

August 19, 2020



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 22.

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 – FY21 Request for Applications, proposals due September 22<sup>nd</sup>
2. News from HMTRI – Recap of the 2020 Virtual All-Grantee Meeting
3. Questions from PLC participants – Future EWDJT competitions, All-Grantee Meeting questions
4. Status of EWDJT – August 19<sup>th</sup>, 2020
5. Things to do now – Estimated timeline for FY21 grantees
6. Introduction to Ranking Criteria – Community and labor market assessments
7. Webinars, online resources, websites, recordings and PowerPoints
8. Conferences, workshops, and meetings
9. Funding and leveraging opportunities
10. Contact EPA Regional Coordinators
11. Join us on future Professional Learning Community calls

## 1. NEWS FROM WASHINGTON

### **FY21 Request for Applications, proposals due September 22<sup>nd</sup>**

**On August 6<sup>th</sup>, EPA hosted an outreach webinar reviewing the RFA. Below are links to the RFA, webinar slides, webinar recording and FAQs.**

For a recording and power point of the live webinar, go to the following site.

- [FY 2021 EWDJT Grant Guideline Outreach Webinar Recording](#)
- [FY 2021 EWDJT Grant Guideline Outreach Presentation](#)

Plan on submitting your application early – Note the grants.gov Scheduled Maintenance Outage:

Production System will go Offline Saturday September 19, 2020 at 12:01 AM ET.

Production System will go Online Monday September 21, 2020 at 6:00 AM ET.

- [Request for Applications \(RFA\) for FY 21 Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training \(EWDJT\) Grants](#)
- [Frequently Asked Questions About EWDJT Grants](#)

- [How to submit an application through Grants.gov](#)

### **2021 National Brownfields Training Conference**

EPA is going ahead with the next National Brownfields Training Conference. Offered every two years, the event will be held on April 26-30, 2021, in Oklahoma City. This conference is the largest gathering of stakeholders focused on cleaning up and reusing former commercial and industrial properties. EPA co-sponsors this event with the International City/County Management Association. EPA and ICMA are closely monitoring the COVID-19 situation and are adapting the in-person conference experience in consideration of participants' health and safety. For more information, go to <https://brownfields2021.org/>

### **Call for Ideas**

2021 National Brownfields Training Conference, Oklahoma City, OK, April 27-30, 2021. Submit your ideas for dynamic educational sessions that encourage conversation and participation from your fellow attendees. The Brownfields 2021 educational program will motivate brownfields stakeholders to engage, learn, and share their experiences and knowledge of community revitalization challenges and solutions. The conference planning committee is looking for session ideas in 12 topic areas. Submissions are due by August 24, 2020.

For more information and to submit an idea, go to the following page:

<https://brownfields2021.org/sessions/call-for-ideas/>.

## **2. HMTRI NEWS**

All of us at HMTRI would like to reach out to everyone able to attend the 2020 Virtual Annual All-Grantee Meeting. Without your participation, this meeting would not be possible. It was an ambitious undertaking asking participants to attend over nine hours ZOOM over the course of three days.

To those grantees who sent in PowerPoints, videos and interviews we say "Thank you." The videos shared at the "Student Perspectives" and "After Hours" sessions underscore the impact EWDJT is having on people's lives across the country.

To our co-facilitators and presenters, we also say "Thank you," for sharing your knowledge and experience with other grantees. A willingness to help others become the best grantee they can be makes this program special.

And of course, we cannot leave out our EPA and NIEHS partners. Sharing their knowledge and experience provides EWDJT grantees access to the latest news and technology in environmental training, health and safety.

### 3. PLC QUESTIONS

I know this year's EWDJT grant applications are due by September 22. Wondering if we know when the next round of funding will be announced? We're not certain if we are going to apply for funding this year or wait until the next round?

*Regarding your question on the next EPA RFA, depending on the EPA budget and internal priorities, past EWDJT competitions occurred on an annual basis. Last fall, twenty six FY20 awards were announced. FY21 applications due this September will be awarded in November or December of this year. It is highly speculative, but if there is a FY22 competition, it will likely have a schedule similar to this year's.*

*Our advice is to submit an FY21 proposal whether or not if it's not your best shot. Submitting a proposal, even if unfunded, gives applicants a chance to debrief with Regional Coordinators. Proposal strengths and weaknesses will be discussed. It will also put your organization on EPA's "short list" of interested candidates for the next competition. Many proposals fail the first year only to be funded on the next try. EPA highly encourages unfunded EWDJT applicants to expand their proposals and reapply during the next competition.*

Could you tell me if the recording of the All-Grantee meeting is available and if so, where to access it?

*We are still working on posting All-Grantee Meeting materials. We plan on posting PowerPoints and some of the recordings on the [brownfields-toolbox.org](http://brownfields-toolbox.org) website, but it may take a week or two. If we do not already have a copy of your PowerPoints or would like to post additional supplemental materials, please send them to Heather at [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).*

Could you give me the link to Janet's COVID Workplace Safety classes?

*Here is the link and information to the online COVID Workplace Safety classes that SFCC's Energy Smart Academy are available in either English or Spanish [COVID-19: Workplace Safety](#).*

*This 4 hour class covers information to help you get safely back to work in this time of the Covid19 pandemic. Relevant to both office staff and field staff, it has been created with our OSHA safety trainer and explains safety precautions, specific job recommendations and communication skills needed going forward. Approved for 2 BPI CEUs.*

*Please email [amanda.hatherly@sfcc.edu](mailto:amanda.hatherly@sfcc.edu) for more information or go to: <https://www.energysmartacademy.com/covid-19-workplace-safety.html>*

**Questions?**

Still have unanswered questions? Send them to [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

#### **4. STATUS OF EWDJT AUGUST 19, 2020**

Anecdotal comments and observations from this week's PLC .

- Grantees are reporting that they will be commencing classes August 24<sup>th</sup> with masks and social distancing on a limited basis depending on local public health concerns and organizational policies.
- Those offering face-to-face training have reduced class sizes, masks and social distancing.

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For those opening, orientation, remedial education and life skills appear to be delivered first.

- Concern continues regarding team oriented exercises.
- HAZWOPER (1920.120), asbestos and lead with PPE and decontamination exercises are of particular concern.
- A disparity is developing regarding public health concerns and regulations affecting faceto-face and contact instruction such as 1910.120, asbestos and lead worker.
- Lack of equipment, internet access and computer skills among the EWDJT participant population will limit the number of EWDJT programs able to provide online training.
- Most EWDJT program staff are continuing administrative operations including program planning, partnership communications, limited recruitment and placement activities.
- A number of questions regarding threshold requirements for alternative training plans are being discussed.

## 5. THINGS TO DO NOW

### Double check your application submission process

**Important:** Double check the person assigned to submit your proposal. Have them log on and insure your credentials are current and that submission procedures have not changed since a grant application was last submitted. **For organizations new to federal grants, the registration process “from scratch” may take a month or more to complete.** Occasionally, technical and other issues arise when using [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). We suggest a “dry run” even if the account has been used in the past. **Applicants must use their accounts at least once per year to remain active. Important note: We have been informed that grants.gov will be down for maintenance September 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. You will need to submit your grant early.**

### Review and verify the ability to pass Threshold Criteria

Threshold Criteria are critical and reviewed on a “pass/fail” basis, it is important that you provide **all** the information requested. All Threshold Criteria must be satisfied to pass the screen. **It is extremely important that grant writers pay attention, fully understand and provide a response to the information requested.** If you have questions regarding your response to the Threshold Criteria, do not hesitate to call your Regional Coordinator for clarification. Contact information is presented in section 10 of these post session notes. Here is a quick summary of the nine Threshold Criteria necessary for proposals to proceed to the next step in proposal evaluation. These criteria are described in detail on page 13 of the [RFA](#).

- Applicants must be eligible to apply for the EWDJT program
- Applicants must demonstrate that the EWDJT program will not duplicate other Federally funded environmental job training programs  
HAZWOPER training is required as part of the core curriculum

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- Federal funds requested must not exceed \$200,000
- Page counts and formats must conform to guideline standards
- A curriculum chart with cost estimates for each course
- This year applications must include two separate plans for delivering training □  
Target area
- Funded proposals in the FY20 cohort are not eligible to apply for FY21 funding

**Schedule proposal development deliverables from now to September 14<sup>th</sup>**

Don't get caught off guard. We will repeat. Grants.gov is expected to be down for maintenance September 19<sup>th</sup> to the 21<sup>st</sup>. You will need to submit your grant early. We suggest no later than the 14<sup>th</sup>. If multiple staff members are participating in proposal development, it is important that you have specific deliverables defined and hard deadlines established. Partnership development including recruitment of potential employers, an advisory committee, leveraged partners and community supporters is time intensive and should be underway.

Our current “best guess schedule” for application submission, award and program implementation is flexible but could look like this:

- EPA Request for Applications posted on grants.gov – July 27<sup>th</sup>
- Proposal planning and team building pre grant preparation – Ongoing
- Community relationship and partnership development – Ongoing

□ **Proposals due – September 22<sup>nd</sup> (submit early)**

- Threshold criteria (Pass Fail) notifications of application rejection – Second week of October
- Proposal evaluations – November – December, 2020
- Award announcements – February, 2021
- Finalization of work plans and award finalization – Early Spring, 2021
- Authorization to spend funds –April - May, 2021
- Program planning, partnership coordination and scheduling – Spring – Summer, 2021
- Community awareness, student recruitment and screening – Summer
- First year training cohorts begin – Summer, Fall, 2021
- ACRES and Quarterly reports – Due quarterly after award finalization

**6. INTRODUCTION TO RANKING CRITERIA**

After passing Threshold Criteria, scoring maximum points on Ranking Criteria determines those applications on the short list for funding consideration. The top 15 scores (with special considerations), will share the \$3 million allocated to EWDJT in FY21. As few as two points have made a difference between funded and unfunded proposals. In order to be in the top 15 proposals, applicants must consider the following:

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- Seek every point possible
- Leave no question unanswered
- Answer each question independently  
Do not assume evaluators know anything about your program. Many may not be familiar with EWDJT.
- Be as specific as possible when providing information
- Be quantitative rather than subjective. Use numbers whenever possible.
- Include partner names and secure MOUs.
- Hold public meetings
- Don't forget to involve the community
- Engage city government
- Never exclude the Workforce Investment Board (WIB)

A suggested approach to researching and gathering data for the RFA proposal is to group topic areas. Address each topic group in depth and then use that information as a reference when reconstructing a response to each Ranking Criteria as the grant is written. This approach allows for a “deep dive” in information gathering for each topic area. For our PLC sessions, Ranking Criteria has been divided into the Ranking Criteria topic areas below. Today we began discussing community relationships (in yellow) and labor market assessments (in green).

### **109 Ranking Criteria points for discussion**

1.A. Community Description (10 points)

1.B. Labor Market Demand (10 points)

2. Training Program Description (10 points)

3. Budget (6 points)

4. Program Structure, Anticipated Outputs and Outcomes (19 points)

5.A. Collaboration with Entities Involved with Local Remediation Activities and Environmental Projects (8 points)

5.B. Community Partnership Building (8 points)

5.C. Employer Involvement (12 points)

6. Leveraging (6 points)

7. Programmatic Capability (20 points)

Other Factors

### **Community assessment will be addressed first.**

Digging into and developing community relationships will allow grant writers the information to respond to both of these Ranking criteria. Understanding and partnering with community

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organizations will provide grant writers ample and detailed information regarding the proposed target community. Here are the two community related Ranking Criteria.

**1.A. Community Description (10 points)**

**5.B. Community Partnership Building (8 points)**



### **1.A. Community Description (10 points)**

The depth and degree of environmental and economic challenges confronting your city/town/geographic area and the specific area where you plan to serve (3 points);

- The impact of current community challenges on residents and an explanation of how/why you selected your target area. (3 points)
- Demographic statistics provided compare to city, state, and/or national averages and how well they demonstrate a community indicative of need. (2 points)
- The extent to which the application seeks to serve target communities with high indicators of need (such as high rates of unemployed individuals, dislocated workers, individuals laid off as a result of recent manufacturing plant closures, severely underemployed individuals or unemployed individuals, low income and minority residents of environmentally impacted communities, veterans, and individuals with little to no advanced education). (2 points)

### **5.B. Community Partnership Building (8 points)**

- The extent to which the applicant collaborates with the affected community in your proposed job training program, including efforts made to notify and involve the local community, and/or hold any public comment sessions in the during the development of your application. (2 points); e.g., local community groups, workforce investment boards (WIBs), One Stop Centers, and academic institutions located in or near the target community.
- The level of involvement of these organizations in your program and the benefit partnerships will bring to your program and graduates. (2 points)
- Commitments made to support your program and letters of support from community partners. (2 points)
- The quality and applicability of the information provided in letters of support from community partners who made any commitments, detailing the depth and degree to which they intend on being involved in your program. Letters of support provided in the attachments should be consistent with the commitments or statements made within the Narrative. (2 points)

### **Second, employer relationships are key in scoring points in several of the Ranking Criteria.**

Developing relationships and partnerships with employers will allow grant writers to provide

numbers, names, partnerships and letters of support needed to respond to each of the following Ranking Criteria.

**1.B. Labor Market Demand (10 points) 5.A Collaboration with Entities Involved with Local Remediation Activities and Environmental Projects (8 points)**

**5.C. Employer Involvement (12 points)**

Specifically here are the Ranking Criteria related to employer relationships and labor market demand.

**1A. Labor Market Demand (10 points)**

- The depth and degree you conducted a labor market assessment to gain an understanding of the current job market in your target area. (3 points)
- The methods used to conduct your assessment. (3 points)
- The extent to which the labor market assessment resulted in an indication that your target area has the demand for a skilled environmental workforce your training program would provide. (2 points)
- The extent to which the results of your assessment were incorporated into the development of your application and training program curriculum. (2 points)

**5.A .Collaboration with Entities Involved with Local Remediation Activities and Environmental Projects (8 points)**

- The extent to which the applicant collaborates with entities performing environmental work in and around the target area including, but not limited to, brownfields assessment, revolving loan fund, cleanup, and area-wide planning grant recipients, Superfund site cleanup contractors, EPA-funded state or tribal regulated corrective action or landfill closure projects, recycling facility operators, or personnel from city-operated wastewater treatment facilities in your community. (2 points)
- The quality of the partnership(s) and benefits these partnerships may bring to your program and graduates. (2 points)
- The number and types of entities which have made commitments to support your program. (2 points)
- The quality and applicability of the information provided in letters of support from entities which have made any commitments, detailing the depth and degree to which they intend on being involved in your program. Letters of support provided in the attachments should be consistent with the commitments or statements made within the Narrative. (2 points)

### 5.C. Employer Involvement (12 points)

- The extent to which the applicant collaborates with employers within or near the target area and, if applicable, any employer partnerships that have resulted in previous graduates of your job training program being hired. (3 points)
- The depth and degree of employer involvement in the design of your program including, but not limited to, meeting dates, advisory council participation, and curriculum development. (3 points)
- Level of involvement and commitment from employer partners that will enhance a graduate's chance of success including, but not limited to, commitments to interview students, hire graduates, provide on-the-job training, and/or mentoring. (3 points)
- The quality and applicability of the information provided in letters of support from employers who have made any commitments, detailing the depth and degree to which they intend to be involved in your program. Letters of support provided in the attachments should be consistent with the commitments or statements made within the Narrative. Commitments accompanied by letters of support affirming these commitments may garner more points. (3 points)

By combining and researching these Ranking Criteria evaluation topics before responding to the final proposal, grant writers will avoid contradiction and be able to provide specific and detailed answers to information requests.

### 7. WEBINARS AND WEBSITES

[COVID-19: Online Workplace Safety](#) from Santa Fe CC's Energy Smart Academy

COVID Workplace Safety classes that SFCC's Energy Smart Academy are being offering in either English or Spanish. This 4 hour class covers information to help you get safely back to work in this time of the Covid-19 pandemic. Relevant to both office staff and field staff, it has been created with our OSHA safety trainer and explains safety precautions, specific job recommendations and communication skills needed going forward. Approved for 2 BPI CEUs.

COVID-19: Seguridad en el Trabajo

Esta clase de 4 horas cubre información para ayudarlo a volver a trabajar de manera segura en este momento de la pandemia de Covid-19. Relevante tanto para el personal de oficina como para el personal de campo, se ha creado con nuestro entrenador de seguridad de OSHA y explica las precauciones de seguridad, las recomendaciones específicas de trabajo y las habilidades de comunicación necesarias en el futuro. Aprobado para 2 BPI CEU. En español

[Resource Road-mapping Webinar Recording Now Available](#)

Resource Road-mapping for Revitalization: Tools for Leveraging Funding & Other Resources for

Brownfields & Land Revitalization webinar, sponsored by the EPA Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization, is now available online - you can access it via the "Go to Archive" button on the [webinar homepage](#).

The webinar homepage also has downloadable copies of the presentation and of several of the materials that were discussed during the session, including examples of a Resource Roadmap, Funding Matrix, and Briefing Sheet.

### [AIHA COVID19 Resources](#)

AIHA has joined efforts with CDC and NIOSH (National Institute on Occupational Safety and Health) to help educate the public about returning to work safely by hosting a series of free webinars by business sector.

Back to work resources from the AIHA link below offers specific, easy-to-follow, science-based recommendations for limiting the transmission of the coronavirus while operating a wide variety of businesses, including restaurants, retail outlets, and hair and nail salons. Guidelines were developed for smaller organizations that don't have readily available occupational health and safety resources. AIHA encourages employers, employees, and customers to carefully read and implement as many of the recommendations contained in the guidance document as applicable.

### [NIEHS WTP Essential and Returning Worker Online Training Course](#)

#### **Now Available**

As workplaces reopen, workers and employers are safeguarding against COVID-19. Vivid Learning Systems designed an online version of the NIEHS WTP Essential and Returning Worker Training course, which is now available from Vivid Learning Systems. This training includes an Introduction and modules on Assessing Exposure Risk to SARS CoV-2, Workplace Exposure Prevention, Cleaning and Disinfections, and Resilience. Access to this course is free of charge.

### [TechDirect](#)

Anyone interested in subscribing may do so on CLU-IN at <https://clu-in.org/techdirect> . All previous issues of TechDirect are archived there. The TechDirect messages of the past can be searched by keyword or can be viewed as individual issues. TechDirect's purpose is to identify new technical, policy and guidance resources related to the assessment and remediation of contaminated soil, sediments and groundwater.

If you have any questions regarding TechDirect, contact Jean Balent at (703) 603-9924 or [balent.jean@epa.gov](mailto:balent.jean@epa.gov).

## **8. CONFERENCES, WORKSHOPS AND MEETINGS**

### [2020 Georgia Environmental Conference](#)

### **August 26-28, 2020 Jekyll Island, GA**

The Annual Georgia Environmental Conference is the largest and most comprehensive professional environmental education conference serving Georgia and the Southeast region – across the public and private sectors.

Mission: To meaningfully and significantly present Georgia Environmental Conference's diverse slate of topics and featured speakers focusing on providing fresh, new, high value, wellbalanced, diverse, and relevant educational content with a positive impact on current and future practitioners and the environment of Georgia and the Southeast region.

The Conference hosts an elite group of environmental professionals seeking knowledge and sharing ideas around environmental concerns in Georgia and the Southeast region. GEC anticipates an estimated 700 attendees, including Attorneys, Consultants, Engineers, Business, Industry, Federal, State, and Local Government Officials, Planners and Developers, Landowners and many, many others with a strong interest in environmental programs in Georgia and the Southeast. Sponsorships enable more diverse groups and individuals to participate at the Annual Georgia Environmental Conference. Through continued participation in this program, we may continue to offer course registration fees far below that charged for comparable events and learning opportunities, while providing a top-notch Conference experience.

### **[The WV Brownfields Conference](#)**

#### **September 15-17 Huntington, WV**

The WV Brownfields Conference & Main Street/ON TRAC Training is West Virginia's premier redevelopment event that combines educational programs with networking opportunities between communities, local governments, development professionals, and service providers. The conference features expert panels, interactive workshops, technical training, and project case studies.

The Conference Planning Committee is currently seeking mobile workshop and breakout session ideas to fill limited slots for the 2020 Conference in Huntington, WV on September 15-17. We are looking for session ideas focused on downtown development, remediation and site preparation strategies, re-use planning approaches, and redevelopment funding opportunities. Creative session formats, such as town hall or roundtable discussions and interactive workshops, as well as traditional panel presentations, are encouraged.

### **[6th Annual GBA Brownfield Seminar](#)**

#### **Zoom webinar Oct. 6 & 7, 2020**

#### **9 a.m. to 1 p.m**

The health and safety of our members and partners has always been a top priority for our organization. After tremendous review and discussion, we have made the decision to pivot our 2020 Brownfield Seminar to a virtual format as a result of the increasing impact COVID is having

in our state and beyond. Please plan to join our Zoom webinar on Oct. 6 & 7 from 9 a.m. to 1 p.m.

While we will miss seeing you all in person and networking with you at the event, please know that we will present the same high-value content that was originally slated for earlier this year. In fact, we are excited to share a number of benefits to this format:

Extended reach - please consider inviting your contacts from all corners of the state (and beyond!) to join us. An online format will allow us to extend our reach and include those who may not typically be able to join in person due to travel restraints.

### **[ENERGY COORDINATING AGENCY](#)**

#### **2020 VIRTUAL COMMUNITY ENERGY CONFERENCE**

**October 16th, 2020 8:00a - 12:30p Format: Zoom**

Join ECA to discuss how we can work together to meet the needs of the communities we serve within the ever-changing 'new normal' brought on by COVID-19. We will be joined by people and organizations sharing stories of resilience and adaptation, along with information about how we navigate the coming year.

Throughout the morning, the panelists will be presenting on Housing Needs, a utility panel on COVID Response, Clean Energy Workforce Transformation, The New Normal of Energy Efficiency, and Concerns for Environmental Justice.

### **[The 6th Annual GBA Brownfield Seminar](#)**

**Full-day conference at Georgia Power Monday, Oct. 19, 2020**

Join us Monday, Oct. 19, 2020 for the sixth annual Brownfield Seminar. We are planning to present the same great event we had planned before coronavirus (COVID-19) rearranged all of our lives and schedules, in its originally planned format, as a full-day conference at Georgia Power. Those who submitted abstracts - thank you, we will be in touch with you directly regarding your submission.

**[Registration](#)** is open and sponsorships are still available! If you're already registered, don't worry - we have transferred your registration to the new event date on Oct. 19, 2020.

### **[The 2020 Florida & Alabama Brownfields Conference](#)**

**October 25-28 Pensacola, FL**

The first-ever joint Florida & Alabama Brownfields Conference will be co-hosted by the Florida Brownfields Association and the Alabama Brownfields Association.

Hosted at the historic Pensacola Grand Hotel, just a short walk to the renowned redevelopment successes in downtown Pensacola. Join us for this unique opportunity to connect with

Brownfields leaders, visionaries, and stakeholders from two states. The 2020 conference will be held at the historic Pensacola Grand Hotel, located on the site of the Louisville and Nashville passenger depot constructed in 1912, replacing the 1882 vintage L&N Union Station -- now preserved, redeveloped, and listed on the National Historic Registry.

### **[The 26th Florida Remediation Conference & Exhibition \(FRC 2020\)](#)**

**November 4-6, 2020 Omni Orlando Resort at Champions Gate Champions Gate (Orlando), Florida**

The Florida Remediation Conference (FRC) is one of the premier soil, air and water remediation conferences of the year. Though FRC started out as a Florida-centric event 25 years ago, it has developed a solid reputation for fostering the remediation and redevelopment industries across the Southeast. FRC attracts over 600 attendees comprised of a mix of industry representatives, developers, consultants and contractors, and over 100 exhibitors and sponsors from across the country. The Florida Remediation Conference & Exhibition is requesting individuals that have an interest in presenting an oral or poster presentation at the 26th annual event which will take place on November 4-6, 2020.

### **[National Brownfields Conference](#)**

**April 27-30, 2021 Oklahoma City, OK**

The National Brownfields Training Conference is the largest event in the nation focused on environmental revitalization and economic redevelopment. Held every two years, the National Brownfields Conference attracts over 2,000 stakeholders in brownfields redevelopment and cleanup to share knowledge about sustainable reuse and celebrate the EPA brownfields program's success. Whether you're a newcomer or a seasoned professional, Brownfields 2021 offers something for you!

## **9. FUNDING AND LEVERAGING OPPORTUNITIES**

### **[FY 2021 Supporting Equitable Development and Environmental Justice in Brownfields Communities Grant Guidelines](#)**

**Submission deadline - September, 21, 2020**

This notice announces the availability of funds and solicits applications from eligible entities, including nonprofit organizations, to provide direct technical assistance to communities nationwide on the integration of environmental justice and equitable development when developing solutions to brownfields cleanup and revitalization challenges. EPA anticipates awarding one grant for an estimated \$600,000. The award is anticipated to be funded incrementally on an annual basis over three years, at approximately \$200,000 per year. The application submission deadline is September, 21, 2020.

See additional details on the [FY 2021 Brownfields Training, Research and Technical Assistance solicitation page](#) and apply at [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

### **[Choice Neighborhood Planning Grants](#)**

**Proposals due: September 14, 2020**

The Department of Housing and Urban Development Choice Neighborhoods Planning Grants support the development of comprehensive neighborhood revitalization plans which focus on directing resources to address three core goals: Housing, People and Neighborhood. To achieve these core goals, communities must develop and implement a comprehensive neighborhood revitalization strategy, or Transformation Plan. The application deadline for 2020 HUD Neighborhood Planning Grants is September 14, 2020.

**EPA Brownfields Assessment and Cleanup Grants**

The Request for Applications for FY21 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grants is now posted on [grants.gov](https://www.grants.gov).

Applications are due October 28, 2020.

EPA anticipates to have a virtual information session for applicants on September 14th.

FY 2021 Brownfields Multipurpose, Assessment, and Cleanup Grant Application Resources

- [FY 2021 Multipurpose Grant Guidelines](#)
- [FY 2021 Assessment Grant Guidelines](#)
- [FY 2021 Cleanup Grant Guidelines](#)
- [FY 2021 Summary of Brownfields Grant Guideline Changes](#)

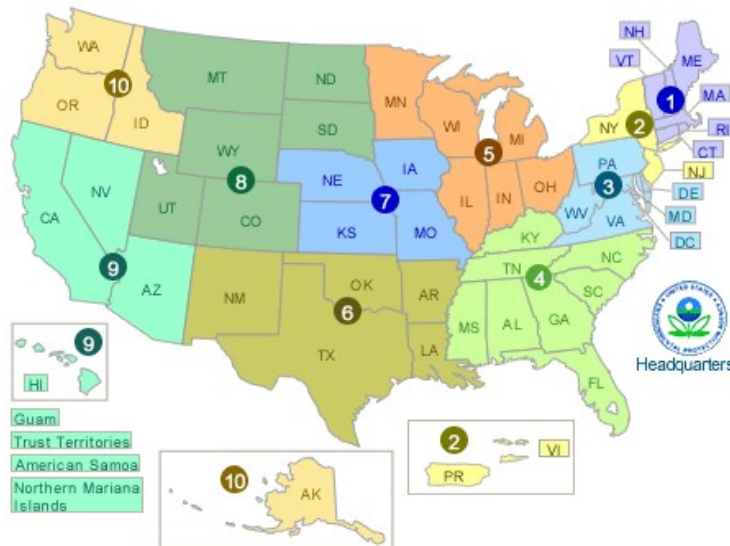
**10. EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS**

Regional Coordinators are the first place to go regarding questions about EWDJT grants, extensions, budgets or work plans. For those thinking of submitting an application for FY21 funding, check in to express your intentions. Many Regions maintain a Listserv for past, current and potential grantees. It is important to be on their contact list for conference calls and newsletters.

<b>EPA Region 1</b> Myra Schwartz	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Phone: (617) 918-1696 E-mail: <a href="mailto:schwartz.myra@epa.gov">schwartz.myra@epa.gov</a>
<b>EPA Region 2</b> Schenine Mitchell	NJ, NY, PR, VI	Phone: (212) 637-3283 E-mail: <a href="mailto:mitchell.schenine@epa.gov">mitchell.schenine@epa.gov</a>
<b>EPA Region 3</b> Gianna Rosati	DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV	Phone: (215) 814-3406 E-mail: <a href="mailto:rosati.gianna@epa.gov">rosati.gianna@epa.gov</a>
<b>EPA Region 4</b> Wanda Jennings	AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN	Phone: (404) 562-8682 E-mail: <a href="mailto:jennings.wanda@epa.gov">jennings.wanda@epa.gov</a>
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<b>EPA Region 6</b> Elizabeth Reyes	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX	Phone: (214) 665-3163 E-mail: <a href="mailto:reyes.elizabeth@epa.gov">reyes.elizabeth@epa.gov</a>



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Map of EPA Regions

Credit: [epa.gov](http://epa.gov)

## 12. JOIN US ON FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING CALLS

### Upcoming PLC calls

□ August 19

Missed a few of our PLC sessions? Post session notes are available on the [brownfields-toolbox.org](http://brownfields-toolbox.org). 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. For questions or to be placed on the PLC register, send your contact information to [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto: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](mailto: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.



