Seed Money for Small Business

NSF awards nearly **$190 million/year** in R&D Funding.

**Bring us your big ideas...**

The National Science Foundation (NSF) funds early-stage technology companies through the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR)/Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) program, transforming scientific discovery into products and services with commercial and societal potential.

**And we’ll bring you non-dilutive funds**

NSF funding goes toward research and development (R&D), helping companies like yours de-risk technology for commercial success. NSF does not buy products or services from the companies it funds, nor does it dictate technologies or applications to target. Rather, our hope is that the startups funded by NSF will become commercially successful, and have a positive impact on society.

“**Our grant from NSF SBIR really got us going and was further validation that we had a great business idea for STEM education.”**

- Smita Bakshi
  
  CEO and co-founder of Zyante, an NSF SBIR/STTR funded company

**Up to $1.5 Million**

**Phase I (up to $225,000)**

A proof-of-concept/feasibility grant that lasts from 6 to 12 months.

Phase I proposals are evaluated based on the technical innovation and potential commercial/societal impact.

Two annual Phase I proposal deadlines: **June & December.**

**Phase II (up to $750,000)**

A two-year grant that helps companies commercialize high-risk technology innovations.

A company must receive a Phase I grant before applying for a Phase II grant.

Phase II deadlines vary based on Phase I award expirations.

**Phase II B (up to $500,000)**

NSF may match 50 cents on every $1 of qualifying revenues or third-party investment (minimum match **$50,000** and maximum **$500,000**).
Who is Eligible for Funding?

For-profit organizations that are:

- U.S.-based (operating primarily in the United States)
- More than 50 percent owned by a U.S. Citizen or Legal Resident
- Fewer than 500 employees

More details at: sbir.gov/faqs

We accept proposals in any area of technology. Possible topics include:

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Advanced Materials & Instrumentation
- Biomedical Technologies
- Chemical Technologies
- Educational Technologies & Applications
- Electronic Hardware & Wireless Technologies
- Environmental Technologies
- Information Technologies
- Internet of Things
- Nanotechnology
- Photonic Devices & Materials
- Quantum Information Technologies
- Robotics
- Semiconductors
- Smart Health

See what’s possible: nsf.gov/SBIR