

Title: National Science Foundation: Small Business Innovation Research Program Phase I Solicitation FY-2011 (Release 1) (SBIR)

PA#: NSF-10-546

Link: <http://nsf.gov/pubs/2010/nsf10546/nsf10546.htm>

Due Date: June 9, 2010, 5pm local time

Eligible Institutions: For-profit organizations: U.S. commercial organizations, especially small businesses with strong capabilities in scientific or engineering research or education.

Requirements: The primary employment of the Principal Investigator (PI) must be with the small business concern at the time of the award. A PI must spend a minimum of one calendar month on an SBIR Phase I project and be 51% employed by the small business. Keep in mind that an SBIR Phase I project requires a minimum of two-thirds of the research, as measured by the budget, to be performed by the small business concern. The remaining percentage, one-third may be allocated as appropriate to achieve the objectives of the proposed SBIR Phase I project.

Restrictions: An organization can only submit a total of 2 proposals for this solicitation. If more than 2 proposals are submitted the additional proposals will be returned without review. The principal investigator and co-principal investigators may participate in only one proposal submitted to this solicitation. It is the responsibility of the submitting organization to insure that the PI and all co-PIs are participating in only one proposal submitted to this solicitation.

Budget & Period of Performance:

Under this solicitation, SBIR Phase I proposals may be submitted for funding up to \$150,000. SBIR Phase I projects run for 6 months. The program expects to make approximately 200 to 300 fixed amount awards. Anticipated funding amount for this solicitation is \$45,000,000 (pending the availability of funds and quality of proposals). Award notification is typically four to six months from the proposal submission deadline date. Awards will have an effective date of January 1, 2011 for proposals submitted on June 9, 2010. Permanent equipment, patent expenses, and foreign travel are not allowable expenditures. Tuition costs are not considered research or research and development. Accordingly, they are not acceptable costs and should not be included in the budget. Indirect costs plus fringe benefits is limited to an effective rate of 150% of salaries and wages. Reasonable fees (estimated profit) will be considered under Phase I. The amount of the fee approved by NSF cannot exceed seven percent (7%) of the total indirect and direct project costs. The proposal bottom line cannot exceed \$150,000 for SBIR Phase I proposals.

Purpose:

The primary objective of the NSF SBIR Program is to increase the incentive and opportunity for small firms to undertake cutting-edge, high risk, high quality scientific, engineering, or science and engineering education research that would have a high potential economic payoff if the research is successful.

The fundamental mission of NSF is to promote discoveries and to advance education across the frontiers of knowledge in science and engineering. Consistent with that mission, NSF encourages and supports a wide range of proposals from the research and education community and also from the private small business sector. These proposals are reviewed under NSF's merit review criteria, which cover both the quality of research (intellectual or technical merit) and its potential impact on society (broader/commercial impacts).

The SBIR program solicits proposals from the small business sector consistent with NSF's mission. The program is governed by Public Law 106-554. A main purpose of the legislation is to stimulate technological innovation and increase private sector commercialization. The NSF SBIR program is

therefore in a unique position to meet both the goals of NSF and the purpose of the SBIR legislation by transforming scientific discovery into both social and economic benefit, and by emphasizing private sector commercialization. Accordingly, NSF has formulated broad solicitation topics for SBIR that conform to the high-technology investment sector's interests.

Topics are:

- [Biotech and Chemical Technologies \(BC\)](#)
- [Education Applications \(EA\)](#)
- [Information and Communication Technologies \(IC\)](#)
- [Nanotechnology, Advanced Materials, and Manufacturing \(NM\)](#)

Successful proposers will conduct Research and Development (R&D) on projects that:

1. Provide evidence of a commercially viable product, process, device, or system, and/or
2. Meet an important social or economic need.

Projects should have the following:

- High potential commercial payback, and
- High-risk efforts.

Projects may also address:

- Research tools which meet significant commercial market needs, or,
- Applications that result in multipurpose commercially viable functions.

For more in-depth program information please reference the following web site:

<http://www.nsf.gov/eng/iip/sbir/sbirspecs.jsp>.