Brownfields 2025 Job Training Fact Sheet

Groundwork Rhode Island, Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls, and Woonsocket, RI

EPA Information

Region: EPA Region 1 Brownfields Team
Phone: 617-918-1231
Website: https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-and-land-revitalization-epa-region-1

Publication Information

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Job Training Grant

$500,000.00

EPA has selected Groundwork Rhode Island for a Brownfields Job Training Grant. Groundwork Rhode Island plans to train 72 students and place 42 in environmental jobs. The training program includes 206 hours of instruction. Students who complete the training will earn up to three federal certifications. Groundwork Rhode Island is targeting unemployed, underemployed, and economically underserved adults, as well as individuals with justice-system involvement within Providence, Pawtucket, Central Falls, and Woonsocket. Key partners include the City of Providence Department of Public Works, Ground Flora, Open Doors, Progreso Latino, the Providence Neighborhood Planting Program, the Rhode Island Department of Environmental Management, the Stormwater Innovation Center, and Zero Waste Providence.

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).

Grant Recipient Information

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Twitter: https://x.com/groundworkri
Youtube: https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCkLbJjKNko5Hh53G-8-INHw
LinkedIn: https://www.linkedin.com/company/groundwork-rhode-island

Certificates & Technical Curriculum Supported by EPA	• 40-Hour HAZWOPER • OSHA 10-Hour Construction Site Safety • Lead Renovation, Repair and Painting

	• Introduction to Brownfields/Soil Sampling • Introduction to Wastewater Treatment • Center for Watershed Protection Clean Water Certificate • Urban Tree Stewards • Providence Tree Keepers
Other Curriculum	• Large Green Infrastructure Maintenance • Small Green Infrastructure Maintenance • Erosion Control Technology • Plant Identification/Landscape Design • Climate Change and Public Health • Math for Landscaping • On-Site Project Management • Introduction to Composting (in field) • Landfill and Recycling Facility Tour • Water Testing and Sampling • Green Roofs and Energy Star Design • Rain Barrel Construction/Installation • Wastewater Treatment Facilities Tour • Brownfield Site Visits • Introduction to Environmental Justice and Health Equity • Hands-On Work Days (in field)
Additional Skills and Services	• Public Speaking • Employer and Industry Presentations

Overview of the EPA Brownfields Program

EPA's Brownfields Program empowers states, Tribal Nations, 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, Tribal Nations, 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 Brownfields Job Training Grants. Additionally, funding support is provided to state and tribal response programs through a separate mechanism.

Brownfields 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 awarded 430 job training grants totaling over $113.1 million through Brownfield Job Training Programs. With these grants, approximately 23,460 individuals have completed training and over 17,450 individuals have been placed in careers related to land remediation and environmental health and safety. This equates to a cumulative placement

rate of approximately 74 percent. The average starting wage for these jobs over the last five years is approximately $23 an hour.

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.