

Ohio House Bill 110 allocated nearly \$350 million to the Ohio Department of Development's Brownfield Remediation Program (the Program), which awards grants for the acquisition, demolition, installation and/or upgrade of infrastructure at brownfield sites throughout the state.

Each Ohio county received a \$1 million allocation of funding for grants for the remediation of brownfield sites in 2022, with the majority of the funds (\$262 million) available on a statewide basis. The Department of Development awards all grants (county and statewide allocations) on a first-come, first-served basis.

Applicants eligible for grant funding under the Program include local governments, such as port authorities, counties, townships, park authorities and municipal corporations. Other eligible applicants include county land reutilization corporations, nonprofits and for-profit organizations; however, these non-local government applicants must enter into agreements with local governments to work with on the brownfield remediation projects. To receive Program grants, applicant properties must meet the definition of a brownfield, which means an "abandoned, idle, or under-used industrial, commercial, or institutional property where expansion or redevelopment is complicated by known or potential releases of hazardous substances or petroleum." Applicants should submit one application per eligible property.

Applicants may request one of two types of Program funds. "Assessment" funds, granted in a maximum award of \$300,000, apply towards a Phase I and Phase II property assessment and/or asbestos survey. "Cleanup/remediation" funds, granted in a maximum award of \$10 million, apply towards the containment, removal and disposal of hazardous substances. Cleanup/remediation costs include site acquisition, demolition and infrastructure installation or upgrade expenses. Applicants may also use up to 10% of their total funding request towards administrative costs, such as submitting reimbursement requests and reports. Certain costs acquired from application preparation, legal counsel, site clearance and those incurred prior to the grant agreement are ineligible for funding.

Projects receiving grants through their county allocation do not need to match the grant funding. However, awards that come from the statewide allocation are limited to 75% of total costs for a maximum award of \$10 million. Project applicants seeking grants outside the scope of their county's allocation should utilize match funds towards equivalent eligible costs from sources such as local, state and federal governments, nonprofits and for-profit entities.

The Brownfield Remediation Program is currently in its second of three rounds of funding for counties that did not meet its county set-aside in round one. Applications for round two must be submitted by May 31, 2022 (extended from the previous April 30, 2022 deadline). Round three opens on July 1, 2022 and runs through September 30, 2022, or until all funds are depleted. For a list of Ohio counties with funding still available during round two, click [here](#) \$100 million of the statewide allocation remains accessible. After round two closes, the Department of Development will add any unallocated county funds to the statewide allocation to be awarded in round three.

More information about the Brownfield Remediation Program eligibility, requirements and application process is available on the Ohio Department of Development's [website](#).

## Contacts

**Allison Binkley**

Partner, Columbus  
T +1 614 365 2799  
E [allison.binkley@squirepb.com](mailto:allison.binkley@squirepb.com)

**Ryan Callender**

Partner, Cleveland  
T +1 216 479 8395  
E [ryan.callender@squirepb.com](mailto:ryan.callender@squirepb.com)