



DEEP CERCLA 128(a) Brownfield Grant Program – Round 1

(Announced in tandem with DECD-OBRD Round 18)

July 26, 2023 (DEEP Update July 27, 2023)*

(*includes municipalities as eligible entities)

Program Description and Announcement

The Department of Energy and Environmental Protection (DEEP) would like to announce the availability of funding under DEEP’s CERCLA 128(a) Grant Program and is inviting applicants that are **municipalities** or non-profit entities to apply. Funding is available through the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency’s (EPA) CERCLA 128(a) State and Tribal Response Program. DEEP was awarded this funding from the EPA under the Infrastructure Investment and Jobs Act (IIJA) to administer to brownfield sites in Connecticut to perform environmental assessment and cleanup activities. DEEP encourages applicants whose projects will enable the creation, preservation, or addition of park space, greenways or other recreational space, or other property used for nonprofit **or municipal** purposes, to apply for this pool of funding. Applicants will be evaluated for eligibility as non-profit **or municipal** entities whose redevelopment plans are most aligned with DEEP’s Mission: *to conserve, improve and protect the natural resources and the environment of the State of Connecticut, and to protect human health through the assessment and cleanup of polluted properties.*

DEEP is also committed to promoting the remediation and redevelopment of brownfield sites located in Environmental Justice (EJ) communities. The EPA describes EJ as the fair treatment and meaningful involvement of all people regardless of race, color, national origin, or income with respect to the development, implementation and enforcement of environmental laws, regulations, and policies. For example, an “underserved community” refers to a community with environmental justice concerns and/or vulnerable populations, including low-income citizens, communities of color, and tribal and Indigenous peoples. Additional consideration will be given to proposed projects located in EJ communities.

Round 1 Availability

The total funding pool available for this program is \$485,000.

Maximum Request Per Application: Grants of up to \$250,000 for assessment and \$250,000 for cleanup per CERCLA Section 128(a)(2)(C)(iii). No minimum requested grant amount. Applicants are welcome to submit applications for multiple projects/sites.

Application Process:

To be considered for this dedicated funding, please provide the following responses:

1. Demonstrate that the applicant is a non-profit **or municipal** entity and explain the extent, if any, of the community partnerships involved with the project:
2. Describe how the assessment and/or cleanup is aligned with DEEP's mission:
3. Describe how the assessment and/or cleanup will enable the creation, preservation, or addition of park space, greenways or other recreational space, or other property used for nonprofit **or municipal** purposes:
4. Provide a detailed timeline for the environmental assessment and/or cleanup of the site. Such plan shall include any relevant information regarding whether such activities anticipated or otherwise considered the impacts of climate change and/or benefits a community with EJ concerns:
5. Please specify the total funding request for assessment and/or cleanup:

Total number of pages should not exceed 10. Include attachments as applicable.

Application Submission Process

All application submittals (along with attachments) shall either be:

1. Uploaded to a CT Dept. of Economic and Community Development (DECD) SharePoint folder [PREFERRED METHOD]

- a. Applicants must request a SharePoint link by emailing brownfields@ct.gov
- b. Include Applicant & Project Name and Program Code (DEEP1) in subject line.
- c. **Recommended** to make folder request by noon on Wednesday, September 20, 2023;

OR

2. Emailed to Brownfields@ct.gov
 - a. Include Applicant & Project Name and Program Code (DEEP1) in subject line.

Application Due Date: The Application Form will be accepted until noon on Friday, September 22, 2023. An email will be sent to applicants to confirm receipt of the form and application package.

Selection Process: Applications will be reviewed and selected for award by the DEEP. DEEP will be administering the projects as per the EPA guidelines.

Note: DECD is only advertising this opportunity and using the Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development (OBRD) competitive funding setup to receive applications on behalf of DEEP.

Schedule Summary:

Walk-in Teams Meeting¹ (see below for call-in info)	
Wed, August 9, 2023 (9 – 10AM)	Special Topic: What’s new in Round 18? Will include a summary of DEEP’s CERCLA 128(a) Grant Program (Round 1).
Application Deadline	
Wed, September 20, 2023 @ noon	Request for SharePoint folder (see <i>Application Process</i>)
Friday, September 22, 2023 @ noon	Deadline to submit or upload Application Package
Round 1 Award Announcement	
December 2023 1 st or 2 nd week	Award Announcements (tentative)

¹**Microsoft Teams Walk-in Meetings:** The session will begin with a brief topical presentation followed by time for questions and answers.

[Click here to join the Teams meeting](#) on your computer or mobile app.

Or call in (audio only) 1.860.840.2075; **Phone Conference ID:** 435-012-966#

For questions: Please contact **Meena Mortazavi** at meena.mortazavi@ct.gov for further information on program requirements **at any time prior to the deadline.**

OBRD Website: For info on DECD brownfield opportunities (Round 18) and programs, visit, www.ctbrownfields.gov.