

December 5, 2018



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 19, Session 10.

This series of bi-weekly phone calls examines effective Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) strategies from experienced grantees. PLC calls share ideas among successful grantees and prepare interested organizations for the next EPA Request for Proposals. Calls will be a mix of open discussion, workforce development news, resources, and presentations from current grantees.

- Topics:
1. News from Washington and HMTRI
 2. Questions from PLC members
 3. Cycle 19 summary – EWDJT sustainability
 4. Preparing for the release of the EWDJT Request for Proposals
 5. FYI – NIEHS fact sheet
 6. EPA MAC Grants and the December 11th webinar
 7. Professional development opportunities
 8. Contact active EWDJT grantees
 9. Check out these EWDJT social media sites
 10. Funding opportunities
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 12. EPA Regional Job Training Coordinators
 13. Recap of cycle 19 PLC calls – Tune into the next PLC call – Wednesday, January 16th, 2019

1. NEWS FROM WASHINGTON AND HMTRI

EPA Happenings:

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) has released a Request for Proposals and Application Guidelines for the FY 2019 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grants (MAC Grants). We like to call these grants our “big brother” grants in that they are funded by the same program office as the environmental workforce development program. MAC grants address sites contaminated by, or perceived to be contaminated by hazardous substances, pollutants, or contaminants and petroleum. Most important, they provide job opportunities for our EWDJT graduates. Applications for these grants are due January 31st, 2019.

We encourage prospective grantees to check out the guidelines (especially for cleanup grants). In the past, EWDJT requests for proposals followed similar formats and information requests as cleanup guidelines. The grant guidelines can be viewed at the links below. Read more about MAC grants and the Guideline webinar Tuesday December 11 in section 6 of these notes.

[FY 2019 Multipurpose Grant Guidelines](#)

[FY 2019 Assessment Grant Guidelines](#)

[FY 2019 Cleanup Grant Guidelines](#)

[Additional MAC Grant Application Resources](#)

HMTRI News:

Last call for Employee finder

HMTRI is in the final process of scanning EWDJT grantees for graduation dates, curriculum, and background information describing their programs. Inactive programs and those without graduates are

encouraged to provide information about their last cohort. Data provided allows employers, EPA, and other stakeholders to learn more about EWDJT programs, the availability of trained graduates and contact information. An updated compilation will be distributed on the Job Training listserv, posted to the Brownfields Toolbox website, and shared with EPA and prospective national employers. (see section eight of these notes for current EWDJT programs). Last year's Certified Employee Finder is available on the [Brownfields Toolbox](#).

For questions regarding the scan, please contact Bruce Diamond at bdiamond@eicc.edu (563-441-4082).

2. QUESTIONS FROM PLC MEMBERS

If you have questions you would like addressed, send it to Heather Ballou at hkballou@eicc.edu.

Have you heard when the EPA EWDJT Requests for Proposals (RFP) will be issued?

Specific timelines are still up in the air. From the most recent guidance, we think:

- *RFP will be issued - February-March*
- *Proposals due- April-May*
- *Proposal evaluations – June-July*
- *Awards and work plans –August-September*
- *Authorization to spend funds – After October 1st*
- *1st year training cohorts – winter-spring 2020 for summer placements*

We will keep you informed as we learn more.

3. CYCLE 19 SUMMARY – EWDJT SUSTAINABILITY

PLCs give grantees a chance to highlight their programs and an opportunity for others to learn from their experience. It also gives those interested an opportunity to discuss critical issues faced by prospective, new and experienced grantees. In Cycle 20 beginning January 16, 2019, we will focus on critical issues and best practices in response to the EPA Job Training Request for Proposals (RFP).

This last cycle of the PLC, discussions primarily focused on organizing programs to enhance sustainability and longevity. The EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Program (EWDJT) is based on the premise that with limited EPA start-up assistance, communities can establish sustainable community environmental job training programs by leveraging local resources. Once established, successful programs continue to operate using local partnerships and leveraging local resources. As Federal assistance becomes more competitive, the key to longevity is local and state support. Some grantees have been successful in developing sustainable organizations, while others have not been able to achieve that goal. EWDJT programs that rely primarily on Federal assistance and attempt to go it alone rarely continue when grant funding ends. Stand-alone programs must support all activities required to train, place, and track students. Support must cover all organizational infrastructure costs, facilities, and administrative obligations. An alternative goal is to partner with or become part of a larger organization thereby sharing overhead and many operational costs. In this arrangement, programs are able to leverage facilities, organizational infrastructure, administrative overhead, and staff. This can result in a cost effective and sustainable environmental workforce development program.

Several strategies that can enhance leveraging and program sustainability include the following:

- Merging into state and local governmental programs to include EWDJT.
- Organizing as part of a social enterprise or community development organization.

- Incorporating EWDJT as part of an established educational institution.
- Using economies of scale to enhance nonprofit sustainability.

[Cycle 19 of the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community \(PLC\)](#) explored several leveraging and sustainability strategies. Many of those strategies have been summarized in the HMTRI [September/October 2018 issue](#) of CONNECT News. This edition of CONNECT News provides examples of four approaches that can contribute to EWDJT leveraging and sustainability.

4. PREPARING FOR THE RELEASE OF THE EWDJT REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS

As previously noted, EPA’s next round of EWDJT grants will be funded in federal fiscal year 2020, which begins October 1st, 2019. Due to the time required to request, submit, evaluate, and select proposals for funding, the process is expected to begin this February or March. The number of awards has not yet been determined but it is expected that the number of applications will increase. All current, previous, and prospective grantees will be eligible to apply and no preferential treatment will be given to those with previous experience. For these reasons, it is important that all applicants begin preparations early. Ranking criteria is designed to separate those who have prepared well and those who have developed a program in the 60-day response time. Fortunately, the next three months provide sufficient time to properly establish relationships and build the partnerships required to write a successful proposal. Observing past performance, the following traits appear to provide successful outcomes:

Strong partnering

The best time to secure long term leveraged partners is when the EWDJT program is being organized. The initial search for partners can be incorporated as part of community and labor market assessments. Finding new leveraging partners should be an ongoing activity and is most effective when program staff make the effort to network and connect with former contacts. Partners and stakeholders are general terms that incorporate many different types of supporters. In a general sense – we like to think of all our stakeholders as partners, each contributing in their own way. They may be students, community residents, nongovernmental, and faith based organizations, advisors, suppliers, or employers. Some partners may be supported by the grant. Others contribute services, facilities, instructors, and equipment at no cost to the program. Among our most important partners are those that provide advice, visibility, and community support. Partnership development is a long term process and must begin long before the grant application is written.

Extensive leveraging and sustainability

Leveraging partners are critical to EWDJT success. Any group or organization not compensated for their efforts or contributions can be categorized as a nonfinancial leveraging partner. These leveraging partners are a necessary component to the success and sustainability of EWDJT programs. Contributions may include in-kind labor and training, equipment, facilities, operating funds, or instructional materials – Basically anything provided the program at no cost to the grant. Partner contributions are important and should be recognized, identified in the grant proposal, and reported as leveraged resources. There are no regulatory or administrative responsibilities associated with leveraged contributions. Leveraged resources and partners may come into the program at any time, however, primary partners should be written in as part of the grant proposal.

Examples of nonfinancial partners include the following organizations:

- Workforce Investment Boards
- City or state government
- Housing authorities

- Foundations and individuals
- Private sector enterprise and consultants working without fee
- Educational institutions
- Other faith based and nongovernmental organizations

Fully addressing critical issues

Eight critical issues have been identified as necessary for environmental workforce development program success. Critical issues encompass broad activities that must be addressed to be successful. [Best practices](#) identify strategies on how critical issues can best be addressed. For detailed information on critical issues, go to the [July 2018 issue](#) of CONNECT news.

Critical issues we have identified that grantees must address include the following:

- Community and labor market assessments
- Building Partnerships
- Leveraging for additional support
- Student recruitment, screening and assessment
- Developing a curriculum
- Life skills, remedial training, support services and retention
- Placement and tracking
- Program sustainability

Grant writing proficiency

All prospective grantees must learn their way around Grants.gov. Fortunately, everything a new grantee needs to know is at this site. The objective of grants.gov is to provide a common website for federal agencies to post discretionary funding opportunities and for grantees to find and apply to them. Grants.gov is an E-Government initiative operating under the governance of the Office of Management and Budget. Grants.gov houses information on over 1,000 grant programs including EPA grants. In the grants learning center users can find tutorials on the following topics:

- [Grants 101](#)
- [Grant Policies](#)
- [Grant Eligibility](#)
- [Grant Terminology](#)
- [Grant-Making Agencies](#)
- [Grant Systems](#)
- [Grant Programs](#)
- [Grant Careers](#)
- [Grant Reporting](#)
- [Grant Fraud](#)

For those new to federal grants and even more experienced grantees, now is a good time to check out the site. A few of the resources available to visitors include the following:

- [How to Apply for Grants](#)
- [Track My Application](#)
- [Workspace Overview](#)
- [Applicant Eligibility](#)
- [Organization Registration](#)
- [Applicant Registration](#)

- [Applicant Training](#)
- [Applicant FAQs](#)
- [Adobe Software Compatibility](#)
- [Submitting UTF-8 Special Characters](#)
- [Encountering Error Messages](#)

A note to new applicants - If this is your first time submitting a federal grant, you may want to consider working with an organization experienced with using Grants.gov. Grant writing and submission is perhaps the one area where experienced applicants may have an advantage over new organizations. Applicants must understand that reviewers can only evaluate programs based on the written content of the application. The best, most comprehensive program will not be funded unless the quality of that program is expressed on paper. Many successful applicants use program staff to develop technical and operational strategies. Staff input is passed to a skilled writer able to digest and include their content in an easy to understand application that meets all of the application guidelines. Those guidelines will be issued as part of the EPA Request for Proposals. As we begin the early stages of program development, careful consideration needs to be given to the grant writing and submission process.

5. FYI – NIEHS FACT SHEET

A new [NIEHS WTP fact sheet](#) profiles its six major training programs, key courses, and notable efforts. The fact sheet also highlights the economic impact findings from the Environmental Career Worker Training Program (ECWTP) and WTP's disaster response and recovery activities. Additional instructional fact sheets on various topics can be ordered through this [NIEHS contact page](#).

[National Institute of Environmental Health Sciences](#)
[NIEHS Worker Training Program](#)
[National Clearinghouse for Worker Safety and Health Training](#)

6. EPA MAC GRANTS AND THE DECEMBER 11TH WEBINAR

What are MAC grants and why are they important to EWDJT programs?

Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup grants (MAC) form the foundation for Brownfields remediation. Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training programs provide local residents an opportunity to participate in those cleanup efforts. It is important that EWDJT grantees partner with local MAC grantees. In fact, the coordination between EWDJT and MAC is part of the assessment and cleanup grant requests for proposals. Here is a brief summary of each grant program.

Multipurpose Grants:

Provide funding to conduct a range of eligible assessment and cleanup activities at one or more brownfield sites in a target area. These multi-purpose grants (MP, assessment and cleanup combination) are available up to \$800,000.

MP grant recipients must complete at least one Phase II environmental site assessment, one cleanup, and an overall plan for revitalization. MP Projects that allocate at least 70% of grant funds for tasks directly related to site-specific work, including site assessments, remediation, and associated tasks (with at least \$200,000 designated for tasks directly associated with site remediation) will be reviewed more favorably.

EPA anticipates selecting 10 proposals

Assessment Grants

Community-Wide Applicants: Combined total up to \$300,000, with a maximum of \$300,000 for either

hazardous substances or petroleum. Assessment Coalition Applicants: Apply for up to \$600,000 in hazardous substances or petroleum funding. There will be an expanded focus on conducting planning activities under Assessment grants. **EPA anticipates selecting 114 proposals**

Cleanup Grants

Cleanup grant funding has been increased to \$500,000 per site. Only one application per community! **EPA anticipates selecting 40 proposals.**

The proposal submission deadline is January 31, 2019, and a webinar to assist in preparing proposals will be held on December 11, 2018 at 2:00pm EST. For more information and application instructions, see <http://www.epa.gov/brownfields/solicitations-brownfield-grants>.

Additional resources for FY19 MAC Grant Applicants can be found at the [Office of Brownfields and Revitalization website](#). These include:

- The FY19 Brownfields Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
- The Summary of Changes and Applicant Tips
- The Planning Program Fact Sheets

EPA is hosting an outreach webinar to review the MAC requests for proposals

Tuesday, December 11th

2:00 PM Eastern Time.

Participants can join at https://epawebconferencing.acms.com/fy19_mac/and/

Dial into the audio conference line at 1-866-299-3188/202-566-1817. No registration is required.

If you miss the webinar, it will be recorded and posted on the website above approximately one week after the webinar.

7. PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

The Community and College Consortium for Health and Safety Training

The Community and College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST), administered by the [Partnership for Environmental Technology Education](#) (PETE) can training components for EPA EWDJT trainers. CCCHST consists of 120 partners offering hazardous materials instruction (HAZWOPER and related Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 CFR 1910.120) in most states of the nation. CCCHST uses a curriculum developed by the Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute (HMTRI) through a train-the-trainer model program. CCCHST instructors, prepared by PETE and HMTRI, annually train 10,000 workers, technicians, and supervisors to protect themselves and their communities from exposure to hazardous materials encountered during waste site clean-up, disaster site cleanup, Brownfields redevelopment, transportation of hazardous materials, and in response to spills and releases of hazardous materials. Here is the schedule for upcoming CCCHST professional development opportunities:

..... **Now accepting applications**

The GreatEST Institute

June 3-14, 2019

Davenport, Iowa

OSHA Health and Safety Instructor Training

The Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST)

Instructors are prepared through a 10-day Train-the-Trainer Program called the GreatEST Institute (Great Environmental Safety Training Institute) to deliver required certifications for public and private responders and workers including:

- 40-hour Waste Site Worker Health and Safety
- 24-hour Industrial Emergency Response
- DOT Haz Mat Awareness
- Confined Space Non Entry Rescue
- Hazard Awareness and Communication
- Disaster Site Worker Awareness

Applications can be found at <https://nationalpete.org/events/> and are due February 28th, 2019.

PETE Instructor Professional Development Conferences

- *March 27-29, 2019 – Arkansas Environmental Training Academy, Little Rock, AR
- April 23-25, 2019 – Northampton Community College, Bethlehem, PA
- July 16-18, 2019 – South Central College, North Mankato, MN

***PETE & NESHTA Specialty Instructor Training Opportunity**

March 24-26, 2019

NESHTA Designing & Delivering Effective Training Pre-Conference Workshop

Applications can be found at <https://nationalpete.org/events/>.

ACRES training for EWDJT grantees

[Brownfields Online ACRES Training](#)

EPA offers the following two online training courses to aid Brownfields Cooperative Agreement Recipients in reporting their grant-funded activities using ACRES:

| Day | Date | Time | Webinar Link |
|---------|-------------------|------------|------------------------------------|
| Tuesday | December 11, 2018 | 1 p.m. EST | WebEx Session EXIT |
| Tuesday | March 12, 2019 | 1 p.m. EST | WebEx Session EXIT |

8. CONTACT ACTIVE EWDJT GRANTEES

Are you interested in contacting current environmental workforce development and job training grantees?

EWDJT grantees are happy to assist other grantees and prospective applicants to share their experiences with interested organizations. Contact information is available from the 2018 All-Grantee Meeting participant list on Brownfields-Toolbox.org.

| New and Refunded Grantees | Region | State | FY Award |
|--|--------|-------|------------|
| Alaska Forum, Inc. | 10 | AK | 2016, 2018 |
| Auberle | 3 | PA | 2016 |
| Civic Works, Inc. | 3 | MD | 2016, 2018 |
| Cypress Mandela Training Center, Inc. | 9 | CA | 2016 |
| Earth Conservancy | 3 | PA | 2017 |
| Energy Coordinating Agency | 3 | PA | 2016 |
| Essex County Division of Training and Employment | 2 | NJ | 2018 |
| Florida State College at Jacksonville | 4 | FL | 2017 |
| Fortune Society, Inc., The | 2 | NY | 2017 |
| Full Employment Council, Inc. | 7 | MO | 2018 |
| Glens Falls, City of | 2 | NY | 2016 |
| Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps, Inc. | 5 | WI | 2017 |
| Groundwork Rhode Island | 1 | RI | 2018 |
| Hunters Point Family | 9 | CA | 2018 |
| King County | 10 | WA | 2018 |
| Lawson State Community College | 4 | AL | 2016 |
| Limitless Vistas, Inc. | 6 | LA | 2016, 2018 |
| Los Angeles Conservation Corps | 9 | CA | 2016, 2018 |
| Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board | 1 | MA | 2017 |
| Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, Waterbury | 1 | CT | 2016 |
| Nye County | 9 | NV | 2016 |
| OAI, Inc. | 5 | IL | 2017 |
| Oregon Tradeswomen Inc. | 10 | OR | 2017 |
| PathStone Corporation | 2 | PR | 2017 |
| People United for Sustainable Housing, Inc. | 2 | NY | 2017 |
| Pittsburg, City of | 9 | CA | 2016, 2018 |
| Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe | 10 | WA | 2016 |
| RecycleForce | 5 | IN | 2018 |
| Redevelopment Authority of Cumberland County | 3 | PA | 2016 |
| Richmond, City of (California) | 9 | CA | 2017 |
| Rochester, City of (New York) | 2 | NY | 2016 |
| Salish Kootenai College | 8 | MT | 2017 |
| Santa Fe Community College | 6 | NM | 2017 |
| Springfield, City of (Missouri) | 7 | MO | 2016, 2018 |
| St. Louis Community College | 7 | MO | 2017 |
| St. Nicks Alliance | 2 | NY | 2018 |
| Sustainable South Bronx | 2 | NY | 2018 |
| Tacoma, City of | 10 | WA | 2016, 2018 |
| The Hunters Point Family | 9 | CA | 2016 |
| Training to Work an Industry Niche | 4 | NC | 2018 |
| West End Neighborhood House, Inc. | 3 | DE | 2018 |
| Zender Environmental Health and Research Group | 10 | AK | 2017 |

[Map of EPA Regions](#)

9. CHECK OUT THESE EWDJT SOCIAL MEDIA SITES

The Fortune Society

Founded in 1967, The Fortune Society's vision is to foster a world where all who are incarcerated or formerly incarcerated will thrive as positive, contributing members of society. We do this through a holistic, one-stop model of service provision. Our continuum of care, informed and implemented by professionals with cultural backgrounds and life experiences similar to those of our clients, helps ensure their success. Fortune serves approximately 6,000 individuals annually via three New York City locations: our service center in Long Island City, Queens, and both the Fortune Academy ("the Castle") and Castle Gardens in West Harlem. Our program models are recognized, both nationally and internationally, for their quality and innovation.

<http://www.facebook.com/fortunesociety>

ECA helps people

My name is Tyler B. I am a summer intern here at ECA. ECA helps people with heating, weatherization, education and job training. ECA serves people that are low-income. The thing about ECA is they want to 'help people conserve energy and provide a sustainable and socially equitable future for all'. You see ECA has impacted many families. Since they started more than 30 years ago, ECA has repaired over 45,000 heating systems, weatherized over 43,000 homes and trained over 5,000 energy professionals.

<http://www.facebook.com/ecasavesenergy>

10. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

US EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Program

Environmental Justice (EJ) is the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation, and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies.

The Environmental Justice Small Grants Program provides financial assistance to eligible nonprofit organizations and tribal governments to build collaborative partnerships, identify local environmental and public health issues, envision solutions, and empower the community through education, training, and outreach. Environmental Justice Small Grants fund projects up to \$30,000. For more information, go [here](#).

[Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration Grant Program 2019](#)

Request for Proposals

Full Proposal Due Date: Thursday, January 31, 2019

The National Fish and Wildlife Foundation (NFWF) and the Wildlife Habitat Council (WHC), in cooperation with the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA), USDA Forest Service (USFS), U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS), FedEx, Southern Company, Shell Oil Company and BNSF Railway are pleased to solicit applications for the 2019 Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration program. The Five Star and Urban Waters program will award approximately \$1.7 million in grants nationwide. The Five Star and Urban Waters Restoration grant program seeks to develop community capacity to sustain local natural resources for future generations by providing modest financial assistance to diverse local partnerships focused on improving water quality, watersheds and the species and habitats they support.

Projects include a variety of ecological improvements along with targeted community outreach, education and stewardship. Ecological improvements may include one or more of the following:

wetland, riparian, forest and coastal habitat restoration; wildlife conservation, community tree canopy enhancement, water quality monitoring and green infrastructure best management practices for managing run-off. Projects should also increase access to the benefits of nature, reduce the impact of environmental hazards and engage local communities, particularly underserved communities, in project planning, outreach and implementation. This program expects that applicants will represent a mixture of urban and rural communities. NFWF may use a mix of public and private funding sources to support any grant made through this program.

U.S. Department of Labor announces funding opportunity for apprenticeship expansion in key industry sectors.

U.S. Department of Labor today announced \$150 million in grants to support sector-based approaches to expand apprenticeships on a national scale in key industry sectors. When awarded, the grants will move a step closer to President Trump's vision set forth in [Executive Order on Expanding Apprenticeship in America](#), which calls for increasing the number of apprentices in the U.S. across all industries.

This grant program aims to accelerate the expansion of apprenticeships to new industry sectors, and to increase apprenticeship opportunities for all Americans. Veterans, military spouses, service members re-entering the civilian workforce, and underrepresented groups in apprenticeship, including women, people of color, and ex-offenders will benefit from their investments. As directed by the 2017 Executive Order, the Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion released on May 10, 2018, its [final report to the President](#), which provides detailed recommendations for meeting these goals.

"The expansion of apprenticeships makes the greatest workforce in the world – the American workforce – even stronger," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta. "This funding is an investment in America's workforce, will contribute to competitiveness by helping job creators meet increasing demands for skilled workers, and meets the nation's need for family-sustaining careers." There are more than 6.6 million job openings in the U.S., many of which require advanced skills. The Department will award up to \$150 million in H-1B funds to approximately 15 to 30 apprenticeship programs, with awards ranging from \$1 million to \$12 million. The grant size will depend on the size of the targeted industry sector and the proposed scale of the apprenticeship projects.

Funding will be awarded to projects designed to:

Expand apprenticeships to occupations that have not typically used apprenticeships to bring new entrants into the workforce. By focusing on information technology, advanced manufacturing, banking and finance, and healthcare, we can offer new job seekers opportunities and upskill those already employed in these industries to bolster the sector's competitiveness; increase the level of apprenticeship activity among a range of new employers within these industry sectors, particularly small and medium-sized businesses; and Promote a sector-based approach to large-scale expansion of apprenticeships that include a paid, work-based learning component and a required educational or instructional component that results in the issuance of an industry-recognized credential and meet appropriate quality assurance standards. For additional information on grant eligibility, and how to apply for funds, visit <https://www.grants.gov>.

11. PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITES

[AmericanSolarWorkforce.org](#) links solar employers and job seekers

AmericanSolarWorkforce.org, a comprehensive online platform linking solar employers and job seekers to build a strong and diverse solar workforce. This career platform is managed by the Solar

Training Network, a program led by The Solar Foundation with a team of partners and funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office.

The Solar Training Network developed the platform after its research showed a large majority of solar employers find it difficult to hire qualified candidates. And their 2017 study, [Solar Training and Hiring Insights](#), reported that a majority of solar employers find current job board services insufficient or difficult to use. [AmericanSolarWorkforce.org](#) helps fill these gaps by facilitating connections between solar companies, career seekers, training providers, and workforce boards. Using this platform, which is free of charge, employers can post job opportunities and connect with thousands of candidates. Solar career seekers can create attractive profiles, apply for jobs, identify training providers, and make connections with solar companies.

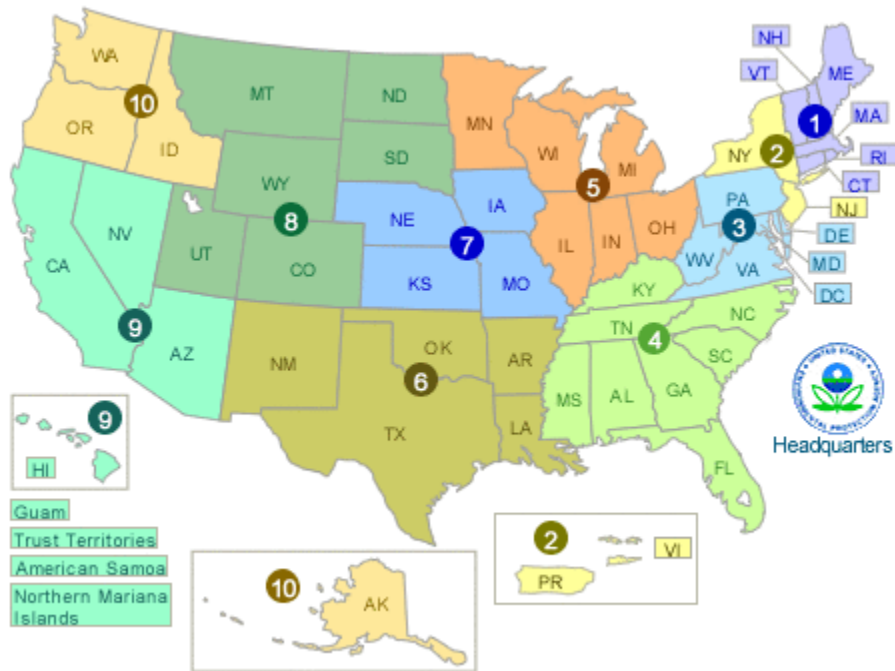
This platform includes original research and useful resources to support solar workforce development. For example, a new toolkit, [Strategies for Solar Workforce Development](#), shows how solar companies can engage with local workforce development resources and build a pipeline of talented employees. The platform also features a “Solar Panel” with advice from workforce experts, and a shared news and events page for users to post updates.

Any employer or job seeker can sign up on the platform now and start building new connections in solar. You can get started by creating a free profile on [AmericanSolarWorkforce.org](#).

12. EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS

| | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------------------|--|
| EPA Region 1 Danny Rodriguez | CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT | Phone: (617) 918-1060 E-mail: rodriguez.danny@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 2 Schenine Mitchell | NJ, NY, PR, VI | Phone: (212) 637-3283 E-mail: mitchell.schenine@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 3 Jeff Barnett | DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV | Phone: (215) 814-3246 E-mail: barnett.jeff@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 4 Wanda Jennings | AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN | Phone: (404) 562-8682 E-mail: jennings.wanda@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 5 Linda Morgan | IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI | Phone: (312) 886-4747 E-mail: morgan.linda@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 5 Craig Mankowski | | Phone: (312) 886-9493 E-mail: mankowski.craig@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 6 Rita Ware | AR, LA, NM, OK, TX | Phone: (214) 665-6409 E-mail: ware.rita@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 7 Alma Moreno Lahm | IA, KS, MO, NE | Phone: (913) 551-7380 E-mail: moreno-lahm.alma@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 8 Christina Wilson | CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY | Phone: (303) 312-6706 E-mail: wilson.christina@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 9 Nova Blazej | AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU | Phone: (415) 972-3846 E-mail: blazej.nova@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 9 Noemi Emeric-Ford | | Phone: (213) 244-1821 E-mail: emeric-ford.noemi@epa.gov |
| EPA Region 10 Deborah Burgess | AK, ID, OR, WA | Phone: (206) 553-2580 E-mail: burgess.deborah@epa.gov |

Map of EPA Regions



Credit: epa.gov

13. RECAP OF CYCLE 19 PLC CALLS

Missed a few of our PLC sessions? Here is a topic listing. Post session notes are available on the [Brownfields Toolbox](#).

Cycle 19 – 2018 Environmental workforce PLC discussions

| | | |
|------------|-------------|---|
| 7/18/2018 | Session 193 | Introduction to Cycle 19 |
| 8/01/2018 | Session 194 | Critical issues |
| 8/15/2018 | Session 195 | Revisiting the 2018 All Grantee Meeting |
| 8/29/2018 | Session 196 | RecycleForce |
| 9/12/2018 | Session 197 | Coalfield Development |
| 9/26/2018 | Session 198 | Sustainability models – Social entrepreneurship |
| 10/10/2018 | Session 199 | MVWIB |
| 10/24/2018 | Session 200 | Governmental environmental workforce programs |
| 11/07/2018 | Session 201 | Strategies to strengthen nonprofits |
| 12/05/2018 | Session 202 | Preparing for the release of the next EWDJT RFP |

Tune into the next PLC call - **Wednesday, January 16th, 2019**.

Join our 30-minute discussion with EPA EWDJT grantees, alumni and new interested stakeholders. PLCs give grantees a chance to highlight their programs and an opportunity for others to learn from their experience. Email questions or to be placed on the PLC register send contact information to hkballou@eicc.edu.

Feel free to invite a guest! Send your contact information to Heather Ballou at hkballou@eicc.edu.

Visit our [HMTRI Brownfields Toolbox](#) website for more information on Brownfields Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training programs. All [PLC session notes and recordings](#) are also located on the website. For those interested in providing content or suggestions, please contact Heather Ballou at hkballou@eicc.edu.

NOTE: The PLC brings together ideas and opinions of individuals interested in environmental workforce development and job training. Ideas and opinions are not those of EPA or its policy and should not be taken as official guidance.

