



Brownfields 2014 Job Training Grant Fact Sheet

Energy Coordinating Agency, Philadelphia, PA

EPA Brownfields Program

In 2010, the EPA's Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization (OBLR) led an effort to more closely collaborate with other programs within the Agency on workforce development and job training. Program offices now participating in the expanded initiative include the Office of Resource Conservation and Recovery (ORCR), Office of Superfund Remediation and Technology Innovation (OSRTI), Center for Program Analysis (CPA), Innovation, Partnerships, and Communication Office (IPCO), Office of Wastewater Management (OWM), Office of Chemical Safety and Pollution Prevention (OCSPP), and the Office of Emergency Management (OEM). This initiative was created to develop a job training cooperative agreement opportunity that includes expanded training in other environmental media outside the traditional scope of brownfields hazardous waste assessment and cleanup. As a result of this effort, the Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program now allows applicants to deliver a broader array of training in the environmental field, in addition to the traditional brownfields hazardous waste and petroleum training historically provided. Through the expanded Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program, graduates develop wider skill sets that improve their ability to secure full-time, sustainable employment in various aspects of hazardous and solid waste management and within the larger environmental field, including water quality improvement and chemical safety. This effort also gives communities more flexibility to provide different types of environmental training based on local employers' hiring needs.

Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant funds are provided to nonprofit organizations and other eligible entities to recruit, train, and place predominantly low-income and minority, unemployed and underemployed residents from solid and hazardous waste-impacted communities. To date, EPA has funded 237 job training grants totaling over \$48 million through the former Brownfields Job Training program and Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program. As of April 2014, approximately 12,800 individuals have completed training, and of those, approximately 9,100 have obtained employment in the environmental field, with an average starting hourly wage of \$14.00. This equates to a cumulative placement rate of approximately 71% since the program was created in 1998.

Job Training Grant

\$199,205.00

EPA has selected the Energy Coordinating Agency (ECA) for an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. ECA plans to train 67 students, place 48 graduates in environmental jobs, and track graduates for one year. In addition, ECA anticipates that three graduates will pursue further education. The training program includes coursework in 40-hour HAZWOPER; underground storage tank remediation; solid waste management; OSHA 10; EPA lead renovation, repair, and painting; environmental technology and lead dust sampling procedures; wastewater treatment and stormwater management; asbestos removal; mold abatement; and worker health and safety. Participants will earn seven federal or state certifications and licenses. ECA is targeting unemployed and underemployed, disadvantaged residents of Philadelphia, with a focus on individuals living in the severely distressed neighborhood located directly north of the city's downtown core. Key partners include Philadelphia Works, Impact Services, Philadelphia Housing Authority, Philadelphia Water Department, the Community College of Philadelphia, and a number of community-based organizations and environmental employers.

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>).

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(215) 814-3246
EPA Region 3 Brownfields Web site
(<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-delaware-mariland-pennsylvania-virginia-west>)

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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.