













2025 Comparison of Competitive State, Regional and County Brownfield Financial Resources

<p>Frequently Asked Questions:</p>	 DEED Contamination Cleanup & Investigation	 Livable Communities Tax Base Revitalization Account (TBRA)	 Environmental Response Fund (ERF)	 Environmental Response Fund (ERF) & Site Assessment Grants (SAG)
1) What general types of brownfield grants are available?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigation (i.e., Environmental Site Assessment) Contamination Cleanup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigation (Scattered Site or Single Site)) Abatement Contamination Cleanup Investigation, abatement, or cleanup within areas targeted for equitable development 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigation (i.e., Environmental Site Assessment) Contamination Cleanup Abatement (for housing projects only) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Investigation (i.e., Environmental Site Assessments) Contamination Cleanup Abatement
2) Where can the grant funds be used?	Statewide	Cities participating in the Livable Communities Program within the 7-county metropolitan area	Hennepin County	ERF: Ramsey County SAG: Ramsey County (except the City of North St Paul)
3) How much money is available this funding cycle?	~\$4M	~\$3M	~\$1-1.5M	ERF: ~\$500,000 SAG: \$125,000 annually
4) Is there a matching fund requirement?	Yes, at least 25% (up to 13% may come from other grants)	Cleanup, No Investigation (25%) SEED, No	No	No
5) Is there a <i>maximum</i> grant request amount per proposal project?	Investigation - \$50,000 Cleanup – no max	Investigation: \$250k per city; \$50K per site Cleanup: 50% of the funding available for the cycle	No	ERF: No SAG: \$25,000
6) Is there a <i>minimum</i> grant request amount per project?	No	No	No	No
7) What is the average cleanup grant <i>request</i> amount in the past 3 years?	~\$376,000	~\$430,000	varies	varies
8) What is the average cleanup grant <i>award</i> amount in the past 3 years?	~\$366,000	~\$377,000	~\$218,900	~\$140,200

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<p>9) Generally, what type of activities can your program fund?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Phase II Environmental Assessment Response Action Plans Soil or ground water cleanups Soil vapor mitigation Limited Demolition (on a case-by-case basis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Phase II Environmental Assessment Response Action Plans Soil or ground water cleanups Hazardous building materials assessments (emphasis on asbestos or lead-based paint) Soil vapor mitigation Asbestos abatement Lead-based paint abatement Limited Demolition (on a case-by-case basis) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase I Environmental Site Assessment Phase II Environmental Assessment Hazardous building materials surveys Response Action Plans Soil or ground water cleanups Soil vapor mitigation Asbestos & lead-based paint abatement (for housing projects only) 	<p>SAG:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Phase I Environmental Assessment Phase II Environmental Assessment Hazardous building materials surveys Response Action Plans <p>ERF:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Soil or ground water cleanups Soil vapor mitigation Asbestos & lead-based paint abatement Demolition (on a case-by-case basis)
<p>10) Who is eligible to apply for funding?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cities, Counties, HRA, EDA, Port Authorities Tribes <p>(Private entities typically work together with public entities to request funding)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cities, Counties, HRA, EDA, Port Authorities <p>(Private entities typically work together with public entities to request funding)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cities, quasi-governmental entities Local public development authorities Private or public for-profit companies Not-for-profit organizations 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Cities Local public development authorities Private or public for-profit companies Not-for-profit organizations Emerging Developers
<p>11) What types of brownfield redevelopment projects have been awarded a grant within the past 2 years?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Industrial Commercial Mixed-use Multi-family Housing 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multifamily Housing (affordable & market-rate; rental; senior; supportive; transitional) Commercial Industrial Mixed-use 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multifamily Housing (affordable & market-rate; rental & ownership; senior; student; supportive) Commercial Industrial Mixed-use Green space 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Multifamily Housing (affordable, market-rate, senior, supportive) Commercial Industrial Mixed-use Green space

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12) Does the applicant need to own the property?	No	No (but must have site control)	No	No (but must have site control)
13) Is there a pre-application requirement by granting agencies? (Cities may have their own pre-application process e.g., Minneapolis, Saint Paul.)	No	No	No	No
14) Are there prerequisites? Other than the application form, what are the main documents required to apply? (See program websites for additional documents required)	Response Action Plan Response Action Plan Approval by MPCA Development plan Appraisal or Assessed value City resolution of support	Response Action Plan Response Action Plan Approval by MPCA Hazardous Materials Assessment Development plan City resolution of support	Response Action Plan Response Action Plan Approval by MPCA Development plan City resolution of support	ERF: Phase I ESA (for Phase II apps) completed within previous 24 months. Response Action Plan Response Action Plan Approval by MPCA Development plan City resolution of support SAG: Site Control
15) Can I apply to more than one grant program at the same time?	Yes. You may apply to other grantors, but you cannot apply for investigation and cleanup simultaneously and you may not apply to more than one program for investigation grants without prior approval.	Yes	Yes	Yes
16) What are the funding priorities?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases in property taxes Increases in permanent jobs Significant contamination cleanup Ready to begin construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increases in property tax base (net tax capacity) Increases and retention of long-term jobs Adding affordable housing Significant contamination cleanup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Significant contamination cleanup Ready to begin cleanup 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Increase in affordable housing units Increase in jobs Increase in property taxes Significant contamination cleanup Ready to begin cleanup Located in an environmental justice area as defined by MPCA 50/50 City of St. Paul/Suburban Ramsey split in awards

<p>Frequently Asked Questions:</p>	<p>EMPLOYMENT AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT</p> <p>DEED Contamination Cleanup & Investigation</p>	<p>METROPOLITAN COUNCIL</p> <p>Livable Communities Tax Base Revitalization Account (TBRA)</p>	<p>Hennepin</p> <p>Environmental Response Fund (ERF)</p>	<p>RAMSEY COUNTY</p> <p>Environmental Response Fund (ERF) & Site Assessment Grants (SAG)</p>
<p>17) What are some <i>other</i> important outcomes that will improve the chances of my project proposal being awarded a grant?</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Financial need • Blight reduction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community Engagement • Equitable Development • Ready to begin construction • Increase in density and intensity • Proximity to transit service & adding project features encouraging walking/biking • Proximity to regional parks and trails • Use of best practices for on-site storm water management 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Creation or retention of affordable housing • Sustainable project attributes • Job creation & tax base increase 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Can complete cleanup within 18 months of application • Project will catalyze further redevelopment
<p>18) Where do I find information about the evaluation process?</p>	<p>Contamination Cleanup & Investigation Grants</p>	<p>Tax Base Revitalization Account [Select a grant type (e.g., cleanup) and the drop-down for 'Application Scoring']</p>	<p>Site Cleanup and Assessment Funds</p>	<p>Environmental Response Fund Site Assessment Grants</p>
<p>19) What percentage of grant requests typically receive a grant award?</p>	<p>83%</p>	<p>77%</p>	<p>70%</p>	<p>77%</p>
<p>20) Where do I find the application forms?</p>	<p>Contamination Cleanup and Investigation Grants (Select 'Forms' tab to download a form)</p>	<p>Online forms are listed by funding opportunity. To get started, go to our WebGrants homepage at Metropolitan Council WebGrants</p>	<p>An application will be available in March through the County Supplier Portal Hennepin County Supplier Portal</p>	<p>An application will be available through the County Zoom Grants link: Environmental Response Fund Ramsey County</p>
<p>21) How many copies do I need to submit?</p>	<p>2 printed copies & 2 electronic copies</p>	<p>submit one online form per project</p>	<p>submit one online form per project</p>	<p>submit one online form per project</p>
<p>22) When are applications due? (Minneapolis pre-application due Mar 8)</p>	<p>May 1 (Loan applications are accepted anytime)</p>	<p>May 1</p>	<p>May 1 (Loan & investigation applications are accepted anytime)</p>	<p>ERF: May 1 SAG: Rolling deadline</p>
<p>23) Is there an application fee by granting organizations required to apply? (Cities may require an application fee e.g., Minneapolis, Saint Paul.)</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>	<p>No</p>
<p>24) When will the upcoming cycle of grants be awarded?</p>	<p>June 2025</p>	<p>June 2025</p>	<p>Aug 2025</p>	<p>Aug 2025</p>
<p>25) When is the earliest we can start the cleanup to be paid with grant funds? (<i>Prior to contract execution, costs incurred are at your own risk.</i>)</p>	<p>Depends on when RAP is approved</p>	<p>After a grant is awarded</p>	<p>Potentially the day after county board approval provided certain requirements are met</p>	<p>Potentially the day after county board approval provided certain requirements are met</p>

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26) Can I get reimbursed with grant funds for costs already incurred?	Yes, for cleanup costs, if RAP was approved within 6 months of the application date. However, investigation costs previously incurred are considered match-only costs and cannot be reimbursed.	Investigation costs incurred within 180 days of application date only. No cleanup costs.	No	No
27) Where do I find examples of successful grant awards?	See a list of funded projects at DEED Cleanup & Investigation Funded Projects	Metropolitan Council Livable Communities Project Profiles	Contact Hennepin County Environment and Energy Staff or visit our website	Ramsey ERF Fact Sheet
28) I can't submit a proposal in this funding cycle. When is the next one?	Nov 2025	Nov 2025	Nov 2025	Nov 2025
29) For more information see . .	DEED Contamination Cleanup and Investigation Grants	Tax Base Revitalization Account (TBRA)	Hennepin County Site cleanup and assessment funds	Environmental Response Fund Ramsey County Ramsey County Site Assessment Grants
30) Questions? Contact . . .	Kristin Lukes Director, Brownfields and Redevelopment Unit 651-259-7451 or 1-800-657-3858 Kristin.Lukes@state.mn.us	Marcus Martin, Livable Communities Grant Program Coordinator 651-602-1054 marcus.martin@metc.state.mn.us	Michael Torres Senior Environmental Scientist 612-695-1841 Michael Zazzera Senior Environmental Scientist 612-543-2151 OR brownfields@hennepin.us	Ella Mitchell Redevelopment Manager 651-413-4975 ella.mitchell@ramseycounty.us

Selected Online Resources:

Dakota County, [Redeveloping Brownfields](#)

Hennepin County [Environmental Response Fund](#)

Ramsey County [Environmental Response Fund](#)

Washington County CDA, [Brownfield Assessment](#)

Metropolitan Council, [Tax Base Revitalization Account](#)

Minnesota Department of Employment & Economic Development, [Contamination Cleanup & Investigation Program](#)

Minnesota Pollution Control Agency, [Brownfields](#)

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, [Brownfields](#)

Minnesota Brownfields: <http://www.mnbrownfields.org/>

Kansas State University, Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB): <https://www.ksutab.org/>