



Brownfields 2021 Job Training Grant Fact Sheet Worcester, MA

EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, communities, and other stakeholders to work together to prevent, assess, safely clean up, and sustainably reuse brownfields. A brownfield site is real property, the expansion, redevelopment, or reuse of which may be complicated by the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant. The Small Business Liability Relief and Brownfields Revitalization Act of 2002, as amended by the Brownfields Utilization, Investment and Local Development Act of 2018, was passed to help states and communities around the country clean up and revitalize brownfield sites. Under this law, EPA provides financial assistance to eligible applicants through five competitive grant programs: Multipurpose Grants, Assessment Grants, Revolving Loan Fund Grants, Cleanup Grants, and Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training Grant funds are provided to nonprofit organizations and other eligible entities to recruit and train unemployed and underemployed residents from communities affected by environmental pollution, economic disinvestment, and brownfields and place them in environmental jobs. Since the program was created in 1998, EPA has funded 335 job training grants totaling over \$72 million through the Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program. A total of 18,541 individuals have been trained and 13,751 individuals have been placed in full-time careers related to land remediation and environmental health and safety. The average starting wage for these jobs is more than \$14 an hour. This equates to a cumulative placement rate of approximately 74%.

Job Training Grant

\$199,998.00

EPA has selected the City of Worcester for an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. The City of Worcester plans to train 54 students and place at least 48 in environmental jobs. The training program includes 90 hours of instruction in 40-hour HAZWOPER, OSHA-10, and Asbestos Supervisor. Students who complete the training program will earn up to three federal certifications. The City of Worcester is targeting newly naturalized citizens, low-income residents, and veterans in the five urban-core Opportunity Zone census tracts in Worcester. Key partners include the MassHire Central Region Workforce Board, the Institute for Environmental Education, Ascentria Care Alliance, the Central Massachusetts Regional Planning Commission, Worcester Community Action Council, Strategic Environmental Services, Kyle R. Blood General Contracting and Environmental Remediation, and Muchkin Construction.

Contacts

For further information, including specific grant contacts, additional grant information, brownfields news and events, and publications and links, visit the EPA Brownfields Web site (<http://www.epa.gov/brownfields>).

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team
(617) 918-1696

EPA Region 1 Brownfields Web site
(<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-connecticut-maine-massachusetts-new-hampshire-rhode#pane-1>)

Grant Recipient: City of Worcester, MA
(508) 799-1509

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant proposal; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of this information. The cooperative agreement for the grant has not yet been negotiated. Therefore, activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.