Federal Funding Town Hall

Translating Basic and Applied Research into the Market Place

Professional Leadership co-Chairs
Sean L. Jones, National Science Foundation
Jeffrey Fenton, Medtronic

Remaining Professional Leadership activities:

**Career Center** – Exhibit Hall--Booth #138

Wednesday: 10:00 am - 4:30 pm [Job Fair Open]
Thursday: 10:00 am - 2:30 pm [Job Fair Open]
Innovation Corps

What we fund:
• Entrepreneurial training activity to determine commercial import and market fit of emerging technologies
• Requires NSF basic research lineage (at the National level)
• Cohort-based activity led by NSF-endorsed teaching teams at “nodes”
• Intensive, seven-week process requiring strong commitment

How we fund:
• Small grants to teams of three, quasi-rolling basis
• Funds not intended for R&D, primarily for travel and participant support
• $50k per team, application based on interviews, fast turnaround

Team composition:
• Entrepreneurial lead: often technically versed, should be in a position to fully-engage (and often lead) a new venture
• Principal investigator: scientific authority, generally faculty
• Mentor: has domain expertise or entrepreneurial experience
I-Corps resources

Teams: Steve Konsek – skonsek@nsf.gov
Nodes: Lydia McClure – lmcclure@nsf.gov
Sites: Anita LaSalle – alasalle@nsf.gov

Program website: https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/i-corps/
Teams, Nodes, Sites: https://www.nsf.gov/news/special_reports/i-corps/ecosystem.jsp

YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/NSFInnovationIIP

Current teams solicitation:
Partnerships for Innovation

What we fund:
• Translational R&D grants to colleges and universities (PFI-AIR) or to university-led multifaceted teams (PFI-BIC)
• Requires NSF basic research OR I-Corps lineage
• PFI-BIC requires at least one industry partner (multiple encouraged)
• PFI-AIR: No topical restrictions (but an argument for commercial relevance is needed)
• PFI-BIC: Focused on smart service systems R&D (but that could change)

How we fund:
• Merit review focus: intellectual merit + broader impact + market potential
• PFI-AIR: $200k for 18 months, PFI-BIC: $1M for 3 years
• Letters of intent required
PFI resources

AIR: Barbara Kenny – bkenny@nsf.gov
BIC: Alexandra Medina-Borja – amedinab@nsf.gov

Program websites:
https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504790&org=IIP&from=home
https://www.nsf.gov/funding/pgm_summ.jsp?pims_id=504708&org=IIP&from=home

Recent solicitations:
AIR (closed last month):

BIC (closes next week):
Small Business Innovation Research and Technology Transfer

What we fund:
• High technical risk R&D (unproven, early-stage) for the purpose of feasibility/viability of a new product, process or service
• Validated market need and high commercialization potential if the R&D works
• Societal/environmental benefits and enabling technology also factored in
• Almost zero topical focus/restriction

How we fund:
• R&D grants to small businesses (mostly start-ups), two cycles per year
• Merit review focus: technical + commercialization
• Phase I ($225k), Phase II ($750k), plus supplemental opps (> $500k)

Who we fund:
• 86% of awardees have 10 or fewer employees
• 68% of awardee companies were incorporated within the past 5 years
• 76% of awardees had never had a prior Phase II award from any agency
SBIR/STTR resources

Ben Schrag - bschrag@nsf.gov


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Email listserve: send blank email to INNOVATION-SUBSCRIBE-REQUEST@listserv.nsf.gov
YouTube channel: https://www.youtube.com/user/NSFInnovationIIP

Current Phase I solicitations: