

February 27, 2019



Notes from the Environmental Workforce Professional Learning Community (PLC)—Cycle 20, Session 4.

This series of bi-weekly phone calls examines effective Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training (EWDJT) strategies from experienced grantees. PLC calls share ideas among successful grantees and prepare interested organizations for the next EPA Request for Proposals. Calls will be a mix of open discussion, workforce development news, resources, and presentations from current grantees.

Topics:

1. News from Washington and HMTRI
2. Questions from PLC members
3. Addressing critical issues with Best Practices
4. Partnership Development – *The key to a successful EWDJT program*
5. Training and professional development opportunities
6. Contact active EWDJT grantees
7. Funding announcement
8. Placement opportunities
9. EPA Regional Job Training Coordinators
10. Join us on future Professional Learning Community calls

## 1. NEWS FROM WASHINGTON AND HMTRI

### EPA Happenings:

The request for Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training proposals appears to be about a month away. Based on information from EPA, this is what the timetable now looks like.

- Request for Proposals issued – March or early April, 2019
- Proposals due (60 days from the announcement) – May – June, 2019
- Proposal evaluations (60-90 days after proposal submissions) – July – August, 2019
- Awards and work plans –August-September, 2019
- Authorization to spend funds – After October 1, 2019 (when the new Federal fiscal year begins)
- 1<sup>st</sup> year training cohorts – winter 2019 and spring 2020 for summer placements

We will keep PLC participants informed as we learn more.

We encourage all potential applicants to contact their EPA Regional Coordinator (see section 9 for contact information). Let your Regional Coordinator know you are planning on submitting a proposal in response to the EWDJT Request for Proposals. This is not mandatory and there is no obligation to submit a proposal. Many Regional Coordinators maintain a listserv for past, current and potential grantees. Until the RFP is issued, Regional Coordinators are able to provide applicants with information that may be useful when developing their EWDJT grant. After the RFP is issued, Regional Coordinators are no longer able to discuss individual programs.

### HMTRI News:

As we approach the issuance of EPA's request for proposals, HMTRI will be coaching prospective and experienced grantees thru the proposal writing process. We would like to insure that applications are

complete and properly address questions asked as part of the evaluation process. We also will be providing tips to avoid land mines that can torpedo an otherwise fundable submission.

Check out the [brownfields-toolbox.org](http://brownfields-toolbox.org). There you will find links to everything associated with starting and maintaining an environmental workforce development and job training program. FYI, here is [last year's](#) EPA webinar explaining the EWDJT request for proposals. This year's proposal will likely be similar with updates and revisions to the program made over the past year. After the new RFP is issued, EPA will announce webinar dates explaining program changes and proposal submission guidelines.

## 2. QUESTIONS FROM PLC MEMBERS

If you have questions you would like addressed, send it to Heather Ballou at [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

How do we recruit partners before we have even submitted our EWDJT proposal?

*In today's PLC, we discussed the importance of partnership development. For current grantees, partners may already be in place. Current grantees should focus on expanding and updating their network. For organizations new to environmental workforce development and job training, legacy partners may exist but new partnerships need to be developed. It is essential to line up leveraging partners and potential employers as the grant proposal is written. To accomplish this, prospective grantees need to approach partners and employers on a conditional basis. For example, "We are submitting an EWDJT proposal expected for funding next fall. If successful would your organization be interested in participating?" Depending on the partner's level of interest, the next move is to inquire about a commitment. "As a contributing partner, how do you think we could work together? Would it be possible to develop a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between our organizations?" Conditional partnerships allow new applicants to expand the depth of their proposals where current weakness may exist and partnerships are not yet developed. As we will discuss later, MOUs and contracts would need to be in place before the grant proposal is submitted. In situations where partners are critical to the grant, they should be included in the proposal writing process.*

## 3. ADDRESSING CRITICAL ISSUES WITH BEST PRACTICES

In order to better promote coaching and peer to peer learning among EWJT grantees, HMTRI has identified eight critical issues that address problems job training grantees encounter as they fulfill their grant obligations. Critical issues encompass a broad range of activities at which successful EWDJT programs excel. Critical issues have been used as a basis for discussion, exchange of ideas, strategies that work, and those that are not effective. The eight critical issues for program success include the following.

- Community and labor market assessment
- Partnership development
- Leveraging for additional support
- Student recruitment, screening, and assessment
- Curriculum development
- Life skills, remedial training, support services, and student retention
- Placement and tracking
- Program sustainability

Critical issues have been the focus of PLC discussions, breakout groups at Annual All Grantee Meetings, peer-to-peer, and individualized technical assistance. Over the years, HMTRI has identified and shared strategies used to address each issue. We collectively call these strategies best practices. A 2018 HMTRI

publication “ENVIRONMENTAL JOB TRAINING PROGRAMS: CRITICAL COMPONENTS AND BEST PRACTICES” is available at [Best Practices Report](#). It should be noted that, as environmental instruction matures, economic and participant populations change, best practices evolve over time. In response, we continuously seek out tips and hints grantees have provided to address issues confronted as they operate their programs.

The last two PLC sessions have addressed best practices for conducting comprehensive community and labor market assessments. Today we discussed partnership development. At a glance, these three issues appear straight forward. The trap prospective grantees fall into is that they require more effort and time than allocated to properly address. Together these three issues form the foundation upon which the entire EWDJT is built. When proper attention is given to community, labor market assessments, and partnership development, other issues will fall into place.

#### **4. PATERNESHIP DEVELOPMENT – THE KEY TO A SUCCESSFUL EWDJT PROGRAM**

##### **Why do we need partners?**

Unless your organization has all of the resources necessary to address the critical issues previously discussed, partners are essential to fill resource gaps. The EPA Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training program operates with limited funds and tight restrictions on how funds may be used. EPA essentially supports environmental remediation, health and safety training which also includes recruitment, placement, tracking, and administrative associated activities. Curriculum is limited to specific program areas with health and safety certifications. Remedial education, life skills training, and student services are not supported. Casework, special counseling and rehabilitation services are also not covered by grant funds. Grants and stipends to students are disallowed as with other types of remuneration to program participants. Restricted funding is not an oversight by EPA program managers but rather a requirement that EWDJT remain an environmental remediation program rather than a duplicative Department of Labor jobs program.

Leveraged partnerships allow EWDJT grantees to incorporate into their program the services mentioned. Developing local partnerships allows the EWDJT program to utilize existing services and resources. In return, the EWDJT program provides community residents an opportunity to participate in the economic development associated with environmental remediation and restoration. This opportunity is missing in most underserved contaminated communities. The EWDJT program was initially conceived to provide seed money to organizations interested in developing local environmental job development programs. After demonstrating success, the intent was to allow other governmental agencies and nonprofits to institutionalize EWDJT by merging them into existing programs, providing operating grants or including EWDJT in local budgets. While some grantees have been able to achieve sustainability, others have not. While the EPA grant program allows existing grantees to reapply for continued funding, partnership development is encouraged to promote the possibility of a sustainable environmental job training program with reduced Federal support.

##### **What types of partners should EWDJT programs recruit?**

The first step is a critical assessment of an organization’s resources, available staff to work on EWDJT, and the extent an organization can provide training and services not supported by EPA grant funds. Initial budget reviews may also indicate that EPA funding will not be sufficient to completely cover costs associated with activities that must be completed. Partnership development encourages the use of existing community services and resources to leverage EPA support. An example would be recruitment, student assessment, and placement. Recruitment, assessment, and placement support may be readily available from local organizations such as the Workforce Investment Board/ One Stops, Department of

Health, or community nonprofits. Even though EPA supports costs associated with these activities, local resources can leverage and supplement federal funds. This example applies to virtually every activity EWDJT programs undertake. The next step is to learn which organizations provide goods or services the EWDJT program would like to supplement (at minimal or no cost). Below is partial list of organizations providing leveraged goods and services to EWDJT grantees.

- Governmental organizations – City council, environmental quality, economic development, neighborhood development, commerce
- Training – colleges and universities (extramural and noncredit programs), local trade associations, banks and financial institutions, local unions, emergency response and law enforcement, consultants
- Student services, counseling, life skills, and case management – Health and Human Services, Public Assistance, WIBs, religious, and nonprofit organizations
- Recruitment and placement partners – One Stops/WIBs, Chamber of Commerce, business advisory boards, business organizations
- Community awareness – Faith based and community organizations, local TV, radio, newspaper
- Financial support partners – Utilities, foundations, local grants, fund raising organizations, attorney general (fines and penalties)

It should be noted that some of the partners noted will be critical to program operation. Others, while important, may not be individually identified in the grant proposal. For those included in the grant proposal, a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) should be developed. The MOU describes the relationship between the EWDJT program and the partner providing facilities, goods, or services. If the relationship changes during the course of the grant, the EPA Regional Project Officer should be consulted.

From a grants management perspective, partners can be subdivided into one of three administrative categories, sub grantees, fiscal partners, or in-kind partnerships. Sub grantees are written into the grant and are subject to all of the terms and conditions of the primary grantee. Sub grantees have the same qualifying criteria as the primary grantee and are subject to audit on the same terms as the primary EWDJT grantee. Partnering as sub grantees does not require a competitive bid. If, however a sub grantee is part of the grant, they need to be signed up before the proposal is written. Any change in sub grantee status requires EPA approval and a revision of work plans.

Fiscal partners are simply identified and those partners where grant money exchanges hands. Trainers and consultants are the most common fiscal partners. Fiscal partners need to be vetted and selected by competitive bid. Contractors are required to comply with standard federal contractor rules and regulations. If a contractor is not already employed by the prospective grantee, he may be selected prior to the grant development process and included in the proposal. It should be noted that the RFP for prospective consultants should be contingent on receiving federal funding, training schedules, and work plans.

The third type of partner provides in-kind goods and services. This type of partner is the least restrictive. In-kind partners may vary from community volunteers to employers, training providers, support services, infrastructure, and financial supporters. The important aspect of in-kind partners is that federal grant money is not exchanged. If contractors or in-kind partners are written into the grant, changes in those relationships should be noted to the EPA Regional Coordinator. In-kind partners not written into the grant often come and go but can be a valuable resource during implementation of the grant.

### **Best practices when recruiting leveraged partners**

Partnership development begins and continues with community and labor market assessments. During the community assessment effort, organizations working in the target community will be identified as a potential partners already providing necessary goods and services to the community. Transportation services, social and community centers, philanthropic organizations, governmental services, and public aid agencies will have been identified. Partnership development should begin with conversations among these organizations. Here are example inquires that should be discussed:

- Is the potential partner interested in the program if funded?
- Is there interest from the potential partner to become a major contributor or sub grantee?
- To what extent will the potential partner participate in the program (networking, training, student support, meetings, recruitment/placement, etc.)?
- To what extent can the potential partner provide leveraged resources?
- Are volunteers available that can serve on an advisory board?
- Are their additional contacts, programs or organizations that may be interested in partnering with the proposed EWDJT program?

Always leave or end meetings with an action plan, commitment, or closure. Always invite partner organizations to attend board meetings, classes, graduations, and social events.

### **Tips for finding the best partners**

In past PLC discussions, participants have provided the following advice to new grantees regarding partnership development.

- Finding the best partners requires extensive networking and a systematic search effort.
- Partner relationships are time and labor intensive.
- Start as soon as possible with partner development.
- From the labor market assessment, define the types of training the EWDJT program needs to deliver. Determine if the training requested will be funded by the EWDJT grant. If not, search for partners to provide unfunded instruction.
- Based on the community assessment determine the need for rehabilitation services, remedial education and life skills training.
- Assess the need for student services and support.
- Review in house capabilities for recruitment and placement efforts.
- Establish long-term relationships with leveraged partners and contractors.
- Document meetings and develop MOUs when partners are included in the grant proposal.

## **5. TRAINING AND PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT**

### **ACRES training for EWDJT grantees**

EPA will offer the following online training to aid Brownfields Cooperative Agreement Recipients in reporting their grant-funded activities using ACRES:

**Tuesday, March 12, 2019**

**1pm Eastern Time**

[WebEx Session EXIT](#)

To join the session there is no need to pre-register for training, however it is recommended that you [test your computer](#) to ensure compatibility prior to the training. On the day of training, follow the instructions below (you will need to join BOTH a conference call and a virtual meeting):

Phone: Dial 1 (408) 650-3123

Phone: Enter the conference code 958-346-757

Phone: the Audio Pin is not needed

Click the Join Meeting link next to the training you would like to attend, enter the meeting password: ACRES

For additional information go to <https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/brownfields-online-acres-training>.

### **The Community and College Consortium for Health and Safety Training**

The Community and College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST), administered by the [Partnership for Environmental Technology Education](#) (PETE) can training components for EPA EWDJT trainers. CCCHST consists of 120 partners offering hazardous materials instruction (HAZWOPER and related Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) 29 CFR 1910.120) in most states of the nation. CCCHST uses a curriculum developed by the Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute (HMTRI) through a train-the-trainer model program. CCCHST instructors, prepared by PETE and HMTRI, annually train 10,000 workers, technicians, and supervisors to protect themselves and their communities from exposure to hazardous materials encountered during waste site clean-up, disaster site cleanup, Brownfields redevelopment, transportation of hazardous materials, and in response to spills and releases of hazardous materials. Here is the schedule for upcoming CCCHST professional development opportunities:

..... **Now accepting applications** .....

#### **The GreatEST Institute**

**June 3-14, 2019**

Davenport, Iowa

OSHA Health and Safety Instructor Training

The Community College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST)

Instructors are prepared through a 10-day Train-the-Trainer Program called the GreatEST Institute (Great Environmental Safety Training Institute) to deliver required certifications for public and private responders and workers including:

- 40-hour Waste Site Worker Health and Safety
- 24-hour Industrial Emergency Response
- DOT Haz Mat Awareness
- Confined Space Non Entry Rescue
- Hazard Awareness and Communication
- Disaster Site Worker Awareness

Applications can be found at <https://nationalpete.org/events/>. **February 28<sup>th</sup> was the last day to register for the Community and College Consortium for Health and Safety Training (CCCHST)'s GreatEST Institute. If there are any remaining openings, they will accept applications past the registration deadline.**

#### **PETE Instructor Professional Development Conferences**

- \*March 27-29, 2019 – Arkansas Environmental Training Academy, Little Rock, AR
- April 23-25, 2019 – Northampton Community College, Bethlehem, PA
- July 16-18, 2019 – South Central College, North Mankato, MN

#### **\*PETE & NESHTA Specialty Instructor Training Opportunity**

March 24-26, 2019

NESHTA Designing & Delivering Effective Training Pre-Conference Workshop

**Subscribe to TechDirect**

TechDirect's purpose is to identify new technical, policy and guidance resources related to the assessment and remediation of contaminated soil, sediments and groundwater. Anyone interested in subscribing may do so on CLU-IN at <https://clu-in.org/techdirect> . All previous issues of TechDirect are archived there. The TechDirect messages of the past can be searched by keyword or can be viewed as individual issues.

**6. CONTACT ACTIVE EWDJT GRANTEES**

Are you interested in contacting current environmental workforce development and job training grantees? EWDJT grantees are happy to assist other grantees and prospective applicants to share their experiences with interested organizations. Contact information is available from the [2018 All Grantee Meeting participant list](#).

| <b>New and Refunded Grantees</b>                         | <b>Region</b> | <b>State</b> | <b>FY Award</b> |
|--|---------------|--------------|-----------------|
| Alaska Forum, Inc.                                       | 10            | AK           | 2016, 2018      |
| Auberle  | 3             | PA           | 2016            |
| Civic Works, Inc.  | 3             | MD           | 2016, 2018      |
| Cypress Mandela Training Center, Inc.                    | 9             | CA           | 2016            |
| Earth Conservancy  | 3             | PA           | 2017            |
| Energy Coordinating Agency                               | 3             | PA           | 2016            |
| Essex County Division of Training and Employment         | 2             | NJ           | 2018            |
| Florida State College at Jacksonville                    | 4             | FL           | 2017            |
| Fortune Society, Inc., The                               | 2             | NY           | 2017            |
| Full Employment Council, Inc.                            | 7             | MO           | 2018            |
| Glens Falls, City of                                     | 2             | NY           | 2016            |
| Great Lakes Community Conservation Corps, Inc.           | 5             | WI           | 2017            |
| Groundwork Rhode Island                                  | 1             | RI           | 2018            |
| Hunters Point Family                                     | 9             | CA           | 2018            |
| King County  | 10            | WA           | 2018            |
| Lawson State Community College                           | 4             | AL           | 2016            |
| Limitless Vistas, Inc.                                   | 6             | LA           | 2016, 2018      |
| Los Angeles Conservation Corps                           | 9             | CA           | 2016, 2018      |
| Merrimack Valley Workforce Investment Board              | 1             | MA           | 2017            |
| Northwest Regional Workforce Investment Board, Waterbury | 1             | CT           | 2016            |
| Nye County   | 9             | NV           | 2016            |
| OAI, Inc.  | 5             | IL           | 2017            |
| Oregon Tradeswomen Inc.                                  | 10            | OR           | 2017            |
| PathStone Corporation                                    | 2             | PR           | 2017            |
| People United for Sustainable Housing, Inc.              | 2             | NY           | 2017            |
| Pittsburg, City of                                       | 9             | CA           | 2016, 2018      |
| Port Gamble S'Klallam Tribe                              | 10            | WA           | 2016            |

| New and Refunded Grantees                      | Region | State | FY Award   |
|--|--------|-------|------------|
| RecycleForce                                   | 5      | IN    | 2018       |
| Redevelopment Authority of Cumberland County   | 3      | PA    | 2016       |
| Richmond, City of (California)                 | 9      | CA    | 2017       |
| Rochester, City of (New York)                  | 2      | NY    | 2016       |
| Salish Kootenai College                        | 8      | MT    | 2017       |
| Santa Fe Community College                     | 6      | NM    | 2017       |
| Springfield, City of (Missouri)                | 7      | MO    | 2016, 2018 |
| St. Louis Community College                    | 7      | MO    | 2017       |
| St. Nicks Alliance                             | 2      | NY    | 2018       |
| Sustainable South Bronx                        | 2      | NY    | 2018       |
| Tacoma, City of                                | 10     | WA    | 2016, 2018 |
| The Hunters Point Family                       | 9      | CA    | 2016       |
| Training to Work an Industry Niche             | 4      | NC    | 2018       |
| West End Neighborhood House, Inc.              | 3      | DE    | 2018       |
| Zender Environmental Health and Research Group | 10     | AK    | 2017       |

[Map of EPA Regions](#)

## 7. FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES

### [EPA Environmental Justice Small Grants Opportunity](#)

Because of the government shutdown, the deadline for application submission has been extended.

**New Full Proposal Due Date: Friday, March 8, 2019**

The Environmental Justice Small Grants (EJSG) program awards grants that support community-driven projects designed to engage, educate, and empower communities to better understand local environmental and public health issues and develop strategies for addressing those issues, building consensus in the community, and setting community priorities. The EJSG program will award approximately \$1.5 million nationwide for this competitive opportunity. EPA anticipates awarding approximately 50 grants (5 per EPA region) of up to \$30,000 each. These grants are for one-year projects. Given projected increases in extreme weather events and the vulnerability of underserved populations, this opportunity will emphasize projects that address emergency preparedness and increase resiliency, as well as projects that include the needs of US military veterans and homeless populations.

Eligible entities include incorporated non-profit organizations including, but not limited to, environmental justice networks, faith based organizations and those affiliated with religious institutions, federally recognized tribal governments—including Alaska Native Villages; OR tribal organizations. **All applications must be submitted through [Grants.gov](#).**

[Frequently Asked Questions](#) for answers to common questions about this opportunity. This page will be updated throughout the open solicitation period with additional questions and answers.

## U.S. Department of Labor

### Sector-based approaches to expand apprenticeships

U.S. Department of Labor announced \$150 million in grants to support sector-based approaches to expand apprenticeships on a national scale in key industry sectors. When awarded, the grants will move a step closer to President Trump's vision set forth in [Executive Order on Expanding](#)



[Apprenticeship in America](#), which calls for increasing the number of apprentices in the U.S. across all industries.

This grant program aims to accelerate the expansion of apprenticeships to new industry sectors, and to increase apprenticeship opportunities for all Americans. Veterans, military spouses, service members re-entering the civilian workforce, and underrepresented groups in apprenticeship, including women, people of color, and ex-offenders will benefit from their investments. As directed by the 2017 Executive Order, the Task Force on Apprenticeship Expansion released on May 10, 2018, its [final report to the President](#), which provides detailed recommendations for meeting these goals.

The Department will award up to \$150 million in H-1B funds to approximately 15 to 30 apprenticeship programs, with awards ranging from \$1 million to \$12 million. The grant size will depend on the size of the targeted industry sector and the proposed scale of the apprenticeship projects.

Funding will be awarded to projects designed to expand apprenticeships to occupations that have not typically used apprenticeships to bring new entrants into the workforce. By focusing on information technology, advanced manufacturing, banking and finance, and healthcare, we can offer new job seekers opportunities and upskill those already employed in these industries to bolster the sector's competitiveness; Increase the level of apprenticeship activity among a range of new employers within these industry sectors, particularly small and medium-sized businesses; and Promote a sector-based approach to large-scale expansion of apprenticeships that include a paid, work-based learning component and a required educational or instructional component that results in the issuance of an industry-recognized credential and meet appropriate quality assurance standards.

For additional information on grant eligibility, and how to apply for funds, visit [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov).

## 8. PLACEMENT OPPORTUNITIES

### HAZWOPER trainers for hire, for a short-term project:

If you are willing and able to travel to either New York or Puerto Rico within the next four-six months to help teach 40-hour HAZWOPER courses, I would like to discuss a team-teaching opportunity with you! Good pay and travel + expenses will be covered.

Please respond to:

[certifiedsafety@me.com](mailto:certifiedsafety@me.com)

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314.660.7238 (CELL)

### Linking solar employers and job seekers

[AmericanSolarWorkforce.org](http://AmericanSolarWorkforce.org) links solar employers and job seekers [AmericanSolarWorkforce.org](http://AmericanSolarWorkforce.org), a comprehensive online platform linking solar employers and job seekers to build a strong and diverse solar workforce. This career platform is managed by the Solar Training Network, a program led by The Solar Foundation with our team of partners and funded by the U.S. Department of Energy Solar Energy Technologies Office.

The Solar Training Network developed the platform after its research showed a large majority of solar employers find it difficult to hire qualified candidates. [AmericanSolarWorkforce.org](http://AmericanSolarWorkforce.org) helps fill these gaps by facilitating connections between solar companies, career seekers, training providers, and workforce boards. Using this platform, which is free of charge, employers can post job opportunities and connect with thousands of candidates. Solar career seekers can create attractive profiles, apply for jobs, identify training providers, and make connections with solar companies.

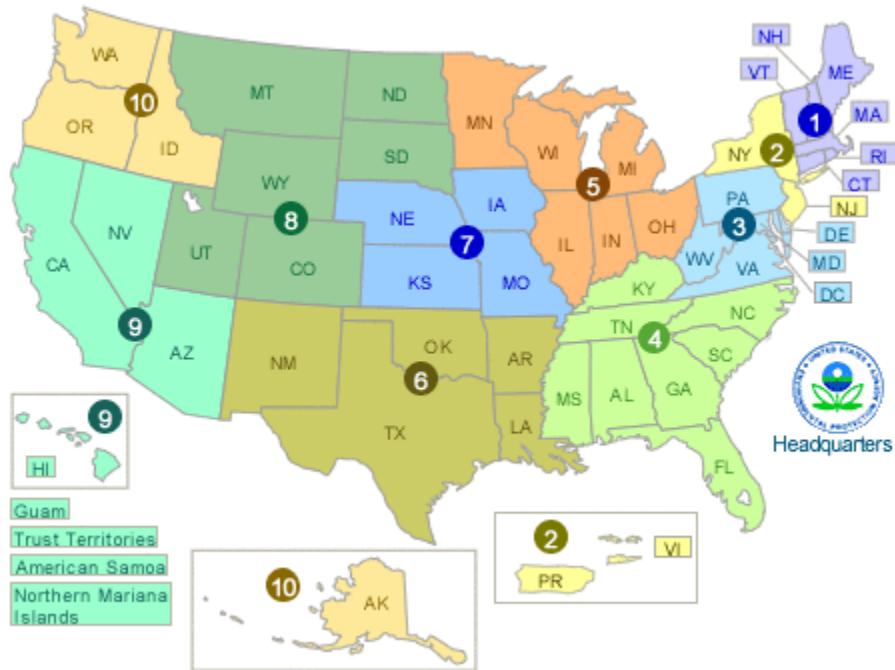
This platform includes original research and useful resources to support solar workforce development. For example, a new toolkit, [Strategies for Solar Workforce Development](#), shows how solar companies can engage with local workforce development resources and build a pipeline of talented employees. The platform also features a “Solar Panel” with advice from workforce experts, and a shared news and events page for users to post updates.

Any employer or job seeker can sign up on the platform now and start building new connections in solar. Go to [AmericanSolarWorkforce.org](http://AmericanSolarWorkforce.org).

## 9. EPA REGIONAL JOB TRAINING COORDINATORS

|  |                                |  |
|--|--------------------------------|--|
| <b>EPA Region 1</b><br>Danny Rodriguez   | CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT         | Phone: (617) 918-1060<br>E-mail: rodriguez.danny@epa.gov   |
| <b>EPA Region 2</b><br>Schenine Mitchell | NJ, NY, PR, VI                 | Phone: (212) 637-3283<br>E-mail: mitchell.schenine@epa.gov |
| <b>EPA Region 3</b><br>Gianna Rosati     | DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV         | Phone: (215) 814-3406<br>E-mail: rosati.gianna@epa.gov     |
| <b>EPA Region 4</b><br>Wanda Jennings    | AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN | Phone: (404) 562-8682<br>E-mail: jennings.wanda@epa.gov    |
| <b>EPA Region 5</b><br>Linda Morgan      | IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI         | Phone: (312) 886-4747<br>E-mail: morgan.linda@epa.gov      |
| <b>EPA Region 5</b><br>Craig Mankowski   |                                | Phone: (312) 886-9493<br>E-mail: mankowski.craig@epa.gov   |
| <b>EPA Region 6</b><br>Rita Ware         | AR, LA, NM, OK, TX             | Phone: (214) 665-6409<br>E-mail: ware.rita@epa.gov         |
| <b>EPA Region 7</b><br>Alma Moreno Lahm  | IA, KS, MO, NE                 | Phone: (913) 551-7380<br>E-mail: moreno-lahm.alma@epa.gov  |
| <b>EPA Region 8</b><br>Christina Wilson  | CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY         | Phone: (303) 312-6706<br>E-mail: wilson.christina@epa.gov  |
| <b>EPA Region 9</b><br>Nova Blazej       | AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU         | Phone: (415) 972-3846<br>E-mail: blazej.nova@epa.gov       |
| <b>EPA Region 9</b><br>Noemi Emeric-Ford |                                | Phone: (213) 244-1821<br>E-mail: emeric-ford.noemi@epa.gov |
| <b>EPA Region 10</b><br>Deborah Burgess  | AK, ID, OR, WA                 | Phone: (206) 553-2580<br>E-mail: burgess.deborah@epa.gov   |

Map of EPA Regions



Credit: [epa.gov](http://epa.gov)

## 10. FUTURE PROFESSIONAL LEARNING COMMUNITY (PLC) CALLS

Missed a few of our PLC sessions? Post session notes are available on the [Brownfields Toolbox](#).

### Cycle 20 – Upcoming 2019 environmental workforce PLC discussions

|           |             |
|-----------|-------------|
| 3/13/2019 | Session 207 |
| 3/27/2019 | Session 208 |
| 4/10/2019 | Session 209 |
| 4/24/2019 | Session 210 |
| 5/8/2019  | Session 211 |
| 5/22/2019 | Session 212 |

Tune into the next PLC call - **Wednesday, March 13, 2019**.

Join our 30-minute discussion with EPA EWDJT grantees, alumni and new interested stakeholders. PLCs give grantees a chance to highlight their programs and an opportunity for others to learn from their experience. For questions or to be placed on the PLC register, send your contact information to [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

Feel free to invite a guest! Send your contact information to Heather Ballou at [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

Visit our [HMTRI Brownfields Toolbox](#) website for more information on Brownfields Environmental Workforce Development and Job Training programs. All [PLC session notes and recordings](#) are also located on the website. For those interested in providing content or suggestions, please contact Heather Ballou at [hkballou@eicc.edu](mailto:hkballou@eicc.edu).

**NOTE:** The PLC brings together ideas and opinions of individuals interested in environmental workforce development and job training. Ideas and opinions are not those of EPA or its policy and should not be taken as official guidance.

