

RESEARCH ASSISTANCE: SBIR/STTR Phase 0 Program

Business Oregon has joined forces with the Biomedical Innovation Program (BIP) at Oregon Health & Science University to help Oregon small businesses access federal funding through successful Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant applications. This program is intended for businesses that are pursuing healthcare-related innovations and technologies.

ELIGIBLE USES:

- Professional fees to develop the SBIR/STTR Phase I, Phase II, or Fast Track application (e.g., technical consultants, writer, reviewer)
- Other professional fees (e.g., legal, accounting) directly related to preparing the SBIR/STTR application
- Other out-of-pocket costs directly related to preparing the SBIR/STTR application (e.g., market research, technical database research or statistical analyses)

ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Applicant must be a traded-sector business. "Traded sector" businesses are defined in Oregon statute as "industries in which member firms sell their goods or services into markets for which national or international competition exists."
- Applicant must be an Oregon-based business. "Oregon-based" is defined as "51% or more of the company's employees are based in Oregon."
- Applicant must meet all federal SBIR/STTR guidelines.
- Applicant must not have received a Phase 0 grant award within the previous 12 months.

Applications will be evaluated with respect to, among other things, a well-defined scientific problem and/or business opportunity, technical merit, and fit to federal solicitation, commercialization potential, qualifications of team and qualifications of consultant or other firm to be hired.

BENEFITS:

The Phase 0 program provides expert reviews of draft SBIR/STTR grant proposals, a process that improves an application's competitiveness and the chances of funding.

- Strategic advice from experienced translational scientists
- Writing guidance and feedback on grant structure based on NIH criteria
- Connections with potential scientific consultants or advisors
- Recommendations for additional preliminary studies or data analysis
- Identification of application weaknesses prior to federal submission





Timelines:

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| Phase 0 application due date | Apply Now–Must submit a minimum of 9 weeks prior to sponsoring federal agency's SBIR/STTR due date |
| Phase 0 award decision | 10 days after application submission |
| Submission of Phase I, Phase II, or Fast-Track draft grant to reviewers | Submit Early–Must be a minimum of 4 weeks prior to grant due date |
| Phase 0 awardees receive reviews | 1-2 weeks after submitting a draft SBIR/STTR application to reviewers |

Phase 0 applications are accepted, reviewed, and awarded on a rolling basis. However, the “no later than” stipulations are firm.

Application and award steps:

1. Phase 0 applications due at least 9 weeks prior to the federal agency's SBIR/STTR due date.
2. Phase 0 award decision announced within 10 days of application submission.
3. Awardees work with BIP staff to request and/or approve reviewers.
4. Awardees must submit their draft SBIR/STTR application to reviewers at least 4 weeks prior to the federal agency's due date.
5. Reviews are returned to awardees no later than 2 weeks after they submit their draft SBIR/STTR application.

APPLICATION MATERIALS

The Phase 0 application can be accessed via REDCap. Please be prepared to include the following documents.

1. An SBIR/STTR Phase 0 proposal, composed of:
 - Identification and significance of the problem
 - A brief background of the project
 - Related research or R&D
 - Commercialization potential
 - Outline of Phase I, II, or Fast-track plan and timeline
2. Biosketches/resumes of key personnel
3. Completed questionnaire that identifies reviewers and services (found in the REDCap application form)

For more information, contact:

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