

# EPA SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH

## PROGRAM HIGHLIGHTS



June 9, 2020

### ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### [2020-2021 EPA SBIR Phase I Solicitation Opens Soon](#)

The 2020-2021 SBIR Phase I Solicitation is anticipated to open later this month. Topics for this year's solicitation include innovative technologies in the research areas of clean and safe water, air quality, land revitalization, homeland security, sustainable materials management, and safer chemicals. Find more solicitation information and proposed research topics [here](#).

The EPA SBIR team is hosting an [informational webinar](#) on Wednesday June 17 at 11AM (EDT). This webinar will provide an overview of the EPA SBIR program, explain the application process, and discuss this year's research topics. Participants will also have the chance to ask questions to the SBIR Program Manager. Register for the webinar [here](#).

#### [EPA Awards \\$3 million to Small Businesses](#)

EPA [announced](#) \$3 million in funding to nine small businesses as part of Phase II of the SBIR Program. Recipients of Phase II funding receive up to \$400,000 to develop their novel environmental technologies for marketplace. This year's Phase II [recipients](#) are providing innovative solutions to major environmental concerns including PFAS, air quality due to wildfires, and toxic chemicals.

#### [Intellectual Property Webinars for SBIR/STTR Awardees](#)

The United States Patent and Trademark Office and the U.S. Small Business Administration are hosting a series of webinars for SBIR/STTR small businesses to understand intellectual property. These 90-minute webinars address the most common IP issues small businesses face, including a discussion of patents, trade secrets, trademarks, and copyrights. Space is limited, so register early. Find more information and registration instructions [here](#).

#### [Anaerobic Digestion Funding Opportunity](#)

EPA announced a new funding opportunity to support anaerobic digestion in communities. [This opportunity](#) seeks applications that will accelerate the development of new or enhance existing anaerobic digestion capacity and infrastructure in the United States. Applications are due July 14, 2020. Find out more information about this funding opportunity [here](#).

### EPA SBIR SMALL BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

**Ecovative**, an SBIR Phase II small business, has been working with [Green Futures Lab](#) at the University of Washington to develop bio-based [floating wetlands](#) for the purpose of nutrient sequestration in waterways which are susceptible to eutrophication. While several floating wetland solutions are available, materials used to support plant life and provide buoyancy are generally petroleum based and can lead to plastics pollution. Over the last two years, Green Futures Lab has been evaluating Ecovative's mycelium-based Mycofoam panels as the growth medium for sequestering plants in their bio-based floating wetlands. These Mycofoam panels have been found to support sequestering plant-life and aquatic bioactivity in the at-risk waterways.

**NEXT EPA SBIR SOLICITATION  
ANTICIPATED OPENING:  
June 2020**

If you are interested in applying to SBIR, start early with your required registrations. For more information:

<https://www.epa.gov/sbir/how-apply-sbir-contract>

The EPA's mission is to protect human health and the environment. EPA's Small Business Research Innovation Program supports small businesses to develop and commercialize novel environmental technologies that support this mission.

#### PHASE I:

Phase I awards are \$100,000 for six months for "proof of concept" of the technology.

#### PHASE II:

Phase II awards are up to \$400,000 for two years to further develop and commercialize the technology. Phase II companies that obtain qualifying third party investments are eligible for a commercialization option of \$100,000.

#### **EPA SBIR contact:**

April Richards  
[richards.april@epa.gov](mailto:richards.april@epa.gov)

**EPA SBIR:** [www.epa.gov/sbir](http://www.epa.gov/sbir)

**Federal SBIR Information:**  
[www.SBIR.gov](http://www.SBIR.gov)

**Are you an EPA SBIR Small Business with a success to share?**

**We would love to feature your story here!**

