

Montgomery County, Maryland SBIR/STTR Matching Grant Program Guidelines

Are you a business conducting research in biotechnology, medicine, or life sciences in Montgomery County and thinking of applying for an SBIR/STTR award? Have you recently received an SBIR/STTR Phase 1 or Phase 2 award for biotechnology, medical or life sciences research taking place in Montgomery County?

If your answer is “yes” to either one of these questions, you may be eligible for non-dilutive funding through Montgomery County’s SBIR/STTR Matching Grant Program—the only County SBIR/STTR match program of its kind in the country!

Applications for these grants will be accepted **beginning on February 15, 2023, at 9:00 a.m. EST.**

Established in 2018, the County’s SBIR/STTR Matching Grant Program recently was updated to enable more young biotech companies in Montgomery County to secure non-dilutive funding to advance their technologies toward commercialization.

The updated program includes:

SBIR/STTR Phase 0 - Up to \$5,000 reimbursement of technical assistance costs associated with applying for a first SBIR/STTR award.

SBIR/STTR Phase 1 - Up to \$25,000 to SBIR/STTR awardees who have received no more than 2 prior Phase 1 awards.

SBIR/STTR Phase 2 - Up to \$50,000 to SBIR/STTR awardees who have received no more than 4 prior Phase 1 awards and no more than 1 prior Phase 2 award.

See below for additional details about the updated eligibility criteria for each grant Phase and the application process. If you have any questions, please contact Montgomery County SBIR/STTR Matching Grant Program Manager, Derese Bikila at Derese.Bikila@montgomerycountymd.gov or BusinessCenter@montgomerycountymd.gov

Use of Funds and Application – Phase 0 Awards:

Phase 0 grants are intended to help qualified companies obtain their first SBIR/STTR Phase 1 award.

Phase 0 applicants must submit documentation of their retaining technical assistance to assist them with writing an SBIR/STTR application after December 27, 2022, and of their subsequent submission of that application, and the related expenses. Applications for Phase 0 grants will be accepted on a first-come-first-served basis beginning with submissions to the application portal on the County Business Center website (www.MontgomeryCountyMD.gov) after 9:00 a.m. February 15, 2023.

Eligibility Criteria – Phase 0 Awards:

A business is eligible to receive the SBIR/STTR Phase 0 matching grant if:

1. The business is in Good Standing with the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT).

1. The business has Qualified Reimbursable Expenses related to a submitted SBIR/STTR Phase 1 proposal.
2. The SBIR/STTR grant will assist the business in conducting research in medicine, biotechnology, or life sciences.
3. At least 51% of this research and development being conducted is in Montgomery County.
4. The business has a maximum of 20 employees at the time of the application.
5. The business has been in operation for less than or equal to **five years**.
6. The business has received no prior (0) SBIR/STTR award.

Use of Funds and Application – SBIR/STTR Phase 1 and 2 Awards

Phase 1 and Phase 2 grants are intended to help SBIR/STTR awardees advance their technologies toward commercialization more quickly through successful funding and technology commercialization strategies.

Eligible applicants of a SBIR or STTR Phase 1 grant, may receive a matching grant of 25% of the award, up to a maximum of \$25,000. Fifty percent (50%) of the matching grant amount may be used for reimbursement of the awardee's incurred expenses attributable to technical assistance, investment assistance, or commercialization assistance as defined in Section 2 of this Executive Regulation. The applicant may not use the matching grant for any expenditures reimbursed by other Federal or State funding sources.

Eligible applicants of a SBIR or STTR Phase 2 grant may receive a matching grant of 25%, up to a maximum of \$50,000. Fifty percent (50%) of the matching grant amount may be used for reimbursement of the awardee's incurred expenses attributable to technical assistance, investment assistance, or commercialization assistance as defined in Section 2 of this Executive Regulation. The applicant may not use the matching grant for any expenditures reimbursed by other Federal or State funding sources.

Applications for SBIR/STTR Phase 1 and 2 Award matching grants by qualified companies who have received notification of their SBIR/STTR Phase 1 or Phase 2 in the current fiscal year (as of July 1, 2022), will be made on a first come-first served basis beginning at 9:00 a.m. February 15, 2023.

Eligibility Criteria - Phase 1 or Phase 2

A business is eligible to receive the SBIR/STTR Phase 1 or Phase 2 matching grant if:

1. The Business is in Good Standing with the Maryland Department of Assessments and Taxation (SDAT).
2. The business has been awarded an SBIR/STTR Phase 1 or Phase 2 grant in the current fiscal year (as of July 1, 2022).
3. The SBIR/STTR grant assists the business in conducting research in medicine, biotechnology, or life sciences.
4. At least 51% of this research and development being conducted is in Montgomery County.
5. The business has a maximum of 20 employees at the time of the application

Additional Phase 1 Criteria

6. The business has been in operation for less than or equal to **five years**
7. The business has received a maximum of two (2) Phase 1 and zero (0) Phase 2 in prior awards

Additional Phase 2 Criteria

6. The business has been in operation for less than or equal to **seven years**
7. The business has received a maximum of four (4) Phase 1 and one (1) Phase 2 in prior awards