

Local Infrastructure Hub

Grant Application Bootcamps

Brownfield Grants

(Cleanup,
Multipurpose)

The Local Infrastructure Hub is a national program designed to connect cities and towns with the resources and expert advice they need to access federal infrastructure funding in order to drive local progress, improve communities, and deliver results for residents.

Agency:

Environmental Protection Agency

Category:

Environment/Community
Development

Total IJA Funding:

\$1.5 billion over 5 years

FY23 Grant Funding:

Multipurpose: Est. 17 grants of
\$800,000 each

Cleanup: Est. 73 grants for total
of \$60M

Match Requirements:

Under the Bipartisan
Infrastructure Law, there are **no**
matching requirements for
Brownfields

FY24 Key Dates:

FY24 grants are expected
Summer/Fall 2023. For FY23,
Cleanup and Multipurpose grants
opened in September 2022 and
are due in November 2022.

Technical Assistance:

The [Technical Assistance for
Brownfields program](#) supports
communities with training and
technical assistance.

Additional information can be found
on [EPA's Brownfield Overview](#).

Brownfield Grants Overview

The Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act of 2021 added \$1.5 billion over five years to EPA's annual brownfields appropriation to help return brownfields to productive use, and to train residents for brownfields jobs. A brownfield is a property whose expansion, redevelopment, or reuse may be complicated by the presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. **The Grant Application Bootcamps will offer support for the following Brownfield grant types in early 2023:**

- **Cleanup Grants** provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant.
- **Multipurpose Grants** provide funding to conduct a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites in a target area.

Key Funding Criteria

The key funding criteria varies for each grant type—please refer to the Notice of Funding Opportunity (NOFO) for specifics.

EPA's Brownfields Grants review process typically includes an initial review for determination of eligibility and threshold requirements, and proceeds to a review of ranking criteria:

- Applicant Eligibility, Capacity and Past Performance
- Threshold Requirements including Site Eligibility, State Letter
- Community Need and Engagement
- Project Area Description and Revitalization Plans
- Implementation Plan: Tasks, Costs, Measuring Progress

Eligible Applicants and Considerations

[Eligible applicants](#) for Brownfield Cleanup and Multipurpose Grants include state, regional, and local government entities, qualifying community development corporations. Non-profit organizations are also eligible to apply for Cleanup grants.

For Cleanup grants, applicants must be the sole owner of the site at time of application. For Multipurpose, applicants must be sole owner of at least one site(s) in the target area.

Applicants for Brownfield sites where EPA Cleanup Grant funds were previously expended may not receive additional EPA Cleanup Grant funding in FY23.

Entities that were awarded an FY22 Community-wide Assessment Grant for States and Tribes are not eligible to apply for Multipurpose Grant in FY23.

If you have an existing brownfields grant, obligate your funding and make sure all reporting is up to date.

For Cleanup grants, notify the community of your intent to apply and secure a State letter for your site.

Applicants may only apply to a Cleanup OR a Multipurpose grant during the same funding cycle.

Opportunities for Climate and Racial Wealth Equity

Communities on the frontline of climate vulnerability many times overlap with communities that have been depressed by brownfields. In turn, brownfields restoration can enhance climate change mitigation and resilience in an equitable way.

Redeveloping brownfields can bring housing, open space, and commercial activity and reduce sprawl and associated emissions/costs. These projects can support neighborhood economies and small businesses, create homeownership opportunities, and opportunities for BIPOC developers and contractors. Studies show that there is a return of \$20.13 for every brownfields dollar spent.

As infill development, brownfields can reduce transportation demand while enhancing neighborhoods. Development may incorporate renewable energy or support economic and environmental resilience. Development design can provide energy efficient, resilient housing, commercial space, or green space that mitigates stormwater and heat.

Eligible Activities

Cleanup grants provide funding to carry out cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant. Funds can be used to address sites contaminated by petroleum and/ or hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants. Eligible activities also include reuse planning and community engagement activities, up to 10% for health monitoring and monitoring and enforcement of institutional controls.

Multipurpose applications should conduct a range of activities, for example: developing inventories of brownfield sites; prioritizing sites; conducting environmental site assessments; developing cleanup plans and reuse plans related to brownfield sites; carry out cleanup activities on brownfield sites owned by the applicant, and developing an overall plan for revitalization.