

Application for BPI Composting Microgrants

- A. Background:** The Biodegradable Products Institute (BPI) is excited to announce the launch of the BPI Composting Microgrants program in 2024, which was developed in partnership with BPI's Composter & Municipalities (C&M) Committee, which consists of entities responsible for managing food scraps collection and composting programs. Stakeholder Membership in BPI is free for these organizations, allowing them to participate in the C&M Committee.
- B. Purpose:** To fund food scraps programs that include compostable products and increase awareness of success stories.
- C. Goals**
1. Promote best practices for the use and successful diversion of compostable products
 2. Increase in food waste collection with compostable products
 3. Improve operations to better process compostable products
- D. Eligibility:** Entities allowed to apply for funds can be governmental agencies, for-profit companies (food waste haulers and composters), and non-profit organizations actively involved in composting and with a sincere interest in promoting the use of compostable products and materials throughout the United States and Canada. BPI members and non-BPI members are eligible to apply.

Examples of eligible activities:

- Events – Registration/travel for presentations and/or exhibits where collection and processing of compostable products is shown (e.g. with the BPI certification mark).
- Promotional material – Ads, truck wraps, flyers, signs, etc. that show compostable products are an accepted feedstock (e.g. displaying the BPI certification mark).
- Training and equipment – Courses, time with a consultant, equipment, etc., that improves an operation's ability to process compostable products.
- Research reports – Field testing, compost quality testing, PFAS, contamination mitigation, etc., in an effort to boost confidence in the effective processing of compostable products.

Examples of activities that are not eligible to receive funds:

- Purchasing compostable products – BPI encourages organizations to contact compostable product companies about discounts, donations for special events, and possibilities for becoming a distributor.

E. Funding: The microgrants may range from \$500 to \$5,000. The total amount to be awarded in the September 2024-June 2025 grant cycle is \$35,000.

The grant funding will be issued 50% at the time of the award and 50% at completion. First 50% will be issued within 3 weeks from when the award agreement is signed by both parties. Projects must be completed and final payments issued by June 30, 2025 at the latest (6 months from the end of the FY).

F. Selection Criteria

Criteria	Description	Possible Points
Need and Impact	Describe the need the proposed project addresses. Does it include a quantitative impact that you expect to see from executing the proposed project? (i.e. number of people reached, amount of waste diverted, reduced contamination percentage, etc). What other impact can you expect from the proposed project?	40
Planning and Experience	Describe the plan to execute the proposed project, include dates. Describe your experience doing similar projects. What is the total cost for the project? How much are you requesting through this proposal?	40
Partners	Describe any organization or communities that you are partnering with and describe their roles. Are any of them contributing any in-kind support or financial assistance towards the proposed project?	10
BPI Participation	Describe involvement in current or past BPI activities.	10

G. Key Dates

Description	Dates
Grant application released	September 10, 2024
Webinar	Week of September 30, 2024
Submission deadline	November 8, 2024
Grant decision	November 22, 2024

The grant review team will include at a minimum, one composter/hauler Board Member (if one is not available, a composter/hauler Member in good standing), one compostable product Board Member, and two senior BPI staff. The composter/hauler shall recuse themselves from submitting a microgrant application.

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Planning and Experience – Describe the plan to execute the proposed project, including dates. Describe your experience doing similar projects. What is the total cost for the project? How much are you requesting through this proposal? (max 400 words, Possible points: 40)

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Partners – Describe any organization or communities that you are partnering with and describe their roles. Are any of them contributing any in-kind support or financial assistance towards the proposed project? (max 200 words, Possible points: 10)

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BPI Participation – Describe involvement in current or past BPI activities. (max 200 words, Possible points: 10)

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References – Please provide with 2 references familiar with your organization.

Name: Organization: Phone number: Email:	Name: Organization: Phone number: Email:
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