

Brownfields Job Training Grant Program Review for FY 2027

Objective

This document provides a high-level review of the [Environmental Protection Agency's](#) (EPA) [Brownfields Job Training Grant Program](#) funded projects.

Program Summary

The objective of the EPA Brownfields Job Training Grant Program is to recruit, train and upscale the skillsets of unemployed and underemployed residents of solid and hazardous waste-impacted communities. The funding provided under this program is intended to equip individuals with the skills needed to obtain full-time, sustainable employment while facilitating activities related to assessment, cleanup, or preparation of contaminated sites.

Interested applicants may [fill out an inquiry form](#) to submit a question or technical assistance request.

Note: Applicants that do not plan on collaborating or partnering with other groups specific to the criteria in this section will be evaluated based on the extent to which they demonstrate how they will be able to effectively perform and complete the project without such collaboration. Given the importance of partnerships and collaboration in the success of this program, it is unlikely that applicants without collaboration or partnerships will score competitively.

Application Deadline	Applications must be submitted by September 23, 2026, by 11:59 p.m. ET . Grant applications are submitted through Grants.gov .
Funding Overview	For FY 2026: » Total Funding: \$5,000,000-\$6,000,000 » Up to 20 awards » Individual awards are expected to be for up to \$300,000 and have up to a 3-year project period
Eligible Uses	Funds must be used for direct programmatic costs. These costs can include program support, including: » 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

	» On-the-job training insurance for trainees » Costs for recruiting, screening, and placement of individuals in the training program Funds may be used to support program trainees, including: » Reasonable stipends to compensate trainees for their time in training » Transportation for trainees » Reasonable childcare subsidies » Costs associated with required health exams, drug testing, or licensing fees related to training and/or job placement of trainees, and on-the-job insurance for trainees Additional information on participant support costs is available in EPA Guidance on Participant Support Costs. » Applications must include 40-hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response (HAZWOPER) training. Examples of additional eligible trainings can be found here.
Eligible Applicants	» General Purpose Unit of Local Government » Land Clearance Authority » 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 » Federally recognized Indian Tribe and Intertribal Consortia » Nonprofit organizations » Qualified community development entity as defined in section 45D(c)(1) of the IRC » Limited liability corporations or partnership in which all managing members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations exempt from taxation under 501(a) of the IRC or limited liability corporations whose sole members are 501(c)(3) nonprofit organizations exempt from taxation under 501(a) of the IRC
Cost Sharing Requirements	» There is no cost share requirement under this program, and voluntary cost share will not be accepted under this competition.
Priority Populations	» Communities historically affected by economic disinvestment, health disparities, and disproportionate and adverse exposures to environmental contamination.

FY2026 Brownfields Job Training Grant Program NOFO Application Status

This program is currently open for interested applicants until **September 23, 2026**. The full Notice of Funding Opportunity announcement can be found [here](#). If you have additional questions on this program, please reach out to the EPA's [Brownfields Technical Assistance program](#), or EPA Region 3 contact Dawn Farver, Farver.Dawn@epa.gov.

National-Level Summary

Last year, the EPA awarded \$12 million across 25 communities for environmental job training programs nationwide. The selected applicants were cities, counties, nonprofits, higher educational institutions, and coalitions, with first-time applicants making up 52% of those awarded. The list of all awards made can be found [here](#).

Summary of Brownfields Job Training Grant Program Awards Won in Maryland

Since the program was created in 1998, EPA has awarded 431 job training grants totaling over \$107.8 million through Brownfield Job Training Programs. Maryland has received 11 awards throughout the life of the program, some of which have gone to municipalities, with the most recent award in 2023 for \$500,000.

Below is a description of the most recent awards granted in Maryland.

Table 1. Grant Awards within Maryland

Local/County Recipient	Project Type	Awarded Funding	Project Description
Civic Works, Inc.	Job Training	\$500,000	FY2023 award to train 240 students and place at least 163 in environmental jobs. Trainees complete up to six federal certifications. Civic Works, Inc., is targeting students within the City of Baltimore, specifically underemployed and unemployed individuals.
Civic Works, Inc.	Job Training	\$200,000	FY2022 award to train 120 students and place at least 82 in environmental jobs. Trainees earned up to three federal certifications.
Civic Works, Inc.	Job Training	\$200,000	FY2020 award to train 80 students and place at least 61 graduates in environmental jobs. Trainees earned one state and six federal certifications.