

September 14, 2011

Notes from Brownfields Learning Community (PLC)

Topics: Recap of previous Professional Learning Community Sessions
 Schedule for preparation and submission of new EPA Environmental Job Development grant proposals
 Time to begin preparation for expanding your current training programs

UPDATES / REMINDERS / ANNOUNCEMENTS / RESOURCES

If your EPA Job Development grant proposal was not accepted earlier this year, please contact your regional job development coordinator to obtain evaluation comments.

A previously submitted grant proposal can serve as a baseline starting point for a new, improved submission. During the next PLC cycle, we will review all of the ranking criteria to insure you have addressed all of the issues important to the development of a sustainable environmental job development and training program.

Please consider resubmitting a new revised proposal. Many current grantees have been successful on the second or third submission. It is however, important that you receive your evaluation comments and identify the weak components of your proposal. Often, proposals are severely downgraded for simply not completely answering subtle questions presented in the ranking criteria section of the RFP.

JOB TRAINING RESOURCES YOU MAY WISH TO REVIEW AS YOU PLAN OR EXPAND YOUR ENVIRONMENTAL JOB DEVELOPMENT AND TRAINING PROGRAM

Brownfields Toolbox

The Brownfields Toolbox Web site (<http://www.brownfields-toolbox.org/>) is an exclusive environmental job development and training resource. At this site you can access prior PLC session notes and find articles related to the development of sustainable environmental job development and training programs.

Advanced Technology Environmental and Energy Center

Log in by creating a free account to download over 300 items related to environmental and energy education at <http://www.ateec.org>. Example Items include:

- Local or regional assessment surveys for environmental and energy programs
- Perception/satisfaction surveys for environmental and energy programs
- Best practice educational guidelines for environmental and energy programs
- Environmental health and safety equipment checklist

NIEHS Clearinghouse

NIEHS provides, through its clearinghouse, one of the most comprehensive collections of resources related to health and safety issues. Here you can search a curricula catalog and investigate other topics to include:

- Emergency preparedness resources
- Hazardous Wastesite Worker training issues – areas of training
- Meetings and workshops
- Other links and resources
- Workforce development

The link to “Other Links” and resources is especially rich in resource information. The site can be accessed at <http://tools.niehs.nih.gov/wetp/>

EPA REGION 4 GRANT WRITING WORKSHOP

October 12 - 13, 2011 Atlanta, Georgia. Location: TBA

If you are interested in applying for an Environmental Workers Development and Job Training grant, this is the workshop for you. Examples of those who could apply:

- Prospective applicants

- State coordinators
- Grant writers
- Grant writing team members

Topics to be addressed at this year's workshop include:

- Basic Brownfields JT 101
- Writing a Proposal for EPA Funding
- Grant Management
- Grant Writing Helpful Hints
- Creating a Sustainable Brownfields JT program
- Green Remediation
- Curriculum Development
- Community Involvement/Engagement
- Labor Market Assessment
- Employer Partnerships
- Job Placement
- Letters of Support

Please note: Workshop will begin with registration on October 12, from 10 - 11:30 am. The workshop will begin at 12:30 pm and end at 5:00 pm. There will be a full day of sessions on October 13 beginning with registration from 8:00 am – 8:45 am, with sessions beginning at 9 am. The workshop will close at 4:30 pm.

Note: This will be a “Green” event. No presentation materials will be pre-printed nor will handouts be provided during the workshop. All presentations will be uploaded to Region 4’s Web site after November 14, 2011. To download all conference materials please access at <http://www.epa.gov/region4/bflr/brownfields.html>.

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MARK YOUR CALENDAR

Next PLC Session: PLC Cycle 5 will begin in October. Specific date TBA.
Sessions will be held every two weeks on Wednesdays at 2:00pm EDT.

Topics will include: Preparing for the next round of EPA Environmental job Training Grant requests
Expanding existing job training programs
Future funding, leveraging, and sustainability
Recent developments in job training

Feel free to invite a guest! Send your contact information to Mike Senew at msenew@aol.com.

Visit our *Brownfields Toolbox* Web site at <http://www.brownfields-toolbox.org> for more information on Brownfields Job Training programs.