



# Delaware-Based Competitions and Grants


## EDGE Grants

	<b>Grant Amount</b> Up to \$100k for STEM-based companies Up to \$25k for non-STEM businesses		<b>Application Open</b> <a href="#">Opening Soon</a> <a href="#">(Apply Here)</a> <b>Application Close</b> To Be Announced <b>Grants Awarded</b> 10 Grants Per Round	<b>Host Organization</b> Delaware Division of Small Business	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a>
EDGE Grants are intended for exactly what their acronym stands for—Encouraging Development, Growth & Expansion. This grant is given to small startups located in Delaware with less than 10 employees.	<b>Eligibility</b> Less than 5 years of operation Employ less than 10 people	<b>Focus</b> STEM/Entrepreneurship		<b>Contact:</b> Wilmington Area <b>Joe Zilcosky</b> Non-Wilmington Area of New Castle County <b>David Mathe</b> Kent County <b>Laura Wisler</b> Sussex County <b>Lauren Swain</b> <a href="https://business.delaware.gov/contact/">https://business.delaware.gov/contact/</a>	


## DE Relief Grants

	<b>Grant Amount</b> Varies depending on size of business: \$0-\$500,000 in revenue: Up to \$30,000 \$500,000-\$1 million: Up to \$50,000 \$1 million-\$2.5 million: Up to \$72,500 \$2.5+ million: Up to \$100,000		<b>Application Open</b> <a href="#">Open Now (Apply Here)</a> <b>Application Close</b> Open Until Further Notice	<b>Host Organization</b> Delaware Division of Small Business	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a>
The State of Delaware and New Castle County are trying to assist Delaware small businesses and nonprofits impacted by COVID-19.	<b>Eligibility</b> Any SBA-eligible business, as well as non-profits.	<b>Focus</b> COVID-19 Relief		<b>Contact:</b> <b>General Contact</b> DEReliefGrants@Delaware.gov	

### Delaware Bioscience CAT Entrepreneurial Proof of Concept Grants


	<b>Grant Amount</b> May request up to \$50,000		<b>Application Open</b> <a href="#">Open Now (Apply Here)</a> <b>Application Close</b> 3/31/2021 <b>Grants Awarded</b> 2 cycles per year, 12 months of grant support	<b>Host Organization</b> Delaware Biotechnology Institute	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a>
Entrepreneurial Proof of Concept grants are given to researchers looking to collect early-stage data leading to the creation of a new business operating in Delaware once the grant has been completed. Funds must go to a research Principal Investigator (PI) at a Delaware academic research institution.	<b>Eligibility</b> Operating in Delaware, must not duplicate projects funded by other sources	<b>Focus</b> Entrepreneurship		<b>Contact:</b> <b>General Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:cat@dbi.udel.edu">cat@dbi.udel.edu</a>	

### Delaware Bioscience CAT Applied Research Collaborations


	<b>Grant Amount</b> May request up to \$100,000		<b>Application Open</b> <a href="#">Open Now (Apply Here)</a> <b>Application Close</b> 3/31/2021 <b>Grants Awarded</b> 2 cycles per year, 12 months of grant support	<b>Host Organization</b> Delaware Biotechnology Institute	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a>
Applied Research Collaboration grants are given to support bioresearch collaborations that support economic development in Delaware. Projects must have at least one Delaware academic and one Delaware business partner.	<b>Eligibility</b> Bioresearch collaborations with single or multi-principal investigators located in Delaware for hypothesis-driven research	<b>Focus</b> Bioscience Research		<b>Contact:</b> <b>General Contact:</b> <a href="mailto:cat@dbi.udel.edu">cat@dbi.udel.edu</a>	

## Community Grants and Funding


### Comcast RISE Program

	<b>Program Rewards</b> Advertising and Marketing Consultations TV Media Schedule Creative Production Tech Makeover Monetary Grant		<b>Application Open</b> Open Now <b>Applications Close</b> 5/7/2021 <b>Program Awards</b> Recipients chosen quarterly	<b>Host Organization</b> Comcast	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a> <a href="#">Apply Here</a>
Comcast is providing services and upgrades to BIPOC-owned small businesses in need that have suffered through the pandemic.	<b>Eligibility</b> BIPOC-owned businesses	<b>Focus</b> Any Industry		<b>Contact:</b> <b>General Contact</b> 844-963-0234	


### Nav Small Business Grant

	<b>Grant Amount</b> \$10,000 First Place \$5,000 Second Place		<b>Application Open</b> Opening April 2021 <b>Applications Close</b> June 2021 <b>Grants Awarded</b> Quarterly	<b>Host Organization</b> Nav	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a> <a href="#">Membership</a>
A unique grant that is awarded through a social media voting process where the small business's customers can vote for their favorite small business. A large part of the application is a social media post, and they encourage creativity to win! Be on the lookout for the application to open so you can get started on the voting process right away!	<b>Eligibility</b> Must sign up for a free Nav membership and explain why you deserve the money	<b>Focus</b> Small Business		<b>Contact:</b> <b>General Contact</b> <a href="mailto:grants@nav.com">grants@nav.com</a>	


### Shuttered Venue Operators Grant

 <p>Shuttered Venue Operators Grant Program</p>	<b>Grant Amount</b> Equal to 45% of venue's 2019 gross earned revenue or \$10M, whichever is less		<b>Application Open</b> Opening Soon <b>Applications Close</b> To Be Announced <b>Grants Awarded</b> Dependent Upon Revenue Loss (More revenue loss will receive grants first)	<b>Host Organization</b> SBA	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a>
A grant for shuttered live entertainment venues that have been hit hard by the COVID-19 pandemic. Certain entities such as live venue promoters, theaters, museums, zoos, and more may be eligible to apply for grants.	<b>Eligibility</b> Live venue operators and promoters, theatrical producers, motion picture theater operators, and more as listed on the homepage.	<b>Focus</b> Performing Arts		<b>Contact:</b> General Contact <a href="mailto:SVOGrant@sba.gov">SVOGrant@sba.gov</a>	


### Amber Grant for Women

	<b>Grant Amount</b> \$4,000 winner once a month \$1,000 for runner-up \$25,000 once a year		<b>Application Open</b> First day of each month <b>Application Close</b> Last day of each month <b>Grants Awarded</b> One winner each month	<b>Host Organization</b> WomensNet	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a> <a href="#">Apply Here</a>
A grant for women with businesses awarded in honor of Amber Wigdahl, who tragically passed away at the age of 19 before she was able to realize her business dreams.	<b>Eligibility</b> Must be a woman 18 years or older with a business	<b>Focus</b> Any Industry		<b>Contact:</b> General Contact <a href="mailto:info@womensnet.net">info@womensnet.net</a>	

### NASE Growth Grants

	<b>Grant Amount</b> \$4,000		<b>Application Open</b> Always Open to Members <b>Applications Close</b> N/A <b>Grants Awarded</b> Number given varies, grants awarded quarterly	<b>Host Organization</b> NASE	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a> <a href="#">Membership</a>
A grant for small business owners that are members of the National Association for the Self-Employed to finance business needs.	<b>Eligibility</b> Must be a member of NASE for at least 3 months prior to applying	<b>Focus</b> Small Business		<b>Contact:</b> <b>NASE Grants Administrator</b> <a href="mailto:grants_scholarships@nase.org">grants_scholarships@nase.org</a>	

### Development Innovation Ventures (DIV)

 <b>USAID</b> FROM THE AMERICAN PEOPLE	<b>Grant Amount</b> Stage 1: Pilot (up to \$200K) Stage 2: Test and Position for Scale (up to \$1.5M) Stage 3: Transition to Scale (up to \$5M) Evidence Grants: (up to \$1.5M)		<b>Application Open</b> Always Open <b>Grants Awarded</b> 10-20 awarded per year (1-2% of applicants)	<b>Host Organization</b> USAID	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a> <a href="#">Apply Here</a>
Multiple stages of grants for innovators and researchers to test new ideas and solutions that can change the world and help improve people's lives.	<b>Eligibility</b> Determine if you are eligible using the <a href="#">DIV Questionnaire</a>	<b>Focus</b> Any Industry		<b>Contact:</b> <b>General Contact</b> <a href="mailto:div@usaid.gov">div@usaid.gov</a>	

# SBIR/STTR Funding Opportunities

## United States Division of Agriculture (USDA)

The Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs are competitive programs that encourage small businesses to engage in federal research and development projects with the potential for commercialization. Each agency offers a list of broad research topics, and you may find that your business already takes part in one or more of the topics offered. If so, you may be eligible to apply for a grant. Below is a list of topics currently being considered for SBIR grant awards by the USDA.

- Animal Production and Protection
- Aquaculture
- Biofuels and Biobased Products
- Conservation of Natural Resources
- Food Science and Nutrition
- Forests and Related Resources
- Plant Production and Protection - Biology
- Plant Production and Protection – Engineering
- Rural and Community Development
- Small and Mid-Size Farms

Grant amounts for each topic range from **\$50,000 to \$650,000** depending on scale of project and SBIR Phase. Contact USDA for more details on specific amounts for each topic.

If any of these topics interest you, read more about the specific opportunities in [this document](#)

**Applications Open Now**  
**Applications Close: 5/3/2021**

[Apply here](#) if your business is already involved with one of these topics

For more information about the USDA SBIR programs, contact Kelly McDonald:  
[kelly.mcdonald2@usda.gov](mailto:kelly.mcdonald2@usda.gov)

# SBIR/STTR Funding Opportunities

## National Science Foundation (NSF)

**Below is a list of topics currently being offered by the NSF for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant opportunities.**

- Advanced Analytics
- Advanced Manufacturing
- Advanced Materials
- Artificial Intelligence
- Augmented/Virtual Reality
- Biological Technologies
- Chemical Technologies
- Cloud and High-Performance Technologies
- Cybersecurity and Authentication
- Digital Health
- Distributed Ledger
- Energy Technologies
- Environmental Technologies
- Human-Computer Interaction
- Instrumentation and Hardware Systems
- Internet of Things

- Learning and Cognition Technologies
- Medical Devices
- Mobility
- Nanotechnology
- Other Topics
- Pharmaceutical Technology
- Photonics
- Power Management
- Quantum Information Technologies
- Robotics
- Semiconductors
- Space
- Wireless Technologies

Grant amounts for each topic range from **\$5,000 to \$256,000** depending on scale of project and SBIR Phase. Contact NSF for more details on specific amounts for each topic.

**If any of these topics interest you, refer to [this document](#) to find the contact that is associated with your topic of interest**

**Applications Open Now  
Applications Close: 6/3/2021**

[Apply here](#) if your business is already involved with one of these topics.

To view more subtopics of these individual topics, view the [original NSF posting on the SBIR website](#).

# SBIR/STTR Funding Opportunities

## Department of Commerce (DOC)

**Below is a list of topics currently being offered by the DOC for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant opportunities.**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Advanced Communications, Networks, and Scientific Data Systems</li> <li>• Advanced Manufacturing and Material Measurements</li> <li>• Cybersecurity and Privacy</li> <li>• Exploratory Measurement Science</li> <li>• Fundamental Measurement, Quantum Science, and Measurement Dissemination</li> <li>• Health and Biological Systems Measurements</li> <li>• Physical Infrastructure and Resilience</li> </ul>	Grant amounts for each topic for up to <b>\$100,000</b> in Phase I and up to <b>\$400,000</b> for Phase II depending on scale of project. Contact DOC for more details on specific amounts for each topic.
	To view the listing on the SBIR website, <a href="#">click here</a> .
	<b>Applications Open Now</b> <b>Applications Close: 4/14/2021</b>
	<a href="#">Apply here</a> if your business is already involved with one of these topics.
	For questions about specific grant topics, contact Mary Clague at <a href="mailto:mary.clague@nist.gov">mary.clague@nist.gov</a> .



# SBIR/STTR Funding Opportunities

## Department of Health and Human Services (HHS)

**Below is a list of topics currently being offered by the HHS for Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) grant opportunities.**

- Advancing Imaging, Device Production, and Clinical Capabilities in Digital Dentistry.
- BRAIN Initiative: Development Optimization, and Validation of Novel Tools and Technologies for Neuroscience Research
- Better Defining Growth Medium to Improve Reproductivity of Cell Culture
- Innovative Technologies for HIV Behavioral and Social Science Research
- Novel Tools and Devices for Animal Research Facilities and to Support Care of Animal Models
- Novel Tools for Investigating Brain-Derived GPCRs in Mental Health Research
- Wearable Alcohol Biosensors

Grant amounts for each topic for up to **\$150,000** in Phase I and up to **\$1,000,000** for Phase II depending on scale of project. Contact HHS for more details on specific amounts for each topic.

To view all the the HHS listings directly on the SBIR website, [click here](#).

**Applications Open Now**  
**Applications Close: 4/5/2021**

[Apply here](#) if your business is already involved with one of these topics.

For general information about these grants, contact [GrantsInfo@nih.gov](mailto:GrantsInfo@nih.gov)

## Federal Funding Opportunities (General)


	<p>This is a website where government agencies post grant opportunities. Use the search tool to find grants that can be used for your small business.</p>	<a href="#">Grants</a>
	<p>This is a database that allows you to search for all kinds of grants, and even allows you to sign up for weekly grant alerts so you never miss opportunities to receive funding.</p>	<a href="#">Grants</a>
	<p>GrantWatch is a database that takes government and foundation grants and puts them into user-friendly summaries. They make it easy to search for grants that apply to your small business.</p>	<a href="#">Grants</a>
	<p>The Minority Business Development Agency is devoted to helping minority-owned businesses grow in size and scale. They do this through workshops, initiatives, and grants that can all be found on their website.</p>	<a href="#">Visit Website</a>
	<p>This site is used by the federal government to post prize competitions and challenges. These are used to get ideas directly from the public such as software, technologies, and other solutions that your business may already be developing. Check to see if you can win funding from any challenges.</p>	<a href="#">Challenges</a>

## University-Sponsored Competitions


### Milken-Penn GSE Education Business Plan Competition

<b>MILKEN~PENN GSE</b> Education Business Plan Competition & Conference	<b>Cash Prizes</b> \$70,000+ (\$40,000 to winner)	<b>In-Kind Prizes</b> \$40,000+ in Amazon Web Services credits and more	<b>Application Open</b> 3/10/2021 <b>Application Close</b> 4/20/2021 <b>Final Rounds</b> 10/5/2021	<b>Location</b> University of Pennsylvania and Virtual	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a> <a href="#">Past Winners</a>
Considered to be the most prestigious and well-funded education business plan competition in the world, this competition has awarded entrepreneurs of all ages with more than \$1.4 million in cash prizes since 2010.	<b>Eligibility</b> Open to all, no age/university application requirements	<b>Focus</b> Education		<b>Contact:</b> <b>General Contact</b> <a href="mailto:educomp@gse.upenn.org">educomp@gse.upenn.org</a>	

### e-Fest: Schulze Entrepreneurship Challenge

	<b>Cash Prizes</b> \$215,000 (\$50,000 grand prize)	<b>In-Kind Prizes</b> N/A	<b>Application Open</b> 2/12/2021 <b>Application Close</b> 3/7/2021 <b>Final Rounds</b> 4/22-4/24/2021	<b>Location</b> University of St. Thomas (MN) or Virtual	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a> <a href="#">Past Winners</a>
A competition for North American college students to compete for a piece of \$215,000. Looks to provide learning experiences and networking opportunities with fellow entrepreneurs.	<b>Eligibility</b> Undergraduate team leaders	<b>Focus</b> Any Industry		<b>Contact:</b> <b>General Contact</b> <a href="mailto:E-fest@eix.org">E-fest@eix.org</a>	

### Collegiate Inventors Competition

 <b>Collegiate Inventors Competition®</b>	<b>Cash Prizes</b> Up to \$15,000 for 3 Winners		<b>Application Open</b> Opening Soon <b>Application Close</b> 6/2021  <b>Final Rounds</b> To Be Announced	<b>Location</b> Virtual	<b>Links:</b> <a href="#">Homepage</a> <a href="#">Past Winners</a>
An essay-based competition for startups to explain their business and how they believe their product will benefit certain aspects of society. This competition is STEM-focused, and the awards are based off the applications. Patented products are not eligible.	<b>Eligibility</b> Full-time students enrolled in a U.S. college or university	<b>Focus</b> STEM		<b>Contact:</b> <b>General Contact</b> <a href="mailto:collegiate@invent.org">collegiate@invent.org</a>	