ABOUT MDA MISSILE DEFENSE AGENCY

The Missile Defense Agency (MDA) is a research, development, and acquisition agency within the Department of Defense.

As MDA develops, tests, and fields an integrated Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS), the Agency works closely with the Combatant Commanders (e.g. Pacific Command, Northern Command, etc.) who rely on a multi-layered architecture of sensors, system of elements, and Command, Control, Battle Management and Communications (C2BMC) to identify and respond to a hostile ballistic missile attack. The Agency works with the Combatant Commanders to ensure that we develop a robust BMDS technology and development program to address the challenges of an evolving threat. MDA is also steadily increasing our international cooperation by supporting mutual security interests in missile defense.

WEBSITES
www.sbir.gov
www.sbir.defensebusiness.org
www.mda.mil

CONTACTS
SBIR/STTR Program
Management Office
256.955.2020
sbirsttr@mda.mil

SBIR/STTR Commercialization & Transition Program Office
256.450.5343
SBIRComm-Trans@mda.mil

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**MDA OBJECTIVES**

Our agency goals

MDA's goal is to capitalize on the creativity and innovation of the Nation's universities and small business community through the development of cutting edge technology that can transition into the Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS).

**MDA FOCUS**

Our agency focus for SBIR/STTR

Pursue high-risk technologies that could spur a revolutionary leap or enhancement, decrease the time required to transform them into actual applications for insertion into the BMDS, and benefit from commercialization. Research topics submitted by MDA Program Elements can include such areas as Sensors, Manufacturing Efficiency & Improvement, Materials Development, Command & Control, Modeling & Simulation, and Propulsion. A current index of research areas can be found at www.sbir.defensebusiness.org.

**MDA PROCESS**

Our three-phase procedure

As part of its SBIR/STTR programs, MDA participates in a Department of Defense-issued solicitation, describing its Research and Development (R&D) needs and inviting R&D proposals from small companies—firms organized for profit with 500 or fewer employees.

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**BEYOND PHASE TWO**

Phase III work may be for products, production, research, research and development, or any combination thereof, including testing and evaluation of products, services or technologies for use in technical or weapon systems. MDA supports the transitioning of SBIR investments through:

- Commercialization and Transition Program Office
- SBIR/STTR Liaisons to acquisition programs
- Phase II Enhancements and 2nd Phase II awards
- Rapid Innovation Funds (RIF)
- Technology Interchange Meetings

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**FEATURES OF PHASE THREE**

- Non SBIR/STTR Funding
- Can be either Development or Sales $
- No limit on the amount of funding
- Funding may be Government or Commercial Market
- Unlimited Period of Performance
- Data rights apply

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**BEYOND PHASE AWARDS**

- Phase II Enhancement
  - $500K, 12 mos.
  - 2nd Phase II
  - $1M, 24 mos.
  - Phase III
  - No Funding Limit, Unlimited

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**MDA COMMERCIALIZING RESOURCES**

MDA SBIR/STTR Commercialization & Transition Office
256.450.5343
SBIR-PhaseIII@mda.mil

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**WHAT IS PHASE III COMMERCIALIZATION**

Phase III is the commercialization phase and the ultimate goal of each SBIR/STTR effort. Phase III commercialization work derives from, extends, or logically concludes efforts performed under prior SBIR/STTR funding agreements.

Statute requires that Phase III work is funded by sources outside the SBIR/STTR Program. Small Businesses are expected to obtain funding from the private sector and/or non-SBIR/non-STTR Government sources to develop Phase II prototypes into viable products to sell in either military or private sector markets. Within DoD, often the initial customer is a prime contractor for a major weapon system or other program of record.

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**WHEN SHOULD YOU COMMERCIALIZE?**

Small businesses, and the acquisition programs interested in SBIR/STTR technology, should start planning for commercialization as soon as a Phase I contract is awarded. Given the timelines associated with the DoD budget development process, it is crucial to begin identifying Phase III funding with ample lead time. Early commercialization planning will also support the small business's ability to align its SBIR/STTR technology with acquisition program schedules and requirements.

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**PHASE III CONDITIONS AND LIMITS**

No federal SBIR/STTR funding may be used on a Phase III contract, although non-SBIR/non-STTR government funds are allowed. There is no limit on the number, duration, type, or dollar value of Phase III awards made to a business concern. There is no limit on the time that may elapse between a Phase I or Phase II award and Phase III award or between a Phase III and any subsequent Phase III award.

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**PHASE III AWARDS**

A DoD component may award a Phase III contract on the basis of a project’s success during the competitive preliminary stages. Phase III contracts may be awarded without further competition after Phase I or Phase II. All competition requirements are satisfied through the awarding of Phase I and II contracts.

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**DATA RIGHTS, PATENTS AND COPYRIGHTS**

A Phase III award is, by its nature, an SBIR/STTR award. It thus has SBIR/STTR status, and must be accorded SBIR/STTR data rights. If an SBIR/STTR awardee wins a competition for work that derives from, extends, or logically concludes that small business's work under a prior SBIR/STTR funding agreement, the funding agreement for the new competed work must have all SBIR/STTR Phase III status and data rights.

Awardees may copyright material to develop with DoD SBIR/STTR funding as long as they have written permission from the contracting officer. Also, small business normally may retain the principle worldwide patent rights to any invention developed with government support.