



## The NSSC and Small Business Innovation Research and Technical Transfer

### **SBIR/STTR**

The NASA Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs provide an opportunity for high-technology Small Business Concerns (SBCs) to participate in Government-sponsored research and development (R&D) in key technology areas.

The NASA SBIR and STTR programs fund the research, development and demonstration of innovative technologies in support of NASA's overall mission and national priorities.

The NASA SBIR and STTR programs are designed to stimulate technological innovation in the private sector; strengthen the role of SBCs in meeting NASA's R&D requirements; increase the commercial application of these research results; and encourage participation of socially and economically-disadvantaged persons and women-owned small businesses.

### **Three Phases of SBIRs/STTRs**

Phase 1 is a feasibility study to evaluate the scientific and technical merit of an idea. Awards are for periods of six months and in amounts up to \$125,000.

Phase 2 is to expand on the results of and further pursue the development of Phase 1 projects. Awards are for periods of up to two years in amounts up to \$750,000.

Phase 3 is for the commercialization of the results of Phase 2 and requires the use of private sector or non-SBIR Federal funding.

### **The NSSC and SBIRs/STTRs**

The NASA Shared Services Center (NSSC) Procurement Division is responsible for a variety of procurement tasks that support the SBIR/STTR Program, including the awarding of all Phase 1 and Phase 2 SBIR/STTR contracts, along with Phase 3 SBIR/STTR contracts assigned to the NSSC by the SBIR Program Management Office.

### **Services the NSSC Provides**

- Procurement Policy Management
- Solicitation development support
- Model contract development
- Study and analysis of the SBIR/STTR process
- Appointment of Contracting Officer's Representative (COR) and alternate Contract Officer's Representative (COR)
- Administrative support to SBIR Electronic Handbook
- Fact finding & analysis
- SBIR/STTR debriefings
- Negotiation of contract terms and conditions
- Preparation of award and contract documents
- Contract execution
- Contract distribution
- Contract file maintenance
- Contract administration
- Invoice approval

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## Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)

### ***Do you have to be a Phase I awardee in order to be considered for Phase 2 of a project?***

Yes.

### ***What is the small business size standard for purposes of the SBIR Program?***

A small business concern for purposes of award of any funding agreement under the SBIR Program is one which, including its affiliates, has a number of employees not exceeding 500 under NAICS Code 541712.

### ***How can a small business concern obtain funding under SBIR?***

A small business can obtain funding under SBIR by being the recipient of a competitively awarded SBIR funding agreement.

### ***What is an SBIR funding agreement?***

An SBIR funding agreement is a contract between an SBIR participating Federal agency and a small business concern for the performance of experimental, developmental or research work funded by the Federal Government.

### ***Can a firm go directly to a Phase 2 award without having to compete for Phase 1?***

No. The SBIR Program was created for new innovations to meet existing Federal R&D needs. The results of a Phase 1 are a determining factor in deciding whether there will be a Phase 2 award to continue the effort.

### ***Is a small U.S. firm still eligible to compete for an SBIR award, if it forms a 50-50 joint venture with a non-profit or foreign firm?***

No.

## **SBIR & STTR Program Information:**

The official NASA SBIR/STTR website <http://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/> is the source for key information related to the SBIR/STTR Program including, solicitations, awards, program information, success stories, electronic handbook, participation guide and other valuable information.

## **SBIR/STTR Electronic Handbooks:**

<https://ehb8.gsfc.nasa.gov/contracts/public/firmHome.do>

## **SBIR/STTR Procurements:**

<https://www.nssc.nasa.gov/portal/site/customerservice>

In addition to providing answers to FAQs, the above websites contain links to many informative and educational websites related to SBIR/STTR programs and activities. They also provide access to facts, statistics, instructions, contacts, information and other materials designed to assist SBCs with their efforts to participate in these NASA programs.

## **See more FAQs:**

<http://sbir.gsfc.nasa.gov/content/frequently-asked-questions>

## **About the NSSC**

The NSSC provides services across the Agency in five functional areas, including, Agency information technology services and selected activities in financial management, human resources, procurement and business support services.

The NSSC strives to provide customer-focused, consistent, high-quality, easily-accessible and timely support services.

Access the NSSC website at:

<https://www.nssc.nasa.gov>

## **NASA Shared Services Center**

### **Attn: Procurement**

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## **NSSC Customer Contact Center**

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