Water Technical Assistance Opportunities

Addison Chau Water Finance Center

United States Environmental Protection Agency

Office of Water



What is Technical Assistance (TA)

- Efforts that help communities
 - Identify infrastructure needs
 - Plan for capital improvements
 - Build capacity and support community outreach
 - Apply for funding for eligible projects
 - Improve Compliance



Who can receive TA from providers?

Local governments/ communities

States

Tribes

Non-governmental organizations



What TA might look like for you

- Examples
 - Evaluation and assistance in rate setting
 - Engineering support
 - Leak detection
 - Stormwater control
 - Setting up affective billing programs
 - Asset management



How does EPA TA work?

- Communities generally do not compete for TA
- EPA funds specific TA providers and they provide the assistance to the community.
 - This assistance can be specific to the community's needs. You can work with the TA providers to figure out what you need, explore options on how to pay for it, and set up a plan to get it done.
- TA providers can also offer webinars, group trainings, workshops, and online tools you can work through on your own time.



Examples of EPA TA

- Build America Buy America (BABA) Act Requirements Assistance
- Rural, Small and Tribal (RST) Clean Water Technical Assistance
- EPA Drinking Water Small System Capacity Development Grants
- Water Infrastructure and Resiliency Finance Center



Environmental Finance Center Grants

- These Technical Assistance providers were announced on November 4, and largely funded through BIL money.
- We are still in the award phase but there will be four technical assistance providers available for Georgia communities.
- This help is free to communities and designed to help you access SRF funding and help us better administer the SRF program.
- Assistance should be available starting in the spring.
- To keep updated on this assistance, talk to your state or email waterTA@epa.gov



Water Finance Clearinghouse

- Web-based portal that can help communities make informed decisions for their drinking water, wastewater, and stormwater infrastructure needs.
- The Clearinghouse includes
 - Funding and Resources databases
 - Learning modules
 - Compendiums page in development
- <u>https://clearinghouse.epa.gov/wfc</u>



How to stay connected

- Connect with <u>EPA Region 4</u>
- www.epa.gov/water-infrastructure/water-technical-assistance
 - Web intake form in development
- Email
 - WaterTA@epa.gov
 - <u>Waterfinancecenter@epa.gov</u>