

How to Submit

Use this guide to help you submit a Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) or Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I or Phase II proposal in Research.gov.

New in November 2022, NSF will only accept full proposals from startups and small businesses via Research.gov, a new proposal submission portal that allows applicants to create, submit, track and update full proposals. (The system and process used to submit Project Pitches has not changed.)

Access [Research.gov](https://www.research.gov) to submit a full Phase I or Phase II SBIR/STTR proposal. Visit the [Research.gov About Page](#) to help you prepare and submit your proposal.

Research.gov help desk

Please contact the Research.gov Help Desk (1-800-381-1532 or rgov@nsf.gov) for IT system or accessibility-related questions (7:00 AM – 9:00 PM Eastern Time; Monday – Friday except federal holidays).

Before you submit

Were you invited to submit a proposal?

NSF SBIR/STTR Phase I applicants are REQUIRED to submit a “Project Pitch” that outlines the project objectives, technical innovation and associated technical risks. Projects that seem to be a good fit will be officially INVITED to submit a full proposal.

Only invited SBIR/STTR proposals will be reviewed by NSF. To learn more about the Project Pitch, please visit [How It Works](#).

Applying for Phase II?

Only NSF Phase I SBIR/STTR awardees are permitted to submit a Phase II proposal.

We encourage you to follow guidance from your program director about when and how to submit your Phase II proposal.

Preparing your proposal

Read the SBIR/STTR Solicitations

The Phase I and Phase II SBIR/STTR Solicitations explain the content needed in your proposal. We also encourage you to join an [upcoming webinar](#) to help you prepare your proposal or to reach out to the relevant [SBIR/STTR program director](#) if you have questions about the proposal and review process.

Proposal content questions

SBIR and STTR program-related questions should be directed to sbir@nsf.gov.