## **United States (SMEs, Entrepreneurship and Innovation)**

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The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) programme is a double-gated innovation programme providing competition-based awards to small private sector companies of about USD 100 000+ for proof of principle, and later awards of about USD 750 000 to develop prototypes. Created in 1982 through the Small Business Innovation Development Act, the SBIR programme offers about USD 2.5 billion a year in awards.

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