



CleanOhioFund

CLEAN OHIO ASSISTANCE FUND

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS:

1. Who is eligible for the Assistance Fund program?

- Eligible entities include townships, municipal corporations, counties, port authorities and conservancy districts which have not caused or contributed to the contamination at the property.

2. What type of project is eligible for the Assistance Fund program?

The Assistance Fund is dedicated to those projects which meet the following criteria:

- The project is located within a Priority Investment Area as defined by the Ohio Department of Development (click here for the map of [Priority Investment Areas](#))
- The property is former industrial or commercial or institutional property and meets the definition of a brownfield
 - Brownfields are defined as abandoned, idled, or under-used industrial, commercial, or institutional property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by known or potential releases of hazardous substances or petroleum as defined in O.R.C 122.65(D).

3. My community is not in a Priority Investment Area. Who do I contact about this designation?

- The Policy, Research and Strategic Planning Office oversee the Priority Investment Area designations for the Department. They may be reached at 614-466-2116 or via e-mail to osr@odod.state.oh.us

4. When are applications accepted?

- Applications are accepted on an open cycle beginning July 1, 2008. Applications should be sent to the Ohio Department of Development's Urban Development Division at the address listed below:

Ohio Department of Development
Urban Development Division
77 S. High St. 26th Floor
Columbus Ohio 43215

5. What types of grants are available and what are the maximum grant amounts?

- Two types of grants are available through the Assistance Fund program as listed below
 1. Assessment Grants - These may be used to complete a Phase II Environmental Site Assessment on an eligible property. Maximum award is \$300,000
 2. Cleanup Grants – These may be used to undertake environmental remediation and demolition of an eligible property. Maximum award is \$750,000.

6. What is the term of each grant?
 - Assessment grants must be completed within 540 days of the effective date of the grant agreement.
 - Cleanup grants must be completed within 900 days of the effective date of the grant agreement.
7. Is there a match requirement for the Assistance Fund program?
 - No, Phase II and Cleanup grants do not have a required match percentage.
8. What if the Total Project Cost (TPC) exceeds the maximum grant request?
 - If the TPC exceeds the maximum grant request then commitment letters demonstrating all additional costs necessary to complete the project and must be provided in the application for funding.
9. What is the look-back period for counting dollars leveraged?
 - Applicants may look-back two (2) years prior to the date of application submittal for applicable dollars leveraged.
10. What is the difference between dollars leveraged and match?
 - Dollars leveraged includes assessment, acquisition, infrastructure, environmental insurance and clearance and are not included in TPC.
 - Match dollars are only those necessary to complete assessment or cleanup and demolition activities and are included in the TPC.
11. When is the deadline for submitting information for the Ohio Brownfield Inventory?
 - Submission for the Brownfield Inventory must occur prior to application submittal to the Ohio Department of Development.
 - Submission may occur after placement of the grant application into the public library for the required public notice period as long as it is submitted prior to the application submission to Development.
 - For more information please visit the Ohio EPA SABR Division website:
<http://www.epa.state.oh.us/derr/SABR/Brown/BrownDtb/browndtb.html>
12. May the application summary document be double-sided?
 - The application summary document must not exceed four (4) pages in length and may NOT be double-sided.
13. Are an applicant and/or property eligible for other Clean Ohio Assistance or Revitalization Fund grants following receipt of an Assistance Fund Phase II Environmental Site Assessment grant?
 - An applicant and/or property is eligible for EITHER a Clean Ohio Assistance Fund cleanup grant OR a Clean Ohio Revitalization Fund cleanup grant NOT BOTH
 - The Clean Ohio Assistance Fund Phase II Environmental Site Assessment grant may NOT be used as match for either application for cleanup funding.

14. Will the Ohio Department of Development approve an application in which a cause or contributor to the onsite contamination still owns and/or is still located on the project property?
- Yes the Ohio Department of Development may execute an agreement for property in this situation however NO GRANT DOLLARS WILL BE DISBURSED until the property has transferred to another entity unrelated to the cause or contributor AND the cause or contributor has vacated the property.
 - Applications in which this scenario applies must provide a signed purchase agreement with a purchase price and closing date to be considered for funding.
15. When preparing Remedial Action Plans for the Cleanup Application should the new Voluntary Action Program rules be applied?
- Yes. Please note the Voluntary Action Program rules are currently undergoing QA/QC and are subject to change prior to JCARR approval. Approval is anticipated for February 2009. Please visit the Voluntary Action Program website for the most recent rules: <http://www.epa.state.oh.us/derr/vap/rules/vaprules.html>

If you have any additional questions please contact either the Ohio Department of Development Urban Development Division or the Ohio EPA SABR Division as listed below:

Ohio Department of Development
Urban Development Division
Shane Mathey, Brownfield Specialist
Phone: 614-466-1235
E-mail: mmathey@odod.state.oh.us

Ohio EPA SABR Division
Dan Tjoelker, Brownfield Coordinator
Phone: 614-644-3750
E-mail: dan.tjoelker@epa.state.oh.us