



America's
SEED FUND
SBIR.STTR

FUNDING FOR STARTUPS

UP TO \$2 MILLION FOR RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT

America's Seed Fund powered by the National Science Foundation (NSF) funds startups in the development of deep technologies—those that are based on discoveries in fundamental science and engineering—transforming scientific discovery into products and services with commercial and societal impact.

With NSF funding you retain full control over your team, the direction of your work, and your intellectual property. Our hope is that the startups funded by NSF will become successful and have a positive impact.

\$200 MILLION & 400 AWARDS EVERY YEAR

“NSF helped us refine our vision, figure out if our technology could be used for different applications, and helped us figure out if we can manufacture our technology in a scalable fashion—taking it from an academic project to a real-scale commercial project.”



– **SHREYA DAVE**

Co-Founder and CEO of Via Separations
an NSF-funded company

COMPANY CHARACTERISTICS

387 Phase I grants were awarded
in FY2020.

- **More than half were from first-time applicants.**
- **95% were awarded to startups with <10 employees.**
- **81% went to startups established within the last five years**

Who is eligible for funding?

For-profit organizations that are:

- **U.S. based**
(operating primarily in the U.S.)
- **More than 50% owned** by a U.S. citizen or legal resident
- **Fewer than 500** employees

More details: sbir.gov/faq

PHASE I

UP TO \$256,000

PHASE II

UP TO \$1,000,000

PHASE II B

UP TO \$500,000

We fund unproven, high-impact innovations in any area of technology.

How to get started: PROJECT PITCH

Submit a **written** Project Pitch and find out **within about one month** if your project is a good fit.

Project Pitches must outline:

1. Technology Innovation
2. Technical Objectives and Challenges
3. Market Opportunity
4. Company and Team

If your project is a good fit, you will receive an official invitation to submit a Phase I proposal.

Each startup can only submit one Project Pitch at a time and one Project Pitch per submission window.

See what's possible.
seedfund.nsf.gov



Photo Credit:
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