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## NJIT TAB TIMES

October 2, 2019

## NJIT TAB Conducts EPA Brownfield Grant Writing Boot Camp in Salem, VA



NJIT TAB designed, coordinated, conducted an USEPA ARC Grant writing Boot Camp on October 2, 2019 in Salem, VA in partnership with the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VADEQ) and USEPA Region 3. The objective of the boot camp was to expose potential grantees to the NJIT TAB program, provide them with an overview of the upcoming FY20 ARC grant solicitation and guideline criteria, provide a hands on experience in writing a successful USEPA ARC grant application, and inspire competitive submit communities to applications.

The boot camp was specifically designed to cover the four major narrative sections of the guidelines but put an emphasis on the Project Area Description and Plans for Revitalization, and Community Need and Community Engagement criterion as these sections have proven to be the most challenging for applicants.

Review ofincluded these sections competitive hands on group exercises designed to give participants experience in crafting a project pitch that would serve as an application theme, as well as identifying strong and week points in an application, allowing them to see an application through the reviewer's eyes. As an award, government entities in the winning group were given complimentary tickets to the upcoming Virginia Brownfields Conference.

Approximately 35 people attended the boot camp including government staff, non-profits and consultants.

Participant comments and survey responses were very positive, many feeling that the hands on exercises and tips and tricks elements were extremely helpful.