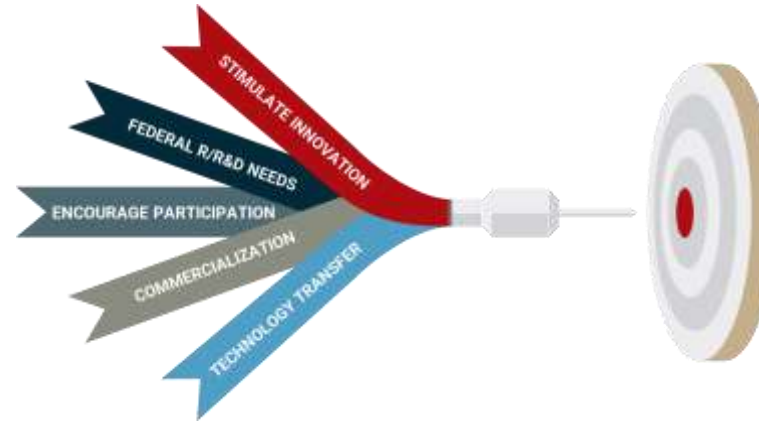# SBIR/STTR Programs

Authorities

United States Code

15 U.S. Code § 638. Research and development

SBIR/STTR Policy Directive

Provides guidance from SBA to the participating Federal agencies for the general operation of the SBIR and STTR programs.

Four Programs Goals

1 Stimulate technological innovation.

2 Use small business to meet Federal R/R&D needs.

3 Increase private sector commercialization of innovations derived from Federal R&D funding.

4 Foster technology transfer through cooperative R&D between small businesses and research institutions.

Meet Federal Needs through Innovative R/R&D

Federal SBIR/STTR Programs

Small Business Administration (SBA)

USDA*	ED	EPA
DOC	HHS*	NASA
DoW	DHS	NSF*
DOE*	DOT	

Department of War (DoW)

Army	DARPA	DTRA
DON	DHA	USSOCOM
Air Force	DMEA	OSD
CBD	MDA	NGA

Know the Customer

Grants*
Accomplish a public purpose, advance a national objective, address a public problem, or stimulate a particular activity desired by the awarding Agency

Contracts
Procure goods and services that will be of direct benefit to the government

Our Organization

Eight Systems Commands

NAVAIR
Aircraft, weapons, and systems

NAVSEA
Ships, submarines and combat systems

ONR
Scientific research with academia and industry

NAVWAR
Capable and secure communications and networks

MCSC
Capable and cost-effective systems for expeditionary and crisis-response operations

SSP
Lifecycle support for submarine-launched fleet ballistic missiles and strategic weapon system

NAVFAC
Facilities engineering and acquisition

NAVSUP
Supply chain, acquisition, operational logistics

How We Work

Mission-Driven Processes

- **Alignment to mission requirements**
- **Sponsoring organizations, resources to transition**
- **Transition-driven topics**
  - Conventional – specific Naval problems sets
  - Direct to Phase II – specific problems seeking higher TRL solutions
  - Open – broad technical priorities

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DoW Critical Technology Areas

DoW Critical Technology Areas	MCSC	NAVAIR	NAVFAC	NAVSEA	NAVWAR	ONR	SSP
Advanced Computing and Software	●	●		●	●	●	
Advanced Materials	●	●	●	●		●	
Biotechnology						●	
Directed Energy (DE)		●		●		●	
FutureG		●		●		●	
Human-Machine Interfaces		●	●	●		●	
Hypersonics		●				●	●
Integrated Network Systems-of-Systems		●		●		●	
Integrated Sensing and Cyber		●		●		●	
Microelectronics		●		●	●	●	●
Nuclear						●	●
Quantum Science		●				●	●
Renewable Energy Generation and Storage	●	●		●		●	
Space Technology		●		●		●	●
Sustainment	●	●	●	●	●	●	
Trusted AI and Autonomy	●	●	●	●	●	●	

How to Participate
America's Seed Fund

1

About SBIR and STTR: Learn How the Programs Work
https://www.sbir.gov/

2

Get Started: How to Apply, Determine Eligibility
https://www.sbir.gov/apply

All Participating Federal Agencies

Department of War (DoW)

3

Find topics and funding opportunities for all participating federal agencies
https://www.sbir.gov/topics

Research DoW focused Topics Consistent with your Business Strategy
https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/topics-app/

4

Learn and follow proposal development guidelines and instructions for all participating Federal Agencies
https://www.sbir.gov/participating-agencies

Use DoW Templates and Submit Proposal that Meets Topic Need
https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/submissions/login

Use Navy-specific templates and forms available at:
https://www.navysbir.com/links_forms.htm

DoW Solicitation Schedule

Key Points

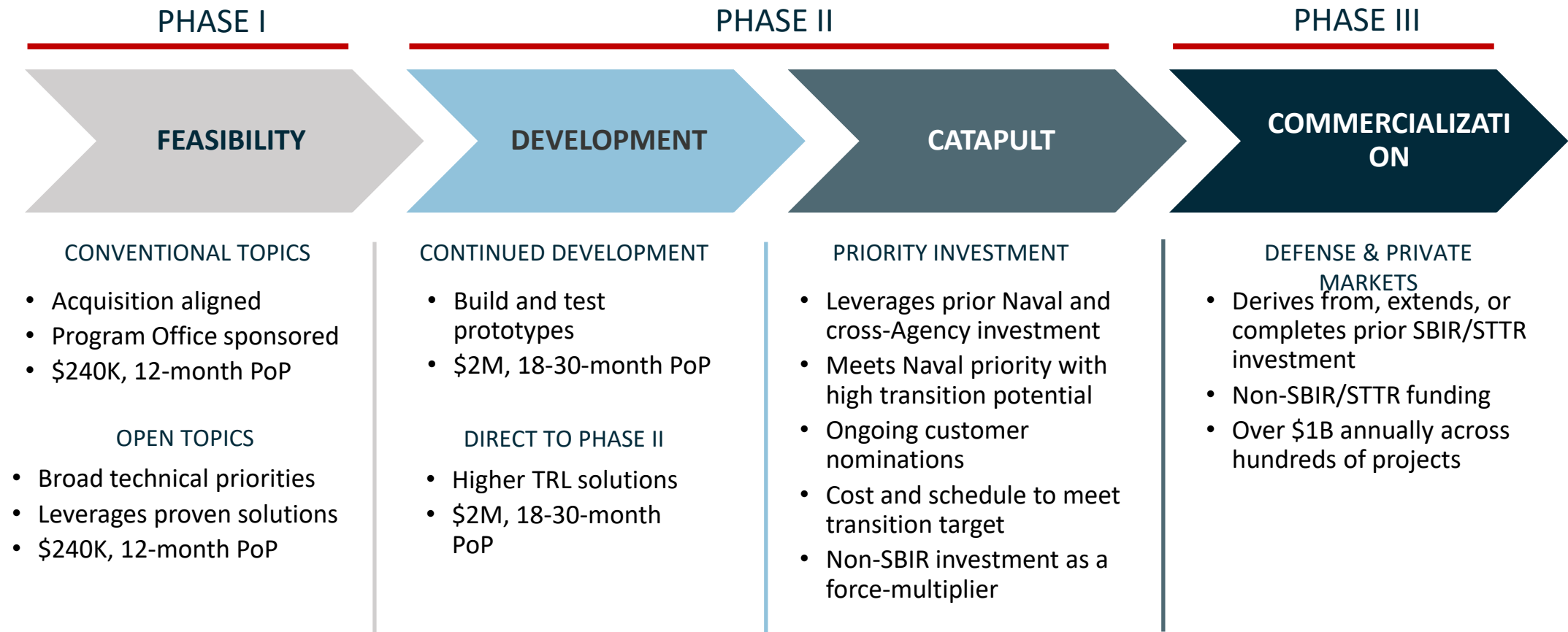| FY2026 Announcement Period			
Solicitation Cycle	**Pre-Release Date**	**Open Date**	**Close Date**
Release 1	Oct 1, 2025	Oct 22, 2025	Nov 19, 2025
Release 2	Nov 5, 2025	Dec 3, 2025	Jan 7, 2026
Release 3	Dec 3, 2025	Jan 7, 2026	Feb 4, 2026
Release 4	Jan 7, 2026	Jan 28, 2026	Feb 25, 2026
Release 5	Feb 4, 2026	Feb 25, 2026	Mar 25, 2026
Release 6	Mar 4, 2026	Mar 25, 2026	Apr 22, 2026
Release 7	Apr 1, 2026	Apr 22, 2026	May 20, 2026
Release 8	May 6, 2026	May 27, 2026	Jun 24, 2026
Release 9	Jun 3, 2026	Jun 24, 2026	Jul 22, 2026
Release 10	Jul 1, 2026	Jul 22, 2026	Aug 19, 2026
Release 11	Aug 5, 2026	Aug 26, 2026	Sep 23, 2026
Release 12	Sep 2, 2026	Sep 23, 2026	Oct 21, 2026

- Opportunity for SBIR and STTR in each release
- BAA and CSO in each release
- **Pre-Release** allows for direct Q&A between industry and the topic technical point of contact (TPOC)
- **Open** is the period when proposals are submitted; all Q&A is now public
- Use templates and submit proposal that meets the stated topic need
- **Close** occurs at 12 PM ET; proposals must be submitted/certified in full by the proposer before this time

DoW BAA and CSO Details:
https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/submissions/login

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Execution Aligned to Mission Requirements

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PHASE I	PHASE II		PHASE III
FEASIBILITY	**DEVELOPMENT**	**CATAPULT**	**COMMERCIALIZATION**

CONVENTIONAL TOPICS

- Acquisition aligned
- Program Office sponsored
- $240K, 12-month PoP

OPEN TOPICS

- Broad technical priorities
- Leverages proven solutions
- $240K, 12-month PoP

CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT

- Build and test prototypes
- $2M, 18-30-month PoP

DIRECT TO PHASE II

- Higher TRL solutions
- $2M, 18-30-month PoP

PRIORITY INVESTMENT

- Leverages prior Naval and cross-Agency investment
- Meets Naval priority with high transition potential
- Ongoing customer nominations
- Cost and schedule to meet transition target
- Non-SBIR investment as a force-multiplier

DEFENSE & PRIVATE MARKETS

- Derives from, extends, or completes prior SBIR/STTR investment
- Non-SBIR/STTR funding
- Over $1B annually across hundreds of projects

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Navy Catapult

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Navy Catapult	Leverages prior SBIR investment to accelerate technology development to meet Naval priorities with a 2nd Phase II award.

Process

Nomination → Naval customer submits project nomination

Approval → Systems Command SBIR Program Office and SBA (if funding waiver required) make funding decision

Request for Proposal → Government issues request for proposal

Proposal → Firms develops and submits Phase II proposal via DISP

Evaluation and Negotiations → Naval customer evaluates proposal in accordance with RFP; Contracting Officer negotiates with firm

Award → Contracting Officer awards contract

Advantages ▼
- Schedule flexibility to support transition target
- Contracting mechanisms tailored to meet technical requirements
- Potential of additional non-SBIR funding to amplify impact
- Transition end-point with support from Sponsoring organization

FY24 Portfolio ▼
- 188 active agreements (21% leverage cross-Agency investment)
- $248M SBIR/STTR, $63M matching funds
- 69 new FY24 awards (valued from $1.7M to $13M)

Eligibility ▼
- Meet eligibility requirements for the SBIR and STTR programs
- Are eligible to receive an initial or second Phase II on a prior award

Cross-Agency Collaboration ▼
Naval sponsors may nominate Catapult projects from the entire DoW and Federal SBIR/STTR portfolio.

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Making Transition Our Priority

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	Navy STP*	DON-SEC	NAVY Launch*	Private Capital Forum
What it is	Commercialization, transition, and professional assistance.	Connections to the DoW experimentation community to test innovative solutions.	Education, acceleration, and scaling services to succeed beyond traditional defense markets.	Education, connection, and engagement with private capital sources.
How it helps	Supports transition of technology through business mentoring, education, and networking.	Full spectrum of end-to-end facilitation, mentoring, and training in all aspects of experimentation.	Prioritize markets, explore private funding, customer discovery, and engage for new growth.	Clearer understanding of fundability, actionable strategies, and direct connections to capital partners.
	www.navystp.com	www. navysbir.com/sec	www.navysbir.com/programs/navylaunch	www.navysbir.com/programs/navylaunch

*annual cohort models

Why the SBIR/STTR Programs?

Federal government investment in your solution – giving you the freedom to run your business according to your vision, develop your technology, and chart a path toward commercialization.

- Source of non-dilutive funding

- Retention of intellectual property rights

- Cooperative R&D partnership with a nonprofit research institution (STTR)

- Phase III sole source authority

- Validation of technology

- Technical and business assistance

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Stay in Touch!

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Virtual Event

Last Wednesday
Every Month

Register Today!

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