

**EPA New England
FY2016 Brownfields
Grant Guidelines Workshop**

Assessment Grant Session

Purpose of this Session

- Provide an overview of the FY2016 Brownfields **Assessment Grant** Guidelines.
- Review the **Assessment Grant** proposal submission process, threshold criteria & ranking criteria.
- Provide an opportunity for Q&A.
- Should any information provided in the following slides or by the presenters differ from the Guidelines, the language written in the Guidelines shall prevail.



Assessment Overview

- To inventory, characterize, assess, conduct cleanup planning, and community involvement related to brownfield sites.
- Three types:
 - ✓ Community-Wide
 - ✓ Site-Specific (single site)
 - ✓ Assessment Coalition
- Period of performance is **three years**.



Assessment Application Options

Community-Wide	Site-Specific	Coalition
Up to \$200,000 for hazardous substances and/or \$200,000 for petroleum	Up to \$200,000 for hazardous substances or petroleum	Up to \$600,000 for hazardous substances and/or petroleum
No waiver of funding limit	May request a waiver for up to \$350,000	No waiver of funding limit
Maximum combined amount \$400,000	Maximum amount \$350,000	Maximum amount \$600,000
May also apply for a site-specific grant; may not apply as a member of a coalition	May also apply for a community-wide grant; may not apply as a member of a coalition	May not apply for an individual community-wide or site-specific grant or as part of another coalition

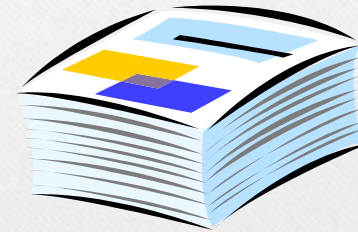


Content & Form of Proposal Submission

See Section IV.C – Pages 26-29

Proposal Content

1. Transmittal Letter (2 Pages)
2. Narrative Proposal (15 Pages)
3. Attachments
4. SF 424 & SF 424A (required for grants.gov)



Content & Form of Proposal Submission

1. Transmittal Letter (2 Pages)

- a. Applicant Identification
- b. Applicant DUNS number
- c. Funding Requested
 - i. Grant Type: **Assessment**
 - ii. Federal Funds Requested: \$_____ (and if waiver for **site-specific** proposal is being requested)
 - iii. Contamination: **Hazardous Substances, Petroleum or Both**
 - iv. Indicate: **Community-wide, Site-specific or Coalition**



Content & Form of Proposal Submission

1. Transmittal Letter (continued)
 - d. Location: Area you propose to serve
 - e. For site-specific proposals only: Provide property name & complete address
 - f. Contacts:
 - i. Project Director: Name & contact information for the person who is the main point of contact and will be managing this grant if selected
 - ii. Chief Executive/Highest Ranking Official: Name & Contact information for the Mayor, Chief Executive or President of your organization



Content & Form of Proposal Submission

1. Transmittal Letter (continued)

- g. Date Submitted: Date your proposal is submitted through www.grants.gov
- h. Project Period: Three (3) Years
- i. Population:
 - i. Provide population of your jurisdiction and, if a coalition proposal, the population of all your partners
 - ii. If not a municipal form of government, provide population of your target area
- j. Complete the “Other Factors Checklist” in **Appendix 3** and attach to the Transmittal Letter of your proposal (not part of the 2-page limit).



Content & Form of Proposal Submission

2. Narrative Proposal (15 Pages)

- ✓ Includes responses to all Ranking Criteria found in Section V.B on pages 31 – 43.
- ✓ **Pages over the 15-page limit will not be evaluated.**
- ✓ Must include page numbers, criteria numbers and titles in your narrative response.



Content & Form of Proposal Submission

3. Attachments: Only the listed attachments will be accepted – all others will be removed from the proposal – not part of the 15-page limit
 - a. Threshold Documentation – Section III.B & C
 - b. Letter from state or tribal environmental authority – Section III.C.2
 - c. Documentation of applicant eligibility if other than a city, county, state or tribe – Section III.C.1
 - d. Letters of commitment from **all** community organizations identified in the Community Engagement & Partnerships ranking criterion - Section V.B.3.c



Content & Form of Proposal Submission

3. Attachments (continued)

- e. Documentation indicating leveraged funds – Section V.B.2.c
- f. Justification for requested waiver of \$200,000 assessment limit **if applicable to a site-specific proposal** – Section I.A.2
- g. Property-specific determination request **if applicable to a site-specific proposal** – Section III.C.4.d
- h. Letters of commitment from assessment coalition members **if applicable to a coalition proposal** – Section III.C.1
- i. Petroleum determination **if applicable to a site-specific proposal** – Section III.C.4.i



Proposal Review & Selection Process

Section V.A – Page 31

- EPA expects to select at least 2 proposals from each region that address regional priorities in Section I.E.
- EPA intends use 50% of funds available to select “new applicants”
- New applicants are defined as:
 - ✓ Applicants who have never received an EPA Brownfields grant, or
 - ✓ Applicants who were awarded a brownfields grant that closed in 2007 or earlier.
- If you have an open grant or a grant that closed in 2008 or later, you are considered an “existing and recent recipient”.



Threshold vs Ranking Criteria

- **Threshold Criteria** are pass/fail. You must meet all threshold criteria to be evaluated against the Ranking Criteria.
- **Ranking Criteria** contain questions with specific point values. Proposals will be evaluated based on the extent and quality to which the criteria are addressed.



Threshold Criteria



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

Section III.C – Pages 18-25

1. Applicant Eligibility
2. Letter from the State or Tribal Environmental Authority
3. Community Involvement
4. Site Eligibility and Property Ownership Eligibility (Site-Specific Proposals Only)



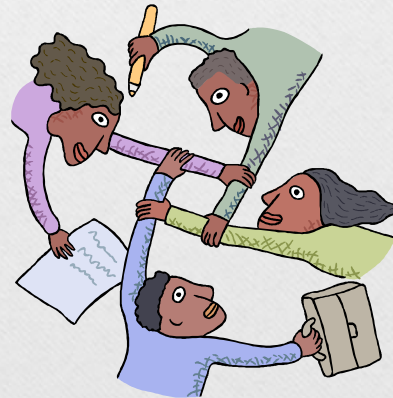
You must pass these criteria to move forward in the competition!



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

1. Applicant Eligibility

- Municipalities
- Quasi-Governmental Organizations
- Government Entity Created by State Legislature
- Regional Councils or General Purpose Units of Local Governments
- Redevelopment Agencies
- States
- Tribes



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

1. Applicant Eligibility

- If you are a Quasi-Governmental or Planning Commission and also a Non-Profit
 - ✓ You must apply as Regional Council or General Purpose Units of Local Government
 - ✓ Non-Profits are not eligible for assessment grants



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

1. Applicant Eligibility

- **For Assessment Coalitions**

- ✓ See **Section I.A.3** & read **FAQs #56 – 64** for more information.
- ✓ Three or More Coalition Members must be:
 - Separate legal entities
 - Eligible applicants (no non-profits)
- ✓ Coalition Member Letters must include:
 - A sentence documenting why you are an eligible entity.
 - Commitment agreeing to be part of coalition.
- ✓ The best coalitions include a strong lead candidate and 2 - 3 partners with specific targeted areas and projects.



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

2. Letter from State/Tribal Environmental Authority

- Provide a letter from your state or tribal environmental authority acknowledging that you plan to conduct or oversee assessment activities and apply for grant funds.
- If applying for multiple types of grants, you need to receive only one letter acknowledging the relevant grant activities. **However** you **must** provide the letter as an attachment to **each** proposal.
- General letters of correspondence and documents evidencing state involvement are **NOT** acceptable.



You must get a new letter this year.

Do not use last year's letter.



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

2. Letter from State/Tribal Environmental Authority

- To request a letter from your State Brownfields Program Contact, please email the following information:
 - ✓ The grant(s) for which you are applying;
 - ✓ The site(s) for which you are applying, if site specific; and
 - ✓ To whom the letter should be addressed
- Please give your State Brownfields Program Contact at least 2 weeks before the grant submittal deadline to provide you the letter



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

2. Letter from State/Tribal Environmental Authority

State Brownfields Program Contacts



Mark Lewis (mark.lewis@ct.gov)

CT Department of Energy and Environmental Protection
Office of Constituent Affairs & Land Management
Hartford, CT 06106-5127

860-424-3768



Nick Hodgkins (nick.hodgkins@maine.gov)

ME DEP, Brownfields Program
17 State House Station
Augusta, ME 04333-0017

207-287-4854



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

2. Letter from State/Tribal Environmental Authority

State Brownfields Program Contacts



Kerry Bowie (kerry.bowie@state.ma.us)
Director of Brownfields & Environmental Justice
Massachusetts Department of Environmental Protection
One Winter Street, 2nd Floor
Boston, MA 02108
617-556-1007



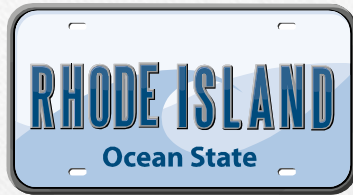
Michael McCluskey (michael.mccluskey@des.nh.gov)
NH Department of Environmental Services
Hazardous Waste Remediation Bureau
29 Hazen Drive - PO Box 95
Concord, NH 03302-0095
603-271-2183



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

2. Letter from State/Tribal Environmental Authority

State Brownfields Program Contacts



Cynthia Gianfrancesco
(cindy.gianfrancesco@dem.ri.gov)

RI DEM - Office of Waste Management
235 Promenade Street
Providence, RI 02908-5767
401-222-2797 Ext. 7126



Patricia Coppolino (coppolino.patricia@vermont.gov)

VT Dept. of Environmental Conservation
1 National Life Drive – Davis 1
Montpelier, VT 05620-3704
802-249-5822



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

3. Community Involvement

- Demonstrate how you intend to **inform** and **involve** the community and other stakeholders during the planning, implementation and other brownfields assessment activities you describe in your proposal.
- Provide specific but concise information.
- **TIP:** Summarize your Community Involvement Plan that you describe in the Ranking Criteria.



Threshold Criteria - Assessment

4. Site & Property Ownership Eligibility

- **Site-Specific Proposals Only**

- ✓ Strong candidate sites should have broad community impacts and known redevelopment benefits.
- ✓ If you think you have that special site, email or call [Christine Lombard](mailto:christine.lombard@region1.org) (617-918-1305) to ensure that this is really the best strategy for your proposal.



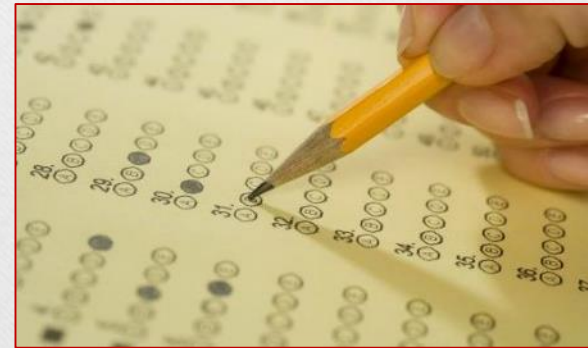
Ranking Criteria



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

Section V.B – Pages 31-43

- Ranking Criteria are in **Section V.B – Pages 31-43** of the Assessment Guidelines.
- There are **five** ranking criteria for a total of **200 points**.
- Make sure you answer all parts of the questions. Many have more than one.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

200 Points

1. Community Need (50 points)
2. Project Description & Feasibility of Success (50 points)
3. Community Engagement & Partnerships (35 points)
4. Project Benefits (25 points)
5. Programmatic Capability & Past Performance (40 points)



Be sure to read the opening paragraphs for each criterion as it includes important information on how to respond.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1. Community Need

1. Community Need (50 points)
 - a. Targeted Community & Brownfields (25 points)
 - i. Targeted Community Description (5 points)
 - ii. Demographic Information (5 points)
 - iii. Description of Brownfields (10 points)
 - iv. Cumulative Environmental Issues (5 points)
 - b. Impacts on Targeted Community (10 points)
 - c. Financial Need (15 points)
 - i. Economic Conditions (5 points)
 - ii. Economic Effects of Brownfields (10 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1. Community Need

What's the point?

- ✓ To capture the attention of the reviewer and get them on your side.
- ✓ This is not the place to discuss all of the community's good characteristics – **FOCUS ON THE BAD!**
- ✓ Proposals will be evaluated on the quality and extent to which you have presented a **compelling picture** of your brownfield(s) and the needs of your targeted community.
- ✓ This section provides the context for your project.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1. Community Need

What are we looking for?

- ✓ The needs defined provide the **foundation** of your later discussion of the brownfields project, planned community engagement and partnerships and the ways the project will ultimately benefit your targeted community.
- ✓ You must **identify your targeted community**, the community's brownfield issues and the impacts they have on the targeted community in which they are located.
- ✓ This section should also present the environmental, health and/or welfare, and economic **challenges faced by the targeted community as related to its brownfields.**



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1. Community Need

What are we looking for?

- ✓ **Coalition Proposals:** How the grant will serve all coalition partners and communities that would not have access to brownfields resources.
- ✓ Proposals that target community(ies) that have significant socio-economic challenges and where assessment can help transform the community(ies).



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.a. Targeted Community & Brownfields

- a. Targeted Community & Brownfields (25 points)
 - i. Targeted Community Description (5 points)
 - ii. Demographic Information (5 points)
 - iii. Description of Brownfields (10 points)
 - iv. Cumulative Environmental Issues (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.a. Targeted Community & Brownfields

- i. Targeted Community Description (5 points)
 - Provide a brief description of your city, town, or geographic area including its **cultural and industrial history** to provide a context for your brownfields issues.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.a. Targeted Community & Brownfields

i. Targeted Community Description (5 points)

- You must **clearly identify** and describe your targeted community or communities and **keep them consistent** throughout your proposal. This will set the stage for the rest of the proposal.
- Your targeted community contains:
 - ✓ Signs of distress, blight or neglect
 - ✓ Known or potential brownfields sites
 - ✓ Sensitive or vulnerable populations
 - ✓ Need for cleanup and redevelopment



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.a. Targeted Community & Brownfields

ii. Demographic Information (5 points)

- Use the table provided and use the national data as it is presented. **Do not change it!**
- Add additional columns and factors as it works for your proposal and statistics that are available to you.
- **Don't forget to cite the sources of your data!**
- **TIP:** See **FAQ #10** for resources on demographic information.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.a. Targeted Community & Brownfields

ii. Demographic Information (5 points)

Sample Format for Demographic Information (supplement as appropriate)

	Targeted Community (e.g. Census Tract)	City/Town or County	Statewide	National
Population:				311,536,594 ¹
Unemployment:				5.3% ²
Poverty Rate:				11.3% ¹
Percent Minority:				36.7% ¹
Median Household Income:				\$53,046 ¹
Other:				

¹Data are from the 2009 - 2013 U.S. American Community Survey and are available on America FactFinder at http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_13_5YR_DP03&src=pt and http://factfinder.census.gov/faces/tableservices/jsf/pages/productview.xhtml?pid=ACS_13_5YR_DP05&prodType=table

²Data are from the Bureau of Labor Statistics and is available at www.bls.gov



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.a. Targeted Community & Brownfields

iii. Description of Brownfields (10 points)

- **Location, location, location!** Explain where the brownfields are within and in relation to your targeted community.
- Make the connection between the brownfields sites in your targeted communities and their impacts.
- Be as **specific** as possible. Use identified and/or potential sites as examples.
- **TIP:** Hazardous substances & Petroleum proposals **must** discuss both types of sites and contaminants (when requesting both in one proposal).



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.a. Targeted Community & Brownfields

iii. Description of Brownfields (10 points)

- Include the **types** of brownfields and **potential contamination, number** of sites and, their **size** or **range** of sizes.
- Typical types of Brownfields sites:
 - ✓ Gas Stations, Dry Cleaners & Manufacturing Facilities
 - ✓ Old Mills, Tanneries & Abandoned Industrial Complexes
 - ✓ Over 15 parcels totaling 10 acres in the heart of the targeted community.
- Discuss any real or perceived negative environmental impacts due to unsightly waterways; blighted industrial landscape and potential contamination (be specific to types in area) and concern for unknown risk to residents and their children.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.a. Targeted Community & Brownfields

iv. Cumulative Environmental Issues (5 points)

- Cumulative environmental issues are the sum of all the pollution-related concerns borne by the residents in your targeted communities. These are **in addition to your Brownfields sites**.
- Figure out what your cumulative environmental issues are and any environmental justice concerns. Every community has issues, **find and discuss yours**.
- Provide information or statistics highlighting the cumulative environmental issues in your targeted community.
 - ✓ Power plants
 - ✓ Incinerators
 - ✓ Other sources of air, water & land pollution
 - ✓ Industry
 - ✓ Congested Highways
 - ✓ Superfund sites



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.b. Impacts on Targeted Community

b. Impacts on Targeted Community (10 points)

- Impacts on Public Health or Welfare
- Threats to Health & Welfare of Sensitive Populations
- Disproportionate Impacts



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.b. Impacts on Targeted Community

Impacts on Public Health or Welfare

- Discuss impacts from past projects/sites that are still present in your target area especially if you have received prior funding.
- Discuss perceived impacts from the types of BFs in your targeted communities. What sites have been identified, what contaminants might be there, and how they are impacting their community.
- Consider using a chart of types of sites, potential contaminants found, and impacts.
- Make sure these sites carry through your proposal.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.b. Impacts on Targeted Community

Threats to Health & Welfare of Sensitive Populations

- Describe threats to sensitive populations in your targeted community such as children, pregnant women, minority or low-income communities, or other sensitive groups.
- Discuss the issues as they pertain to environmental exposures and brownfields.
- See **FAQ #90** – What is a sensitive population?
- **TIP:** Focus on the issues that support your story and are in your targeted community.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.b. Impacts on Targeted Community

Threats to Health & Welfare of Sensitive Populations

- **Health:** Include any health department statistics; communities near Brownfields; potential contamination pathways; active industry that is still a problem.
- What are some of the issues?
 - ✓ Cancer rates
 - ✓ Obesity
 - ✓ Blood lead levels
 - ✓ Asthma studies
 - ✓ Substandard housing
 - ✓ Limited access to health care



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.b. Impacts on Targeted Community

Threats to Health & Welfare of Sensitive Populations

- **Welfare:** Include social negatives; blight, crime, vandalism, illegal dumping, people moving out, lack of neighborhood upkeep, lack of prosperity.
- What are some of the issues?
 - ✓ Blight
 - ✓ Abandoned properties
 - ✓ Community disinvestment
 - ✓ Burden on municipal services
 - ✓ Other impacts specific to your targeted community



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.b. Impacts on Targeted Community

Threats to Health & Welfare of Sensitive Populations

- Use available information on health and welfare indicators. **Identify all information sources used.** Do not include URLs in your proposal.
- Provide specific percentages of sensitive populations significant to your targeted community. **For example:** Does your targeted community skew towards an elderly population?
- Make a connection between your identified sensitive populations and environmental exposures, including brownfields.
- If you need help with this, contact your health department.
- Some data can be found at:
 - ✓ Envirofacts – www.epa.gov/envirofw/
 - ✓ EJ View – <http://www2.epa.gov/ejscreen>



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.b. Impacts on Targeted Community

Disproportionate Impacts

- A disproportionate impact is the high burden of environmental pollution often borne by low-income, minority, and other disadvantaged populations (i.e. potential Environmental Justice communities of concern).
- **TIP:** Figure out what the disproportionate impacts to your targeted community are.
 - ✓ Visit and observe your targeted community .
 - ✓ Check the EnviroMapper website at <http://www2.epa.gov/emefdata/em4ef.home>
 - ✓ Examples: commuter bus maintenance and repair facility in a residential neighborhood, town dump, etc.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.c. Financial Need

- c. Financial Need (15 points)
 - i. Economic Conditions (5 points)
 - ii. Economic Effects of Brownfields (10 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.c. Financial Need

- i. Economic Conditions (5 points)
- **Why do you need this funding? Why do you not have other sources of funds for your project?**
 - ✓ All existing grant funds have been expended or are committed to ongoing projects.
 - ✓ A number of sites are in the pipeline and are ready to for assessment activities.
 - Explain why you, **as the applicant**, are cash poor and why you need this grant.
 - Explain why you are unable to draw on other sources of funding for this work.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.c. Financial Need

- i. Economic Conditions (5 points)
- **RPCs/COGs** - discuss **your organization's** limited ability, as well as the limited ability of the municipalities in which your targeted communities reside.
 - Everyone is suffering from the economic downturn – **what makes your financial issues stand out?**
 - Identify fiscal conditions and/or population size that limit or draw resources away from brownfields redevelopment.
 - ✓ decrease in tax base
 - ✓ low income
 - ✓ properties in foreclosure
 - ✓ city spending cuts
 - ✓ state and city budget deficits
 - ✓ disasters
 - ✓ geographic issues
 - ✓ long-term unemployment and underemployed



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.c. Financial Need

i. Economic Conditions (5 points)

- If you have had plant closures, natural disaster, or significant economic disruptions – discuss!

- ✓ Hurricanes
- ✓ Floods
- ✓ Snow storms
- ✓ Nor'easters
- ✓ Plant closures
- ✓ Fires
- ✓ Property foreclosures
- ✓ Infrastructure degradation



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.c. Financial Need

ii. Economic Effects of Brownfields (10 points)

- Discuss the **sad and awful** economic impact that **brownfields are causing** in your targeted community. Don't be shy, make the reviewer cry.
- Provide details that support the numbers in your demographic chart
 - ✓ Include how they show impact to your targeted communities
 - ✓ Any regional considerations that demonstrate economic need
 - Economic distress
 - Minority, single head of household, rent vs. own, crime rate, drop out rate, etc.
- **TIP: Remember...this a Brownfields grant!** Bring it back to the key economic impacts of Brownfields in your target community. **Identify all information sources.**



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

1.c. Financial Need

ii. Economic Effects of Brownfields (10 points)

- Focus on the economic decline in your targeted community in the last few years at it relates to your **Brownfield sites**.
- Provide **specific examples** (the mill closed, the fish processing plant closed, closure of small businesses in your targeted area, etc).
 - ✓ Lost jobs and business opportunities
 - ✓ Deterioration of active properties
 - ✓ Moving out of business/industry
 - ✓ Depressed property values
 - ✓ Low income
 - ✓ Lack of Investment
 - ✓ Reduced tax base
 - ✓ Ongoing costs to secure vacant properties
- **TIP:** Be sure you are accounting for these things in the Other Factors Checklist in Appendix 3.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2. Project Description & Feasibility of Success

2. Project Description & Feasibility of Success (50 points)
 - a. Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection (25 points)
 - i. Project Description (15 points)
 - ii. Project Timing (5 points)
 - iii. Site Selection (5 points)
 - b. Task Descriptions & Budget Table (20 points)
 - i. Task Descriptions (15 points)
 - ii. Budget Table (5 points)
 - c. Ability to Leverage (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2. Project Description & Feasibility of Success

What is the purpose?

- ✓ This section describes and defines your project and how you will implement it.
- ✓ You need to demonstrate the feasibility of your project to be funded by this grant.
- ✓ You need to show how your project will stimulate the availability of other assessment, cleanup and/or redevelopment funding.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2. Project Description & Feasibility of Success

What are we looking for?

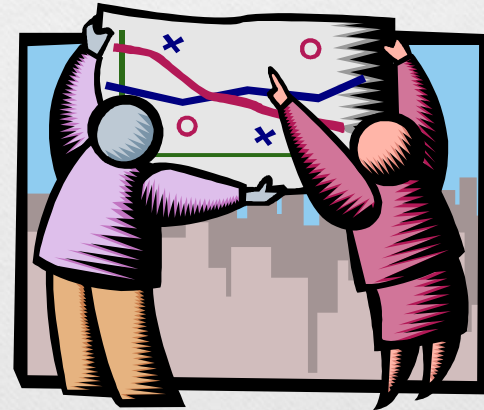
- ✓ How your project will further the targeted community's land use and revitalization **plans** or vision.
- ✓ A reasonable approach and methodology to achieve your project goals.
- ✓ A realistic basis for your project costs and timeframe.
- ✓ A reasonable plan to track and measure project progress
- ✓ Availability of and access to sufficient resources to complete the project.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.a Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection

- a. Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection (25 points)
 - i. Project Description (15 points)
 - ii. Project Timing (5 points)
 - iii. Site Selection (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.a Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection

In preparing your Project Description, think about:

- ✓ Overall **redevelopment vision** for your targeted community
- ✓ Your vision for the project funded by **this grant**
- ✓ **Eligible** assessment activities you will conduct
- ✓ Steps necessary to implement your project
- ✓ Deliverables/outputs you will produce
- ✓ People involved in your project
- ✓ **TIP:** Make sure your project is going to benefit your targeted community



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.a Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection

i. Project Description (15 points)

- Describe the **plan** you have for utilizing **this** funding.
 - ✓ Make the connection between **the targeted community** you described previously in **Community Need** and what you want to accomplish with this funding.
 - ✓ Specifically, describe how your project aligns with your vision for revitalization in your targeted communities, such as **Community Master Plans, Results of Charrettes & Community Meetings**.
 - ✓ Demonstrate that your project is integrated into the community's vision for revitalization so that it does not sound like you are operating in a vacuum.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.a Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection

i. Project Description (15 points)

- Describe your redevelopment strategy. Make the connection between the **Community Need** you described previously and what you want to accomplish with this funding.

Community Need/Issue	Proposed Redevelopment
Food desert	Neighborhood grocery store
Limited quality housing for low-income residence	Apts/housing units for low-income housing
High unemployment rate for skilled workers	Developing a manufacturing plant; hire local

- **TIP:** The more you know about the proposed end use of your sites, the better you can tell your story.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.a Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection

ii. Project Timing (5 points)

- Describe a timeline to complete your project for the entire 3 year period.
- Address these **key project activities**:
 - ✓ Draft schedule of your projected milestones
 - ✓ **Release QEP RFP and select QEP**
 - ✓ Conduct site inventory
 - ✓ **Site Section**
 - ✓ **Secure Site Access**
 - ✓ Conduct Phase Is & IIs
 - ✓ Submit QAPPs for approval
 - ✓ Frequency of community/steering committee meetings
- **TIP:** If you have previously managed Brownfields grants, the discussion must focus on how you will manage **this new grant**.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.a Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection

ii. Project Timing (5 points)

- Discuss **who** is responsible for implementing/completing these activities.
- Discuss how you will be accountable to the timeline you are proposing.
- Think of this as a **team effort**.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.a Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection

iii. Site Selection (5 points)

- Discuss your process for selecting sites
 - ✓ Nomination forms
 - ✓ Recommendations from QEP
 - ✓ Site prioritization criteria
 - ✓ Requesting communities to propose sites
 - ✓ Prior site inventories
 - ✓ Internal decision making process
- Discuss obtaining access to sites
 - ✓ Have draft access agreements
 - ✓ QEP working with property owners
 - ✓ If you already own any of the proposed sites, tell us



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.a Project Description, Project Timing & Site Selection

iii. Site Selection (5 points)

- For Coalitions – Describe your governance structure to prioritize and select sites and process of obtaining site access.
- For Site-Specific – Describe:
 - ✓ Existing conditions of your property
 - ✓ Anticipated levels of contamination
 - ✓ Size and status of ownership of the property



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

- b. Task Descriptions & Budget Table (20 points)
 - i. Task Descriptions (15 points)
 - ii. Budget Table (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

i. Task Descriptions (15 points)

- We recommend that Task 1 be identified as “**Cooperative Agreement Oversight**” and include such items as grant management, and your travel and supplies costs.
- The most common major tasks include:
 - ✓ Task 1 - Cooperative Agreement Oversight
 - ✓ Task 2 - Community Outreach & Engagement
 - ✓ Task 3 - Phase I & II Site Assessment Activities
 - ✓ Task 4 - Site Reuse and Cleanup Planning
- **TIP:** Majority of funds should be allocated toward activities.
- **TIP:** Stick with four tasks
- **Coalitions applicants MUST** plan to address a min. of 5 sites.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

Examples of grant funded assessment work:

- ✓ Procuring a QEP in compliance with competitive procurement procedures
- ✓ Working with property owners
- ✓ Describing access agreements
- ✓ Site eligibility approval for hazardous substance sites and petroleum sites (if applicable)
- ✓ Outreach activities you will implement during the grant
- ✓ Conducting Phase I assessments in accordance with ASTM E1527-13 standards and complying with AAI
- ✓ Phase II assessments
- ✓ Cleanup and reuse planning activities
- ✓ Site enrollment into the state's voluntary cleanup program (if appropriate)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

i. Task Descriptions (15 points)

- Describe **EACH** task in detail, including the basis for the estimated costs of every value in your budget table(s).
- Include activities funded by other funding sources such as in-kind resources for this grant only.
- Do not include tasks for activities that are ineligible uses of funds. **See FAQs # 16-18.**
- Discuss how you plan to track and measure project results – outputs and outcomes.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

i. Task Descriptions (15 points)

- Examples:

- ✓ Personnel costs – grant funded: Be precise in explaining what your personnel cost will be – who is doing what. Project Manager at \$xx/hr times xx hours = \$xx. Describe what each person is going to do.
- ✓ Personnel costs – in-kind resources: Include a statement that describes where the funds are coming from; e.g., town funds, organization budget. (not required to break down costs)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

i. Task Descriptions (15 points)

- Examples (continued):

- ✓ Travel costs – grant funded: 2 people to 1 Brownfields conference, estimate \$xx Airfare/lodging/per diem for each = \$xx; \$xx set aside for local travel (estimate xx miles at \$0.55/mile).
- ✓ Supplies – grant funded: Provide a list of supplies reflective of cost in table.
- ✓ Phase I Assessments – grant funded: Estimate 6 Phase Is at \$xx = \$xx.
- ✓ Phase II Assessment – grant funded: Estimate Phase II costs = \$xx total contractual in task.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

i. Task Descriptions (15 points)

- **TIPS:**

- ✓ **DO NOT** include any equipment costs.

- ✓ **DO NOT** use the terms '**administrative**' or '**consultant**'.

- ✓ If personnel & contractual costs are in the same task, describe activities associated with each cost (your part, their part). No double dipping.

- ✓ Typical personnel related cooperative agreement oversight task costs are no more than 10% of funds requested. If your estimate of these costs is higher than 10%, **explain why** and who is doing what to justify your costs.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

i. Task Descriptions (15 points)

- **TIPS:**

- ✓ Don't forget to include projected **outputs** where possible for each task.
- ✓ Provide a brief justification of proposed Phase I and Phase II costs (e.g., past experience, from working with the state environmental professional).
- ✓ If applying for petroleum and hazardous substance funding, **clearly differentiate both sources of funding in your task descriptions.**



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

Sample Format for Assessment Budget

Budget Categories	Project Tasks (\$) [programmatic costs only]				
	[Task 1]	[Task 2]	[Task 3]	[Task 4]	Total
Personnel					
Fringe Benefits					
Travel ¹					
Equipment ²					
Supplies					
Contractual					
Other (specify) _____					
Total Budget:					

¹ Travel to brownfield-related training conferences is an acceptable use of these grant funds.

² EPA defines equipment as items that cost \$5,000 or more with a useful life of more than one year. Items costing less than \$5,000 are considered supplies. Generally, equipment is not required for assessment grants.

Reminder: Administrative costs, such as indirect costs, of grant administration with the exception of financial and performance reporting costs are ineligible grant activities.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.b Task Descriptions & Budget Table

ii. Budget Table (5 points)

- **TIPS:**

- ✓ Use the table format provided in the guidelines to present your budget.
- ✓ Make sure your Project Tasks in the table match the Task Descriptions from 2.b.i above.
- ✓ Do not include any non-EPA funded costs including estimates of in-kind services.
- ✓ **Make sure the amounts add up!!!!!!!!!!!!**
- ✓ If you are submitting **one** proposal for both hazardous substances and petroleum, **clearly differentiate both sources of funding in your budget.**



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.c Ability to Leverage

c. Ability to Leverage (5 Points)

- Describe other sources of funding or resources you have or will be seeking to ensure successful revitalization of sites assessed with this grant.
- Include a good mix of resources:
 - ✓ Federal (HUD HOME, HUD CDBG, EDA, DOI, TBA, Brownfields Tax Incentive)
 - ✓ State (State TBA, Tax Credits, RLF)
 - ✓ Local (TIF, Tax, Bond)
 - ✓ Private (Foundation, Investors, Donations)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.c Ability to Leverage

- For each resource:
 - ✓ **Identify** the organization and **type** of resource.
 - ✓ Describe **how** the funds will contribute to the success or performance of your proposed project such as cleanup and reuse planning, site cleanup activities, development, construction, demolition work, infrastructure, etc.
 - ✓ State the **amount**.
 - ✓ Indicate **status** of obtaining the resource
 - If secured, attach documentation.
 - **If not secured, explain the likelihood of obtaining funds during the grant period.**

Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.c Ability to Leverage

- Discuss status of obtaining resources

If funds are already secured

- ✓ **Attach documentation!** This is an allowed attachment to your proposal (**Attachment e**).
- ✓ The documentation should be from the source of the leveraged funds and should include what the resource is for and amount (if possible) – this should be consistent with your narrative.
- ✓ Make sure you check the appropriate box off on the Other Factors Checklist in **Appendix 3**.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.c Ability to Leverage

- Discuss status of obtaining resources

If funds are already secured

- ✓ Examples of firm commitments:
 - Other grant awards you have already received.
 - Commitments from developers ready to begin once site is assessed & cleaned up.
- ✓ **If documentation is missing – you may not receive full points.**
- ✓ **Letters that come in after the proposal due date will not qualify, so work on this right away!**



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

2.c Ability to Leverage

- Discuss status of obtaining resources

If funds are not secured

- ✓ Provide **examples of past leveraging** successes from similar projects that achieved a community environmental or revitalization goal.
- ✓ Discuss your experience receiving this type of funding.
- ✓ Give an indication of the likelihood of obtaining funds during the grant period. **Make sure you do this – It is being missed.**
- ✓ Indicate if you've already applied for funding or if and when you plan to seek funding.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3. Community Engagement & Partnerships

3. Community Engagement & Partnerships (35 points)
 - a. Plan for Involving Targeted Community... (15 points)
 - i. Community Involvement Plan (10 points)
 - ii. Communicating Progress (5 points)
 - b. Partnerships with Government Agencies (10 points)
 - i. Local/State/Tribal Environmental Authority (5 points)
 - ii. Other Governmental Partnerships (5 points)
 - c. Partnerships with Community Organizations (10 points)
 - i. Community Organization Description & Role (5 points)
 - ii. Letters of Commitment (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3. Community Engagement & Partnerships

What's this all about?

- This section demonstrates how you will **inform** and **involve** the community and other stakeholders during the **planning and implementation** of your project.
- Explain how your proposed community engagement plan will **meet the needs** of the targeted community identified in the Community Need section.
- Identify the stakeholders and partners necessary to **achieve the benefits** discussed in Project Benefits.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3. Community Engagement & Partnerships

What are we looking for?

- Actions or plans to effectively involve & inform the targeted community and stakeholders.
- Description of local/state/tribal environmental authority.
- Roles and responsibilities of relevant government partners.
- Roles and commitments of identified community organizations and their letters of commitment.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3. Community Engagement & Partnerships

What are we looking for?

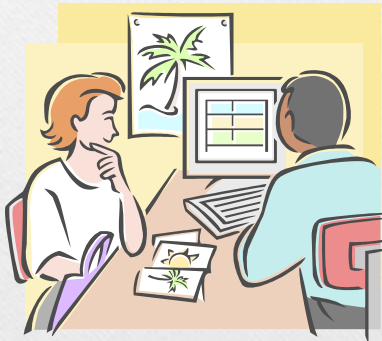
- **Community-Wide Proposals:** Describe how the whole community, not just local groups affected by your potential sites, has input into and will be engaged during your project.
- **Site-Specific Proposals:** Describe efforts to involve and inform community directly affected by the site as well as the whole community.
- **Coalition Proposals:** Describe how all communities in the coalition will provide input and be engaged throughout your project and how the engagement is tailored to the specific needs of the targeted communities.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.a Plan for Involving Targeted Community

- a. Plan for Involving Targeted Community... (15 points)
 - i. Community Involvement Plan (10 points)
 - ii. Communicating Progress (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.a Plan for Involving Targeted Community

- i. Community Involvement Plan (10 points)
 - Consider all the types of partners listed in this criterion and show the plan/process for:
 - ✓ searching them out,
 - ✓ working with them as part of the grant, and
 - ✓ how you will get input from the community on the site selection, cleanup decisions and reuse planning.
 - **RPCs** and **COGs** need to include their local city/town governments as primary stakeholders and show how they work with them in this process.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.a Plan for Involving Targeted Community

i. Community Involvement Plan (10 points)

- Describe **your plans** for using the **appropriate means** to reach your targeted community such as:

Various Media	Public Meetings
Applicant's & partners' websites	Commit to number, frequency, or milestone
Press releases & other uses of print media	Select convenient location in the affected community
Social media	Schedule meetings for working public
Flyers	Coordinate with other community group meetings



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.a Plan for Involving Targeted Community

ii. Communicating Progress (5 points)

- Describe your plan for communicating progress to your community members.
- Discuss why these plans appropriate for your targeted community.
- Address **all potential** communication barrier(s).
 - ✓ Plans to translate materials (at meetings & literature)
 - ✓ Plans to accommodate cultural differences
 - ✓ Plans to accommodate those with hearing/reading impairments
 - ✓ Relate to demographic data provided in the **Community Need** section (the reviewer will remember)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.a Plan for Involving Targeted Community

ii. Communicating Progress (5 points)

- **TIPS:**

- ✓ You need to demonstrate a balance of all the methods listed above to ensure you are successful in reaching your targeted community.
- ✓ Even if you haven't encountered any communication barriers, state in your proposal that you **will accommodate** those members in the community when the issue arises.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.b Partnerships with Government Agencies

- b. Partnerships with Government Agencies (10 points)
 - i. Local/State/Tribal Environmental Authority (5 points)
 - ii. Other Governmental Partnerships (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.b Partnerships with Government Agencies

- i. Local/State/Tribal Environmental Authority (5 points)
 - The local environmental oversight structure in New England = the state environmental agencies.
 - **Note:** MA and CT applicants need to describe their privatized programs to unfamiliar reviewers (define LSP/LEP and their role, cleanup completion documentation, liability protections, etc.).



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.b Partnerships with Government Agencies

i. Local/State/Tribal Environmental Authority (5 points)

- Discuss the **key roles** this agency plays in your grant, and how you will work together during the various phases of assessment work.
- Provide **specific details** on what they will do for you. For example:
 - ✓ Approve site eligibility (petro)
 - ✓ Review environmental reports
 - ✓ Provide technical expertise
 - ✓ Participate on steering committee
- Indicate definitive plans to enroll site(s) in state/tribal voluntary cleanup program.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.b Partnerships with Government Agencies

ii. Other Relevant Governmental Partnerships (5 points)

- Discuss the role of other federal agencies such as:

- ✓ HUD
- ✓ DOT
- ✓ EDA
- ✓ USDA



- Discuss the role other state agencies will play in your project.
- **Mention your working relationship with EPA.**
- If you are a beneficiary of a HUD/EPA/DOT partnership project, don't forget to mention your role and involvement. Make sure you check the box in the Other Factors Checklist.

Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.b Partnerships with Government Agencies

ii. Other Relevant Governmental Partnerships (5 points)

- **Health Agencies**

- ✓ You may need to discuss the health agencies in your area (they are different all over the country and the reviewer will need this overview to understand your situation).
- ✓ Include the services they can provide and the role they will play in your project during the various phases of assessment work, including:
 - Information on known health risks and sensitive populations in your community
 - Asbestos, lead, mold, guano, etc.
 - Situations of identified immediate risks to human health

- **TIP:** At a minimum, most communities and every state have a health department that you can coordinate with.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.c Partnerships with Community Organizations

- c. Partnerships with Community Organizations (10 points)
 - i. Community Organization Description & Role (5 points)
 - ii. Letters of Commitment (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.c Partnerships with Community Organizations

i. Community Organization Description & Role (5 points)

- What are your current efforts and plans...?
 - ✓ For example: You have been in discussion with COs over the last few months about your brownfields program.
- How will they be involved in the planning & implementation?
 - ✓ This is much more than just support!
 - ✓ COs involvement should be **meaningful** and **specific**.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.c Partnerships with Community Organizations

- i. Community Organization Description & Role (5 points)
 - In your narrative you will:
 - ✓ Describe each CO
 - ✓ Indicate the **services** they will provide to your project
 - ✓ Affirm their commitment to your project
 - Present them as partners and their assistance in the grant in terms of **commitments**.
 - See **FAQ #8** for definition of a CO
 - See **FAQ #9** for types of roles COs can perform



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.c Partnerships with Community Organizations

- i. Community Organization Description & Role (5 points)
 - **TIP:** If not intuitive, explain what makes each organization a CO for your targeted communities.
 - **TIP:** The use of a chart can work well here to present your information. However, just putting in the name, address & phone number of the CO is not sufficient.
 - **Note:** EPA may conduct reference checks to ensure that organizations identified are supportive and involved with the brownfields project.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.c Partnerships with Community Organizations

ii. Letters of Commitment (5 points)

- You must include, as a separate attachment (in **Attachment d**), a **Letter** from **EACH** CO listed in your narrative.
 - ✓ The letters will describe **project role and commitments** that the CO will make to your project.
 - ✓ Do **NOT** utilize form letters. Each letter should speak to the organization's view of your brownfields work.
 - ✓ **The commitments specified in the narrative should be identical to the commitments specified in the letters.**



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.c Partnerships with Community Organizations

ii. Letters of Commitment (5 points)

- How many key COs do you need? How many will get you the five points? **Contribution and relevance is key.**
- **Note:** Do not include letters from local government organizations, elected officials or the Mayor's office. They **are not** COs and you may lose points if you include them!
- **Note:** Letters must be addressed to the **applicant** and included in your proposal. Do not send letters to EPA!



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.c Partnerships with Community Organizations

Some examples of COs:

- ✓ Environmental non-profits (i.e. rail to trail type organizations)
- ✓ Economic development organizations
- ✓ Community Development Corporations (CDCs)
- ✓ Social services providers
- ✓ Downtown development committees
- ✓ Chambers of Commerce
- ✓ Revitalization committees
- ✓ Affordable housing organizations
- ✓ Land trusts
- ✓ Neighborhood associations
- ✓ Regional economic strategy groups
- ✓ Health organizations
- ✓ Education institutions
- ✓ Historic and cultural organizations
- ✓ Churches



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.c Partnerships with Community Organizations

Some examples of what COs can do for your project:

- Participate on the steering committee
- Participate on the site selection committee
- Talk to their constituency about specific sites or the role of brownfields redevelopment in the targeted community
- Host public meetings
- Host design charrettes
- Become involved in the cleanup/reuse planning process
- Help to post community outreach material on web and/or in newsletters
- Provide financial or legal advice
- Assist with proposal preparation (no grant funds spent)
- Provide technical assistance (QEP, QA)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

3.c Partnerships with Community Organizations

If there are no community organizations in your community

- Provide background information affirming the lack of such organizations and why.
- Demonstrate how the community is engaged and involved in your project, which can be demonstrated by resident support letters, letters to the editor, attendance at public meetings, etc.
- **TIP:** You have got to be kidding me! You have them.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4. Project Benefits

4. Project Benefits (25 points)

- a. Health and/or Welfare & Environment (10 points)
 - i. Health and/or Welfare Benefits (5 points)
 - ii. Environmental Benefits (5 points)
- b. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse / Sustainable Reuse (8 points)
 - i. Planning, Policies, and Other Tools (5 points)
 - ii. Integrating Equitable Development or Livability Principles (3 points)
- c. Economic and Community Benefits (7 points)
 - i. Economic or Other Benefits (5 points)
 - ii. Job Creation Potential (2 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4. Project Benefits

Don't forget to finish the story!

In this criterion, you will explain how all of your welfare, public health, environmental, economic and non-economic benefits solve the problems you discussed in **Community Need**.

This criterion is for all the good things that result from your project – not a rehash of the problems discussed in Community Need.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4. Project Benefits

What am I doing here?

- This section describes the anticipated long term benefits (**outcomes**) expected from your project **in context of the needs** discussed in Community Need and the broader planning efforts as discussed in Project Description.
- This is not the workplan – it's the vision!
- What will the welfare of your community look like?
- What will your environment look like?
- How will your community adverse health outcomes be improved?
- How do you envision your unemployment rate will change/drop?
- Can you quantify the potential results?
- What reuse is listed in the community's Master Plan?



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4. Project Benefits

What are we looking for?

- The potential of your project
- The development plan for your target area(s)
- Significant outcomes and benefits to the health, welfare, and environment of the community(ies)
- Environmentally sustainable redevelopment plans and equitable developments
- Stimulation of economic or non-economic benefits



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.a Health and/or Welfare & Environment

- a. Health and/or Welfare & Environment (10 points)
 - i. Health and/or Welfare Benefits (5 points)
 - ii. Environmental Benefits (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.a Health and/or Welfare & Environment

- i. Health and/or Welfare Benefits (5 points)
 - Discuss the specific **Health** and/or **Welfare** benefits anticipated from the revitalization of sites assessed under this grant.
 - **Tip:** Go back to the **Community Need** section and make sure the specific health and/or welfare challenges are addressed as benefits.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.a Health and/or Welfare & Environment

i. Health and/or Welfare Benefits (5 points)

- Example anticipated **Health Benefits**
 - ✓ Elimination of health threats from direct contact, inhalation, and indoor vapor intrusion of site contaminants
 - ✓ Asthma reduction due to improved air quality (diesel emissions)
 - ✓ Lower blood lead levels
 - ✓ Drinking supply protection or restoration



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.a Health and/or Welfare & Environment

i. Health and/or Welfare Benefits (5 points)

- Example anticipated **Welfare Benefits**
 - ✓ A better quality of life
 - ✓ Blight reductions
 - ✓ People moving back
 - ✓ Crime reduction
 - ✓ Greater care of property appearances



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.a Health and/or Welfare & Environment

ii. Environmental Benefits (5 points)

- Discuss the specific **Environmental** benefits anticipated from the revitalization of sites assessed under this grant.
- **Tip:** Go back to the **Community Need** section and make sure the specific environmental challenges are addressed as benefits.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.a Health and/or Welfare & Environment

ii. Environmental Benefits (5 points)

- Example anticipated **Environmental Benefits**
 - ✓ Understanding the nature and extent of contamination at your sites.
 - ✓ Cleaner sites through removal and stabilization of site contaminants (highlight industry or broad contaminants in your target areas).
 - ✓ Improved air, surface water, groundwater, and soil quality in your target community (highlight local terrain, greenspace and rivers to add sense of reality).



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.b Enviro Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

- b. Environmental Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse / Sustainable Reuse (8 points)
 - i. Planning, Policies, and Other Tools (5 points)
 - ii. Integrating Equitable Development or Livability Principles (3 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.b Enviro Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

i. Planning, Policies, and Other Tools (5 points)

- Describe the tools your community has in place to **foster and implement** sustainable development.
- Examples must be **relevant** to your proposed project/sites and targeted reuse scenario(s).
 - ✓ **Are you trying to foster mixed use development?**
 - Multi-use Zoning?
 - Is it part of your community's comprehensive plan?
 - An ordinance that facilitates the mixed reuse of brownfield properties and existing infrastructure?
 - ✓ **Are you trying to make your community more walkable and energy efficient?**
 - Transit Oriented Development Plans?
 - Energy Efficiency Incentives from utilities or government entities?
 - Complete Street Planning? Requirements for Green Building Standards?



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.b Enviro Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

ii. Integrating Equitable Development **or** Livability Principles (3 points)

- Notice the “**or**” here. You only have to respond to one.
- Describe the efforts you have taken to integrate **equitable development principles and outcomes** into the reuse of the sites and not displace residents historically affected by brownfields.
- Equitable development outcomes result from intentional strategies put in place to ensure that your targeted community not only participates in, but benefits from, the decisions that shape their neighborhood and region.
- **TIP:** Link back to the demographics in **Community Need** (e.g., low-income, minority populations).



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.b Enviro Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

ii. Integrating Equitable Development **or** Livability Principles (3 points)

- Here are some ideas on **Equitable Development**:
 - ✓ Demonstrate awareness of gentrification and intent to minimize displacement.
 - ✓ Include information on redevelopments with affordable housing.
 - ✓ Include information on incentives to retain local businesses in mixed-use or commercial developments.
 - ✓ Does reuse include community center or public space that benefits residents?



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.b Enviro Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

ii. Integrating Equitable Development **or** Livability Principles (3 points)

- Here are some more ideas on **Equitable Development**:
 - ✓ Relation to master plans for transit oriented design or smart growth.
 - ✓ Describe partnerships with local community development corporations if you are working with them to redevelop sites.
 - ✓ Compliance with community design charrettes.
 - ✓ Are you maintaining access to community and natural resources through public walkways or park space?

Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.b Enviro Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

ii. Integrating Equitable Development **or** Livability Principles (3 points)

- **Livability Principles**

1. Provide more transportation choices.
2. Promote equitable, affordable housing.
3. Increase economic competitiveness.
4. Support existing communities.
5. Leverage federal investment.
6. Value communities and neighborhoods.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.b Enviro Benefits from Infrastructure Reuse/Sustainable Reuse

ii. Integrating Equitable Development **or** Livability Principles (3 points)

- **TIP: Do not just list the Livability Principles!** Discuss how you will integrate the relevant principles.
- **TIP:** You do not need to be part of a Partnership for Sustainable Communities (PSC) project to demonstrate that your brownfields project addresses the livability principles.
- **TIP:** If your targeted community is also a part of a PSC project, it should be mentioned here. Information on where PSC grants have been awarded can be found at:
<https://www.sustainablecommunities.gov/>



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.c Economic and Community Benefits

- c. Economic and Community Benefits (7 points)
 - i. Economic or Other Benefits (5 points)
 - ii. Job Creation Potential (2 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.c Economic and Community Benefits

i. Economic or Other Benefits (5 points)

- Notice the “**or**” here. You only have to respond to one.
- **TIP:** If you have discussed both economic and non-economic challenges in your proposal, you should address **both types of benefits**.
- Be sure these **benefits reflect the needs** of your targeted communities. Refer back to the **Community Need** section.
- Even if specific reuse plans may not be evident, describe the **potential benefits** based on the vision of your overall story and what your community needs.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.c Economic and Community Benefits

i. Economic or Other Benefits (5 points)

- **Economic benefits**, such as increased employment and expanded tax base, through the redevelopment of sites assessed under this grant. **Provide quantitative estimates where feasible.**
- Make every effort to provide **quantitative** estimates.
 - ✓ Number and types of jobs
 - ✓ Taxes (Property, Sales, Income)
 - ✓ Property values
 - ✓ Other benefits resulting from area-wide economic development



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.c Economic and Community Benefits

i. Economic or Other Benefits (5 points)

- **Non-economic benefits** associated with sites to be reused for greenspace and other not-for-profit activities. Greenspace includes areas redeveloped for uses such as parks, recreation areas, greenways, or environmental buffers.
- Greenspace Reuse
 - ✓ Recreational space & parks
 - ✓ Rails to trails
 - ✓ Wetlands, greenspace & open space
 - ✓ Greenspace components in commercial and industrial redevelopment
 - ✓ Preservation of open space on urban edge



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.c Economic and Community Benefits

i. Economic or Other Benefits (5 points)

- **Non-Profit & Charitable Reuse**

- ✓ Affordable housing
- ✓ Community Center
- ✓ Local Governmental



- **TIP:** Remember that economic revitalization can be guided to include greenspace and community benefits, and conversely, greenspace and non-profit reuse can spur economic benefits.

Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.c Economic and Community Benefits

- ii. Job Creation Potential: Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs (2 points)
- Identify if your community has any **Local Hiring Ordinance** in place.
 - Can you include local hiring language in your **procurement documents** (does not have to be specific to assessment field work)?
 - Coordinate with Regional Workforce Investment Boards to promote job opportunities that arise from Brownfields funding.
 - Coordinate with **ONE STOP Career Centers and/or Colleges** in your community.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

4.c Economic and Community Benefits

- ii. Job Creation Potential: Partnerships with Workforce Development Programs (2 points)
- Discuss the role the workforce development organization(s) will play in your project.
 - ✓ Make yourself familiar with your local job training program(s), EPA or other.
 - ✓ Refer to brownfields toolbox for information on EPA funded Job Training Programs at www.brownfields-toolbox.org
 - ✓ We want to see that you are making the connections between job training graduates and the contractors you will be hiring.
 - If there are no job training programs in your immediate area, **say so**, and describe efforts to link members of the community to potential employment opportunities related to your proposed projects.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5. Programmatic Capability & Past Performance

5. Programmatic Capability & Past Performance (40 points)
 - a. Programmatic Capability (28 points)
 - b. Audit Findings (2 points)
 - c. Past Performance and Accomplishments (10 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5. Programmatic Capability & Past Performance

What are we looking for?

- Your organization has the experience, knowledge and resources necessary to ensure successful completion of all required aspects of your project and this grant.
- Your programmatic and grant management capacity.
- Your plan for measuring and reporting your outputs and outcomes.
- Your past and/or current performance on awarded grants and/or assistance agreements.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.a Programmatic Capability

5.a Programmatic Capability (28 points)

Describe the organizational structure you will utilize ...

- Describe your project management **team** and how they will manage this grant.
- Provide details on staff expertise, qualifications and experience.
- Name names on who will be involved with this grant and point out other expertise you can draw on in your organization.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.a Programmatic Capability

5.a Programmatic Capability (28 points)

Describe the system(s) you have in place to appropriately acquire any additional expertise and resources ...

- Describe your methods of acquiring needed expertise and resources through competitive procurement.
 - ✓ QEPs
 - ✓ Legal assistance for access agreements



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.b Audit Findings

5.b Audit Findings (2 points)

- Describe any adverse audit findings.
- Describe any past grant management issues and how you are correcting or have corrected them.
- **If you have no adverse audit findings tell us that! Be sure to respond to this criterion or you will receive zero points!**



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

- c. Past Performance and Accomplishments (10 points)
 - i. Currently or Has Ever Received an EPA BF Grant (10 points)
 - 1. Compliance with Grant Requirements (5 points)
 - 2. Accomplishments (5 points)
 - ii. Has Not Received an EPA BF Grant but has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements (10 points)
 - 1. Purpose and Accomplishments (5 points)
 - 2. Compliance with Grant Requirements (5 points)
 - iii. Has Never Received Any Type of Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements (5 points)



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

- If you have ever received an EPA brownfields grant (including Assessment, Cleanup, Revolving Loan Fund, and 128(a) grants), respond to **5.c.i**
- If you have never received an EPA Brownfields grant, but have received other federal or non-federal assistance agreements, respond to **5.c.ii**
- If you have never received any type of federal or non-federal assistance agreements, respond to **5.c.iii**



**You must respond to one of these criteria.
Be careful which one you respond to!**

Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

- i. Currently or Has Ever Received an EPA BF Grant (10 points)
 - Provide information on each of your current and most recent EPA Brownfields grant(s) **but not more than five**.
 - Discuss how you have successfully **managed** and **performed all phases of work** on your EPA Brownfields grants.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

i.1 Compliance with Grant Requirements (5 points)

- Discuss your compliance with:
 - ✓ Following the Work Plan
 - ✓ Staying on schedule & meeting milestones
 - ✓ Complying with Terms and Conditions
- If not, discuss:
 - ✓ What corrective measures you took or are taking.
 - ✓ How the corrective measures were documented and communicated



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

i.1 Compliance with Grant Requirements (5 points)

- Discuss timely reporting/submission of:
 - ✓ Quarterly reports
 - ✓ Ongoing ACRES reporting
 - ✓ Phase I & II reports
- Check with your Project Officer. **If you owe us reports, go home and get them done! Update your quarterly report submissions and do your ACRES data input!**



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

i.1 Compliance with Grant Requirements (5 points)

- If you have an open Brownfields grant(s), discuss your need for additional funding
- For your **open** Brownfields grant(s)
 - ✓ Provide dates of your grant (start and end date)
 - ✓ Provide the current remaining balance
 - ✓ Discuss your plan to expend remaining funds in a timely manner



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

i.1 Compliance with Grant Requirements (5 points)

- For your **closed** Brownfields grant(s)
 - ✓ Tell us if you had an unexpended balance at the end of your grant and the amount
 - ✓ Explain why all funds were not expended



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

i.2 Accomplishments (5 points)

- Describe your success with the EPA Brownfields funding.
- Discuss the specific outputs & outcomes of your grants
 - ✓ Number of sites assessed and/or cleaned up
 - ✓ Phase Is & IIs, Cleanup Plans, Loans & Subgrants
 - ✓ Outreach activities
- **TIP:** Look in ACRES for your past accomplishments.
- Discuss that you reported accomplishments to EPA in ACRES at the time of proposal submission.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

- ii. Has Not Received an EPA BF Grant but Has Received Other Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements (10 points)
- Provide information on each of your current and most recent federal and/or non-federal grant(s) **but not more than five.**
 - Select grants that are similar in size, scope & relevance to your proposed project.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

ii.1 Purpose & Accomplishments (5 points)

- Discuss how you have successfully **managed** and **performed all phases of work** on your federal and/or non-federal grants.
- For each grant, provide information on:
 - ✓ Awarding agency/organization
 - ✓ Amount of funding
 - ✓ Purpose of grant
 - ✓ Specific accomplishments including outputs and outcomes
 - ✓ Measures of success for projects



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

ii.2 Compliance With Grant Requirements (5 points)

- Demonstrate how you have successfully managed and performed all phases of work under these grants.
 - ✓ Compliance with grant requirements and making sufficient progress
 - Following the Work Plan
 - Staying on schedule & meeting milestones
 - Complying with Terms and Conditions
 - ✓ If not, what corrective measures did you take?
- Discuss history of **timely** and **acceptable** reporting for these grants as required by the awarding agency/organization.



Ranking Criteria - Assessment

5.c Past Performance & Accomplishments

iii. Has Never Received Any Type of Federal or Non-Federal Assistance Agreements (5 points)

- If you have never received any type of federal or non-federal grant, **say so** in order to receive the 5 points.
- **If you do not respond, you will not receive the 5 points!**



What To Do Now?

- Draft your proposal!
- Contact your Community Organizations and get your letters!
- Contact us with eligibility questions!
- Contact partners for assistance in preparing and/or reviewing your proposal!
- Get new State acknowledgement letter!
- Contact your State if applying for a site-specific petroleum site!
- Make sure your www.SAM.gov registration is active.
- Register for www.grants.gov if you are not already registered.
- **Use THIS year's guidelines!!**



Web Resources

- [FY2016 ARC Proposal Guidelines Page](#)
 - ✓ [Assessment](#)
 - ✓ [Revolving Loan Fund](#)
 - ✓ [Cleanup](#)
- [FY2016 ARC Frequently Asked Questions \(FAQs\)](#)
- [FY2016 Summary of Changes](#)
- [FY2016 Assessment Guideline Checklist](#)
- [FY2016 Cleanup Guideline Checklist](#)
- [Grants.gov Tip Sheet for Applicants](#)



Web Resources

- [EPA Land Revitalization Projects and Construction and Demolition \(C&D\) Recycling](#)
- [EPA Brownfields Information](#)
- [EPA Region 1 Brownfields Information](#)
- [SmartE-Online Sustainable Management Approaches and Revitalization Tools](#)
- [TAB EZ Grant Writing Tool](#)
- [Brownfields Toolbox](#)
- [NJIT TAB Program](#)



Questions & Answers

