

Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development Municipal Grant Program (Assessment-only) Notice of Funding Availability (NOFA)

July 15, 2025
Round 22AO (Assessment-only Grant)

Announcement: The Office of Brownfield Remediation and Development (OBRD) of the Dept. of Economic and Community Development (DECD) would like to announce the availability of funding under the Municipal Brownfield Grant Program (Assessment-Only) and is inviting applications for the same. The purpose of the Municipal Grant Program as per C.G.S Section 32-763, is to provide grants for brownfield remediation and redevelopment. Additional program goals include encouraging public-private partnerships, leveraging the maximum amount of private funds to increase the economic impact of the State's investment, reactivating long-stalled sites and incentivizing job creation.

OBRD has also simultaneously announced the availability of funding under the Remediation and Limited Assessment Grant, the Targeted Brownfield Development Loan, and the Brownfield Area-wide Revitalization Planning Programs. The total funding pool available for all DECD Round 22 notices is up to \$25 million. The review and decision process for all programs will be simultaneous.

"Brownfield" Definition: As per <u>C.G.S Section 32-760</u>, "Brownfield" means any abandoned or underutilized site where redevelopment, reuse or expansion has not occurred due to the presence or potential presence of pollution in the buildings, soil or groundwater that requires investigation or remediation before or in conjunction with the redevelopment, reuse or expansion of the property.

Maximum and Minimum Requests Per Application or Project:

- For any project: Maximum request: \$200,000; Minimum Request: \$100,000.
- For Applicants who are Councils of Governments (COGs) and Brownfield Land Banks (BLBs) only: Total grant requests of up to \$500,000 may be submitted per application and for multiple projects in one municipality or multiple municipalities. However, the maximum and minimum amounts thresholds per project will be as noted above. Please complete and submit the COG/BLB coversheet along with your project applications if you are submitting for multiple projects.

All applicants are welcome to submit multiple projects under separate applications. Municipalities can also submit for multiple unrelated sites under one application as long as the total request for the project is within the specified thresholds (minimum of \$100K and maximum of \$200K).

Application Process: Applicants are required to fill out the Grant Round 22 AO Application available on the <u>Grant Program Webpage</u>. The Application has two separate sections – Part A: Threshold Eligibility Section and Part B: Project Details. Applications may be denied funding after review of Part A of the Application Form.

COGs/BLBs: If applying for multiple projects please complete and submit the COG/Land Bank cover sheet. Please make sure to submit a separate application form for each proposed project.

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

- 1. Uploaded to a 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 (22AO) in subject line.
 - c. **Recommended** to make folder request by **noon** on Monday, Sept 8, 2025;



OR

- 2. Emailed to brownfields@ct.gov
 - a. Include Applicant & Project Name and Program Code (22AO) in subject line.

Application Due Date: The Application Form will be accepted until <u>noon</u> on Wednesday September 10, 2025. An email will be sent to applicants to confirm receipt of the form and application package.

Questions related to the NOFA that are not included in the FAQ document should be emailed to brownfields@ct.gov by Monday, August 11, 2025. Any FAQ addendum that includes responses to additional questions not covered in the current FAQ document will be posted on the OBRD website by Friday, August 15, 2025.

All Applicants for funding under this Round 22AO NOFA should tentatively expect to receive clarification questions via email between September and November 2025. Awards are tentatively scheduled to be announced in November/December 2025.

Eligible Applicants: A Municipality as defined by <u>C.G.S Section 32-760</u> (12); Economic Development Agency, as defined by <u>C.G.S Section 32-760</u> (6); and Connecticut Brownfield Land Banks, as defined by <u>C.G.S Section 32-760</u> (22). Entities responsible for the contamination are ineligible. All applicants must provide proof of access to the site, site control or path to site control.

Source of Funding: House Bill #2025-7288 Sec. 13 (c) (1) approves \$40 million in bond funds for the Brownfield Program for fiscal year 2026. DECD will be submitting a request to the State Bond Commission for approval of these funds to support this funding round opportunity and others under the program in FY 2026. (Note: No funding award will be made until the SBC approves bond funds for the program.)

Enabling Statutes: C.G.S. Section 32-763

Eligible Uses of Funds: Costs associated with the investigation, assessment, and limited demolition required to conduct assessment activities.

Threshold Requirements: Applicants will need to demonstrate the following in the pre-application stage to be eligible to apply for the program:

- Proof that the site is a brownfield as per C.G. S. Sec. 32-760
- Proof that the Applicant and potential development partners have no direct or related liability for the conditions of the brownfield.
- Proof that Applicant has access or will have access to the property, site control or path to site control.

Application Review and Award Criteria: The following criteria will be used to score the applications.

Clarity on Assessment Needs	Knowledge of contamination history
	Preliminary investigations
	Project need and description



	Budget feasibility/Cost-efficiency	
Economic and	Project is located in a distressed municipality (see C.G.S. Sec. 32-9p)	
Community	Project in Opportunity Zone	
Development Impact	Property location benefits/merits	
Non-DECD Support	Developer interest and non-DECD support	
	Non-DECD funds committed	
	Market demand/Studies for site	
Applicant	Applicant experience with completing similar projects on-time and within	
Experience	budget	

Application Page limit (excluding attachments): DECD encourages all applicants to be succinct with their responses to the questions. <u>DECD will only accept responses to the questions included in the space provided within the forms.</u> Material presented outside of the forms may not be reviewed. Incomplete applications will be rejected. Please make sure to label attachments as per instructions on form.

Schedule Summary:

OBRD will be conducting an online presentation and individualized office hours over Microsoft Teams on the days indicated below.

Webinar/Question-Answer Session			
	Webinar: An overview/What's New in Round 22?		
Tue, July 29 th (10AM – 11AM)	Click <u>HERE</u> to join Teams on your computer or mobile app.		
Tue, July 25 (TOANI – TTANI)	Or call in (audio only) 1.860.840.2075;		
	Phone Conference ID: 194-514-210#		
Scheduled Office Hours on Teams (see below for scheduling info)			
Tue, July 22 nd (10AM – 12PM)	Please email <u>brownfields@ct.gov</u> to request a time for a one-		
Thur, July 24 th (10AM – 12PM)	on-one meeting. Upon request, a meeting confirmation and		
Thur, July 31 st (1PM – 4PM)	Microsoft Teams link will be provided. Please make all		
Tue, Aug 12 th (1PM – 4PM)	requests by August 4, 2025.		
Questions on the NOFA			
Mon, August 11, 2025	Deadline for questions to DECD on this NOFA		
Fri, August 15, 2025	Posting of FAQ Addendum (if any) on OBRD's Website		
Application Deadline			
Mon, September 8, 2025	Request for SharePoint folder (see Application Process)		
Wed, September 10, 2025 (noon)	Deadline to submit or upload Application Package		
Round 22 Award Announcement			
November/December 2025	Award Announcements (tentative)		

For questions: Please send email to <u>brownfields@ct.gov</u> (preferred) or contact the dedicated OBRD hotline number at 1.860.500.2395.

OBRD Website: For info on all opportunities and programs, visit, www.ctbrownfields.gov.

Campaign Contribution Restriction Notice: This is a notice in case you are successful in receiving a grant award. For all State contracts, defined in section 9-612 of the Connecticut General Statutes as having a value in a calendar year of \$50,000 or more, or a combination or series of such agreements or



contracts having a value of \$100,000 or more, the authorized signatory to any Agreement with DECD represents that they have received the State Elections Enforcement Commission's notice advising state contractors of state campaign contribution and solicitation prohibitions, and will inform its principals of the contents of the notice.

Disclaimer: DECD reserves the right to amend or cancel this NOFA, to modify or waive any requirement, condition or other term set forth in this NOFA or the program application, to request additional information at any time from one or more applicants, to select any number of applications submitted in response to this NOFA, or to reject any or all such applications, in each case at DECD's sole discretion. DECD may exercise the foregoing rights at any time without notice and without liability to any applicant or any other party. Applications to this NOFA shall be prepared at the sole expense of the applicant and shall not obligate DECD to procure any of the services described therein or herein from any applicant. DECD shall not be obligated to any applicant until a final written agreement has been executed by all necessary parties thereto and all applicable approvals have been obtained. As such, any funds expended by the applicant prior to these approvals will be done so entirely at the risk of the applicant.