EPA Brownfields Assessment Grant Program Review of Fiscal Year 25 Funded Projects

Objective

This document provides a high-level review of the Environmental Protection Agency's (USEPA) <u>Brownfield Assessment Grant Program</u> Fiscal Year (FY) 25 Funded Projects. This program funds cleanup activities at brownfield sites owned by the applicant.

Program Summary

A brownfield site is a property where the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, contaminant, controlled substance, petroleum, or petroleum product, or is mine-scarred land. The Assessment Grant Program funds brownfield inventories, planning, environmental assessments and community outreach.

This funding program is split into two categories: Community-wide Assessment Grants and Assessment Coalition Grants. Community-wide Assessment Grants are appropriate for communities that are beginning to address their brownfield challenges, as well as for communities that have ongoing efforts to bring sites into productive reuse. Assessment Coalition Grants are designed for one "lead" entity to partner with two to four entities that do not have the capacity to apply for and manage their own EPA cooperative agreement and otherwise would not have access to Brownfields Grant resources.

A factsheet with clarification on the distinction between the two program components can be found <u>here</u>.

Application Deadline	Applications must be submitted by January 28, 2026, by 11:59 PM ET . Grant applications are submitted through <u>grants.gov</u> .
Funding Overview	For FY 26 Community-wide Assessment Grants: » Total Funding: Approximately \$35,000,000 » Maximum Award: \$500,000 For FY 26 Assessment Coalition Grants: » Total Funding: Approximately \$58,700,000 » Maximum Award: \$1,500,000

¹ Brownfield Overview. Environmental Protection Agency; at: <u>Brownfield Overview and Definition | Brownfields | US FDA</u>





Eligible Uses	Assessment Grant funds can be used for the direct costs associated with the inventory, site prioritization, community involvement, site reuse planning, assessment, and cleanup planning for brownfield sites. Funds can be used to conduct brownfields planning and developing site reuse plans, as well as costs associated with supporting those that participate in an applicant's programming. This applies to both Community-wide and Coalition grants. For examples of grant-funded projects across the country, the EPA recommends reviewing the EPA Brownfield Grant Recipients Success Stories.
Cost Sharing Requirements	No cost share is required, and voluntary cost share is not accepted.

FY 25 National-Level Summary

The USEPA awarded 207 communities with 214 grant awards for a total of over \$224 million in funding for Brownfields Assessment, Revolving Loan Fund, and Cleanup (ARC) Grant programs in FY 25. Of 476 applications submitted to the Brownfields program in 2025, 2 were from Maryland, with one being an assessment application.

Detailed fact sheets of selected projects and award recipients <u>can be found here</u>. For reference, Maryland is located in Region 3.



