NJIT TAB Provides Grant Application Reviews and Assistance During Government Shut Down

Prior to the proposal deadlines many communities needed assistance interpreting the new FY2019 grant guidelines but were unable to consult EPA due to the government shutdown. Through the NJIT TAB hotline and email, communities were able to call in and get answers from TAB team members.

Typical questions that were asked through the TAB hotline were related to:

- the format, layout, and requirements of the grant application;
- the probability of a due date extension;
- the clarification of flood plain and flood zone definitions;
- and the cost share requirements.

The 34 reviews consisted of 18 applications from Region 1, 13 from Region 4, and 3 from Region 3. In total, there were 18 community wide assessment grant applications, 2 site specific assessment grant applications, 4 assessment coalition grant applications, and 10 cleanup grant applications.

The New Jersey Institute of Technology Technical Assistance to Brownfields Program (NJIT TAB) provided grant critiques for 34 communities in EPA Regions 1, 3, & 4 during the month of January. Communities needing assistance included non-profits, municipalities, planning commissions and economic development corporations.

NJIT provided feedback to communities outlining methods to strengthen their proposals and better address the requirements within the grant guidelines.