Get a share of $2.5 billion in federal research grants for small businesses.

Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs are three-phase, competitive grant programs, that invest more than $2.5 billion of federal research grants in small business R&D.

Start here to follow a path to commercialization

NBDC has helped technology commercialization clients obtain millions in funding, including SBIR/STTR awards.

NBDC will help you identify where your innovation is in development and construct a path from there to commercial success. Consultants support the journey at each stage — from research to prototyping to commercialization and growth.

SEED
NBDC provides assistance to access SBIR/STTR grants:
- Locate agencies with an R&D focus that fits your innovation
- Connect to appropriate program manager
- Identify size and location of potential market for your product
- Develop budget and financial projections for proposal
- Improve and provide third party review of your proposal to ensure that it meets all agency requirements
- Help you find and develop useful partnerships

PROTOTYPING
NBDC provides assistance to:
- Access grants from Nebraska Department of Economic Development
- Identify and pitch to angel or venture capital investor

COMMERCIALIZATION AND GROWTH
NBDC provides assistance to:
- Acquire comprehensive market research
- Develop detailed financial projections

EVENTS
Webinars, workshops and conferences hosted by NBDC connect you to SBIR/STTR managers from federal agencies, offering inside-track information on what they are interested in and how you can improve your proposal. Sign up for the SBIR/STTR e-newsletter to receive advanced notice of these opportunities.

“NBDC has been very supportive of our efforts to further our projects and apply for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) funding. NBDC understood our innovative product concept and conducted secondary research that focused on the target market, customer, and our advantage relative to the competition.”

—Sanguine Diagnostics & Therapeutics

*NBDC provides assistance for these steps and will guide you through the process.
SBIR/STTR IS A GOOD SOURCE OF SEED FUNDING

ARE YOU ELIGIBLE?
- American-owned, independently operated business
- For-profit business
- 500 employees or less
- Principal investigator (PI) is employed at least 51% at time of award

WHEN DO YOU SUBMIT?
- Every agency has different dates and requirements
- Many agencies require online submission
- Know the requirements and allow plenty of time

WHAT ARE YOUR CHANCES?
- Approximately one out of eight Phase I proposals receive funding
- About one-third of Phase I recipients receive Phase II funding (varies by funding agency)

SUBSCRIBE at nbdc.unomaha.edu/SBIR to receive a newsletter about SBIR and STTR programs.

PHASES OF SBIR/STTR PROGRAMS

PHASE I
Technical Feasibility
- Establish technical, scientific merit and commercial potential
- Demonstrate strong team potential
- Up to $150,000 award
- Six months to one year

PHASE II
Prototype
- Continual R&D efforts
- Generally, only Phase I awardees receive Phase II awards
- Up to $1M award
- Up to two years

PHASE III
Commercialization
- Moves the innovation from laboratory to marketplace
- Privately funded through personal financing and/or strategic partners

HOW SBIR AND STTR DIFFER

SBIR
- May have research institution partners
- Maximums of 33% of Phase I and 50% of Phase II effort may be performed by subcontractors and/or consultants
- PI must be employed by small business
- Eleven agencies participate
- Phase I project duration is approximately six months

STTR
- Must partner with non-profit research institution
- In both phases, minimums of 40% of the effort must be performed by the small business and 30% by a partner
- PI can be with the small business OR the non-profit research institution
- Five agencies participate
- Phase I project duration is approximately one year

NBDC TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION

NBDC Technology Commercialization program is funded in part through a Cooperative Agreement with the U.S. Small Business Administration and the Defense Logistic Agency

CONSULTANTS

Josh Nichol-Caddy
402.554.6270
jnicholcaddy@unomaha.edu

Rick Yoder
402.554.6257
ryoder@unomaha.edu

Sara Bennett
308.382.9210
bennettsa2@unk.edu

OMAHA
Monday–Friday
8 am–5 pm
University of Nebraska at Omaha, 6708 Pine Street
Mammel Hall Suite 200

LINCOLN
Wednesday
11 am–1 pm
Nebraska Innovation Campus
2021 Transformation Drive
Second Floor

GRAND ISLAND
Monday–Friday
8 am–5 pm
Chamber of Commerce
309 W 2nd Street

OFFICE HOURS Call for appointment

GUIDE TO TECHNOLOGY COMMERCIALIZATION

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