Department of the NAVY SBIR/STTR PROGRAMS

Accelerating Small Business Innovation into Naval Capability

From early-stage ideas to operational transition

About Us

The Department of the Navy SBIR/STTR Programs connect U.S. small businesses and start-ups to Navy and Marine Corps mission needs through competitive, phased R&D awards. Companies move from concept to prototype to acquisition relevance — with multiple pathways to get started.

Why Work with Us

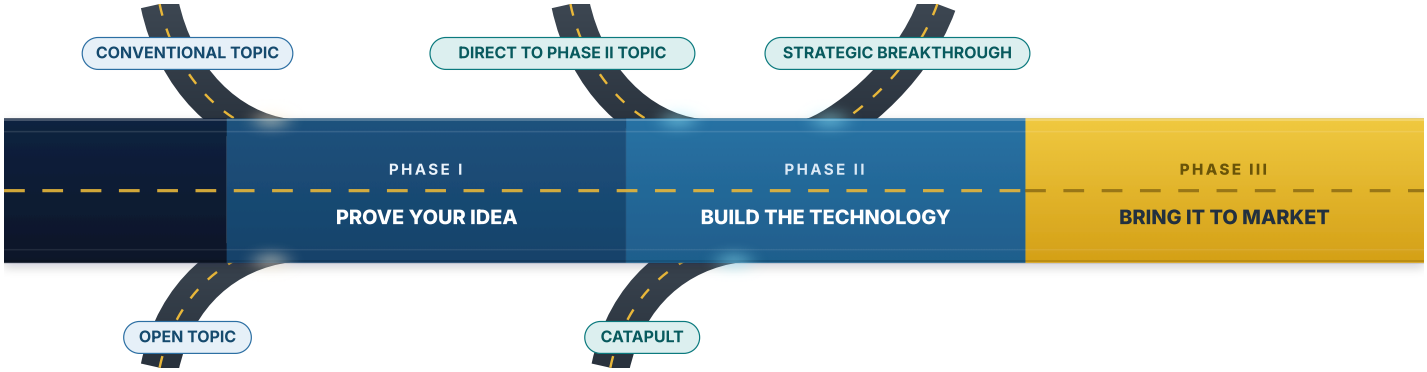
Non-Dilutive Funding
Retain full ownership of your company throughout

Keep Your IP
Intellectual property rights stay with you

VC-Backed Welcome
We accept proposals from venture capital-backed companies

Mission-Driven
Solve real naval problems with Phase III sole source transition authority

The Innovation Highway



Multiple ways to enter. One mission: Move your technology to those who need it.

Entry Points

INTO PHASE I

Conventional Topic
Naval-defined problem sets with specific technical needs and direct Q&A with technical POCs during Pre-Release

COMPETITIVE · BAA

Open Topic
Company-driven innovation with broad mission relevance across wide-ranging naval capability needs

COMPETITIVE · CSO

INTO PHASE II

Direct to Phase II Topic
For companies that have proven feasibility and can go straight into accelerated development

COMPETITIVE · BAA · CSO

Catapult
Leverages prior SBIR/STTR awards, adapting proven innovations into Phase II development

GOVERNMENT NOMINATED

Strategic Breakthrough
Accelerates high-priority Phase II technologies into operational use and programs of record

GOVERNMENT NOMINATED

BAA = Broad Agency Announcement · **CSO** = Commercial Solutions Opening

How to Participate

1. **Confirm Eligibility** — Verify your U.S.-owned small business qualifies for the program
2. **Explore Opportunities** — Browse topics or review existing awards to find the right fit for your capabilities
3. **Submit Your Proposal** — Use provided templates and submit on time through the portal
4. **Stay Engaged** — Transition support, business assistance, and follow-on pathways

Start Here
Topics, eligibility, and how to apply

navysbir.com

Your Guide to Getting Started

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Tips for Success

- **Join Pre-Release.** The first Wednesday of each month, new topics drop. Engage directly with Technical Points of Contact.
- **Register on SAM.gov early.** Get ahead of the lead time so you're submission-ready before the deadline.
- **Apply to topics you can solve.** Focus on problems that match your core capabilities and demonstrated expertise.
- **Read the full BAA or CSO.** The Broad Agency Announcement or Commercial Solutions Opening has the requirements, evaluation criteria, and submission instructions you need.
- **Address the topic directly.** Reviewers score on alignment — make sure your proposal clearly answers the stated need.
- **Have a prior SBIR/STTR award?** Review what the PAEs and ONR are looking for — your existing work could be a Catapult or Strategic Breakthrough candidate.

Who You'll Work With

Department of the Navy acquisition is organized into Portfolio Acquisition Executives (PAEs) and a Direct Reporting Program Manager (DRPM); the Office of Naval Research (ONR) partners alongside them.

PAE Aviation
Develops, acquires, and sustains naval aircraft, weapons, and aviation systems across their full life cycles

PAE Industrial Ops
Manages shipyards, depots, and the industrial base that maintains and modernizes Fleet readiness

PAE Marine Corps
Equips Marines with ground, IT, and expeditionary systems for crisis-response and combat operations

PAE Maritime
Delivers surface combatants, amphibious and auxiliary ships, and the combat systems that keep the Fleet at sea

PAE Mission Systems
Delivers secure communications, networks, and the C4I systems that connect and protect the force

PAE Munitions
Delivers weapons, ordnance, and energetics — from development and integration through fielding to the Fleet

DRPM Robotics & Autonomous Systems
Advances unmanned platforms across air, surface, and undersea domains

PAE Shore Infrastructure
Plans, builds, and sustains the bases, piers, utilities, and public works that keep the Fleet and Marine Corps mission-ready

PAE Strategic Systems Programs
Develops and sustains submarine-launched ballistic missiles and the sea-based deterrents

PAE Undersea
Develops submarines, undersea vehicles, and the undersea warfare systems that secure the maritime deep

ONR
Fosters basic-to-applied naval research through partnerships with academia, industry, and government

What We're Looking For

Innovation aligned to the Department of War's Critical Technology Areas.

Applied Artificial Intelligence
AI-first decision-making, autonomy, and operational efficiency across the force

Biomanufacturing
Living systems producing critical materials at scale; resilient, secure supply chains

Contested Logistics
Assured resupply and operational continuity in disrupted or denied environments

Quantum & Battlefield Information Dominance
Assured communications, precision navigation & timing (PNT), spectrum maneuverability

Scaled Hypersonics
Mach 5+ strike weapons fielded at scale — speed, precision, and survivability

Scaled Directed Energy
Cost-effective, high-energy systems to neutralize threats at scale

Check Eligibility
sbir.gov/apply

Browse Topics
dodsbirsttr.mil/topics-app

Templates & Forms
navysbir.com/links_forms.htm

PAEs & POCs
navysbir.com/poc.htm

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