Petroleum Underground Storage Tank (PUST) Program Frequently Asked Questions Leaking Underground Storage Tanks

The UST Fund provides loans and grants to eligible applicants to help finance project costs for the upgrade and closure of State regulated underground storage tanks (UST's); replacement and closure of non-regulated UST's; and remediation of discharges from regulated and non-regulated UST's. The UST Fund is administered jointly by the NJ Department of Environmental Protection (NJDEP) and the NJ Economic Development Authority (NJEDA).

Am I an eligible applicant?

- Owners and operators of a business with regulated tanks that:
 - Own or operate less than 10 petroleum UST's in NJ; and
 - Have a net worth of less than \$3 million; and
 - Can demonstrate the inability to obtain a commercial loan; and
- Must have continually owned or operated the tanks since 12/1/02
- Applicants with leaking residential heating USTs and who owned or operated the property at the time the application was made with the NJDEP
- Public entities (county, municipalities or public school district, but no authority created by the public entity) that own or operate UST's (only eligible for loans)
- Tax-exempt, non-profit organizations with not more than 100 paid employees
- Duly incorporated volunteer fire, ambulance, first aid, emergency, or rescue companies
- Independent colleges and universities in NJ (eligible for reimbursement of certain costs incurred on or after 12/1/96)

If I am an eligible applicant, what should I do next?

The process begins with making application to the NIDEP for funding. The application will be reviewed for technical eligibility under the program and you should contact the NIDEP at 1-609-777-0101 for a list of eligible and ineligible costs and an application. An application can be found on the NIDEP website at www.nj.gov/dep/srp/finance/ustfund. Once an application is deemed technically eligible by the NIDEP, it is submitted to the NIEDA for a determination of eligibility for a loan and/or grant funding.

What if my tank did not leak?

If an application is to be made for the removal/closure and replacement of a non-leaking residential heating UST, the application packet can be found on the NJEDA website (www.njeda.com) and must be submitted in its entirety to the NJEDA for review to determine technical eligibility, as well as eligibility for a grant or loan.

What are the limits of funding available from the PUST Fund?

Conditional hardship grants may be awarded for up to 100% of the eligible project costs up to \$500,000 per facility. Grants for eligible costs up to \$1 million may be awarded for sites located in a State-designated Planning Area 1 (Metropolitan), Planning Area 2 (Suburban), or Highland Region.

Loans may be awarded for up to 100% of eligible project costs up to \$2 million per facility. Loans for eligible project costs up to \$3 million per facility may be awarded for sites located in a State-designated Planning Area I (Metropolitan) or Planning Area 2 (Suburban) or if contamination from the UST threatens a drinking water source. Interest rates generally range between 2% and Prime Rate. Public entities are awarded interest free loans. Loan term may not exceed 10 years and will require the establishment of a lien.

What will the NJEDA require to determine eligibility for a loan or grant award?

Upon receipt of the technical approval from the NIDEP, an application is reviewed by a Finance Officer within the Program Services Division of the NIEDA. A letter will be forwarded to the applicant requesting the following items:

- (1) Personal Federal Income Tax Return for the year prior to making application (include all schedules) or letter regarding filing status of the homeowner applicant; and
- (2) Personal Financial Statement (if joint tax returns are filed jointly-must be for both taxpayers)
- (3) If a Corporation, Partnership, LLC, a not-for-profit entity which is not a 501(c)(3) Business Federal Income Tax Return for the year prior to making application and current Balance Sheet (if not contained within tax return)
- (4) If a not-for-profit 501(c)(3) entity, provide the tax exempt certificate, the 501(c)(3) IRS determination letter, a certification that the Organization employs no more than 100 paid employees, and current balance sheet.
- (5) If an Estate Estate Tax Return for the year prior to making application (include all schedules) or decedent's last tax return or letter regarding previous filing status of the decedent, if the Estate does not file tax returns; and personal financial statement on the Estate, signed by the Executrix or Executor

All applications require a non-refundable fee (including supplemental applications), which cannot be waived:

- \$250 Homeowner applications
- \$500 Business applicants with 1-6 tanks
- \$500 Public Entities
- \$1,000 Business applicants with 7-9 tanks

Do I need a Tax Clearance Certificate from the Division of Taxation?

If the applicant is a business, a not-for-profit with one or more paid employees or if the project site is tenant occupied, partially tenant occupied, used for business or partially used for business (Schedule C of the Federal Income Tax Return identifies a business from the project site), a Tax Clearance Certificale is required from the Division of Taxation. If you file a joint tax return both taxpayers are required to provide a Tax Clearance Certificate. The Tax Clearance Certificate is valid for 90 days and will need to be in effect prior to approval. The Division of Taxation can recertify the original Tax Clearance Certificate for a period of one year at no additional cost.

How can I qualify for a grant?

In order to qualify for a grant, homeowner and sole proprietor applicants must satisfy all three of the following criteria: (a grant worksheet is provided to help an applicant ascertain if all three criteria can be satisfied)

- 1) An annual taxable income of not more than \$250,000; and
- 2) Net worth, exclusive of applicant's primary residence and pensions (IRS recognized retirement plans, 401K, IRA), of not more than \$500,000; and
- 3) determination of financial hardship
 - a. A determination of financial hardship with an Estate as the applicant...liabilities must exceed its assets inclusive of primary residence and pension plans (IRS recognized retirement plans, IRA, 401K) and the estate must not be settled.

Applicants with a taxable income of \$200,000 and over are required to pay for the first \$1,000 of the eligible project costs. Primary residence is considered the percentage of the property not tenant occupied.

In order to qualify for a grant, business applicants must satisfy all three of the following criteria:

- (1) a net operating income of the business before taxes of not more than \$250,000; and
- (2) a finding of financial hardship based upon a determination that an applicant cannot reasonably be expected to repay all or a portion of the eligible project costs, if the funding were to be awarded as a loan; and
- (3) a net worth of the business of not more than \$500,000

Applicants with a taxable income of \$200,000 and over are required to pay for the first \$1,000 of the eligible project costs

Notwithstanding the eligibility requirements for net worth and income, non-profit organizations, a duly incorporated volunteer fire, ambulance, first aid, emergency or rescue company or squad must satisfy all three of the following criteria:

- (1) 501(c)(3) designation
- (2) less than 100 paid employees
- (3) tax-exempt organization

A combination loan and grant can be awarded for the eligible costs of the project,

What happens if I do not qualify for a grant?

The application will be forwarded to the NJEDA Credit Underwriting Division for review based on the NJEDA's standard underwriting criteria. There is a maximum 10 year term and interest rates generally range between 2% and Prime.

Will there be a lien placed on my property?

If the project site is not a residence of the applicant, a lien will be placed on the property in the amount of the grant for a period of 5 years. If the property is sold during the 5 years, the grant must be repaid immediately upon sale. The grant repayment amount is reduced 25% each year, starting with year 3. If the property is not operated in the same manner within that 5 year period, the financials will be reviewed again to determine if the funding should remain the same.

If a loan is awarded, a lien will be placed on the project site in the amount of the loan and must be repaid by the end of the term or sale, whichever comes first.

What type of approval and closing occurs for the grant and loan awards?

Once an application received an approval for a grant, Financial Assistance Agreement (FAA) is forwarded to the applicant, which outlines the terms of the grant and must be signed and returned to the NJEDA.

Once an application receives an approval for a loan, a commitment letter is forwarded to the applicant, which outlines the terms of the loan and must be signed and returned to the NJEDA. Upon receipt of the signed commitment letter, a list will forwarded to the applicant of items required prior to closing and once completed, a closing date will be scheduled.

When should I expect to receive a disbursement?

All disbursements from approved loan or grant awards must be authorized by the NIDEP. If a combination loan and grant award has been approved, the loan monies will be released prior to the release of the grant monies. Once the NIDEP reviews invoices for work that has been completed, the NIDEP will issue a disbursement authorization memo to the NIEDA for processing, identifying how much is to be disbursed from the grant and/or loan and the payee. The NIEDA will verify that the funds are available within the loan and/or grant and process the disbursement. If you have any questions regarding how much is being disbursed and/or to whom the checks will be made payable, please contact your UST Coordinator at the NIDEP.

What if I need more money to complete the remediation?

A supplemental request for funding needs to be made to the NIDEP. You should contact them at 1-609-777-0101 for assistance. This request will follow the same procedures as with the initial request for funding.

What if I still have questions?

Please contact the NJEDA Customer Support Administrator at 1-866-534-7789 or email us at tanks@njeda.com.

NEW JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY PETROLEUM UNDERGROUND STORAGE TANK ("PUST") PROGRAM

Personal Financial Statement

Today's Date:____

The Personal Finance Stateme The dote above must be with! Co-applicants who are not ma Morried couples who complet	n 120 aays of the NJI Irried or file separate	EDA receiving the PFS returns, must complete two se	Darate statements.			
		PERSONA	LINFORMATIO	V		
Applicant Name:			Co-Applican	t Name:		
Home Address			Home Address (i		ian applicant)	
Home Phone Number	Email Address		Home Phone Nu	mber	Email Address	
Date of Birth		SS Number	Date of Birth			SS Number
Employer	 	Number of years with Employer	Employer	Number of years with Empl		Number of years with Employe
Title/Position		<u> </u>	Title/Position		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·	<u> </u>
ANNUAL INCOME Taxable Income in Yea with the NJEDA or NJI CURRENT ANNUAL EXPEN	DEP (whichever	ng Application is earlier): Line 43 on	Federal Income T	ax Return	- Form 1040	\$
Mortgage Principal (for mortgage, home equity and equity line of credit)					Residential:	
1040	me Tax Returns -	Schedule A - Line 6 & Lines	10-15 on Form		Investment:	<u> </u>
Installment Debt (including lease payments, education loans, car payments):						
Insurance (auto, life, heal	lth, home):			<u>-</u>		
Investment/Retirement Payments: Not Deducted on Federal Income Tax Returns - Lines 23-37 on Form 1040					-	
		Deducted on Federal Incom				
Medical Expenses: Not Deducted on Federal Income Tax Returns - Schedule A - Line 4 of Form 1040						
Remediation paid to date						
Remediation unpaid: (Balance divided by 10 = annual expense)						
TOTAL:					\$	

Personal Financial Statement

		E SHEET	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
ASSETS	AMOUNT (\$)	LIABILITIES	AMOUNT (\$
Cash in Bank (List Accounts): (checking/savings accounts/money market/CDs)		installment Debt/Leases (List Accounts): (auto loans or leases, education loans, ect.)	
		Revolving Credit Card Debt	
Securites (readily or non-readily marketable) List Accounts)		Mortgage Debt *See Schedule C	
		Home Equity Loan Debt	
	····	Line of Credit Balance	
		Margin Accounts	
Cash Surrender Value of Life Insurance		Life Insurance Loans	
Real Estate (Primary Residence) ₁ *See Schedule C		Taxes Past Due	
Real Estate (Investment Properties) *See Schedule C		Investment Property Debt *See Schedule C	
Business Market Value *See Schedule D		Notes on Business	
RS Recognized Retirement Accts. 1 *(Pension, IRA, 401K, Keogh, ect.) List Accounts		Life Insurance Loans *See Schedule B	
		Remediation	
		Contingent liabilities (leased or co-signed)	
Personal Property-10% of primary residence & investment properties			
Other Assets:	4		
	<u> </u>		
TOTAL:		TOTAL:	

^{1:} NJEDA will EXCLUDE Primary Residential Residence and IRS Recognized Retirement Plans as allowed per legislation

Personal Financial Statement

SCHEDULE C: REAL ESTATE							
	LEGAL	PURC	HASE	MARKET	LOAN	MONTHLY	
PROPERTY ADDRESS	OWNER	YEAR	PRICE	VALUE	BALANCE	PAYMENT	LENDER
Primary Residence							
		 					
	-						
	<u> </u>	 	-				
Secondary Residence(s)	-						
secondary Residence(s)							
	 	 	_				
Investment Property(s)	-	+	+				
		-	-				
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国域强和组织和中央公司公司法共和		25.00	ed Star An	de de la	and the second of the second s		Jan VALERAS SACTOR
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SCHEDULE D: BUSINESSES PERCENT							
NAME	ADDRE	SS	BAL	ANCE DUE	OWNED	CURRENT N	MARKET VALUE
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Personal Financial Statement

ADDITIONAL INFO	RMATION		
1: Income tax returns filed through (date):			
a: Are any returns currently being audited or contested?		YES:	NO:
b: If yes, what year(s)?			
c: If no, does your income rise to the level required to fi	le Federal Income Ta	x Returns? YES:	NO:
2: Include the federal returns for the year prior to making application (inclu	uding all schedules?)	YES:	NO:
。 1. 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10 10		No Contract of	ALL REPORTS
REPRESENTATIONS ANI	D WARRANTIES	·····	
The information contained in this statement is provided to induce you to extend of undersigned or to others upon the guarantee of the undersigned. The undersigned information provided herein in deciding to grant or continue the extension of final undersigned represents, warrants and certifies that the information provided her notify you immediately and in writing if any change in name, address, or employn information contained in this statement or (2) in the financial condition of any of perform its (or their) obligations to you. In the absence of such notice or a new a statement and substantially correct. If the undersigned fail to notify you as required inaccurate or incomplete in any material respect, you may declare the indebtedness undersigned, as the case may be, immediately due and payable. You are authorized the information contained herein and to determine the credit-worthiness of the reporting agency to give you any information it may have on the undersigned. As outstanding, the undersigned shall supply annually an updated financial statement information that the undersigned give you shall be your property.	ed acknowledge and under incial assistance or to acc- ein is true, correct and co- ment and of any material at the undersigned or (3) into and full written statement, ared above, or if any of the less of the undersigned or ared to make all inquiries y the undersigned. The under- isiong as any obligation or	erstand that you are ept a guarantee thei mplete. Each of the adverse Change (1) is to he ability of any of this should be constituted indebtedness gou deem necessary ersigned authorize as guarantee of the users.	relying on the reof. Each of the eundersigned agrees to in any of the of the undersigned to sidered as a continuing should prove to be uaranteed by the to verify the accuracy ny person or consumer andersigned to you is
Date	our Signature	,	
Date	Co-Applicant's Signature		
:	A co-applicant must be incli	aded if a joint income	tax return was filed

Grant Worksheet

The following worksheet can assist a homeowner in determining his/her eligibility for a grant from the Petroleum Underground Storage Tank Program. It is not a part of the application package and is not mandatory to complete. Please utilize the Federal Income Tax Return in the year prior to making application to the NJEDA in answering the following questions.

questions.	o making application to the NJEDA in answering the following
1) Taxable Income - must be no more than \$250,000 to be eligib	ole for a grant
to demond in the state of the application of the state of	ax Return ("FiTR") (Form 1040) in the year prior to making application cant must pay the first \$1,000 of the eligible project costs
2) Net Worth - must be not more than \$500,000 to be eligible for	a grant - excluding your primary residence and pension plans (includes dedicated ions as an Asset and exclude the mortgage and pension debt as a Liability.
Assets:	and the second and pendion debt as a significy.
Primary Residence (n/a if single family dwelling) Cash/Money Markets/CD/checking Stocks/Bonds/Annuities Secondary residence(s) Investment Property(s) (Market Value) Accounts and Notes Receivable Partnerships/Business Investment Life Insurance (Cash Value) Other assets (not primary residence) Personal Property	calculate portion of market value attributed to tenant occupied space
·	minimum 10% of market value of primary residence & secondary residence(s)
Total Assets	
Liabilities: Primary Residence (n/a if single family dwelling) Installment debt balance Secondary Residence(s) (Debt) Investment Property(s) (Debt) Life Insurance Loans Notes payable debt balance Unpaid tax liability(s) Partnership/Business liability Past Due Taxes Remediation Total liabilities	calculate portion of mortgage debt attributed to tenant occupied space
Net Worth (Assets minus Liabilities) 3) Financial Hardship Test	
Taxable Income	
Annual Expenses: Mortgage Principal of primary residence Auto Loan/Lease (monthly payment x 12) Homeowners Insurance Auto/Life/Health/Disability Insurance premium(s) Medical Expenses Tuition Expense (disabled dependent) Employee required pension annual contribution Day Care and/or Child Support and/or Alimony Potential UST Funding Living Expenses	exclude mortgage interest & real estate payments - Schedule A of FITR exclude if paid in mortgage payment exclude health savings account annual payment - line 25 - FITR & self employed insurance annual payment - line 29 - FITR see chart B on next page potential UST funding + 10 = annual debt
Total Itemized Expenses	
Determine Estimated Financial Hardship: (total itemized expenses divided by taxable income) = **in order to qualify for a 100% grant, 51% or higher must	t be achieved.

^{**}If an Executor/Executrix is applying on behalf of an Estate, criteria #3 (financial hardship) is satisfied if the Liabilities of the Estate exceed its Assets (including primary residence and pensions, retirement plans, 401k, IRA) and the Estate must not be settled.

NEW JERSEY ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT AUTHORITY

Income Level Letter

Date:	
To: Incentives Portfolio Management	
My income does not meet the level which requires filing of annual Personal Federal Income Tax returns for the following years,	ırns
A DOLLICA NITTO MARAE.	
APPLICANT'S NAME:	
CICNATURE OF ARRIVANT.	
SIGNATURE OF CO-APPLICANT:	

State of New Jersey Department of the Treasury

Gavernor Chris Christie = LLGovernor Kim Guadagne		
Search Taxation	O	
NJ Home Services & to Z De	partments/Agenties FAQe	
Translate this Page	Select Language y	

Obtation of Taxation +

Business Assistance Tax Clearance

Application and Fee information

P.L. 2007, c. 101 requires that as a precondition to the award of business assistance or incentive or as a component of the application for business assistance or incentive, a person or business seeking a grant, loan, loan guarantee, or other monetary or financial benefit from a department or agency of State government shall obtain a Yax Clearance Certificate from the Director of the New Jersey Division of Taxation prior to the Issuance of the grant, incentive or financial assistance.

Effective March 1, 2009, a fee will be required for all Applications for Tax Clearance - Business Assistance and Incentives.

- The application fee is \$75.00 for standard processing (a response within ten (10) business days).
- a An expedited service (a response within three (3) business days) is available for \$200.00.
- The fee will cover updates, if needed for the application, for up to one year from the date of payment.
- A separate fee must be paid for each separate and distinct application.

The <u>Application for Business Assistance Tax Clearance</u> must be completed, signed by the applicant and submitted to the Division of Taxation. Payment must be made by check or money order.
An application received without the fee will not be processed.

The application and check or money order (payable to New Jersey Division of Taxation) must be mailed or hand delivered to the following address.

New Jersey Division of Taxation **Business Assistance Cearance Section** 50 Barrack Street - 9th Floor PO Sax 272 Trenton, NJ 06695-0272

E-mail or fax application submissions will not be accepted as of Harch 1, 2009.

Upon receipt of the signed form and payment, the Division will research the tax account of the applicant to ascertain compliance with its tax obligations. A response will be provided to the applicant and the agency.

If no liabilities exist, a Tax Clearance Certificate will be issued to the applicant promptly or at such time as all applicable taxes have been filed and paid in full,

If you have questions regarding this program or the new fee, please contact (609) 292-6400.

Email inquiries can be submitted

NOTE: A Tax Clearance Certificate will only be issued to businesses or individuals who are registered with the New Jersey Division of Revenue. If you need more information regarding the registration process, proceed to the New Jersey Division of Revenue websites

******IMPORTANT NOTE to CORPORATIONS*****

Corporations seeking a Tax Clearance for the purpose of dissolution, merger, withdrawal or resulthorization must submit form A-5088-TC with payment of a \$25.00 fee to Division of Taxation, PO Box 269, Trenton, NJ 08695-0269.

Last Updated: Monday, 12/12/11



Contact Us | Privaty Hodge | Legal Statement | Accommitty Statement (\$)





State of New Jersey Division of Taxation Business Assistance Clearance Section 50 Barrack Street - 9" Floor P.O. Box 272 Trenton, NJ 08695-0272

APPLICATION FOR TAX CLEARANCE - BUSINESS ASSISTANCE AND INCENTIVES Application Fee Required Standard processing \$75.00 ing (a response within 3 busing

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agai Name of Applicant				
rade Name of Applicant				
NJ Tax Registration #	FID/TIN #			
Type of Business				
List All Officers or Partners on page 2 of application Please list on page 2 of this application any parent directly benefit from this assistance.		· ———		
****	Due Cate			
Name of Assistance Program PUST Application#				
Agency Contact Person Kathy Junghane				
Agency Contact Address 36 West State Street, PO) Box 990, Trenton, NJ 08625			
Agency Contact Phone # (866) 534-7789	Agency Contact Fax # (809) 278-4774			
Agency Contact Email Tanks@njeda.com		· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·		
I certify that I am authorized to complete this ta that if any information contained in this tax clean penalty.	ex clearance application: that it is true an	d complete: and		
I understand that the Division of Taxation may tax compliance of the applicant. By signing this general status information by the Division of Tax	liax clearance application. I consent to the	, the status of the erelease of such		
Signature of Authorized Representative	Title	Date		
Print Name Contac		* Required*		
Cd10 /94 _ 10/10\	d Phone Number	n 1		

Name of Applicant	_NJ Tax Registration #		
Effective July 1, 2007, P.L. 2007, c. 101 established a tax clearance program for awards of certain business assistance and incentive programs, including but not limited to a grant, loan, loan guarantee, or other monetary or financial benefit issued by the State and its independent agencies and authorities to assist in the conduct or operation of a business, occupation, trade, or profession in the State. As a precondition to or as a component of the application process, the applicant must provide to the State agency a current tax clearance certificate issued by the Director of the Division of Taxation.			
clearance certificate may be issued. If the Director di	ision of Taxation with the necessary information to compliant with New Jersey tax laws such that a tax stermines that the applicant has not filed all required t, or fees due, the Director shall issue a notice to the clearance certificate may be issued.		
response within three (3) business days) is available	or all Applications for Tax Clearance — Business 75.00 for standard processing. An expedited service ple for \$200.00. The fee is non-refundable and will to one year. Payment must be made by check or Faxation.		
All Applications must be mailed or had Applications received without	and delivered to the Taxation address. payment will not be processed.		
Questions about the tax clearance process may be of Questions about the award process should be direct	lirected to: (609) 292-8400. ed to the specific State Agency noted on page 1.		
The following information is require	d to verify and/or update our records.		
List of Officers or Partners: Name Address	Social Security#		
Anna Jeu			
Attach additional pages as necessary.			
LIST RELATED ENTITIES THAT DIREC	TLY BENEFIT FROM THIS ASSISTANCE		
(Name, Address, Re	lationship, Taxpayer Identification Number & Type of Business)		
I certify the information on this page is correct.			
(Signature of Authorized Representative)	(Date)		
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