

# NLBN Innovative Approach Award

## OVERVIEW

To support land banks in accelerating innovative strategies to help return problem properties to productive use, the National Land Bank Network at the Center for Community Progress is pleased to announce the Innovative Approach Award. This competitive award will provide up to \$25,000 to selected land banks to advance innovative strategies and approaches to acquiring, stabilizing, and revitalizing vacant, abandoned, or deteriorated (VAD) properties.

The goal of the program is to encourage land banks to explore new approaches to VAD property stewardship and revitalization, with an explicit focus on addressing the broader issues affecting neighbors and neighborhoods.

## CRITERIA

In the [online application](#), organizations must describe their proposed project and identify how it addresses one or more of the following themes:

- Engaging community
- Improving data and systems
- Increasing climate resilience
- Promoting equity
- Stewarding vacant lots

This award is specifically focused on supporting projects that would not normally occur within regular land bank operations, or new approaches to engaging with VAD properties. These awards are not intended for basic organizational operations and replacing staff salaries. Applicants must be existing U.S.-based land banks. Individual land banks may submit multiple applications for different project proposals, but only one award will be given per land bank.

## AWARD STRUCTURE AND FUNDING

Award amounts will be determined by Community Progress based on project need and applicable budget outlining existing resources, with a maximum award amount of \$25,000 per recipient. Recipients will be responsible for sharing progress and outcomes upon completion of the project.

## TIMELINE

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<b>Application Process Opens</b>	January 19, 2023
<b>Informational Webinar</b>	February 9, 2023, 12:00 PM ET
<b>Applications Due</b>	March 14, 2023, 11:59 PM ET
<b>Applicants Selected</b>	April 2023