U.S. EPA BROWNFIELDS GRANTS

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TYPES OF FEDERAL BROWNFIELDS GRANTS

• Assessment
• Clean Up
• Revolving Loan Fund
• Multipurpose Grants (2020)
• Targeted BF Assessment Grants
• Job Training Grants
WHO’S ELIGIBLE TO RECEIVE BF GRANT FUNDS?

- Tribes
- Governmental Entities
- Quasi-Governmental Entities
- *Non-profits
ASSESSMENT GRANTS

• Phase I, Phase II, Remedial Action Planning, and Area Wide or Site Planning
  
• Grantee can do assessments for private entities
  • Example – City pays for Phase I and/or Phase II on property so potential purchaser can obtain financing

• 3 Year Project Period

• Petroleum and/or Hazardous Substance
  • CERCLA Haz Sub defined in 40 CFR Part 304.2
ASSESSMENT GRANTS

• Community Wide or Site Specific
  • Community Wide offers more flexibility
  • Site specific has higher funding limit per site
    • up to $350K vs $200K/per site

• No Cost Share Requirement

• Grantee Does Not Have to Own Site
ASSESSMENT GRANTS

• How Much Money per Applicant?

  • Individual Applicant
    • Up to $200K for Petro or Haz Sub
    • Up to $300K combination of Petro and Haz Sub
    • Waiver up to $350,000 for site specific assessment grant

  • Coalition of 3 or more applicants
    • Up to $600K
    • Only community wide
CLEAN UP GRANTS

• Up to $500,000 per grant
  • No waivers allowed to $650K in FY19

• Petroleum or Hazardous Substance
  • or combination

• 3 year Project Period

• Limited Sampling, Remedial Action Planning, Clean Up
CLEAN UP GRANTS

- 1 grant per entity
- Single grant can address more than one site
- Grantee must own site(s) at time of proposal submission
- Grantee can not be responsible for contamination
  - Land Banks – Conduct All Appropriate Inquiry/ Phase I Assessment, Due Care & Reasonable Steps
  - Governmental Entities – See next slide
SITE ELIGIBILITY FOR GOV’T ENTITIES

• Site Eligibility
  • Acquired before Jan. 11, 2002
  • Publicly owned sites
  • Eligible as long as the applicant is not responsible for the contamination
  • Acquired after Jan 11, 2002 State and local governments that acquired property via the following mechanisms are eligible:
    • Seizure or law enforcement activity
    • Bankruptcy
    • Tax delinquency
    • Abandonment
    • Acquisition by virtue of gov’t function as sovereign

• **No need to show “Involuntary Acquisition**
CLEAN UP GRANTS

Site Eligibility Notes:
• Okay to flip title to the public entity for clean up then back to private entity

• Okay to flip site between public entities and then back too

• 20% cost share
  • $200K grant - $40K cost share
  • $500 K grant - $100K cost share
REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANTS

• Up to $1M
  • Usually award $600K (maybe $1M FY20)
  • Can Form Coalitions of 2 or more eligible entities

• Petroleum and Hazardous Substance in one Grant Application

• Can give out loans or subgrants
  • 50% of funding must go to loans
  • Funds can be used for environmental insurance
REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANTS

• Performance Period – 5 years
  • Generally extensions are granted. Can stay open for 15 yrs
  • Loan periods can be longer as determined by the grantee

• Current RLF Grantees are eligible for supplemental funding
  • Non-competitive
  • Offered annually
  • 2019 – $10.1M awarded to 24 RLF grantees
REVOLVING LOAN FUND GRANTS

• Loans can be given to private or Gov’t entities

• Subgrants can only go to governmental, quasi-governmental or non-profits

• Grantee can loan to self but can not subgrant to self

• Coalition lead is the grantee
  • Can loan to self
  • Can not subgrant to self
  • Can subgrant or loan to coalition members
RLF CONSIDERATIONS

• Long Term Resource Commitment Even After Grant End
  • Reporting to EPA
  • Managing Program Income
  • Marketing
  • Loan servicing
• Need Real Estate, Finance, and Loan Expertise
• Market Conditions Need to Support Entities Wanting Loans
• Large Jurisdictions and Areas on the Up Swing Most Likely to be Successful
MULTI-PURPOSE GRANTS

• Will not be solicited this year/FY20

• Used to carry out inventory, characterization, assessment, planning, or remediation at one or more brownfields sites in an “area”

• Grant can be up to $1M – only $800K 1st round

• Up to a 5 year performance period

• Cost share – $40,000**
MULTI-PURPOSE GRANTS

• Application must propose a plan to remediate one or more sites in the proposed area

• Applicant must demonstrate capacity to conduct the eligible activities proposed in the application

• The entity must own at least one site to be remediated at time of application
MULTIPURPOSE GRANTS

• 70% of each award must be spent on Site specific activities
  • Site Assessments
  • Cleanups
  • Other Associated Activities – ie planning

• Must complete at least
  • One cleanup – minimum cost $200K
  • One Phase II Assessment
  • A revitalization plan for the site(s) within the proposed area
MULTI-PURPOSE GRANTS

• The entity does not have to own sites that will be assessed

• EPA wants this grant to be very flexible

• Plan to solicit proposals in Fall of 2020/FY21
FY19 GRANTS AWARDED
$64.5M

- Assessment - $41M
  - 305 received
  - 300 passed threshold review
  - 104 awarded - 35%

- Cleanup - $14.9M
  - 103 received
  - 89 passed threshold
  - 33 awarded – 37%

- Multipurpose - $8.6M
  - 30 received
  - 29 passed threshold
  - 11 awarded – 37%
HOW/WHEN TO APPLY

• Guidelines to be released early October 2019

• [www.epa.gov/brownfields](http://www.epa.gov/brownfields)
  • Hit “Grants and Funding”

• 6-8 weeks to complete application – due before December 9th

• Grants Submitted via [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov)
ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

• Additional Information available at www.epa.gov/brownfields
  • Federal Register Notice
  • Fact sheets

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Join us at the 2019 National Brownfields Training Conference

REGISTRATION OPEN!

December 11-13, 2019
with pre-conference programming December 10

Join us at the
LOS ANGELES CONVENTION CENTER

Visit brownfields2019.org for more information!