



SBIR/STTR Management

Program Year 26.2 TACFI Notice of Opportunity Ask Me Anything, AFWERX SBIR/STTR Management (AFRL/RRG)

*Information current as of May 2026

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Rules of Engagement

1. Call is recorded and will be available on AFWERX.com and the TEAMS channel
2. Please save all questions for the end of the briefing
3. Post questions in the chat
4. Only PY26.2 TACFI NOO questions will be answered on today's call

AGENDA

- **Purpose & Eligibility**
- **Matching Requirements**
- **PY26.2 Updates**
- **Capability Package** - common mistakes, submission process, quad chart
- **Government's Role**
- **Steps to Award**
- **Next Steps**
- **AMA**

STRATEGIC & TACTICAL FUNDING INCREASE PROGRAM: STRATFI | TACFI



1 **Catalyze** relationships between Air Force and Space Force end-users and acquisition professionals, private-sector innovators, and investors.

2 **Bridge the capability gap** between current SBIR/STTR Phase II efforts, resulting in SBIR/STTR Phase III scaling efforts that facilitate the delivery of strategic capabilities for the Department of the Air Force.

TACFI | Tactical Funding Increase
\$375K-\$2M

STRATFI | Strategic Funding Increase
\$3M-\$15M

ELIGIBILITY

- Small Business Concern (SBC) must meet **ALL** of the following criteria.
1. Company is considered a SBC and eligible for a SBIR/STTR award
 2. SBC is on an active SBIR/STTR PII or completed a SBIR/STTR PII within 2 years of Capability Package Submissions
 3. The subject PII effort has not already been awarded a second (AKA "sequential") PII
 4. At least 90 days have passed since the beginning of the associated PII execution
 5. SBC is not executing a prior STRATFI effort at the time of submission
 6. Anticipated work is to be performed in the United States

MATCHING OPTIONS

	Government Funds Only	Private Funds Only
TACFI	1:1 SBIR/STTR: Gov	1:1 SBIR/STTR: Private
STRATFI	1:2 SBIR/STTR: Gov	1:1:2 SBIR/STTR: Gov: Private



PY25 STRATFI/TACFI RESULTS

- ★ **115** Selected (27 STRATFI/88 TACFI)
- \$ **\$499M** in SBIR funds
- \$ **\$556M** in matching government funds
- \$ **\$768M** in matching private funds

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TACFI Matching Options

Government
Matching Funds*

1:1

SBIR/STTR : Gov*

* Phase III/Contract awards within **six** months of submission may count toward Gov. matching. SBIR funds do not count towards Gov. matching. **Subcontracts *may* count.**

or

Private
Matching Funds**

1:1

SBIR/STTR : Private**

** Eligible third-party funds received after the start of P2 and within 24 months of submission counts toward Private matching. All matching funds must be received **prior** to TACFI award.

What to Know for PY26.2



Cycle Scope

This is a **TACFI-only cycle**.



Submission Window

Airforce: The window remains open until 29 June 2026 (closes at midnight)

Spaceforce: The window will remain open beyond this date, with a closing date to be determined and communicated at a later time.



Review

Submission reviews are prioritized by FY26 focus areas* (see slide 7)

***Air Force only**



U.S. AIR FORCE™



USSF™

UPCOMING AIR OPPORTUNITIES

What are the funding priorities in FY26?

Immediate Outlook: Our FY 2026 focus areas are as follows:



Autonomous Mass

- Collaborative Combat Aircraft (CCA)
- Small Unmanned Aerial Systems (sUAS)
- Weapons Technology



Command, Control, & Battle Management

- Communications, & Battle Management (C3BM)
- Advanced Mission Systems Architecture & Engineering



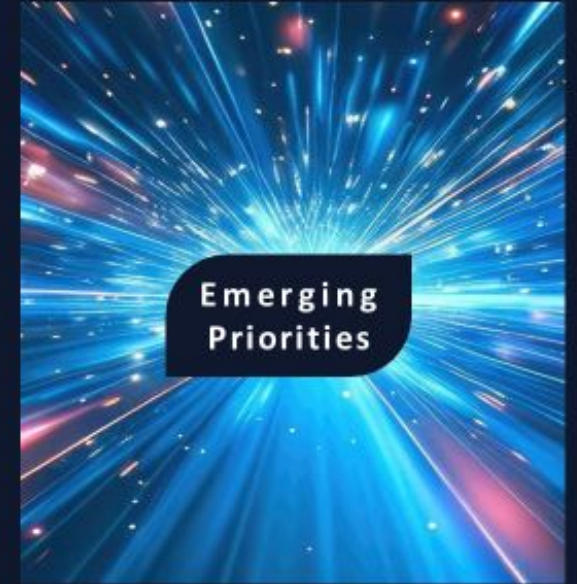
Counter Incursion

- Counter Unmanned Aerial Systems (cUAS)
- Kinetic/Non-Kinetic Defeat



Agile Combat & Readiness

- Contested Logistics
- Manufacturing & Readiness



Alignment With The DOW's Critical Technology Areas (CTAs)



Applied Artificial Intelligence



Biomanufacturing



Contested Logistics Technologies



Quantum and Battlefield Information Dominance



Scaled Hypersonics



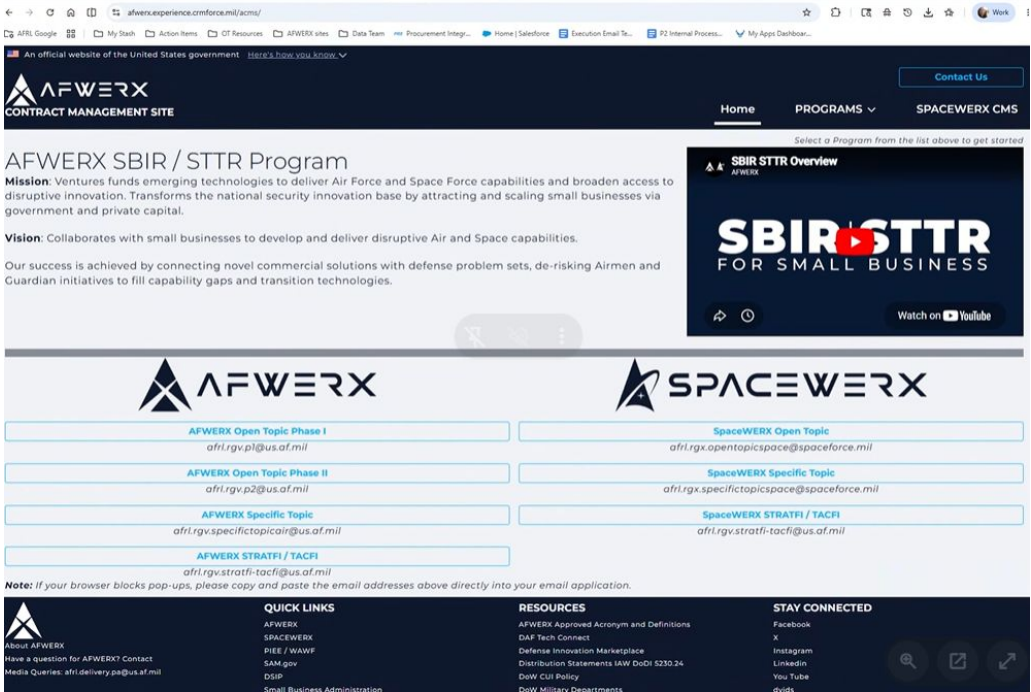
Scaled Directed Energy

Common Mistakes = Incomplete Packages

- Missing Elements of Capability Package
- Inaccurate/Ineligible P2 Contract
- Document Integrity (different info on each)
- Missing End-User/Customer/TPOC/**SIPR**/Staff Function POC Info
- Incorrect POCs
- Inaccurate Funds Match (**Phase III's**, Ineligible 3rd Party, etc.)
- Incomplete/Inaccurate Gov/Private Funding Letters
 - CHANGE IN INVESTOR
- Funding Alignment (TACFIs funded upfront!)
- Incorrect Document Signatories
- Contracting Acceptance / Contract Award Responsibility
- Using previous edition forms | Look for **PY26.2** in the Header

How to submit a TACFI Capability Package (AFWERX PII)

1. Log into ACMS AFWERX Experience and Select AFWERX or SPACEWERX Open Topic or Specific Topic



Step 2. Select applicable PII



How to submit a TACFI Capability Package (AFWERX PII con't)

Step 3. PII Award populates

The screenshot shows the AFWERX Contract Management Site. The 'Award Details' section is populated with the following information:

- Contract Number: 3216846165TEST
- Program: Specific Topic
- Award Type: STTR
- Solicitation / Notice of Opportunity: TEST ST SOLICITATION
- Topic: TEST ST TOPIC D2P2
- Award Phase: Direct to Phase II
- Service: USAF
- Proposal Number: TEST ST D2P2
- Company: ABC LLC
- Award Amount: \$1,000,000.00
- Award Date: 2/9/2025
- Period of Performance Date: 6/3/2026
- Contract Status: Active

The 'Award Files' section shows 0 of 0 items selected. Below the details, there are instructions for selecting a program and a 'View Proposal Details' button.

Step 4. Scroll down to access TACFI Submission

The screenshot shows the 'TACFI Notice of Opportunity' page. A blue button labeled 'Submit TACFI Capability Package' is highlighted with a red dot and a purple arrow pointing to it.

Step 5. Begin TACFI Application

The screenshot shows the TACFI application form. It asks for the service and program being submitted. The 'Next' button is highlighted with a red arrow.

* Which Service are you submitting this TACFI for?

- Air Force
- Space Force

Which Program are you submitting this TACFI for?

- SBIR
- STTR

Next

The screenshot shows the TACFI submission instructions page. It includes the following text:

STRATFI/TACFI Website: <https://afwerx.com/stratfi-tacfi>

Questions regarding this memorandum can be addressed to afri.rgv.stratfi-tacfi@us.af.mil

IMPORTANT: In an effort to prepare you for a successful package submission it is highly encouraged to fill out and follow this template as it will expedite the submission process. All information entered should directly align with/be extracted from your submission documents.

IMPORTANT
Do not attempt to resize your browser window while submitting your application. Doing so risks causing the application to reset to the beginning.

NOTE
Maximum file size is 4mb. Please resize files before attempting to upload, if your file size exceeds 4mb.

Submission Complete!

The screenshot shows the 'TACFI Notice of Opportunity' page with a 'TACFI Submission Flow' diagram. The flow is a horizontal line of 10 circles, with the 10th circle (the final one) highlighted in blue. Below the flow, the text reads:

Thank you for your submission

Your submission will be reviewed by the TACFI team, and you will be notified of any questions or concerns. If you have any questions, please reach out to the TACFI team at afri.rgv.stratfi-tacfi@us.af.mil

Close Submission Screen

Notes:

1. Submission must be completed in full, there is no save feature
2. File size CANNOT exceed 4MB

How to submit a TACFI Capability Package (Non-AFWERX PII)

1. <https://afwerx.experience.crmforce.mil/stsubmissions/>

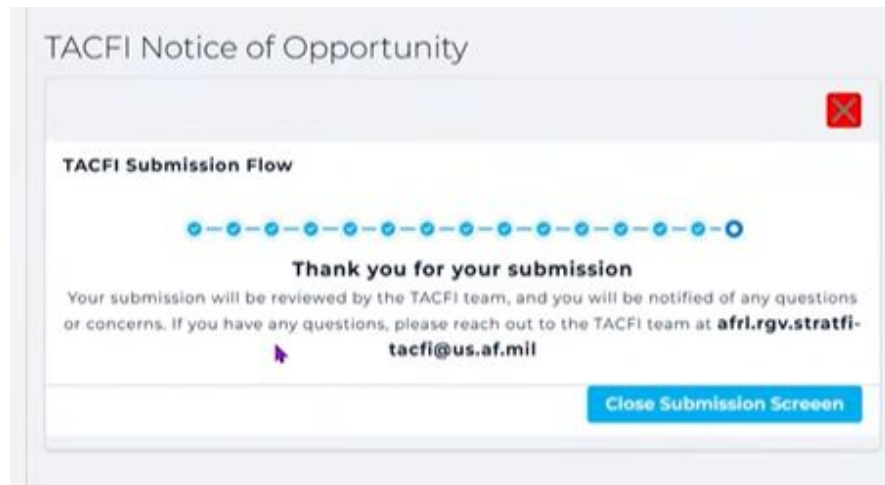
2. TACFI Submission Flow



*Please enter the Phase II contract you are submitting a TACFI for

Next

3.



Notes:

1. Submission must be completed in full, there is no save feature
2. File size CANNOT exceed 4MB

Submission Chart Overview

Submission Chart Example

SBC Name Project Name		"THIS DOCUMENT MUST NOT CONTAIN CUI"		PY26.2 AF TACFI SBIR or STTR <small>[indicate if SBIR or STTR]</small>	
Insert Project Image			TACFI Description <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Achieve space qualification for Sum Novel Solution's dilithium cell • Enable resilient space missions for distributed sensing platforms such as Low Earth Orbit satellite constellations 		
Insert brief project tagline			Innovation <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Improving radiation hardened core cells for space performance • Applying flexible core cells for unique satellite surfaces 		
			Operational Impact <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • What is AFWERX/SpaceWERX return on investment? Space Harden Asset • Delivery of a product, or event such as flight test, payload launch? 		
			End User:		Customer:
Integrated Cost and Schedule (\$M)					
	Base Yr Execution		Yr Two Execution		
Exp: Development	▲ PDR.1	▲ CDR.1	▲ CDR.2		
Exp: Prototype Delivered	▲ Prototype				
Exp: Test Flights	■ Taxi Test(s)	■ Flight Test(s)			
SBIR or STTR	\$2M				
Gov Funding Org	\$2M				
Private (# of VCs)	\$0				
Total	\$2M				
Critical Technology Area: [See Slide #2] Focus Area: [See Slide #2/AF Effort Only]					
Success & Transition <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Include a detailed description of your current Phase II solution (that is the basis of this TACFI submission) and its development success to date. • Describe your strategy for transition – answer the question, "if this effort is proving successful, what will we do next?" This section should align with your signed Collaboration Agreement. 					
<small>REMOVE BEFORE SUBMISSION: DISTRIBUTION A. APPROVED FOR PUBLIC RELEASE; DISTRIBUTION UNLIMITED. AFRL-2026 PY26.2 Previous Versions Obsolete</small>					



SBC Name Project Name

"THIS DOCUMENT MUST NOT CONTAIN CUI"

PY26.2 **SF** TACFI | **SBIR or STTR**

[indicate if SBIR or STTR]

Insert Project Image

Insert brief project tagline

TACFI Description

- Achieve space qualification for Sum Novel Solution's dilithium cell
- Enable resilient space missions for distributed sensing platforms such as Low Earth Orbit satellite constellations

Innovation

- Improving radiation hardened core cells for space performance
- Applying flexible core cells for unique satellite surfaces

Operational Impact

- What is AFWERX/SpaceWERX return on investment? Space Harden Asset
- Delivery of a product, or event such as flight test, payload launch?

End User:

Customer:

Integrated Cost and Schedule (\$M)

	Base Yr Execution	Yr Two Execution
Exp: Development	▲ PDR-1 ▲ CDR-1	▲ CDR-2
Exp: Prototype Delivered	▲ Prototype	
Exp: Test Flights	▣ Taxi Test(s)	▣ Flight Test(s)
SBIR or STTR	\$2M	
Gov Funding Org	\$2M	
Private (# of VCs)	\$0	
Total	\$2M	

Critical Technology Area: [See Slide #2]

Core Competency: [See Slide #2/Space Effort Only]

Success & Transition

- Include a detailed description of your current Phase II solution (that is the basis of this TACFI submission) and its development success to date.
- Describe your strategy for transition – answer the question, “if this effort is proving successful, what will we do next?” This section should align with your signed Collaboration Agreement.

Submission Chart - Questions

In the next four slides, address the questions below. Ensure summaries cover prompts identified as **"At a minimum, your summary should cover."**

SECTION 01

Summary of Phase II Technology Solution (Abstract)

SECTION 02

Summary of Proposed TACFI Technology Solution

SECTION 03

Transition Strategy

SECTION 04

Benefit to the Warfighter

Slide is for reference only. **Remove slide before submission**

Submission Chart - Questions cont.

"THIS DOCUMENT MUST NOT CONTAIN CUI"

1. Summary of Phase II Technology Solution (Abstract)

Delete italicized red font descriptions.

At a minimum, your summary should cover:

Describe your current Phase II solution, which is the basis of this TACFI submission, in detail, including its development progress to date.

"THIS DOCUMENT MUST NOT CONTAIN CUI"

2. Summary of Proposed TACFI Technology Solution

Delete italicized red font descriptions.

At a minimum, your summary should cover:

Proposed Innovation Development Efforts and Trials:

Clearly describe your intended innovation development efforts and trials, including possible acceptance criteria.

Programmatic and Technical Risks:

Identify all programmatic and technical risks, and outline your mitigation plans.

TACFI Solution Requirements:

Your proposed TACFI solution must demonstrate a clear continuation, extension, enhancement, and scaling of your current or completed Phase II solution, effort, or trial. This information is crucial for conveying the scope of the effort and justifying the associated estimated costs.

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3. Transition Strategy (This section should align with your signed Collaboration Agreement, Question 11 - Program of Record Transition Strategy)

Delete italicized red font descriptions.

The core objective of the AFWERX SBIR/STTR Program is to significantly increase the likelihood of small business innovations transitioning to Phase III "bridge the technology transition valley of death". This means ensuring innovations reach the operator/warfighter for operational use. Clearly articulate your strategy: "If this effort proves successful, what are our next steps?"

The Transition is vitally important in the selection consideration, be specific as possible in your responses. At a minimum, your strategy should cover:

- **Post-TACFI Funding:** Detail how the effort will be funded following the TACFI completion. Identify potential funding sources (as the TACFI contract is moving through execution, what will be done next in terms of sourcing out year funds for the transition of the effort). Be specific as possible, if program funds are allocated for this technology's transition.
- **Contract Vehicle:** Identify the planned contract vehicle and contracting organization to be used in transition.
- **Role of Requirements:** How do requirements factor in the transition? Does this effort align with an Air/Space Force mission and need? Is the end user asking for this technology/program?
- **Integration Plan:** Describe how the innovation will be integrated into operation use (e.g: Is it scalable to other bases/services/agencies?) Who will own the technology developed by the TACFI? Where will it be located and who will have ownership? What office is responsible for maintaining the program lifecycle and funding? Specify the designated location for any facilities required for this project.
- **Commercialization Strategy:** If applicable, detail the commercialization strategy for the technology's transition and its current market position
- **Post SBIR/STTR Testing:** If applicable, Detail planned post-SBIR/STTR testing.

For guidance on potential contracting or other opportunities, contact the Air Force Customer's Small Business Office or Small Business Professional.

"THIS DOCUMENT MUST NOT CONTAIN CUI"

4. Benefit to the Warfighter

Delete italicized red font descriptions.

At a minimum, your summary should cover:

Department of Air Force Gap/Need:

Detail how this TACFI addresses a specific gap or need within the Department of the Air Force.

Project Purpose & Warfighter Benefit:

Describe the project's purpose and its significance in terms of benefits to the warfighter.

- Include relevant warfighter use cases.
- Include interest from DoD and/or other agency end-users.

Joint Applicability:

If applicable, describe the technology's joint applicability.

Submission Chart - Transition Strategy

The core objective of the AFWERX SBIR/STTR Program is to significantly increase the likelihood of small business innovations transitioning to Phase III "bridge the technology transition valley of death". This means ensuring innovations reach the operator/warfighter for operational use. Clearly articulate your strategy: "If this effort proves successful, what are our next steps?".

The Transition is vitally important in the selection consideration, be specific as possible in your responses. At a minimum, your strategy should cover:



Post-TACFI Funding: Detail how the effort will be funded following the TACFI completion. Identify potential funding sources (as the TACFI contract is moving through execution, what will be done next in terms of sourcing out year funds for the transition of the effort). *Be specific as possible, if program funds are allocated for this technology's transition.*



Contract Vehicle: Identify the planned contract vehicle and contracting organization to be used in transition.



Role of Requirements: How do requirements factor in the transition? Does this effort align with an Air/Space Force mission and need? Is the end user asking for this technology/program?



Integration Plan: Describe how the innovation will be integrated into operation use (e.g: Is it scalable to other bases/services/agencies?) Who will own the technology developed by the TACFI? Where will it be located and who will have ownership? What office is responsible for maintaining the program lifecycle and funding? Specify the designated location for any facilities required for this project.



Commercialization Strategy: If applicable, detail the commercialization strategy for the technology's transition and its current market position.



Post SBIR/STTR Testing: If applicable, Detail planned post-SBIR/STTR testing.

Government Roles and Responsibilities

All supporting functional POC's are identified in the Collaboration Agreement.

End User

DAF organization standing to operationally benefit from the solution.

Customer

Organization responsible for acquiring the solution on behalf of the End-User.

TPOC (Technical POC)*

Works closely with the company during TACFI/STRATFI execution to achieve project success.

FM (Financial Manager)

Responsible for transmitting matching funds to the executing contracting office.
Facilitates smooth utilization of funds from AFWERX and other contributing offices.

PK (Contracting Officer)*

Dept of Air Force supporting contracting office.
Responsible for RFP creation, contract award, and administration.



****NOTE - We will send these POCs automated status emails. Please ensure you've identified the correct and appropriate name, grade, email, etc.***

Steps to Award



For Success:

- **Customer PK** has RFP **90%+ complete** prior to selection notification
- **SBC** has Proposal **90%+ complete** prior to selection notification

Timeline:

- RFP release **<30 calendars days** from notification
- Final Proposal **<60 calendars days** from RFP release
- Funds request to AFWERX **<75 calendars days** from Final Proposal
- Contract award in **<90 calendars days**

Next Steps

Official Notice of Opportunity

Available at: <https://dod.teams.microsoft.us/v2>

Submission Window

TACFI: Opens on 5 June 2026

Air Force & Space Force submission windows will close separately



Please monitor the AFWERX website for announcements

Helpful Resources

STRATFI/TACFI Website

Visit our page for program details and updates:

<https://afwerx.com/stratfi-tacfi/>

Direct Inquiries



Email questions to: afrl.rgv.stratfi-tacfi@us.af.mil

Subject line must follow this format:

"{TACFI/STRATFI}_{Firm Name}"



AFWERX

Questions?

Please type your questions in the Q&A section.