



THE SBIR/STTR PROGRAMS

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs are competitive programs that allow US small businesses to work with the government, including the Department of Defense and other agencies, towards commercializing collaborative R&D projects.

The programs award small businesses money and resources to define their technology potential and build a pathway towards profiting from that commercial potential support the US industrial base.

- ★ **SPECIFIC TOPIC** Obtains proposals for basic and applied R&D to advance or evaluate Defense-focused technologies
- ★ **OPEN TOPIC** Obtains proposals for dual-use technologies with clear commercial and defense-market applicability, using broader criteria
- ★ **STRATFI/TACFI** Funding opportunities that bridge the capability gap between current SBIR/STTR Phase II efforts and Phase III scaling efforts

ELIGIBILITY GUIDELINES

- ▶ Fully registered as a commercial entity with appropriate categorization codes.
- ▶ Majority US Owned
- ▶ Fewer than 500 employees

SUBMITTING A PROPOSAL / ANSWERING SOLICITATIONS

- ▶ Each solicitation has its own set of requirements. Read and follow the instructions for each solicitation carefully.
- ▶ Submit your proposal through the Defense SBIR/STTR Innovation Portal (DSIP). All application materials will be released during the application cycle, usually three times per year. A walkthrough of the DSIP application portal can be found at DSIP Learning & Support: <https://www.dodsbirstr.mil/submissions/learning-support/training-materials>.
- ▶ Additional application resources can be found at [SAM.gov](https://sam.gov) and [AFWERX.com](https://afwerx.com).

PROPOSAL EVALUATION

- ▶ Proposals are evaluated based on the criteria discussed in each solicitation. All proposals will be evaluated on a competitive basis and shall be judged on their own merit and evaluated against commercialization criteria.
- ▶ The DAF reserves the right to award all, some or none of the proposals received under each solicitation. Final selections made by AFWERX will represent the best value to the government.



Not sure if this applies to you? Review the [Guide to SBIR/STTR Program Eligibility](#) for full eligibility guidelines at [SBIR.gov](https://sbir.gov).



PROPOSAL STATUS AND NOTIFICATIONS

The latest [SBA Policy Directive](#) states that notification of (non) award be provided no later than 90 days after the proposal submission deadline. We aim to provide notification much sooner. Each offeror, regardless of the proposal status, will receive a notification via email. A notification will be sent for each proposal submitted.