



**Wisconsin Economic Development Corporation
Program Guidelines for Fiscal Year 2024**

Program Name: SBIR/STTR Matching Grant
Program Inception: WEDC FY15
Lead Division: Entrepreneurship & Innovation
 New **Revised** [Click here to enter a date.](#)
 Aid **Pass-thru Aid** **Technical Assistance**

Program Goal:

The goal of the SBIR/STTR Matching Grant program is to stimulate technological innovation by supporting technology-based small businesses in the state of Wisconsin.

Program Description:

The program provides funds to technology-based businesses that qualify as a small business concern as defined by SBA in or relocating to Wisconsin by matching a portion of Phase I and/or Phase II awards under the federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs provided through periodic competitions. The program will be administered by the Center for Technology Commercialization (CTC).

Eligibility Requirements:

The federal SBIR program provides over \$2.5 billion annually in grants from 11 federal agencies designed to help small businesses create and commercialize new innovations and technologies. The program consists of three phases:

- Phase I awards range from \$100,000 to \$225,000 to support feasibility study
- Phase II awards range from about \$750,000 to \$1,500,000 to support full research and development
- Phase III entails commercialization supported by funding outside of the federal program

CTC must administer the SBIR/STTR Matching Grant program according to the following guidelines:

Wisconsin businesses that are Phase I or Phase II recipients of federal SBIR/STTR funding may apply to CTC for a matching grant.

Out-of-state businesses may apply for and receive funding contingent on the business relocating to Wisconsin within 90 days of receiving the matching grant funding.

Businesses may receive matching grants for both Phase I and Phase II awards, but the program will primarily support first-time recipients of a federal award for the phase for which a matching grant is pursued. The matching grant is intended to support eligible activities including but not limited to customer validation activities, market research, intellectual property assessment and



feasibility assessment.

Incentives and Available Funding (FY24): \$1,500,000

The SBIR/STTR Matching Grant program will provide award matches of 50% up to \$75,000 of the amount of federal Phase I or up to \$100,000 for up to two years for Phase II funding awards. The grant must be used for new and additional work tasks that relate to the project granted by the federal award.

It is anticipated that the number of federal awards eligible for matching grants will exceed the funding level of the matching grant program. Projects will be evaluated as part of a competitive scoring process and awards will be made based on funding availability and project merit.

Activities and Expected Outcomes:

Award one organization to support 15 businesses and achieve a leverage to federal grants of 3:1.

Performance Reporting:

CTC will be required to quarterly submit a performance report documenting the number of businesses receiving grants, the amount of each grant, the amount of federal funding leveraged, as well as any other contract deliverable, for four years after receiving an award. CTC will report annual employment, wage and outside investment information submitted by each business.

WEDC annually selects awards on a sample basis for an audit. All backup to the performance report and financial records are required to be maintained by the Recipient for a period of at least Three (3) years after the last performance report is due.

WEDC may impose additional reporting requirements to evaluate project performance and to ensure compliance with contract deliverables.

Application and Awards Process:

CTC meets with WEDC to review capacity, past performance and future goals. The completed application will be assigned to an underwriter and go through the award review process.

For more information on application review, internal process, and award distribution, please refer to WEDC's award administration policies and procedures. This single-entity program award is an exception to WEDC's standard awards approval thresholds outlined in WEDC's Awards Administration Policy. Upon Board approval of this program guideline, the award may be approved by WEDC's CEO and does not require further approval by either the Awards Administration Committee or the Board, regardless of the cumulative awards to the approved entity as long as the award for this program does not exceed the Board approved budget.

Applications for the SBIR/STTR Matching Grant program complete an online application at wisconsinsbir.org.

Revision History:

Effective Date	Description of Change
7/1/2019	Clarified performance reporting requirements
7/1/2023	Exempts single-entity program recipients from the standard awards administration policy

PROGRAM REVIEW:

This document has been reviewed by the following parties (Check all that apply):

- Chief Operating Officer
- Chief Legal Officer
- Chief Financial Officer
- Other _____

Senior VP Strategic Investment and Policy: _____ Date 7/20/203

Division Vice President: _____ Date 7/20/203

AUTHORIZED APPROVAL:

CEO or Designee: _____ Date 7/20/203