



Defense Health Agency SBIR/STTR Program: Enabling Biomedical and Healthcare Solutions

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Agency Introduction

- DHA is a joint, integrated Combat Support Agency that enables the Army, Navy, and Air Force medical services to provide a **medically ready force and ready medical force**
- Supports the delivery of integrated, affordable, and high quality health services to more than 10 million Military Health System (MHS) beneficiaries
- Supports the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Health Affairs in management and oversight of Defense Health Program (DHP) RDT&E appropriation (does not execute research efforts)
- Manages and execute S&T funds, ensuring they **align to requirements and are positioned to transition** into formal product development efforts

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DHA SBIR/STTR Programs

- DHA SBIR/STTR Annual budget:
 - FY22 SBIR \$66.7 Million, FY22 STTR \$9.4 Million
- Provide Phase I and Phase II funding opportunities
- Direct to Phase II, Phase II Enhancement, and Sequential Phase II mechanisms are also utilized on a limited basis
- In-house transition assistance through a Technical Assistance Advocate begins at the awarding of a Phase I contract
- Topics align to broader research program areas, which is important to supporting transition into product development
- Topics typically appear on the DoD SBIR/STTR main BAA cycles, but special cycles may be issued; be certain to join the DoD SBIR/STTR mailing list on DSIP

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Biomedical R&D Investment Approach

Primarily targeted in areas, or environments, that are militarily unique for which there are limited or no commercial partners or interests

- The DoD leads in key biomedical research areas: e.g. prolonged field care, en route care, forward surgical/intensive critical care, hemorrhage control and blood products
- The DoD leverages in areas where commercial technologies exist and can be tailored for military use: e.g. medical simulation and training, diagnostic systems, pain management, infectious diseases
- The DoD watches areas of emerging interest: e.g. Medical Radiological Defense and other tech areas like Artificial Intelligence

How can we apply this approach?

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RDT&E Major Investment Areas



Military Operational Medicine

- Musculoskeletal injury prevention and reduction
- Blunt, blast, accelerative, and neurosensory injury prevention and readiness
- Psychological health & resilience
- Performance in extreme environments
- Optimized cognition & fatigue mitigation



Combat Casualty Care

- Neurotrauma
- Hemorrhage control & battlefield resuscitation
- Prolonged Care
- Severe burn
- En Route Care
- Autonomous care & evacuation
- Radiation health countermeasures
- Sustainment of medical expeditionary skills
- Military medical photonics



Military Infectious Diseases

- Viral
- Bacterial
- Wound Healing

Recent DHA SBIR/STTR Topic Examples

- **Military Infectious Diseases**

- Rapid Purification for Therapeutic Use of Bacteriophages That Target Gram-Negative Bacterial Species
- Material Solutions to Bacteriophage Stabilization/Application in Austere Environments

- **Military Operational Medicine**

- Remote Frostbite Prevention System
- Olfactory Neuroepithelium Functional Diagnostic Tool

- **Combat Casualty Care**

- Medicated Combat Tourniquet Capable of Wound Infection Treatment Delivery
- Dissolvable Materials for Photochemical Tissue Bonding

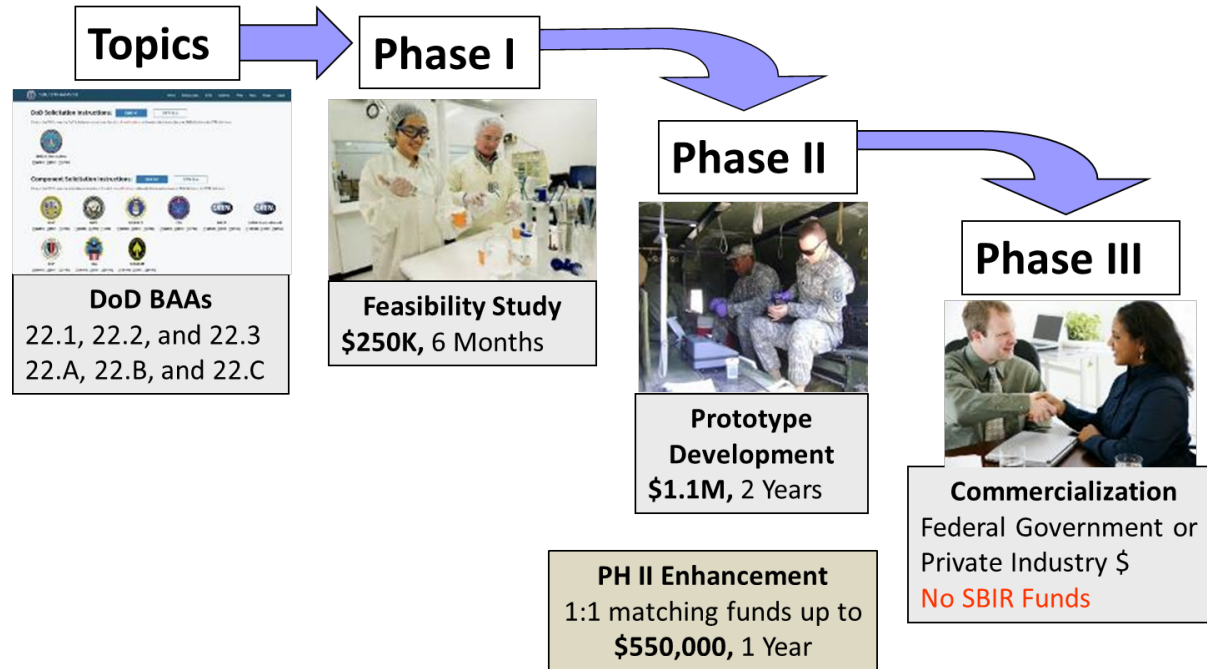
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DHA SBIR/STTR Process Flow



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DoD SBIR/STTR BAAs

- DoD SBIR/STTR Office establishes six DoD SBIR/STTR Broad Agency Announcements (BAA) and respective mandated dates, as well as special cycle opportunities
- BAAs are numbered chronologically. For FY2022, 3 SBIR BAAs published: 21.1, 22.2, and 22.4*

SBIR 22.1 STTR 22.A	SBIR 22.2 STTR 22.B	SBIR 22.4 STTR 22.D
Pre-Release 1 Dec 21	Pre-Release 19 Apr 22	Pre-Release 10 Mar 22
Open 12 Jan 22	Open 17 May 22	Open 24 Mar 22
Close 10 Feb 22	Close 15 June 22	Close 28 Apr 22

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* Special cycle



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Proposal Tips

- Read the BAA thoroughly
- Take advantage of the pre-release period of the Broad Agency Announcement when you can contact topic authors directly
- Don't miss critical Phase II proposal information on the topic
 - You are never just proposing to the Phase I—the Phase I is intended to prove the feasibility of your approach to Phase II
- Phase III is the author's working concept of the future state of the technology, but it is always a good idea to identify additional commercial potential.
- Submit early!
- Ultimately, successful DHA SBIR and STTR efforts must demonstrate a better/faster/cheaper approach with a meaningful non-DoD market and attention to fielding specifics

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Questions?



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