver a variety of other brownfields-related environmental training activities as listed in the examples in Section 3.A.4.. Applicants should tailor curricula to the labor market needs of their targeted community in line with the eligible uses discussed in Section 3.A.4.. The only required training is OSHA 29 CFR § 1910.120 40-hour HAZWOPER which includes an in-person personal protective equipment (PPE) component. Applicants proposing an online OSHA 29 CFR § 1910.120 40-hour HAZWOPER course are responsible for ensuring their computer-based training course meets all OSHA requirements and is supplemented with the required in-person training. Beyond this, the applicant should design a curriculum of eligible courses that meets the training needs identified by a local labor market assessment and/or employer survey.

Eligible participants for Brownfields Job Training must be 18 years of age or older at the time of graduation to be placed into an environmental-related job, as the Fair Labor Standards Act prohibits youth under the age of 18 from being employed in hazardous occupations. Additionally, a Brownfields Job Training participant must be a U.S. Citizen and/or Green Card holder permanently residing in the United States and/or its territories.

3. Eligible Uses of Grant Funds

Grant funds must be used for direct programmatic costs associated with implementing a Brownfields Job Training program. Examples of eligible uses of grant funds are listed below. Please note that this list is intended to be illustrative. Applicants must indicate the specific types of training they propose to deliver in their training program description.

- Personnel costs, including fringe benefits, for instructors to conduct training and other tasks associated with programmatic training.
- Personnel and data infrastructure costs to support programmatic reporting requirements, performance-management, and program-evaluation.
- Costs for recruiting, screening, and placement of individuals in the training program.
- Personnel costs for caseworkers or other specialists who work with participants to identify barriers they face to employment, connect them to resources, and support their success in the program and in retaining employment, with support provided for up to one year following the completion of the training program.
- Costs for training materials and work gear associated with the training curriculum.
- Development and refinement of existing curricula for training.
- Personnel costs for employer engagement activities, including building new employer relationships, working with employers to inform curriculum, involving employers in the

training program, securing hiring commitments for graduates, and supporting trainee success in employment following the program.

- On-the-job training insurance for trainees.
- Mentorship associated with on-the-job training, such as peer mentors where an experienced employee is paired with a new trainee.
- Costs associated with health exams (e.g., pulmonary function tests), drug testing, or licensing fees directly related to the training and/or the placement of graduates in environmental work.
- Costs used to cover rental fees associated with training facilities or minor alteration of existing facilities. (Construction costs are not allowable.)
- Costs associated with eligible participant support costs, including for:
 - Transportation for trainees for site visits during training or to transport trainees to and from class in the form of stipends or other allowable direct costs (e.g., transportation vouchers or vehicle rental).
 - Reasonable stipends to compensate trainees for participating in training. Note that stipends may only be paid for actual time spent in training classes or on-the-job training activities and must not duplicate training support provided through other Federal, state, tribal, or local programs.
 - Reasonable childcare subsidies. Note that childcare subsidies must not duplicate childcare support provided through other Federal, state, tribal, or local programs.

In their training program descriptions, applicants should describe the process they will follow for determining the amounts of allowable stipends, procedures for accounting for participant support cost payments (including receipts), and documenting that the costs are allowable and do not duplicate other support for the trainee. Additional information on participant support costs is available in EPA Guidance on Participant Support Costs.

On a limited basis, a Job Training Provider may hire the trainees as W-2 employees. EPA expects that trainees hired as W-2 employees will primarily engage in on-the-job training throughout the majority of their training period. Applicants should include the trainees being hired as employees in the budget personnel and fringe line items. Job Training Grant funds used to hire trainees as employees plus any other type of participant support costs may not exceed 40% of the total amount of the total award. EPA reserves the right to reject any request to pay trainees as employees.

4. Eligible Trainings With Brownfields Job Training Grant Funds

Examples of eligible trainings with Brownfields Job Training grant funds are listed below. Please note that this list is intended to be illustrative. **All training must relate to facilitating the inventory of brownfield sites, site assessments, remediation of brownfield sites, community involvement, or**

site preparation. Applicants must indicate the specific types of training they propose to deliver in their training program description.

- Training in the assessment, inventory, analysis, and remediation of sites or facilities at which
 hazardous substances, pollutants, contaminants, and petroleum products are located,
 transported, or disposed, including training for jobs in environmental sampling, demolition,
 underground storage tank removal, groundwater extraction, site remediation, and equitable
 development associated with brownfields.
- Training in sustainable deconstruction in preparation of a brownfield site cleanup or redevelopment.
- Training participants in the use of techniques and methods for cleanup of hazardous substances, petroleum, and pollutants, such as asbestos abatement; lead abatement; lead renovation, repair, and painting (RRP); mold remediation; and cleaning up sites contaminated by the manufacturing of illegal drugs (e.g., methamphetamine labs), abandoned gas stations, or mine-scarred lands.
- Training in confined space entry.
- Training in first-aid, cardiopulmonary resuscitation (CPR), and how to mitigate safety risks from bloodborne pathogens in a site remediation setting.
- Training in chemistry, toxicology, and geology to the extent necessary to inventory, assess, remediate, and clean up contaminated sites.
- Training in the requirements and implementation of the All Appropriate Inquiries (AAI) Final Rule, as required in CERCLA § 101(35)(B), and due diligence.8
- Training in radiation safety and the cleanup of uranium mine tailings.
- Training in Hazardous Material (HAZMAT) commercial driver's license (CDL) ⁹, forklift, and machine operations associated with the transportation of hazardous waste.
- Training in freon removal or the removal of hazardous substances from white goods located on a brownfield site.
- Training in the use of compost and soil amendments and associated sampling, testing, and design considerations, and management techniques to support the assessment, cleanup, and preparation of sites for urban agriculture and horticulture.

⁸ Due diligence is the process for evaluating a property for the potential presence of environmental contamination, and for assessing potential liability for any contamination present at the property.

⁹ Commercial Driver's License must be incidental to an overall training course related to hazardous waste transportation. It may not be required or used for any other purpose.

- Training participants in planning and conducting ecological restoration of contaminated land, including general botanical classes or introductory horticultural classes related to land and stream restoration or indigenous species and native plant re-vegetation; landscaping; and soil science related to preparing sites for reuse and redevelopment.
- Awareness training in environmental stewardship and sustainable community revitalization to promote community involvement in assessment, cleanup, and reuse of brownfield sites.
- Training in strategies for environmental mitigation, adaptation, or resiliency as it relates to preparation of brownfield sites for cleanup and subsequent reuse.
- Training in green infrastructure and stormwater management; and erosion and sediment control for site remediation and preparation for reuse and redevelopment.
- Training in building trades related to constructing berms, caps, synthetic barriers, pumping facilities, bioretention systems, and similar structures to remediate contamination and site preparation.
- Training in national historic preservation and tribal historic preservation regulations associated with cleanup projects.
- Training in vapor intrusion testing and mitigation.
- Training in site surveying, mapping, blueprint reading, computer-aided design and drafting (CADD), and geographic information systems (GIS).
- Training in release detection methods, techniques, and practices at underground storage tank (UST) facilities where hazardous substances and/or petroleum products are or were located, in order to assess whether the tanks have leaked or may be leaking. This includes training for jobs that conduct activities such as tank or piping tightness testing; testing of spill prevention equipment and containment sumps; inspections of overfill prevention equipment; testing of release detection equipment; and walkthrough inspections.
- Training in "green remediation" technologies, such as phytoremediation, bioremediation, or soil amendments; advanced sampling instrument operator training; or training in the reuse of biosolids and other industry residuals.
- Training in stormwater management; green infrastructure installation, management, and maintenance; or low impact development (LID) training for the purpose of preparing a brownfield site for sustainable reuse.
- Training in emergency planning, preparedness, and for emergencies leading to contamination
 on brownfields sites, such as organizing and implementing exercises; outreach to the public;
 spill response and cleanup, including industrial and environmental (e.g., oil spills, natural
 disasters, etc.); first responder, disaster site worker certification, and National Incident
 Management System (NIMS) training; Disaster Recovery.

- Training in enhanced environmental health and safety related to site remediation, such as promoting chemical (substance, mixture, or article) safety awareness and stewardship; safe work practices (including an overview of the content of Safety Data Sheets (SDSs) (formerly material safety datasheets (MSDSs)), information on exposure guideline limits (Occupational Exposure Limits and Recommended Exposure Limits), information contained within the NIOSH pocket guide to chemical hazards, or the OSHA/EPA Occupational Chemical Database); isolation of work areas; safe storage and handling of chemicals; prevention of spills; and training in an overview of any existing chemical-specific worker training and certification programs, including but not limited to: lead abatement; lead renovation, repair, and painting (RRP); asbestos; diisocyanates (auto-refinishing and spray polyurethane foam); pesticide worker protection standards; Per- and Polyfluorinated Substances (PFAS); Polybrominated diphenyl ethers (PBDEs)/ Hexabromocyclododecane(HBCD); and others.
- Training in energy efficiency, and alternative energy technologies, such as training in retrofitting technologies, in order to prepare brownfield sites for renewable energy installation for reusing and redeveloping former brownfield sites.

5. Ineligible Uses of Grant Funds

Examples of ineligible uses of grant funds are listed below. Please note that this list is not exhaustive. Training that does not directly relate to facilitating the inventory of brownfield sites, site assessments, remediation of brownfield sites, community involvement, or site preparation are not eligible. **Grant funds may not be used for the following activities:**

- Training in general construction skills and trades (e.g., carpentry, plumbing, electricity, etc. relating to constructing buildings).
- Training in natural resource extraction or related processes, such as hydraulic fracturing, oil refinery, or mining operations.
- Training that seeks to test a product or is intended to expand a business, including training
 that seeks to expand construction and demolition debris recycling businesses for example, or
 training that is intended to only serve staff of an existing business who are already employed
 with that business.
- Training in equipment repairs.
- Conducting actual site assessments or cleanups, except within the context of on-the-job training.
- Training and monitoring that do not relate to conducting response activities often associated with actual cleanups (e.g., landscaping, demolition, and groundwater extraction), except within the context of on-the-job training. Assessment, cleanup, and associated activity costs must be funded through other means.
- Construction or substantial rehabilitation of buildings or other facilities to house training.

- Costs for training individuals who are not citizens, excluding Green Card holders, of the United States, the territories, U.S. possessions or lawfully admitted to the U.S. for permanent residency are unallowable in the Brownfields Job Training Program.
- General or life skills, education activities, such as remedial classes in math and reading; job
 readiness training, such as developing resumes and acquiring interview skills; GED costs;
 website development; vehicle or medical insurance.
- Scholarship funds to support students' enrollment in college courses.
- Membership fees, such as fees required to join placement service organizations or environmental organizations.
- Providing food or light refreshments to employees, instructors, and trainees except at graduation ceremonies.
- Foreign travel.
- A penalty or fine.
- Costs that are unallowable (e.g., lobbying and alcoholic beverages) under the Cost Principles discussed in 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500, as applicable.
- Grant application preparation costs.
- Matching any other federal funds (unless there is specific statutory authority for the match).
 Note, CERCLA § 104(k)(7) does not provide the requisite authority. Grant funds may be used to match state or local funds, if authorized by the relevant state statute or local ordinance.
- A cost of compliance with any federal law, excluding the cost of compliance with laws applicable to environmental cleanup.
- Administrative costs, including all indirect costs and direct costs for grant administration in
 excess of five (5) percent of the total amount of EPA grant funding, with the exception of
 financial and performance reporting costs (which are considered allowable programmatic
 costs and not subject to the 5% limitation).

6. Anticipated Outputs/Outcomes

Applicants are required to describe how funding will help EPA achieve outputs and outcomes in their responses to the criteria in Section 6. Outputs and Outcomes specific to each project will be identified as deliverables in the negotiated workplan if the application is selected for award. Recipients will be expected to report progress toward the attainment of expected project outputs and outcomes during the project performance period. Outputs and outcomes are defined as follows:

Outputs are an environmental activity, effort, and/or associated work product related to an environmental goal or objective that will be produced or provided over time or by a specified date. Outputs may be quantitative or qualitative but must be measurable during the project period. The expected outputs for the grants awarded under these guidelines may include but are not limited to:

- Number of individuals recruited, trained, certified, and placed in environmental careers in communities impacted by solid and hazardous waste sites and facilities. Each grant award is anticipated to result in a minimum job placement rate of 70%. The number of individuals completing training will vary by recipient depending on the comprehensiveness of a curriculum and where the recipient is located (urban versus rural locations where a larger number of individuals may be more easily recruited than locations where recruitment may be more challenging as a result of smaller populations). While EPA does not set requirements on the minimum number of individuals entering and completing training, EPA encourages applicants to maximize the grant funding to train as many individuals as possible while delivering high-quality training to an appropriate number of jobseekers based on the demand in the local labor market.
- Number of students working in an environmental career one (1) year after the conclusion of the training program.
- Number of classroom style trainings, practical trainings, and curricula modules.
- Number of appropriate certifications and credentials in environmental sampling and site cleanup methods.
- Number of individuals that receive certifications in OSHA 29 CFR § 1910.120 40-hour HAZWOPER training.
- Number of relationships established with employers that are interested in hiring job training graduates.

Outcomes are 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. EPA anticipates the outcomes from the projects awarded under this announcement may be an increase in the capacity to:

- Help residents of communities take advantage of jobs created by the assessment and cleanup of brownfields and the assessment, cleanup, and management of solid and hazardous waste sites and facilities while addressing sustainable community revitalization concerns.
- Support individuals with significant barriers to employment in gaining competitive job skills and achieving high quality employment to support meaningful economic mobility.
- Provide training that leads to sustainable employment in the environmental field.
- Improve community involvement in environmental projects and stimulate the development of constructive partnerships.
- Reduce exposures to hazardous substances and other contaminants and improve the health of workers, occupants, and residents.
- Foster self-sufficiency and enhance the skills and availability of labor for environmental remediation in particularly impacted communities, including those that are impacted by a variety of waste facilities, blighted properties, contaminated sites, and other environmental issues.

• Enable residents to participate in the promotion of environmental health and occupational safety, both on the job and in their communities.

7. Leveraging

Leveraging is generally when an applicant commits to contributing its own additional funds or resources, either from its own assets or from third-party sources, such as private organizations or other federal grants, to support or complement the project they are seeking funding. This contribution goes above and beyond the financial support provided by the EPA grant funds awarded and is intended to amplify the project's impact. Leveraging demonstrates the applicant's ability to secure and utilize supplementary resources to achieve greater outcomes. These resources are different from legally binding Voluntary committed cost sharing as defined in 2 CFR § 200.1. Leveraged resources may materialize during the grant period of performance or after the grant has ended. Any leveraged funds/resources and their source must be identified in the Narrative. However, the leveraged funds/resources should not be included in the budget and the costs need not be eligible and allowable project costs under the EPA assistance agreement as would be the case for voluntary committed cost sharing, which is not allowed under this solicitation.

- Leveraging that will materialize during the grant: An example of leveraging that typically materializes during a Brownfields Grant Period of performance includes an applicant's leveraged resources that are needed to support or complement the grant¹⁰. If applicants propose to provide leveraged funds/resources, EPA expects them to make the effort to secure the leveraged resources described in their Narrative. If the proposed leveraging does not materialize during grant performance, then EPA may reconsider the legitimacy of the award and/or take other appropriate action as authorized by 2 CFR Parts 200 or 1500. The grant workplan must include a statement indicating that the applicant is expected to produce the proposed leveraging consistent with the terms of the announcement and the applicant's Narrative.
- Leveraging that will materialize after the Brownfields Grant has ended: Examples of leveraging that typically materialize after the Brownfields Grant has ended include resources for continued training after the Brownfields Job Training Program cooperative agreement is closed.

B. Program Goals and Objectives

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

The goal of the Brownfields Job Training Program is to recruit, train, and place unemployed and underemployed residents of solid and hazardous waste-impacted communities. This funding is intended to equip individuals with the skills needed to obtain full-time, sustainable employment. This program promotes the facilitation of activities related to assessment, cleanup, or preparation of contaminated sites, including brownfields, for reuse, while simultaneously building a local workforce with the skills

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¹⁰ If an applicant proposes to contribute resources to carry out the grant, EPA will evaluate responses to review criterion 6. Leveraging.

needed to perform remediation work that is supportive of environmental protection and environmental health and safety.

C. Statutory Authority

The statutory authority for assistance agreements expected to be awarded by EPA under this announcement is CERCLA § 104(k)(7).

D. Funding Type

It is anticipated that cooperative agreements will be funded under this funding opportunity.

Cooperative agreements provide for substantial involvement between the EPA Project Officer and the selected applicant(s) in the performance of the work supported. Although the EPA will negotiate precise terms and conditions relating to substantial involvement as part of the award process, the anticipated substantial federal involvement for these projects may include:

- Close monitoring of the successful applicant's performance to verify the results proposed by the applicant.
- Collaboration during performance of the scope of work.
- In accordance with 2 CFR § 200.325, review of proposed procurements.
- Approving qualifications of key personnel (the EPA will not select employees or contractors employed by the award recipient).
- Review and comment on reports prepared under the cooperative agreement (the final decision on the content of reports rests with the recipient).
- Reviewing and commenting on quarterly and annual reports prepared under the cooperative agreement. (The final decision on the content of reports rests with the recipient.)
- Reviewing outputs and outcomes to ensure substantial progress is made in accordance with the cooperative agreement terms and conditions.
- Approval of project phases, such as curriculum development, prior to the implementation of training.

The EPA does not have the authority to select employees or contractors employed by the recipient. The final decision on the content of reports rests with the recipient.

4. Application Contents and Format

A. Application Forms

The following forms and documents are required under this announcement:

Mandatory Documents:

- 1. Application for Federal Assistance (SF-424)
- Budget Information for Non-Construction Programs (SF-424A)
- 3. EPA Key Contacts Form 5700-54
- 4. EPA Form 4700-4 Preaward Compliance Review Report
- 5. Project Narrative Attachment Form: use this to submit your Project Narrative (14-page limit, single-spaced)

- 6. Narrative Information Sheet (3-page limit, single-spaced) See Section 4.A.1.
- 7. Narrative Attachments (15-page limit) See Section 4.A.2.
 - Milestone Schedule
 - Partnership Letters identified in your Narrative
- 8. Threshold Criteria Responses (as an attachment(s)):
 - A statement of applicant eligibility if a city, county, state, or Tribe (see Section 2.A.1.a.)
 - Documentation of applicant eligibility if other than a city, county, state, or Tribe; e.g., resolutions, statutes, Intertribal Consortium documentation, or documentation of 501(c)(3) tax-exempt status or qualified community development entity (see Section 2.A.1.a.)
 - A statement of the applicant's 501(c)(4) tax-exempt status and, if applicable, legal opinion regarding lobbying activities (see <u>Section 2.A.1.a.</u>)
 - Coalition Agreement or a signed letter of commitment from each coalition member, if applying as a coalition (see <u>Section 2.A.1.b.</u>)
 - Demonstration that proposed project does not duplicate other federally funded environmental job training programs (see <u>Section 2.A.1.c.</u>)
 - An affirmative statement that all trainees in the proposed program will be provided the OSHA 40-Hour HAZWOPER training (see <u>Section 2.A.1.d.</u>)
 - A statement of the federal funds requested and estimated project period (see <u>Section</u>
 2.A.1.e.)
 - Indicate the page(s) on which you include the training curriculum chart (see <u>Section 2.A.1.g.</u>)
 - A description of the target area the applicant is proposing to serve (see <u>Section 2.A.1.h.</u>)
 - A statement of when the applicant was last awarded a Brownfields Job Training Grant; or an affirmative statement that the applicant has never received a Brownfields Job Training Grant (see Section 2.A.1.i.)
 - Documentation of the available balance on each open Brownfields Job Training Grant; or an affirmative statement that the applicant does not have an open Brownfields Job Training Grant (See Section 2.A.1.j.)

Applicants are advised that readability is of paramount importance and should take precedence in application format, including selecting a legible font type and size for use in the application.

The application must stand on its own merits based on the responses to the relevant ranking criteria in 4.A.3.

Upon receipt, applications will be reviewed for substantial conformity with the format requirements and page limits listed below, per the threshold eligibility criteria in Section 2.A.1.f.

All application materials, including Partnership Letters, must be submitted in English. Photos and graphics **will not be considered**. The Narrative and Narrative Information Sheet must be typed on letter-sized ($8^{1}/_{2} \times 11$ inch) paper, be single-spaced, and should use Times New Roman, Arial, or Calibri font, sized no smaller than 12-point font. Attachments are limited to those identified below and are limited to one scanned image per page. Extraneous materials, including attachments not listed, will not be considered. Application materials and attachments exceeding the page limits described below will not be

reviewed. Applicants are responsible for submitting a complete application, as described below, by the due date.

1. Narrative Information Sheet

The Narrative Information Sheet should address the information below and shall not exceed three (3) pages, single-spaced. Do not include a summary or overview of your Narrative/project. Any pages submitted over the page limit or information beyond what is requested below will not be considered. EPA does not consider information in the Narrative Information Sheet to be responses to the evaluation criteria. Provide the Narrative Information Sheet on the applicant's official letterhead. You will not be penalized if you provide this information to EPA in a different format from that identified below.

- i. <u>Applicant Identification:</u> Provide the name and full address of the entity applying for funds. This is the agency or organization that will be receiving the grant and will be accountable to EPA for proper expenditure of funds.
- ii. Grant Type: Indicate "Brownfields Job Training Grant" or "Brownfields Job Training Coalition."

iii. Project Period and Funding Request:

- a. Indicate the length of proposed project period (must not exceed five (5) years).
- b. Indicate the amount of federal funds requested (must not exceed \$500,000 in EPA Brownfields Job Training Grants funds).
- iv. <u>Coalition Members:</u> If applicable, list each non-lead coalition member (i.e., the entity/organization's name).
- v. <u>Website URL</u>: Provide the website URL of your training program. If selected for funding, EPA will include the links to the social media accounts on the Brownfields Grant Factsheet Tool.

vi. <u>Population/Target Area Data:</u>

- Provide the general population of the area you are proposing to serve and the population of your defined target community. Tribes must provide the number of Tribal/non-Tribal members affected. Your jurisdiction's population can be found at www.census.gov.
- List the target area discussed in the Narrative.
- Applicants other than Tribal Nations, if the target area is smaller than a city/town, list the
 eleven-digit census tract number(s) within the target area. (Please see the FY26 <u>JT FAQs</u> for
 guidance on how to find a census tract.)
- Provide the anticipated address, or census tract, where the training facility will be located.

vii. Contacts:

- a. <u>Project Director</u>: Provide the name, phone number, email address, and mailing address of the project director assigned to the proposed project. This person should be the main point of contact for the project and should be the person responsible for the project's day-to-day operations. This person may be contacted if further information is needed.
- b. <u>Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Official</u>: Provide the name, phone number, email address, and mailing address of the applicant's Chief Executive (e.g., mayor of a city, executive director of a nonprofit, etc.). For example, if your organization is a municipal form of

government, provide this information for the Mayor or County Commissioner. Otherwise, provide this information for your organization's Executive Director or President. This person may be contacted if further information is needed.

viii. Releasing Copies of Applications

In concert with EPA's commitment to conducting business in an open and transparent manner, copies of applications submitted under this solicitation may be made publicly available on EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization website or other public website for a period of time after the selected applications are announced. EPA recommends that applications not include confidential business information (CBI) or trade secrets. Applications must not include information that, if disclosed, would invade another individual's personal privacy (e.g., an individual's salary, personal email addresses, etc.).

All CBI claims must be asserted at the time the application is submitted to EPA. Applicants must clearly indicate CBI claims by including them on the application or attaching a cover sheet, stamped or typed legend, or another appropriate notice. CBI claims should employ language such as "trade secret," "proprietary," or "confidential" as per 40 CFR § 2.203(b).

Confidential portions of otherwise non-confidential documents should be clearly identified and may be submitted separately to facilitate identification and handling by EPA. If confidential treatment is only requested until a certain date or until the occurrence of a certain event, the notice should identify the date or event. Information covered by a CBI claim will be treated in accordance with, and disclosed only to the extent, and by means of the procedures, set forth in 40 CFR Part 2, Subpart B. If no CBI accompanies the information when it is received by EPA, it may be made available to the public by EPA without further notice to the submitter. See 40 CFR 2.203(a)(2), 41 Fed. Reg. 36,907.

ix. Other Factors: Applicants claiming one or more of the other factors please identify with an **X** for any of the items below and provide a summary in the Narrative on the applicable other factor(s). Please identify which of the below items apply to your community/proposed project by noting the corresponding Narrative page number. If none of the Other Factors apply to your community/proposed project, please check that box.

Sample Format for Providing Information on the Other Factors	Page #
Applicants that propose to serve a community population of 15,000 or less.	
Whether the applicant is new (i.e., has not received an EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant since 2016).	
Whether the applicant is a federally recognized Indian Tribe or United States Territory, or is an organization that will primarily serve tribal or territorial residents.	
Applications that seek to serve veterans.	
Whether the target area is located within a community in which a coal-fired power plant has recently closed (2016 or later) or is closing.	
None of the above apply.	

2. Narrative Attachments

The following documents should be included as attachments to your application. Items a. and b. of the listed attachments must not exceed a total of fifteen (15) pages.

- a. **Milestones Schedule:** This should indicate start times and completion dates of significant tasks under your program (e.g., outreach, procurement of a contractor, recruitment, frequency of classes to be offered and length, instruction, placement, and tracking).
- b. Partnership Letters: Partnership Letters may only impact scoring of the subcriteria that directly cite and request letters and references (partnerships and leveraging). Letters and references will not impact scoring for other criteria. Letters must be submitted with your application; letters received separately or after the application submission due date will not be considered.

3. Narrative

The Narrative (including citations) shall not exceed 14 single-spaced pages. Any pages submitted over the page limit will not be evaluated.

The Narrative must include clear, concise, factual responses to all criteria below. Do not include discussions of broad principles that are not specific to the proposed work or project covered by your application. The Narrative must provide sufficient detail to allow for an evaluation of the merits of the application. If a criterion does not apply, clearly state this. Any criterion left unaddressed may result in zero points given for that criterion. Responses to the criteria should include the criteria number and title but need not restate the entire text of the criteria. Do not provide photos or extraneous materials.

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

Section 4.A.3. below includes sample format tables that applicants may use to present all or a portion of their response. Applicants who do not use the sample format tables will not be penalized when EPA evaluates their applications.

a. Community Need

i. Community Description

Identify and describe your target area, such as a county or counties, a number of neighboring towns or cities, Tribal lands, a district, a corridor, a shared planning area, or a census tract. Provide an explanation of how/why the targeted area was selected for the training.

Provide a detailed description of your community and identify if and how it is a community that is impacted by a variety of waste facilities, blighted properties, contaminated sites, and other environmental issues. Identify and describe the environmental, public health, and employment/workforce challenges in your community and the degree to which the challenges impact the community. Provide other relevant demographic information that demonstrates how your proposed project will benefit communities in the target area and the specific groups of individuals you aim to serve in the target area, including population, unemployment rate, poverty rate, per capita income, and/or other relevant statistics.

Provide census-based demographic data for your target area and compare the data to the larger local, state, and national demographics, as described in the sample format below. Responses should clearly identify the sources of information used. Applicants may, but are not required to, use the sample format below to organize demographic data. Applicants who do not use this format will not be penalized during the evaluation process. Applicants may use additional rows or text, to include other data or information, including data related to disproportionate environmental or human health harms and risks, which provide a compelling explanation for why you selected the target area.

Provide information on how your project will help benefit and facilitate the identification and reduction of threats to human health and the environment that may be associated with exposure to hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants, <u>and</u> the health or welfare of the target area population, including any affected sensitive populations and other high-need individuals. Examples of high-need individuals are: unemployed or severely underemployed individuals, dislocated workers, formerly incarcerated persons, veterans, individuals with little to no advanced education past high school level, opportunity youth, single custodial parents, members of Federally Recognized Tribes, and residents of communities disproportionately impacted by environmental or human health harms or risks (including disproportionately impacted low-income, sensitive populations Tribal, and indigenous communities).

Sample Format for Demographic Information

	Target Community (e.g., Census Tract)	City/Town/County or Tribal Reservation	Statewide	National
Population:				331,097,593 ¹
Unemployment:				3.7% ²
Poverty Rate:				11.5% ³
Median Household Income:				\$75,149 ⁴
Other: Include other relevant data, including potential environmental or human health harms and risks, in additional rows.				

¹Data are from the 2022 American Community Survey data profile and are available at https://data.census.gov/table/ACSDP5Y2022.DP05.

²Data are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics (The Employment Situation – February 2024) and are available at http://www.bls.gov/news.release/pdf/empsit.pdf.

³Data are from the 2022 American Community survey data profile and are available on data.census.gov at https://www.census.gov/library/publications/2023/demo/p60-280.html.

⁴Data are from the 2022 American Community Survey data profile and are available on data.census.gov at https://data.census.gov/table/ACSST5Y2022.S1901.

ii. Labor Market Demand

Provide a description of the local labor market assessment and employer survey you, as the applicant, conducted. Detail the methods and results of the steps taken to assess the local labor market demand and indicate the time period associated with your assessment. For example, methods may include an employer advisory group, surveys, published reports, one-on-one meetings, relationships with the employers you are partnering with, etc.

Discuss what industry-recognized certifications you are proposing to incorporate into your curriculum that will meet the labor market demands, as identified by the labor market assessment conducted and the employers you are partnering with.

b. Training Program Description

Provide a detailed description of the proposed curriculum and the certifications graduates will earn. Demonstrate that proposed training does not duplicate other Federally funded Environmental Job Training Programs or demonstrate how services under this proposed training will complement, but not duplicate, the existing federal environmental job training activities. Describe how the training is structured to meet the needs of the students, employers, and the community. Describe how you will deliver your training as explained in Section 3.A.

Provide a description for each training course for which you are proposing to use Brownfield Job Training Grant funds. For example training courses, see Section 3.A.4.. Applicants must provide the costs for each training course and indicate what percentage of the grant budget will be allocated for each training course. Note, if the cost and percentage of the grant that will be allocated for each training course is included in the Training Program Table, it does not need to be included again. When considering the cost of each course, please estimate and include the number of students you anticipate enrolling in each course.

Describe how the execution of your training program will incorporate sustainable practices, such as the recycling and reuse of training materials, purchasing, or leasing more sustainable equipment, supplies, and services, or other practices that directly reduce water, materials, energy, or air impacts.

Provide the course name, the level of training to be provided (awareness, intermediate, or advanced), the type of certification(s) to be earned (state, federal, industry, other, or if none and it is a leveraged training state that here), the number of hours it will take to complete each course, the course schedule, and the training provider (if known). Please also list the same information for any leveraged trainings and ensure that the cost of the course is \$0 or state that the course is leveraged. Applicants may, but are not required to, use the sample table format provided below. Applicants who do not use this format will not be penalized during the evaluation process as long as all requested information is included. Add or remove rows from the suggested training program table format, as necessary, to accurately and fully detail your training program. Do not include training that is ineligible for EPA grant funding, such as training in general construction and carpentry, or life skills training. Include the cost of each course, how many times that given course will be offered, and the percentage of your **entire** grant budget that is allocated for the total cost of each training course. For example, if you are requesting a total of \$500,000 in funding from EPA for a

course that costs \$2,500 per cohort of students and will offer that course to three cohorts, then the total cost of that course is \$7,500, or 1.5% of your total budget.

If selected for funding, EPA will include the training courses, both eligible trainings with Brownfields Job Training Grant funds and leveraged training courses on the <u>Brownfields Grant Factsheet Tool</u>, which then goes on <u>EPA's Brownfields Job Training Current and Past Grantees Map</u>.

Ensure that the costs for training listed in this section correspond with the dollar amount listed in your budget table in Narrative Section c. below.

Sample Training Program Table Format

Course Name	Level of Training	Type of Certification	# of Hours	Start Date — End Date	# of Times Course will be Offered	Training Provider (if known)	Cost of Course	Percent of Grant Budget
Totals:								

c. Budget

Specify the costs by budget category, associated with each task. EPA encourages applicants to set aside appropriate funding to support placement and tracking of graduates. Applicants may, but are not required to, use the table format below to identify specific tasks for which EPA funding will be used. Applicants who do not use this format will not be penalized during the evaluation process. Tasks shown in the sample table format are examples and can be edited as needed to be tailored to the applicant's program. Add columns for additional tasks if necessary. EPA provides general guidance on how to characterize costs for budgeting purposes in Interim General Budget Development Guidance for Applicants and Recipients of EPA Financial Assistance.

In addition to the budget table, provide a budget description, in narrative format, for each task, and how the costs are appropriate for the goals of the proposed training program. Provide the basis for each cost estimate, in relation to the projected outputs where possible (e.g., student safety equipment for 100 students at a cost of \$50 each for a total of \$5,000).

Describe your approach, procedures, and controls for ensuring that grant funds will be expended in a timely and effective manner.

Note:

 Transportation stipends, monetary stipends, and childcare subsidies are considered participant support costs that are separate and do not count toward instruction/training costs. The total amount of stipends, including participant support costs to hire the

- trainees as W2 employees, may not exceed 40% of the total award.
- Do not include tasks for activities or costs that are ineligible uses of EPA funds.
- Administrative costs (direct costs for grant administration and indirect costs) may not
 exceed 5% of the total requested EPA funds. EPA considers costs for performance and
 financial reporting to be allowable programmatic costs that are not subject to the 5%
 limitation. Costs must be classified as direct or indirect consistently as required by 2 CFR
 §§ 200.403(d) and 200.412 and applicants may not classify the same cost in both
 categories.

Sample Budget Table

	Budget Category	Outreach, Recruitment, and Retention	Instruction/ Training	Program Management	Placement and Tracking	Total
t	Personnel					
Cos	Fringe benefits					
Direct Costs	Travel ¹					
□	Contractual					
	Supplies					
	Other (Please be specific for Participant Support Costs such as stipends)					
Total Direct Costs ²						
Indirect Costs ²						
Total Budget (Total Direct Costs+ Indirect Costs)						

¹ Travel to brownfields-related training conferences is an acceptable use of these grant funds.

d. Program Structure, Anticipated Outputs, and Outcomes

i. Outputs and Outcomes

Provide detailed information on 1) how many participants you expect to enroll, 2) the number of students anticipated to graduate from the proposed training program, 3) the average anticipated wages for trainees obtaining employment, and 4) the targeted placement rate of graduates in environmental employment. A sample template is provided to assist applicants.

² Administrative costs (direct and/or indirect) for the Brownfields Job Training Grant applicant itself cannot exceed 5% of the total EPA-requested funds.

Provide detailed information on post-program outcomes and how they reflect the challenges you presented in the Community Need section. Discuss how you will evaluate progress toward achieving the expected short-term and long-term project outputs and outcomes. Clearly explain how your proposed timeline will help achieve the deliverables of the project, as reflected in the attached milestones schedule.

Sample Outputs

Overall # of Participants Enrolled in Program	# of Graduates Completing Program	# of Graduates Placed in Environmental Positions	Average Anticipated Wage for Trainees Obtaining Employment	# of Graduates Not Placed but Pursuing Further Education

ii. Recruitment, Screening, and Retention

Explain how you will market your program to prospective students and recruit unemployed or under-employed individuals, including individuals from communities that are impacted by a variety of waste facilities, blighted properties, contaminated sites, and other environmental issues in the target area (e.g., low-income, formerly incarcerated persons, veterans, and individuals with little to no advanced education past high school level who are impacted by potential sustainable community revitalization concerns). Describe strategies for working with trusted community leaders and community-based organizations for recruiting and retaining individuals from communities that are impacted by a variety of waste facilities, blighted properties, contaminated sites, and other environmental issues.

Describe the screening approaches that will be utilized by your program to ensure that prospective students will be successful in participating in the proposed program and discuss why these approaches are appropriate for your target community (e.g., age requirements, ability to lift certain weight, reading and math proficiency, and drug and medical tests).

Describe your approach to retaining students in the training program and discuss why these approaches are appropriate for your target population.

Describe how this grant will be utilized to help retain participants by alleviating the burden of fees to participants (e.g., licensing, certification, and medical examination fees). Describe the accessibility of your training facilities so as not to overburden the target community and how the accessibility of your training facilities will help retain participants (e.g., proximity to public transportation, parking accessibility, access for individuals with disabilities). Note that any fees you collect will be considered "program income" under 2 CFR Part 200 and must be used for the Brownfields Job Training program activities described in your approved grant award.

iii. Program Support for Job Placement

Discuss the job search support and resources available for participants of your job training program, including the extent to which your organization will assist with initial job placement.

Discuss how your organization (and if applicable, your coalition members) will track and provide employment support for program graduates and for how long (should be a minimum of one (1) year).

iv. Program Sustainability

Describe your plan for sustaining and continuing your environmental job training program once EPA Grant funds are exhausted. This may include, for example, interest from your local public workforce agency or your partner employers to collaborate to continue offering the training.

e. Partnerships

Carefully review EPA's "Contracts and Subawards" solicitation clause before naming an entity that will receive EPA funds provided under this RFA as a "partner." All financial transactions with for-profit partners such as consultants or commercial training providers must comply with the competitive procurement requirements in 2 CFR Parts 200 and 1500 and 40 CFR Part 33 Subpart C, as applicable. Subawards must comply with EPA's Subaward Policy which generally precludes using subawards to acquire services from for-profit organizations. Please carefully review Section IV.d., "Contracts and Subawards", of EPA's Solicitation Clauses. EPA provides detailed guidance on these competitive procurement requirements and subawards in the Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services, Supplies, and Equipment Under EPA Assistance Agreements, EPA Subaward Policy, and Subaward Frequent Questions.

Note that naming a commercial firm or an individual consultant or instructor as a "partner" does not justify a sole source procurement contract in excess of the micro-purchase threshold which is \$10,000 for most applicants. However, nonprofit organizations such as Labor Unions and public institutions of higher education such as community colleges are eligible for non-competitive subawards.

Applicants may, but are not required to, use the sample format below to organize your response. Applicants who do not use this format will not be penalized during the evaluation process.

Partner commitments listed in the table should match commitments made in the Partnership Letters, Memorandum of Agreement, and/or Coalition Letters.

Sample Format for Partnerships

Partner and Contact	Partner Type (environmental, job readiness, community, employer)	Partner Organization Mission	Partner Commitments (only include commitments stated in the attached Partnership Letters)

i. Collaboration with Environmental Entities

Provide information on any specific efforts made to collaborate with organizations that are performing environmental work, including, but not limited to, non-lead coalition members and Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup Grant recipients in your community.

Explain how past and/or future efforts to collaborate with organizations (including with non-lead coalition members, if applicable) completing local environmental projects in your target community will enhance and foster future employment for job training graduates.

Discuss your organization's relationship with your local economic development or other city or county departments (which may include your coalition members) and if these relationships resulted in or will result in the placement of graduates with local contractors in your community. Attach Partnership Letters indicating commitments partner organizations have made to your proposed program. If the applicant is referencing specific commitments from a coalition member, the application does not need to include a partnership letter from the coalition member but the commitment must be in the Memorandum of Agreement or Coalition Agreement.

ii. Collaboration with Job-Readiness/Life Skills

Provide information on any specific efforts made to collaborate with organizations (which may include your non-lead coalition members) that provide job-readiness skills (e.g., life skills training, pre-employment training, GED preparation, academic enhancement, substance abuse counseling, etc.) that are not eligible for funding under this funding announcement.

Discuss partners' (e.g., non-lead coalition members, local community groups, Workforce Development Boards, One Stop Centers, and academic institutions located in or near the affected community) commitments made to support your program. Explain how your program and partners' expertise ensures trainees have the pre-employment skills needed to secure full-time work. Attach Partnership Letters indicating partner organizations' commitments made to your proposed program. If the applicant is referencing specific commitments from a coalition member, the application does not need to include a partnership letter from the coalition member but the commitment must be in the Memorandum of Agreement or Coalition Agreement.

iii. Collaboration with Community

Discuss your relationships with community leaders and community-based organizations to support the success of the students in this program. This may include partnerships such as those focused on recruiting students from communities that are impacted by a variety of waste facilities, blighted properties, contaminated sites, and other environmental issues or partnerships with community-based organizations that offer supportive services for students. Examples of community-based organizations include faith-based organizations, local community groups and block clubs, high schools, social service providers, etc. Attach Partnership Letters indicating partner organizations' commitments made to your proposed program.

Describe any efforts you made to notify and involve the local community, and/or hold any public comment sessions during the development of your application. Provide detailed information on how these collaborations will continue throughout the program.

iv. Collaboration with Employers

Discuss the involvement of the employer community (e.g., non-lead coalition members, local businesses, environmental contractors, labor unions, site owners) in developing the proposed job training program (for example, identify meeting dates, curriculum development, advisory council participation, registered apprenticeships, preapprenticeships tied to registered apprenticeships, internships, on-the-job training, and mentoring etc.).

Discuss your collaboration efforts with employers or unions (which may include your non-lead coalition members) committed to enhancing student learning and those employers or unions specific commitments. For example, employer guest speakers, field trips, mentoring, and/or on-the-job training opportunities.

Describe any employers' commitments (which may include your non-lead coalition members) made to enhancing a graduate's chance of being hired including, but not limited to, commitments to interview students and/or hire graduates.

Attach Partnership Letters from past and prospective employers indicating partner organizations' commitments made to your proposed program. If the applicant is referencing specific commitments from a coalition member, the application does not need to include a partnership letter from the coalition member but the commitment must be in the Memorandum of Agreement or Coalition Agreement.

f. Leveraging

Discuss how you will leverage additional funds/resources beyond the grant funds awarded by EPA to support the proposed project activities and how these funds/resources will be used to contribute to the performance and success of the proposed project.

Describe the leveraged commitments for monetary services/resources to the proposed job training program (e.g., staff time, life skills training, pre-employment training, student stipends, supplies, personal protective equipment (PPE), transportation and bus tokens, GED preparation, childcare, academic enhancement, substance abuse counseling, etc.) already

committed to your program. If such commitments are not yet made, describe the likelihood that these commitments will materialize during the project.

Describe the amount(s) and type(s) of leveraged resources that will be available to your project and for what tasks they may be used. For each source of funding, list whether it is an anticipated source of funding or a confirmed source of funding. Applicants may, but are not required to, use the optional table format below to illustrate for which tasks leveraged funds will be used and how much leveraged funding you plan to use for each task. Applicants who do not use this format will not be penalized during the evaluation process. Please modify task categories and add rows as necessary.

Attach Partnership Letters indicating leveraged commitments made to your proposed program. Specific commitments from a coalition member may be included in the Memorandum of Agreement or Coalition Agreement that is attached to your application.

Selected applicants are expected to abide by their proposed leveraging commitments during grant performance and the failure to do so may affect the legitimacy of the award.

Leveraged Funding Table (Optional)

	Status of Funds: Anticipated/ Confirmed	Project Tasks					
Project Funding		Outreach, Recruitment and Retention	Instruction/T raining	Program Management	Placement and Tracking	Total	
[Funding Source 1]							
[Funding Source 2]							
[Funding Source 3]							
Total Non- EPA Funds Leveraged:							

g. Programmatic Capability

This section of your application demonstrates that your organization ("the applicant") (and if applicable, your coalition members) has programmatic capability (experience, knowledge, and resources, or ability to obtain them) and a reasonable approach necessary to ensure successful completion of all required aspects of this proposed program.

i. Grant Management System

Discuss the management system you have in place to direct activities under the grant. Include a brief description of your project manager and staff and a discussion of the qualifications and experience. Discuss the means you have to retain project leadership or recruit qualified staff should employee turnover occur. Describe the system(s) you have in

place to acquire additional expertise and resources required to perform the proposed project. If you intend to contract for the necessary expertise, describe the system you have in place to acquire that expertise.

ii. Organizational Experience

Explain your organization's (and if applicable, your coalition members') experience in working with the community you propose to serve. Discuss any experience your organization (and if applicable, your coalition members) has in the employment and training field at large. Discuss any previous experience your organization (and if applicable, your coalition members) has had in environmental training as it relates to your proposed curriculum.

If you do not have an instructor on staff and are considering contracting or using a subaward to an eligible subrecipient (e.g., a community college), describe the criteria you will use to select the contractor (including consultant) and/or subrecipient.

iii. Past Performance and Accomplishments

If you received an EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant (or an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant (EWDJT)) within the last ten (10) years, please respond to **item 1.** below.

If you have not received an EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant (or an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant), but have received other federal or nonfederal financial assistance agreements within the last ten (10) years, including EPA Brownfields Area-Wide Planning, Multipurpose, Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, or Cleanup Grants, please respond to **item 2.** Below.

If you have not received any type of federal or non-federal financial assistance agreements within the last ten (10) years or if you have <u>recently</u> received a financial assistance agreement (including a Brownfields Grant), but have not had an opportunity to demonstrate compliance with the award requirements, please indicate this in response to **item 3.** Below. **Failure to respond may result in zero points for this criterion.**

In evaluating applicants under the factors in <u>Section 6.B.</u>, EPA will consider the information provided by the applicant and may also consider relevant information from other sources, including information from EPA files and from current/prior grantors (e.g., to verify and/or supplement the information provided by the applicant).

- Current or Past EPA Brownfields Job Training or EWDJT Grant Recipients that were awarded a Job Training Grant within the last ten (10) years. (Please be advised the date you were awarded the grant must be 2016 or later to qualify for this category.)
 - A. Identify each of the EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant(s) (or EWDJT Grant(s)) you currently have or have received in the past. Demonstrate how you successfully managed the grant(s), and successfully performed all phases of work under the previous or existing grant(s) by providing the information requested below.
 - B. Funds Expenditure: Provide the balance of grant funds not drawn down (funds remaining). If you have an open EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant, indicate your need for additional funding based on remaining funds.

- C. Compliance with grant requirements:
 - a. Discuss your compliance with the workplan, schedule, and terms and conditions of the grant(s).
 - b. Discuss whether you have made, or are making, progress toward achieving the expected results of the grant in a timely manner. If not, discuss what corrective measures you took, or are taking, and how the corrective measures were effective, documented, and communicated.
 - c. Discuss your timely quarterly and annual reporting, as well as ongoing Assessment, Cleanup and Redevelopment Exchange System (ACRES) reporting.
 - d. Discuss whether the data are accurately reflected in ACRES at the time of this application submission, and if not, explain why.
- D. Accomplishments Provide information on:
 - a. Number of individuals you committed to train and place **in your prior selected application** versus what was provided in your approved workplan.
 - b. Number of individuals that were actually trained under each grant.
 - c. Placement rate. (Placement rate is defined as the number participants obtaining full-time employment in an environmental job divided by the number of participants completing training.)
 - d. Whether the original anticipated training and placement goals were met, and, if not, the steps that were taken to improve the program.

Sample Accomplishments Data (Optional)

Grant #	Project Period	Funds Expended	# of Participants Trained	# of Participants Placed	% placed in full-time employment	Data Updated in ACRES (Yes/No)
JT-9999998	10/01/11- - 9/30/14	\$183,264	80	70	88%	Yes
JT-99999999	10/01/03- - 9/30/05	\$200,000	78	72	92%	Yes

- OR -

- 2. Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Job Training or EWDJT Grant; Recipient of Other Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements that were awarded within the last 10 years. (Please be advised the date you were awarded the grant or assistance agreement must be 2016 or later to qualify for this category.)
 - A. Identify current and/or prior federally and non-federally funded financial assistance agreements (no more than three) you received, including EPA Brownfields Grant(s), that are most similar in scope and relevance in terms of structure and/or deliverables to the proposed project. If you worked with EPA on delivering a Superfund Job Training Initiative (JTI) project, please also note this. Demonstrate your history of successfully managing these agreements and

- performing all phases of work under each agreement by providing the following information.
- B. Describe the awarding agency/organization, amount of funding awarded, and purpose of the current/most recent assistance agreement(s) you have received. Discuss your compliance with the workplan, including schedule, and terms and conditions of the grant.
 - a. Discuss whether you have made, or are making, progress toward achieving the expected results of the grant in a timely manner. If not, discuss what corrective measures you took, or are taking, and how the corrective measures were effective, documented, and communicated.
 - b. Discuss your success in meeting and complying with reporting requirements, including quarterly reporting, technical reports, final reports, and data entry into ACRES, as applicable.

- OR -

- 3. Never Received Any Type of Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements.
 - A. Affirm that your organization has never received any type of federal or non-federal financial assistance agreement (grant or cooperative agreement). Or, discuss how your organization has recently received a financial assistance agreement, but has not had an opportunity to demonstrate compliance with the award requirements. (Applicants that indicate that they do not have a history of performing financial assistance agreements will receive a "neutral" 5-point score for this factor. However, failure to respond to this sub-criterion may result in zero points.)

B. Applicants Using Contractors

Applicants must compete contracts for services and products, including consultant contracts, and conduct cost and price analyses, to the extent required by the <u>procurement provisions</u> of the regulations at 2 CFR Part 200.

Do not name a procurement contractor (including a consultant) as a "partner" or otherwise in your application unless the contractor has been selected in compliance with competitive procurement requirements. If an applicant selected for award has named a specific subrecipient, contractor, or consultant in the application, it does not relieve the applicant of its obligations to comply with subaward and/or competitive procurement requirements.

The EPA will not consider the qualifications, experience, and expertise of named subrecipients and/or named contractor(s) during the application evaluation process unless the applicant provides documentation that it has complied with these requirements.

For additional guidance, applicants should review <u>EPA's Best Practice Guide for Procuring Services</u>, <u>Supplies</u>, and <u>Equipment Under EPA Assistance Agreements</u>, <u>EPA's Subaward Policy</u>, and <u>EPA's Subaward Policy</u>, and <u>EPA's Subaward Policy</u>. Recipients of EPA funding must comply with competitive procurement contracting requirements, to include those in 2 CFR Parts 200 (including 2 CFR 200.321) and 1500 as well as the requirements in 40 CFR Part 33 Subpart C, as applicable.

C. Release Copies of Applications

Copies of applications submitted under this NOFO may be made publicly available on https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/past-funding-opportunities#JT for approximately 8 months after selections are made. See Section 4.A.1.viii. for more information.

5. Submission Requirements and Deadlines

A. Submission Dates and Times

September 26, 2025, 11:59 pm ET Application Submission Deadline

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

B. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM.gov)

SAM.gov

You must have an active account with SAM.gov. SAM.gov will provide a UEI for your organization, which is required to apply for grants using Grants.gov. To register, go to SAM.gov Entity Registration and click Get Started. From the same page, you can also click on the Entity Registration Checklist for the information you will need to register. Make sure you are current with SAM.gov and UEI requirements before applying for the award.

SAM.gov registration can take several weeks. Begin that process today.

Grants.gov

You must also have an active account with <u>Grants.gov.</u> You can see step-by-step instructions at the Grants.gov <u>Quick Start Guide for Applicants.</u>

Please visit <u>How to Register to Apply for Grants</u> for additional information.

C. Submission Instructions

You must submit your application through Grants.gov. See Section 5.B. above for information on getting registered.

Important tips:

- To begin the application process under this grant announcement, go to Grants.gov and click the
 red "Apply" button at the top of the view grant opportunity page associated with this
 opportunity.
- See the Quick Start Guide for Applicants for instructions on how to submit.
- Make sure your application passes the Grants.gov validation checks.
- Do not encrypt, zip, or password protect any files.
- Your application must be submitted by an official representative of your organization who is registered with Grants.gov and is authorized to sign applications for Federal financial assistance.

- If you receive an error or the button is grayed out, it may be because you do not have the appropriate role to submit in your organization. Contact your organization's EBiz point of contact or contact Grants.gov for assistance at 1-800-518-4726 or support@grants.gov.
- See Grants.gov Errors for information on other Grants.gov errors.
- The UEI listed on the application must be registered to the applicant organization's SAM.gov account. If not, the application may be deemed ineligible.

D. Technical Issues with Submission

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

- Contact Grants.gov Support Center before the application deadline date.
- Document the Grants.gov ticket/case number.
- Send an email with Funding Opportunity Number (FON):EPA-I-OLEM-OBLR-25-01 in the subject line to Brownfields@epa.gov before the application deadline time and date and must include the following:
 - Grants.gov ticket/case number(s)
 - Description of the issue
 - o The entire application package in PDF format.

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

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

E. Intergovernmental Review

The application is not subject to Intergovernmental Review.

6. Application Review Information

A. Responsiveness Review

Applications must meet the eligibility requirements described in <u>Section 2</u> to be evaluated. Applicants that do not meet these requirements will be deemed ineligible and will be notified within 15 calendar days of the determination.

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

B. Review Criteria

Criteria Name and Description		
Community Need	40	
Training Program Description	25	
Budget	15	
Program Structure, Anticipated Outputs and Outcomes	50	
Partnerships	40	
Leveraging	5	
Programmatic Capability		

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

Only eligible entities whose applications meet the threshold criteria in <u>Section 2</u> of this announcement will be evaluated. **Applicants should explicitly address these criteria as part of their application package submittal in the project narrative.** Each application will be rated using a point system. Applications will be evaluated based on a total of 200 possible points.

1. Community Need (40 points)

a. Community Description (20 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

- (i) The degree to which the applicant identifies and describes their target area and provides a detailed explanation of how/why the targeted area was selected for the training. (5 points)
- (ii) The degree to which the applicant provides a detailed description of their community and the degree to which their community is impacted by a variety of waste facilities, blighted properties, contaminated sites, and other environmental issues. The degree to which the described environmental, public health, and employment/workforce challenges negatively impact the target community. The extent to which the demographic information identifies the environmental, social, public health, economic issues, and brownfield challenges. (5 points)
- (iii) The extent to which demographic statistics are provided for the target area, including a comparison to the larger local, state, and/or national averages and the degree to which the statistics for the target area demonstrate that the project will benefit communities in the target area. Note, responses that do not clearly identify sources of information used will be evaluated less favorably. (5 points)
- (iv) The extent to which the project will benefit and help facilitate the identification and reduction of threats to human health and the environment that may be associated with exposure to hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants, and the health or welfare of the target area population, including affected sensitive populations, and other high-need individuals in the target area (5 points)

b. Labor Market Demand (20 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

- (i) The extent to which the applicant conducted a labor market assessment using current data and conducted an employer survey. The extent to which the methods used to conduct the assessment were sound. The extent to which the applicant provides a detailed explanation of the methods used. Note, applicants that limit their labor market assessment to data from online sources only will be evaluated less favorably. (5 points)
- (ii) The extent to which the labor market assessment identified demand for an environmental workforce in the proposed target area and/or region. (5 points)
- (iii) The extent to which the results of the labor market assessment are incorporated into the proposed curriculum, including the extent to which trainings will meet the labor market demands. (10 points)

2. Training Program Description (25 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

- (i) The degree to which the proposed training curriculum and certifications offered are comprehensive, achievable, and structured to meet the hiring needs of the students, employers, and the community. The degree to which the applicant describes that proposed training does not duplicate other Federally funded Environmental Job Training Programs or how the services under this proposed training will complement, but not duplicate, the existing federal environmental job training activities. (10 points)
- (ii) The extent to which the applicant states that all students will receive the HAZWOPER training and the extent to which the applicant provides a detailed description for each training course that will use Brownfield Job Training Grant funds. The extent to which each course is eligible. The extent to which the applicant provides the costs for each training course and indicates what percentage of the grant budget will be allocated for each training course. Note, responses that include ineligible costs will be evaluated less favorably. (10 points)
- (iii) The extent to which the execution of the training program incorporates sustainable practices. (5 points)

3. Budget (15 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

(i) The degree to which to which the EPA-funded tasks/activities that will take place under this grant (beyond the eligibility of the training courses evaluated in Section 2, Training Program

Description) are eligible and appropriate to the goals of the proposed training program. (5 points)

- (ii) The degree of clarity on how each cost estimate was developed (including direct and/or indirect administrative costs, when applicable) and the extent to which costs per task are presented in detail. (5 points)
- (iii) The extent to which each proposed cost estimate is reasonable (costs are commensurate with benefits) to implement the training program and clearly correlates with the proposed tasks. (5 points)

Notes:

- Projects that allocate at least 60% of funds to tasks directly associated with instruction/training will be evaluated more favorably. Please reference Section 4.A.3.c. for guidance on instruction/training costs.
- Transportation stipends, monetary stipends, and childcare subsidies are considered
 participant support costs that are separate and do not count toward instruction/training
 costs. Total amount of stipends or personnel costs, to hire the trainees as W2 employees,
 may not exceed 40% of total award. Projects that allocate more than 40% of funds for
 participant support costs or trainee wages will be evaluated less favorably.
- Administrative costs that exceed 5% of the total EPA-requested funds will be evaluated less favorably.
- A response that includes cost estimates that are not reasonable or realistic to implement the project/grant will be evaluated less favorably. For example, applicants that request more funds than is reasonably justified in the Narrative to complete the proposed project/grant.

4. Program Structure, Anticipated Outputs and Outcomes (50 points)

a. Outputs and Outcomes (10 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

- (i) The extent to which program outputs are clearly identified (including the number of students enrolled, number of students anticipated to graduate, target placement rate of graduates in environmental employment, and anticipated starting wages for graduates), and align with the specific activities of the proposed program. (5 points)
- (ii) The degree to which the post-program outcomes are clearly described and reflect the challenges presented in the Community Need section. (5 points)

b. Recruitment, Screening, and Retention (20 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

(i) The degree to which the recruitment strategies and strategies for working with trusted community leaders and community-based organizations for recruiting unemployed or underemployed individuals, including individuals from communities impacted by a variety of waste facilities, blighted properties, contaminated sites, and other environmental issues within the target area are clearly identified and appropriate. (5 points)

- (ii) The quality of your screening approaches and the extent to which these approaches are appropriate for the target community. (5 points)
- (iii) The quality of the approach to retaining students in the training program and the extent to which these approaches are appropriate for the target community. (5 points)
- (iv) The extent to which the accessibility of the program to your target community will alleviate the burden of fees to students and the degree to which accessibility to training facilities will not overburden the target community. (5 points)

c. Program Support for Job Placement (15 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

- (i) The extent to which the proposed program provides job search support and resources for participants, including the extent to which the applicant will assist with initial job placement. (10 points)
- (ii) The extent to which the applicant will track and provide employment support for program graduates. (*Programs that will track graduates for less than one year will be evaluated less favorably.*) (5 points)

d. Program Sustainability (5 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

(i) The extent to which the applicant has a plan in place to continue the environmental training program once the EPA grant funding is exhausted. (5 points)

5. Partnerships (40 Points)

a. Collaboration with Environmental Entities (5 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

(i) The extent to which the applicant has made efforts to collaborate with organizations (which may include your non-lead coalition members) performing environmental work in the target community and the extent to which specific commitments by those partners will contribute to the success of the proposed project.

The degree to which the applicant's past and/or future efforts to collaborate with organizations (which may include your non-lead coalition members) completing local environmental projects in the target community will enhance and foster future employment opportunities for job training graduates.

The degree to which the applicant's relationships with local economic development or other city or county departments (which may include your non-lead coalition members) will result in the placement of graduates with local contractors.

The extent to which the Partnership Letters identify specific commitments to support the proposed program. If the applicant is referencing specific commitments from a coalition member, the application does not need to include a partnership letter from the coalition member but the commitment must be in the Memorandum of Agreement. Note, that Partnership Letters, Memorandum of Agreement or Coalition Letters that do not match the commitment identified in the Narrative will be evaluated less favorably. (5 points)

b. Collaboration with Job-Readiness/Life Skills (5 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

(i) The extent to which the applicant has made efforts to collaborate with organizations (which may include your non-lead coalition members) that provide students with job-readiness skills to ensure trainees have the pre-employment skills needed to secure full-time work.

The extent to which partners (which may include your non-lead coalition members) have committed support that will contribute to the success of the proposed program.

The extent to which the Partnership Letters identify specific commitments to support the proposed program. If the applicant is referencing specific commitments from a coalition member, the application does not need to include a partnership letter from the coalition member but the commitment must be in the Memorandum of Agreement. Note, that Partnership Letters, Memorandum of Agreement or Coalition Letters that do not match the commitment identified in the Narrative will be evaluated less favorably. (5 points)

c. Collaboration with Community (10 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

- (i) The extent to which the applicant has collaborated with community leaders and community-based organizations to support the success of the students in the program. The degree to which the applicant notified and involved the local community in developing the application. The extent to which the collaborations with the local community will continue throughout the program. (5 points)
- (ii) The extent to which the Partnership Letters identify specific commitments to support the proposed program. If the applicant is referencing specific commitments from a coalition member, the application does not need to include a partnership letter from the coalition member but the commitment must be in the Memorandum of Agreement. Note, that Partnership Letters, Memorandum of Agreement or Coalition Letters that do not match the commitment identified in the Narrative will be evaluated less favorably. (5 points)

d. Collaboration with Employers (20 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

(i) The degree to which the employer community or local labor unions (which may include your non-lead coalition members) were involved in the development of the proposed program.

The extent to which the applicant has collaborated with employers or unions (which may include your non-lead coalition members) committed to enhancing student learning and the degree to which the specific commitments by those employers or unions (which may include your non-lead coalition members) will contribute to the success of the proposed program. (5 points)

- (ii) The extent to which the applicant has collaborated with employers or local labor unions (which may include your non-lead coalition members) committed to enhancing a graduate's chance of being hired and the specific commitments by those employers. (10 points).
- (iii) The extent to which the Partnership Letters identify specific commitments to support the proposed program. If the applicant is referencing specific commitments from a coalition member, the application does not need to include a partnership letter from the coalition member but the commitment must be in the Memorandum of Agreement. Note, that Partnership Letters, Memorandum of Agreement or Coalition Letters that do not match the commitment identified in the Narrative will be evaluated less favorably. (5 points)

6. Leveraging (5 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

(i) The extent to which the applicant provided a detailed plan (amount(s) and type(s)) to leverage additional funds/resources beyond the grant funds awarded by EPA to support the proposed project activities and the extent to which these funds/resources will be used to contribute to the performance and success of the proposed project. The extent to which leveraged commitments for monetary services/resources to the proposed job training program are already committed to your program. If such commitments are not yet made, the likelihood that the commitments will materialize during the project.

The degree to which the applicant's leveraged resources have already been committed or confirmed or if they are an anticipated leveraged resource. *Note, that applications with committed or confirmed leveraged funding and resources will be evaluated more favorably.* (5 points)

7. Programmatic Capability (25 points)

a. Grant Management System (5 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

(i) The extent to which the applicant has a management system in place to direct activities under this grant. The extent to which the project manager and staff have the qualifications and experience to successfully manage the grant. The degree to which the applicant has the means to retain project leadership or recruit qualified staff should employee turnover occur. The degree to which the applicant has a system(s) in place to acquire additional expertise and resources required to perform the proposed project. (5 points)

b. Organizational Experience (10 points)

Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:

- (i) The degree of experience the applicant's organization (and if applicable, the coalition members) has with working with the local community they are proposing to serve. (5 points)
- (ii) The degree of experience the applicant (and if applicable, the coalition members) has in the employment and training fields at large. The extent to which the applicant (and if applicable, the coalition members) has experience in environmental training as it relates to the proposed curriculum. If the applicant does not have the experience and is considering contracting or using a subaward to an eligible subrecipient, the extent to which the criteria used to procure/select an instructor is clear and in compliance with applicable requirements described in the "Contracts and Subawards" solicitation clause and further discussed in Section IV.D. of EPA's Solicitation Clauses. (5 points)

c. Past Performance and Accomplishments (10 points)

In evaluating an applicant's response to this criterion, in addition to the information provided by the applicant, EPA may consider relevant information from other sources including information from EPA files and/or from other federal or non-federal grantors to verify or supplement information provided by the applicant. Applicants will only be evaluated using the sub-criterion below that is appropriate to their situation.

If the applicant has not received any type of federal or non-federal financial assistance agreement within the last 10 years, they should provide a response to such effect. Failure to respond to this criterion may result in zero points for this criterion.

- 1. Current or Past EPA Brownfields Job Training or EWDJT Grant Recipients that were awarded a Job Training Grant within the last ten (10) years. (Please be advised the date you were awarded the grant must be 2016 or later to qualify for this category.) Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:
 - (i) The degree to which the applicant demonstrates its ability to successfully manage past EPA Brownfields Job Training or EWDJT Grants and proven success throughout the different phases of work under the grant.
 - The extent to which funds from any open Brownfields Job Training grant(s) were drawn down in a timely and appropriate manner. The extent to which the applicant explains its need for additional funds, if the applicant has an open grant with funds remaining. (5 points)
 - (ii) The extent of compliance with the workplan, schedule, and terms and conditions under the current/most recent grant(s), and the extent to which there is a demonstrated history of timely and acceptable quarterly performance and grant deliverables, as well as ongoing ACRES reporting.

The extent to which meaningful accomplishments were achieved under the current/most recent grant(s) including:

- The number of individuals the applicant committed to train and place versus what was provided in your approved workplan.
- The number of individuals that were actually trained under each grant.
- The placement rate.
- Whether the original anticipated training and placement goals were met, and, if not, the steps that were taken to improve the program. (5 points)

- OR -

- 2. Has Not Received an EPA Brownfields Job Training or EWDJT Grant; Recipient of Other Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements awarded within the last 10 years. (Please be advised the date you were awarded the grant must be 2016 or later to qualify for this category.) Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:
 - (i) The degree to which the applicant demonstrates its ability to successfully manage federal or non-federal grants, and the performance of all phases of work under each grant.

The extent to which the current/most recent assistance agreement(s) is similar in terms of scope and relevance in terms of structure and/or deliverables to the proposed project. The extent to which meaningful project accomplishments (including specific outputs and outcomes and measures of success) were achieved under the current/most recent assistance agreement(s). (5 points)

(ii) The degree of success in meeting and complying with reporting requirements, including quarterly reporting, technical reports, final reports, and data entry into required systems such as ACRES, as applicable. (5 points)

- OR -

- 3. Never Received Any Type of Federal or Non-Federal Financial Assistance Agreements. Under this criterion, applicants will be evaluated based on their ability to successfully complete and manage the proposed project considering:
 - (i) The extent to which it is clearly affirmed that the organization never received any type of federal or non-federal financial assistance agreement, or has recently received a financial assistance agreement, but has not had an opportunity to demonstrate compliance with the award requirements. (These applicants will receive a "neutral" score of 5 points. Failure to respond to this sub-criterion may result in zero points.) (5 points)

C. Review and Selection Process

 Regional Contacts will conduct threshold eligibility review against the threshold eligibility criteria listed in Section 2.

- For applications with notable scoring differences, a national review panel will be held to discuss the applications.
- At least 1 Regional Brownfields Job Training Coordinator will review each application.
- Applications will be scored against the review criteria stated in section 6.B.
- The Headquarters Selection Official will make the final selections for awards.
- The Headquarters Selection Official may consider one or more of the other factors described in Section 6.C.1.

1. Other Evaluation Factors

Applicants should provide a summary in the Narrative on the applicable other factors and note the corresponding page number on the Sample Other Factors Checklist Form located in Narrative Information Sheet Section 4.A.1.ix. In making the final funding decisions, the Headquarters Selection Official may also consider the following factors:

- whether the community population is 15,000 or less;
- whether the applicant has not received an EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant since 2016;
- whether the applicant is a federally recognized Indian Tribe or U.S. Territory or whether the project is assisting a Tribe or territory;
- whether the applicant is seeking to serve veterans; and
- whether a target area is located within a community in which a coal-fired power plant has recently closed (2016 or later) or is closing.

EPA may verify this information prior to selection.

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

- distribution of funds between urban and non-urban areas;
- whether the proposed site(s) is located within, or includes, a county experiencing "persistent poverty" where 20% or more of its population has lived in poverty over the past 30 years, as measured by the 1990 and 2000 decennial censuses and the most recent Small Area Income and Poverty Estimates;
- the distribution of funds among EPA's ten Regions;
- whether the applicant has previously been awarded a Brownfields Job Training Grant; and
- whether the application is for a Job Training Coalition Grant.

D. Risk Review

The EPA will consider any comments by the applicant, along with information available in the responsibility/qualification records in SAM.gov., when doing the risk review as required by <u>2 CFR</u> 200.206.

7. Award Notices

The EPA anticipates notification to successful applicants will be made by Jerry Minor-Gordon-English, OBLR, Acting Deputy Director. The notification will be sent to the original signer of the application or the project contact listed in the application. This notification is not an authorization to begin work. The official notification of an award will be made by the Regional Award Official assigned to the cooperative

agreement. Selection does not guarantee an award will be made. Statutory authorization, funding, or other issues during the award process may affect the ability of the EPA to make an award. The award notice, signed by an authorized EPA grants officer, is the authorizing document and will be provided through electronic or postal mail. The successful applicant may need to prepare and submit additional documents and forms, which must be approved by the EPA, before the grant can officially be awarded. The time between notification of selection and award of a grant can take up to 90 days or longer.

8. Post-Award Requirements and Administration

A. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

The recipient and any sub-recipient must comply with the applicable <u>General Terms and Conditions</u>. These terms and conditions are in addition to the assurances and certifications made as part of the award, terms and conditions, and restrictions reflected on the official assistance award document.

Awards issued as a result of this funding opportunity are subject to the requirements of the Uniform Administrative Requirements, Cost Principles and Audit Requirements for Federal Awards; Title <u>2 CFR</u> Part 200 and 2 CFR Part 1500.

B. Reporting

<u>EPA's General Terms and Conditions</u> in the Notice of Award will have information on performance and financial reports, including:

- How often you will report.
- Any required form or formatting.
- How to submit them.

C. Subaward and Executive Compensation Reporting

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

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

9. Other Information

A. Additional Provisions for Applicants

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