

Frequently Asked Questions

PY26 STRATFI/TACFI Program

- **What is the difference between a STRATFI and a TACFI?**

- The key difference between TACFI and STRATFI is the amount of SBIR funding being requested:
 - **TACFI** - \$375K to \$2M, up to 24 months Period of Performance
 - **STRATFI** - \$3M to \$15M, up to 48 months Period of Performance
- See the Notice of Opportunity for further guidance.

- **Who is eligible for the STRATFI/TACFI Program?**

- SBC is on an active SBIR/STTR PII or completed a PII SBIR/STTR within 2 years of Capability Package Submissions.
- The date will be calculated from the final deliverable date on the PII contract.
- See the Notice of Opportunity for all eligibility requirements.

- **How is a STRATFI/TACFI submitted to Ventures and who is responsible for submitting it?**

- A STRATFI/TACFI package is submitted via the PY26 STRATFI TACFI Submission App which will be made available at the opening of the Opportunity window.
- A Government POC is responsible for submitting the package.

- **Can a Phase III submit for a STRATFI/TACFI if they have never had a Phase II award?**

- No, STRATFI/TACFI is only available for Phase IIs that are active, completed within the last 2 years, have not received a "sequential" Phase II, and at least 90 days have passed since Phase II activation.

- **Can Selectable/Not Funded Phase II SBIR/STTRs submit for a STRATFI/TACFI?**

- No, Selectable/Not Funded Phase II SBIR/STTRs are no longer eligible for consideration under the STRATFI/TACFI program.

- **Does the STRATFI/TACFI program require the same TPOC and MOU signers of the Phase II effort?**

- The Phase II Customer/End User/TPOC will likely be involved in a STRATFI or TACFI effort, however, this is not required. The STRATFI/TACFI Program is to be built off the Phase II effort, but a company could bring different and/or additional customers/end users to the table.

- **What is the difference between the End-User and Customer?**
 - The End-User is the organization that stands to operationally benefit from the solution whereas the Customer is the organization responsible for acquiring the solution on behalf of the End-User.
 - See the Collaboration Agreement for further guidance.
- **Can the End-User and/or Customer be from another DoD Component/outside the DAF?**
 - The Primary End User must be from the DAF; however, the Customer can be from another service in the case of Joint Organizations (i.e. SOCOM, F-35 JPO). If you use another service as the Customer, you will need to explain why that Customer is supporting the DAF End User.
- **Can the End-User and Customer be from the same organization?**
 - The End-User and Customer may be from the same organization, provided they are fulfilling the distinct roles and responsibilities assigned to each.
- **Can a PII outside of DAF be submitted for STRATFI/TACFI?**
 - The STRATFI/TACFI can be based on a P2 from another service, however, the effort must have a DAF End-User and meet signatory requirements outlined in the Collaboration Agreement.
 - Example: If the DAF and USN have a radar improvement P2, even if the P2 was Navy-led, it can transition to a DAF STRATFI/TACFI.
 - DAF SBIR funds cannot be used for another service's project.
- **What are the End-User and Customer signatory requirements for a package submission?**
 - **For TACFI**, there are no special rules around the type, size or nature of the organization except that it is appropriate for the effort in question, and the Agreement signatories must hold, **at a minimum, the rank of O-6/GS-15**.
 - **For STRATFI**, the Customer organization must be at the Strategic level – e.g. USAF Program Executive Office (PEO), MAJCOM, AFMC Center, etc – and the Agreement signatories must be the ranking member of the organization (e.g. the Program Executive Officer) or deputy and must hold, **at minimum, the rank of O-6/GS-15**.
 - A-Level signatories are appropriate at the MAJCOM level.
 - TD signatories are appropriate when for non-PEOs (e.g. AFRL).
 - See the Collaboration Agreement for further guidance.
- **Why is Staff Function acceptance needed?**
 - Staff Functions play a vital role in the contract execution of selected efforts. Failure to provide accurate points of contact will result in processing delays.
 - See the Collaboration Agreement for further guidance.

- **Who is responsible for issuing the contract should an effort be selected for supplemental funding?**
 - The Customer is responsible for providing or identifying a DAF Contracting Office that will award the contract/agreement.
 - See the Collaboration Agreement for further guidance.
- **What are the matching funds requirements?**
 - Matching funds are dependent upon a package being TACFI or STRATFI:
 - **TACFI** matching ratio is one part SBIR funds for every one part eligible third-party or non-SBIR/STTR Government funding (1:1) (Government-only or Government-Private)
 - **STRATFI** matching ratio is one part SBIR funds for every two parts eligible non-SBIR/STTR Government funding (1:2) (Government-only), or one-part SBIR funds for every one part eligible non-SBIR/STTR government funding and two parts third-party funding (1:1:2) (Government-Private)
 - See the Matching Funds Guidance for further information
- **What type of funds can be considered for matching?**
 - Matching funds may be supplied by either the Customer, End-User, other Government Agency, or third-party investor.
 - Provided Government matching funds must be applied to the development of the SBIR/STTR and be used appropriately based on their designation. (3600 - R&D, 3400 - O&M, 3020 - Space/Missiles, etc.)
 - Check with the Customer, End-User or other Gov't sponsor for guidance.
- **Is there a limit to the number of funding sources that can be associated with a single matching option?**
 - There is no limit on the number of eligible funding sources utilized within each matching option.
 - See the Matching Funds Guidance for further information.
- **Can in-kind contributions be considered for matching?**
 - Funding in forms such as in-kind or other tangible assets are ineligible matching sources.
- **Can a Phase III be considered for matching?**
 - Any Phase III award that logically extends, completes, or derives from the Phase II effort under which this funding increase is being requested that was *executed within the preceding **6 months** of Capability Package submission* may count as strategic matching.
 - See the Matching Funds Guidance for further information.
- **Can a company submit more than one capability package?**
 - Qualified SBCs may submit one complete Capability Package per Notice of Opportunity—either for STRATFI or TACFI—on behalf of their entire firm.

- **Can a company who has or has had a STRATFI submit for an additional STRATFI?**
 - SBCs may only execute one STRATFI for their entire firm's lifetime.
- **What is the difference between a Phase IIb and a Sequential Phase II contract?**
 - A Phase IIb is a modification to the current Phase II contract.
 - A Sequential is a new Phase II contract issued to increase the scope of the original Phase II effort.
- **Do letters of support help with the selection process?**
 - Letters of support are not required or considered during the selection process.
- **What is the difference between Government-Private and Government-Only?**
 - The key difference between Government-Private and Government-Only is where the matching funds come from:
 - **Government-Private** comes from eligible third-party funds
 - **Government-Only** comes from non-SBIR/STTR Government funding
 - See Matching Funds Guidance for further information.
- **Can funds matching be changed from Government-Private to Government-Only (vice versa) after a package submission?**
 - **No**, the type of fund matching must be determined before the package submission.
- **Can the amount of funds requested be increased after a package submission?**
 - **No**, the total funds requested must be determined before the package submission.
- **Who do you contact with additional questions concerning STRATFI/TACFI?**
 - For questions not outlined in the guidance documentation, email afrl.rgv.stratfi-tacfi@us.af.mil

- **What is the review/selection process?**

- A STRATFI/TACFI submission must go through multiple levels of review before AFWERX makes a final determination; a complete package is vital in preventing review delays.

