



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Family Assistance



Engaging TANF Participants in the Green Economy

January 26, 2022



ADMINISTRATION FOR
CHILDREN & FAMILIES
Office of Family Assistance



Welcome

- James Butler, Family Assistance Program Specialist, Office of Family Assistance (OFA), Administration for Children and Families (ACF) (Moderator)



Using Zoom Webinar

Participation

Please submit your questions and comments using the Q&A option on the panel on the bottom of your screen. You will then see a popup of the Question and Answer box.



Chat



Raise Hand



Q&A

Question and Answer

Welcome to Q&A

Questions you ask will show up here. Only host and panelists will be able to see all questions.

Type your question here...

Who can see your questions?



ADMINISTRATION FOR
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Office of Family Assistance

OFA Peer TA
Strengthening Self-sufficiency Pathways

Facilitator



**Bridget Brown, *Director of Workforce Innovations,*
ICF**



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Webinar Overview

Today's webinar will include three elements:

- Individual presentations from our speakers.
- Polling questions with the audience.
- Audience Q&A.



Presenters

Today's webinar features four speakers:

- **Dr. Carol Zabin**, Director of Green Economy Program, University of California, Berkeley
- **Channing Shepherd**, *National Competitions Lead, Brownfields Job Training Grants, Environmental Protection Agency*
- **Elizabeth (Liza) Ehrlich**, *Chief of Workforce Development, NYC Department of Parks and Recreation*
- **Reginald Black**, *Workforce Development Specialist, D.C. Infrastructure Academy (DCIA), District of Columbia's Department of Employment Services*

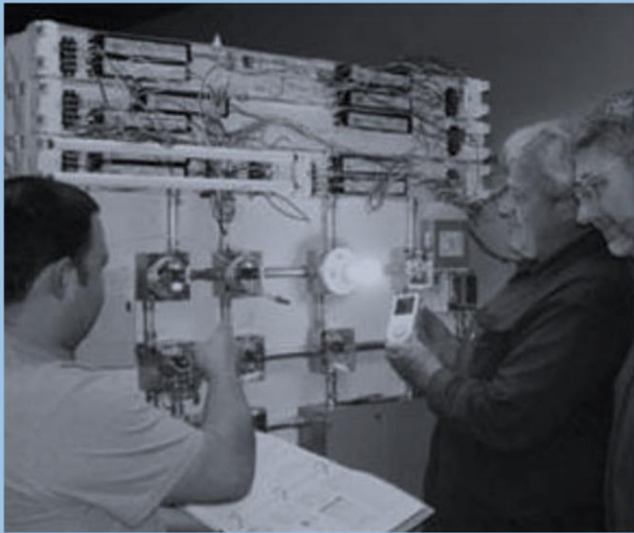


Polling Question #1

Poll # 1: Which of the following best describes your organization?

- A. Tribal TANF program
- B. State TANF program
- C. National Family/Social Services program
- D. Workforce Development organization
- E. Other (Please indicate in the chat box)

Green Economy Overview





Polling Question #2

Poll # 2: Are you aware of green job initiatives in your community that serve TANF or other low-income populations?

- A. Yes, there are many initiatives.
- B. Yes, there are some initiatives.
- C. Yes, there are very few initiatives.
- D. I am not aware of any green job initiatives in my community that serve TANF or other low-income populations.

Brownfields Job Training



Region 9, Navajo Nation Brownfields Job Training

EPA Office of Brownfields and Land Revitalization

What is a Brownfield?

A **brownfield** is a property where the presence or potential presence of a hazardous substance, pollutant, or contaminant may complicate that property's expansion, redevelopment, and/or reuse.



Overview

The Brownfields Job Training program is designed to:

- Recruit, train, and place unemployed and under-employed residents from communities impacted by brownfields
- Further environmental justice (EJ) by ensuring that residents living in these communities benefit from the revitalization and environmental cleanup of brownfields
- Help graduates develop wider skill sets that improve their ability to secure full-time, sustainable employment in various aspects of hazardous and solid waste management and within the larger environmental field, including water quality improvement and chemical safety

History and Background

January 1995: EPA announces the first Brownfields Pilots.

- Reflecting EPA's growing concern for "environmental equity," later known as environmental justice issues
- Lesson learned: Communities surrounding these brownfields were not benefitting from the job opportunities created by their assessment and cleanup
 - Lack of environmental training among local workforces

1998: EPA awards its first 11 Brownfields Job Training Pilots to entities including cities, community colleges, universities, and non-profits.

June 2001: The number of Brownfields Job Training Program graduates reaches 1,000.

As of June 2021: Almost 18,800 individuals have completed training and over 13,900 obtained employment in the environmental field, with an average starting wage of over \$14 an hour.

- Cumulative placement rate since inception= 74%

Overview Training

Brownfields Job Training Program requirements:

- Must target unemployed and under-employed individuals that are residents living in or near an area adversely impacted by the presence of brownfield sites
- Must be an eligible entity
- Must not duplicate other federally funded environmental job training programs
- Must provide OSHA 29 CFR 1910.120 40-Hour Hazardous Waste Operations and Emergency Response to all trainees
- Must meet all other threshold criteria as outlined in Section III.C of the RFA

Overview Training (cont.)

Under this funding opportunity:

- Applicants can apply for up to \$200,000 to develop job training curriculum
- Typical project period for these grants is three years:
 - Year 1: recruitment and screening/beginning of training
 - Year 2: continued recruitment and screening/continuation and conclusion of training
 - Year 3: placement and tracking of graduates and reporting results to EPA



Region 9, Los Angeles Conservation Corps HAZWOPER Training

Overview: Use of Grant Funds

In addition to Brownfields hazardous waste training, grant recipients may use funds for:

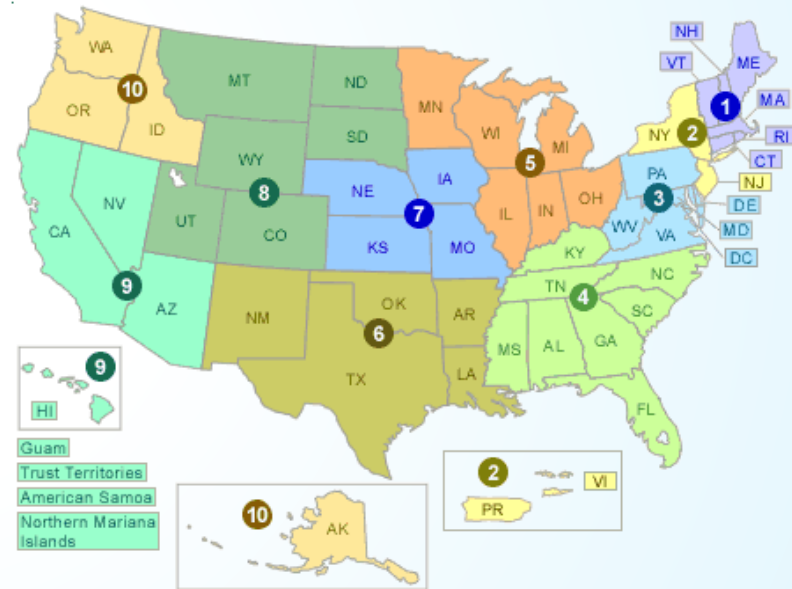
- “Green Remediation” technologies
- Stormwater management training
- Emergency response training
- Enhanced environmental health and safety related to site remediation
- Energy efficiency and alternative energy technologies



Note: All the above training can be delivered at awareness, intermediate, or advanced levels. Expanded descriptions of these trainings are available in the [FY22 RFA](#) and the [FAQ's](#) available on the [Brownfields Job Training page](#).

Regional Contacts

Regions and States		Address and Phone Number
EPA Region 1 Bill Lariviere	CT, ME, MA, NH, RI, VT	Phone: (617) 918-1231 E-mail: lariviere.william@epa.gov
EPA Region 2 Schenine Mitchell	NJ, NY, PR, VI	Phone: (212) 637-3283 E-mail: mitchell.schenine@epa.gov
EPA Region 3 Gianna Rosati	DE, DC, MD, PA, VA, WV	Phone: (215) 814-3406 E-mail: rosati.gianna@epa.gov
EPA Region 4 Olga Perry	AL, FL, GA, KY, MS, NC, SC, TN	Phone: (404) 562-8534 E-mail: perry.olga@epa.gov
EPA Region 5 Linda Morgan	IL, IN, MI, MN, OH, WI	Phone: (312) 886-4747 E-mail: morgan.linda@epa.gov
EPA Region 6 Elizabeth Reyes	AR, LA, NM, OK, TX	Phone: (214) 665-3163 E-mail: reyes.elizabeth@epa.gov
EPA Region 6 Rita Ware		Phone: (214) 665-6409 E-mail: ware.rita@epa.gov
EPA Region 7 Alma Moreno Lahm	IA, KS, MO, NE	Phone: (913) 551-7380 E-mail: moreno-lahm.alma@epa.gov
EPA Region 8 Christina Wilson	CO, MT, ND, SD, UT, WY	Phone: (303) 312-6706 E-mail: wilson.christina@epa.gov
EPA Region 9 Nova Blazej	AZ, CA, HI, NV, AS, GU	Phone: (415) 972-3846 E-mail: blazej.nova@epa.gov
EPA Region 9 Noemi Emeric-Ford		Phone: (213) 244-1821 E-mail: emerick-ford.noemi@epa.gov
EPA Region 10 Angel Ip	AK, ID, OR, WA	Phone: (206) 553-1673 E-mail: ip.angel@epa.gov



Job Training Infrastructure BIL Listening Session

There will be a brief overview of the Brownfields provisions in BIL, and then we look forward to hearing from participants about the best ways to maximize the benefits of this historic investment in our communities and the Brownfields Job Training Grant Program.

February 9, 2022 12:30-2PM Eastern Standard Time

To join the listening session, go to: <https://usepa.zoomgov.com/j/1604678094>

Resources

- **FY22 Guidelines, FAQs and Grants.gov Tip Sheet:**
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields/fy-2022-brownfields-job-training-jt-grants>
- **Brownfields Website for General Information:**
<https://www.epa.gov/brownfields>
- **Hazardous Materials Training and Research Institute (HMTRI):**
<http://brownfields-toolbox.org/>





Polling Question #3

Poll #3: What do you think are the biggest challenges regarding access to green job training and careers for TANF customers? (Select all that apply)

- A. Limited availability of green job training programs
- B. Limited interest among TANF customers
- C. Demanding eligibility criteria for green job training programs
- D. High training program costs
- E. Other, please specify in the chat box



NYC Parks
Workforce
Development

The Parks Opportunity Program at NYC Parks

Parks Opportunity Program (POP)

The Parks Opportunity Program (POP) is a subsidized employment program run by NYC Parks. The local Department of Social Services funds the program and refers the clients.

POP is the largest program of its kind in the country, and NYC Parks is responsible for the maintenance of more than 30,000 acres of land — 14 percent of New York City.



Parks Opportunity Program (POP) (Cont.)

To be eligible for POP, a person must:

- Be referred by NYC HRA/DSS
- Have an open and active Public Assistance case where they receive cash
- Be physically able to perform the tasks of the position
- Agree to participate in Grant Diversion

Once hired into POP:

- Work for 6 to 9 months
- Earn \$15.45/hour for a **40-hour work week**
- Receive on-the-job training and career coaching



Who are POP Workers?

- 55% Female; 45% Male
- 98% Black or Hispanic
- 61% are High School Graduates or possess an Equivalency
- Average age is 38 years old
- 27% of POP Workers live in Public Housing
- Represented by District Council 37



What Makes POP Unique?

The POP program serves as both employer and employment service provider.

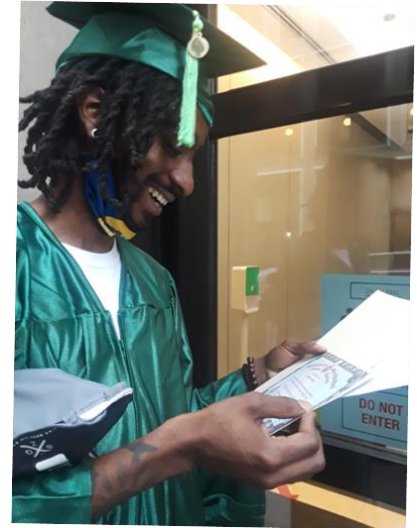
Paid work experience paired with individualized employment services allow for the relationship between Career Coach and POP Worker to deepen.

This results in direct access to the accurate intervention, which might be Industry-Recognized Training or High School Equivalency classes, both of which are offered in-house by Workforce Development Staff at Parks.



Services, Training & Credentials Offered

Training Type
Individual Career Coaching
High School Equivalency Instruction
E-Hire Support for NYCHA Caretaker Jobs
Driver Training (Class D License)
NYS Security Certificate (8-Hour and 16- Hour)
NYS Home Health Aide
NYC Food Protection License
NYC Fireguard
CPR / First Aid
POP Essentials: Resume Building and Budgeting
Horticulture
OSHA 10 – General Industry
OSHA 30
Customer Service

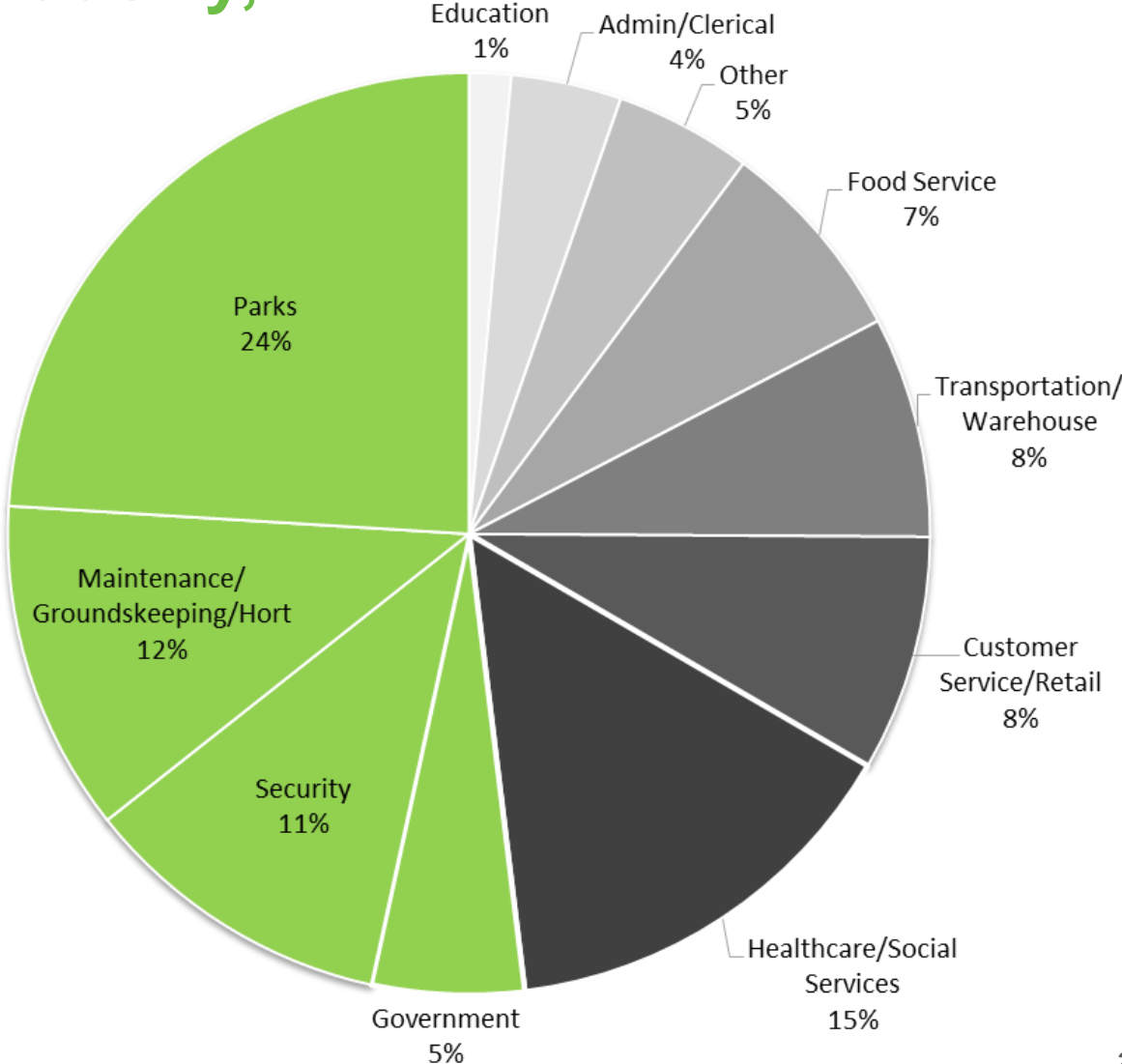


Diverse work locations create transferable skills

NYC Parks operates more than 800 athletic fields and nearly 1,000 playgrounds, 1,800 basketball courts, 550 tennis courts, 65 public pools, 51 recreational facilities, 15 nature centers, 14 golf courses, and 14 miles of beaches. Care for 1,200 monuments and 23 historic house museums also falls under the agency's purview, as well as 600,000 street trees, and two million more in parks.



Unsubsidized Job Placements by Industry, Pre-COVID



POP Workers ARE Essential Workers...



...and they are using virtual tools even though they work in person.

Essential workers still use virtual tools

- applying to jobs
- interviewing
- new employee training
- entering hours in timesheets



Employment Pipelines and Supported Application Processes

How do we support clients who have proven to us they are SO successful at this...



And struggle so much with this...



NYC Parks Workforce Development and its impact on NYC

- City Cleanup Corps
- Green Applied Projects for Parks
- Summer Youth Employment Program
- YouthWRAP



Thank You!



NYC Parks
Workforce
Development

Liza Ehrlich
Chief, Workforce Development
NYC Parks

workforce.development@parks.nyc.gov

DC INFRASTRUCTURE ACADEMY



Today's AGENDA

- What is DCIA?
- Course Details and Requirements (for Green careers)

DC INFRASTRUCTURE ACADEMY-OVERVIEW

- The District of Columbia Infrastructure Academy (DCIA) is a key initiative of Mayor Muriel Bowser's Administration, led by the Department of Employment Services.
- Infrastructure is one of the fastest growing industries in the country. DOES opened the DC Infrastructure Academy to meet the need for skilled infrastructure professionals in the District of Columbia.
- DCIA screens, trains, and equips DC residents with the skills for careers in the infrastructure industry. These Infrastructure skills will assist you with employers in these high-demand fields, including energy and utilities, transportation, and information technology.
- DCIA is “Cohort” based, which means we have to enroll at least 25 students into class, and students must complete all required fields before moving forward: (Information session, application and supporting documentation, CASAS testing)

DC INFRASTRUCTURE ACADEMY-OVERVIEW (Cont.)

Qualifications for entry into most DCIA programs are as follows:

- 18 years of age
- Valid district (DC) driver's license or state ID
- District Resident - *Proof of DC Residency may be required*
- High School Diploma or GED
- CASAS testing: 239 Reading and 236 Math
- Stipend: we pay students for all classes, **\$10.00/hr.**
- Consent to drug screening and a criminal background check (You will be contacted by a specialist on date and time)

*** You are only allowed to take 1 class per lifetime. ***

2 WEEK WORK READINESS TRAINING

To be a successful employee, it is necessary to have a wide range of skills. These are skills, behaviors and attitudes that enable employees to think critically and progress in their careers. The first component of our Career Pathway training is work readiness training, a two-week course that focuses on the following skills:

1. Communication and Conflict Resolutions
2. Problem Solving
3. Creativity
4. Self-Direction
5. Ethics
6. Time Management and Punctuality
7. Workplace Etiquette



QUICK PATH TO ENERGY (QPE)

The Quick Path to Energy program is a direct solution to meeting the electrical utility industry's immediate need for skilled workers. Upon program completion, participants will have a direct opportunity to interview with industry leaders.

QUICK PATH TO ENERGY (QPE) (Cont.-1)

PEPCO

PEPCO offers up-to-date and relevant energy programs that meet the emerging needs of the energy industry. PEPCO's curriculum targets skills in the energy industry and are designed for individuals pursuing a career in the energy sector. This Program prepares you to take the Construction and Skilled Trades Exam (CAST) for their manual labor careers i.e., *Trainee Line Mechanic, Helper Meter Technician, Underground Cable Splicer and Transformer tester.*

Age Qualifications: 21 +

Valid (DC) Driver's License & MVR Check

No more than 2 points

No outstanding tickets

No outstanding Child Support payments

Not owe any DC State Taxes

Mon. – Fri. 7:00am – 3:00pm

3-month program (virtual and in-person)

Former PEPCO employees not eligible



QUICK PATH TO ENERGY (QPE) (Cont.-2)

Solar Works DC

The program prepares District residents to enter careers in the solar and related industries. Participants in this 12-week program will gain hands-on solar installation experience and complete Installation Basics Training (IBT), and earn industry-relevant skills certificates by demonstrating competency in real-world solar installations on DC residents' homes.

Age Qualifications: 18 +

Valid (DC) Driver's License or State ID

Mon. – Fri. 9:00am – 4:00pm

12-week hybrid program (virtual and in-person)



QUICK PATH TO ENERGY (QPE) (Cont.-3)

Washington Gas

The program prepares students for careers in energy with a focus on excavation and backfilling, underground clearances, cover-service lines, mains and transmission lines, prevention of accidental ignition, construction site safety, and basic computer skills. Hands-on training includes trenching and other excavation activities. In addition to the CASAS exam, participants must also pass the Work-Keys exam prior to the completion of the program.

Age Qualifications: 18 +

Valid (DC) Driver's License & MVR Check

Not owe any DC State Taxes

Mon. – Fri. 10:00am – 2:00pm

8-10 week hybrid program (virtual and in-person)

Former Washington Gas employees not eligible



NEXT STEPS

- Completing your Application/Taking the CASAS Exam
 - DCIA application
 - *Please fill it out completely and email it back*
 - *A link for the date and time for CASAS testing will be emailed to you*
 - *You can prepare for CASAS by visiting CASAS or Khanacademy.org*
 - *If you've taken (eCASAS) within 6 months, we accept scores*
 - *If you hold an Associate's Degree or higher (United States University or College), you are NOT required to CASAS test. (Proof of your degree is required)*
 - *If you are interested, please remember to have required documentation before you apply to a program.*
 - Checking emails periodically for program updates, start dates, Work Readiness, Career/Job Fairs, etc.



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Questions





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Additional Information

- A recording of this webinar will be available shortly on the OFA PeerTA website at: <https://peerta.acf.hhs.gov/>. We would also like to hear from you about future webinar topics.
- Please send us your ideas by e-mail to PeerTA@blhtech.com.



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Webinar Feedback

- Send us your feedback via the survey that will launch when the webinar ends.

Thank you!