AMERICA'S SEED FUND
SBIR · STTR

Fund your tech start-up.
Keep your equity and IP.

Change the world.

www.sbir.gov

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Small Business Administration (SBA)

Funding your success.

4,000

Average number of companies funded per year

$4.6 billion

Total funds invested in FY22

0%

Equity or IP ownership taken by the government

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Non-dilutive Funding

America’s Seed Fund awards non-dilutive funding—any capital a business owner receives that doesn’t require them to give up equity or ownership—to develop your technology and chart a path toward commercialization through the **SBIR** and **STTR** programs.

Federal Funding.

Federal agencies with extramural R&D budgets exceeding $100 million are required to allocate 3.2% to fund small businesses through the SBIR (Small Business Innovation Research) program.

In the same way, federal agencies with extramural R&D budgets exceeding $1 billion are required to allocate 0.45% to fund small businesses through the STTR (Small Business Technology Transfer) program. STTR bridges the gap between small business and the U.S. research institution ecosystem:

- Requires partnership with a U.S. non-profit research institution
- Requires R&D from both the business (at least 40%) and research institution (at least 30%)

Powered by **11 federal agencies**, we invest in your solution and give you the freedom to run your business according to your vision.

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About the SBIR & STTR programs.

Both SBIR and STTR support scientific excellence and technology innovation to build a strong national economy. **So, how do they differ?**

- SBIR provides an opportunity for entrepreneurs to partner, while STTR requires entrepreneurs to partner with a non-profit research institution.
- 11 agencies fund SBIR awards, while only the 6 largest of those agencies also fund STTR awards.

Determine which program is right for you at SBIR.gov.

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Great ideas come from anywhere and anyone.

More diversity means more innovation. America's Seed Fund provides equitable access to funding based on the quality of your technological solution and its ability to advance federal missions—regardless of your race, ethnicity, gender, orientation, geography, or other affiliation.

How it works.

Participation with America's Seed Fund is based on a three-phased process:

PHASE I

Proof-of-Concept

6–12 months
$50,000–$300,000

PHASE II

Technology Development

24 months
$750,000–$2 million

PHASE III

Commercialization

Unlocks sole source access to the $665 billion federal contracting marketplace

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Are you eligible?

Funding through America's Seed Fund is available to small businesses that are:

- For-profit entities located in the U.S.
- Fewer than 500 employees (most are fewer than 10)
- Owned and controlled by U.S. citizens or permanent residents
- Startups or established companies

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Funding areas.

Explore the funding opportunities that are the right fit for your business. The SBIR and STTR programs offer opportunities for funding multiple times throughout the year across multiple topics, such as:

- AgTech
- Artificial Intelligence
- Biotechnology
- Clean Energy
- Climate Sciences
- Cybersecurity
- Microelectronics
- National Security
- Pandemic Readiness & Prevention
- Quantum Information Science
- Robotics
- Sensors
- Space Exploration & Technology

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Participating federal agencies.

Explore opportunities or find local assistance from our partners to identify the right option for you.

Market-driven

Agencies that invest in technologies to solve problems through the commercial marketplace:

- Department of Energy (DOE)
- Department of Health and Human Services (HHS), including NIH, FDA, CDC
- National Science Foundation (NSF)
- Department of Agriculture (USDA)
- Department of Commerce, including NIST and NOAA
- Department of Education (ED)
- Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)

Mission-driven

Agencies that invest in technologies to solve government defined problems with dual-use, commercial potential:

- Department of Defense (DoD), including Air Force, Navy, Army
- National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA)
- Department of Homeland Security (DHS)
- Department of Transportation (DOT)

Find local assistance.

America's Seed Fund relies on a powerful network of nearly 500 local partner organizations across the nation to support you through the process. From application assistance to customer discovery, if you need help you are not alone.

To find support, visit **sbir.gov/local-assistance**.

Federal and State Technology Partnership (FAST) Program

FAST organizations conduct outreach, training, and mentoring for potential SBIR/STTR applicants and awardees, with a focus on increasing successful applications from underserved communities.

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Notable awardees.

America's Seed Fund played a catalytic role in many American innovation giants including:

Qualcomm **illumina** **23andMe** **iRobot**

Whether you're a new entrepreneur or existing small business, if you have a new technology, we want to hear from you.

Looking to change the world?

We're looking for you.

Visit **www.sbir.gov** to learn more about America's Seed Fund and find local assistance from our network of more than 500 partner organizations across the nation.