

Brownfields 2020 Job Training Fact Sheet

El Centro, eight neighborhoods in Northeast Wyandotte County, KS

Grant Recipient Information

Name: El Centro
Phone: 913-677-0100
Website: .

EPA Information

Region: EPA Region 7 Brownfields Team
Phone: 913-551-7380
Website: <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/r7>

Publication Information

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Overview of the 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 solid and hazardous waste-impacted communities and place them in environmental jobs. To date, EPA has funded 305 job training grants totaling over \$63 million through the Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program. As of October 2019, more than 18,300 individuals have completed training, and of those, almost 13,700 have obtained employment in the environmental field, an average starting wage of over \$14 an hour. This equates to a cumulative placement rate of approximately 75% since the program was created in 1998.

Job Training Grant

\$195,321.00

EPA has selected El Centro for an Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training grant. El Centro plans to train 72 students and place at least 60 graduates in environmental jobs. The training

program includes 114 hours of instruction in 40-hour HAZWOPER, OSHA 10-hour construction, lead renovation, repair, and painting, lead abatement worker, and asbestos abatement worker. Participants who complete the training will earn four federal and one state certifications. El Centro is targeting residents of eight predominantly minority and low-income neighborhoods in northeast Wyandotte County. Key partners include the Wyandotte Economic Development Council, APEX Environmental Consulting, Kansas City Kansas Community College, The Village Initiative Inc., the Economic Opportunity Foundation Inc., Workforce Partnership, Environmental Works Inc., Donnelly College, Providence Medical Center, Sutton Remodeling LLC, Grahovac Construction LLC, and the Unified Government of Wyandotte County/Kansas City, Kansas.

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>).

The information presented in this fact sheet comes from the grant application; EPA cannot attest to the accuracy of the information. The cooperative agreement is negotiated after the selection announcement. Therefore, the funding amount and activities described in this fact sheet are subject to change.