The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs allow US-owned and operated small businesses to engage in federal research and development that has a strong potential for commercialization.

The NIH SBIR/STTR programs invest over $1 billion per year into health and life science companies.

**Scored Review Criteria**

- Significance
- Innovation
- Approach
- Investigator(s)
- Environment

**Additional Review Criteria (Impact Score)**
- Study Timeline (clinical trials)
- Phase II/Direct Phase II
- Fast Track
- Human Subjects/Inclusion
- Vertebrate Animals
- Biohazards
- Resubmission/Renewal/Revision

**Additional Review Considerations**
- Select Agents
- Resource Sharing Plans
- Foreign Organizations
- Authentication Plan
- Budget & Period of Support

**SBIR Application Dates:** January 5 • April 5 • September 5

**SBIR Application Examples at NIAID:**
https://www.niaid.nih.gov/grants-contracts/sample-applications#r43r44

**How To Identify SBIR/STTR Study Sections**
- Visit the CSR website for Study Section Descriptions: https://public.csr.nih.gov
- CSR Assisted Referral Tool (ART): https://art.csr.nih.gov/ART
- NIH Reporter Matchmaker: https://projectreporter.nih.gov/reporter_matchmaker.cfm
- Use the Assignment Request Form: in application package
- Check your assignment ASAP: Contact Scientific Review Officer with questions/concerns
COMPETITIVE APPLICATIONS are carefully crafted in all aspects of the application and clearly convey the value of the proposed research.

**SBIR/STTR Resources**
- https://sbir.nih.gov/engage#engage
- Twitter: @NIHsbir
- https://sbir.nih.gov/resources/events
- listserv@list.nih.gov

**Types of SBIR and STTR Applications**

- **Phase I: Proposed**
- **Phase II: R&D**
- **Phase III: Bus.Dev.**
  - Phase I: 6-12 months
  - ~$250k • Feasibility study
- **Phase II: Proposed**
- **Phase III: Bus.Dev.**
- **Phase II: Proposed**
- **Phase III: Bus.Dev.**
- **Phase II: Proposed**
- **Phase III: Bus.Dev.**
- **Phase I: Finished**
- **Phase II: Proposed**
- **Phase III: Bus.Dev.**
- **Phase II: Proposed**
- **Phase III: Bus.Dev.**
- **Phase II: Proposed**
- **Phase III: Bus.Dev.**
- **Phase I: Finished**
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**Preparation**
- Clear Organization-Headers
- Readable figures & tables
- Adequate resolution, font
- Minimize abbreviations and acronyms
- Complete & current references, numbers, labels, forms
- Proofread - no typos; check grammar

**Documentation**
- Publications
- Resources and access
- Compliant biosketches
- Letters of interest or commitment
- Human subjects, vertebrate animals, biohazards, etc.
- Budget / Resource Sharing Plans

**Rigor / Reproducibility**
- Statistics
- Reasoning in Approach
- Sufficient experimental detail
- Clear rationale
- Clear understanding of scientific literature and background

**Realistic Goals**
- Clear, focused objectives
- Realistic aims & timelines
- Explained pitfalls & alternatives
- Support expertise (w/ letters)

**Significance**
- Impact on and relevance to field
- Connection: present and future
- Commercial potential (Phase I)
- Commercialization Plan (Phase II/Fast Track/Direct Phase II)

**www.csr.nih.gov**