



OFFICE OF VICE PRESIDENT FOR RESEARCH PLEASE DISSEMINATE TO ALL FACULTY

ALS Finding a Cure Call for Proposals in Early Diagnostics

Shockingly, more than 150 years after the disease was first defined, there are currently no universally accepted diagnostic approaches for ALS. In order to receive an ALS diagnosis patients must first undergo a battery of tests designed to rule out other diagnoses. This is highly problematic because it can take a year for an ALS patient to receive the correct diagnosis (and sometimes even longer). While these individuals are searching for a name for their affliction, they are frequently bounced to multiple doctors, can receive unnecessary (and expensive) surgical procedures and medications, and sadly can become ineligible for ALS clinical trials. The ALS field urgently needs to close this gap!

Given this critical need in the field, ALSFAC is pleased to issue an open call for proposals designed to encourage the identification of early diagnostic markers of ALS. We are particularly interested in encouraging diverse and multidisciplinary research teams to attack this problem.

Examples of approaches that might be supported by this request for proposals include, but are not limited to, the following:

- Digital Diagnostics (including video-based)
- Imaging Diagnostics
- Electrodiagnostics
- Biosample-based Diagnostics (fluid or tissue)
- Other diagnostic approaches (breath analysis, risk-factor analysis, cognitive/behavioral phenotyping, other modeling, etc)

Applications open: October 17, 2023

Applications due: January 16, 2023

Funding to start: Q2, 2023

Submit to: <https://app.box.com/f/6332c1c7e65b46969236884f37cf7535>

Grants are for the support of 3-year proposals of up to \$500,000 USD total (inclusive of a maximum of 15% in indirect costs). Support will not normally exceed 3 years and applicants should submit proposals that are compatible with a 3-year time frame. The continuation of funding within this period will be subject to the submission of satisfactory progress reports, which will be required at six-month intervals.

Application Process

1. Please provide a cover letter addressed to ALS Finding a Cure and the Leandro P. Rizzuto Foundation including:

- Proposal Title
- Total costs (15% overhead cap)
- Number of milestones and related costs (to equal amount above)
- List of all investigators and institutions
- Name and contact information for person(s) responsible for contracts
- Address for mailing of payments

2. Provide a study plan including:

- A brief abstract suitable for media release to the lay public if the application is successful
- Project Plan, Background, and Timeline (max. 5 pages) including:
 - Study background and rationale/significance
 - Study objectives/specific aims
 - Supporting/preliminary data;
 - Experimental design/research plan;
 - Detailed itemized budget and budget justification
 - Description of study milestones, including the costs associated and timeline of specific deliverables
- Any research funding from other funding sources that relates to the proposed work

3. Signed and dated investigator CVs

4. Financial Disclosure Form: *use either NIH form* (<https://ethics.od.nih.gov/forms450>), *or institutional form*. Please submit questions to info@alsfac.org To learn more about ALS Finding a Cure [click here](#)

- [2021 STTR Phase II Selection](#): Announced September 9, 2022
- [2022 M-STTR Selections](#): Announced October 25, 2022
- [2022 SBIR Phase I Ignite Selections](#): Announced November 17, 2022
- [2022 SBIR Phase II Submissions](#): December 13, 2022 – January 25, 2023

- **FY23 CCRPP Submissions:** December 13, 2022 – February 15, 2023
- **2023 SBIR & STTR Phase I Solicitations:** Scheduled for January 10 – March 13, 2023

**All dates subject to change*

NASA Awards Foster Small Business Tech with Market Potential



In addition to funding emerging technologies that have potential to support its missions, NASA also invests in commercially viable ideas that could bolster the aerospace market and encourage U.S. economic growth. In 2022, the NASA SBIR/STTR program piloted [SBIR Ignite](#), a new opportunity for U.S. small businesses to receive funding for technology concepts with strong commercial relevance. The 2022 round of awards will distribute nearly \$2 million among 12 selected companies. For nine of these companies, this is their first time working with the NASA SBIR program.

[Read selection announcement](#)

Prepare Now for the CCRPP Funding Opportunity

The NASA SBIR/STTR program is again offering the Civilian Commercialization Readiness Pilot Program (CCRPP) for Fiscal Year 2023. This CCRPP is open to companies with prior NASA SBIR/STTR Phase II awards resulting from Phase I awards starting in Program Year 2012 or later and whose Phase II period of performance is complete by February 15, 2023. This opportunity is also open to firms with ongoing or completed NASA SBIR/STTR Sequential Phase II awards.

The FY23 CCRPP Application Period will be open from **December 13, 2022**, through **February 15, 2023**. **To be eligible for a CCRPP award, your company must submit a letter of commitment from an investor.** NASA is providing you early CCRPP application information so that you have time to look for investors.

[Learn more about CCRPP](#)

Phase II Extended (II-E) Funding Option: January Deadline

The Phase II Extended (Phase II-E) Option encourages the advancement of innovations developed under Phase II and requires a small business to secure an external investor. **NASA may match the external investor funds with SBIR/STTR funds, on a 1-to-1 basis, up to \$375,000 for a combined Post Phase II funding level of \$750,000.**

The time period for submitting a SBIR or STTR Phase II-E proposal starts after the 12th month of your Phase II contract execution date and ends 60 days before the Phase II contract expiration date.

Currently, selections for the SBIR/STTR Phase II-E proposals occur approximately every 2 months (subject to change). Proposals received by **January 10, 2023** will be considered for the next cycle of awards at the end of January.

[Learn more about Phase II-E](#)

Potential Post Phase II Investor: NASA Flight Opportunities

NASA's Flight Opportunities program is a potential Post Phase II investor in support of suborbital flight testing to advance development or commercialization of technologies.

Learn more about Flight Opportunities' Phase II-E funding: go.nasa.gov/2Kdkw1e

Events



NASA SBIR/STTR One-on-One Meetings

From December 6 to 8, we are hosting virtual one-on-one meetings for small businesses and research institutions to meet directly with NASA SBIR/STTR experts. All of our meetings are on a first-come, first-serve basis, so keep an eye out on the [scheduling page](#) to book a slot.

NASA SBIR/STTR Dissecting the 2023 Phase I Solicitations Webinar

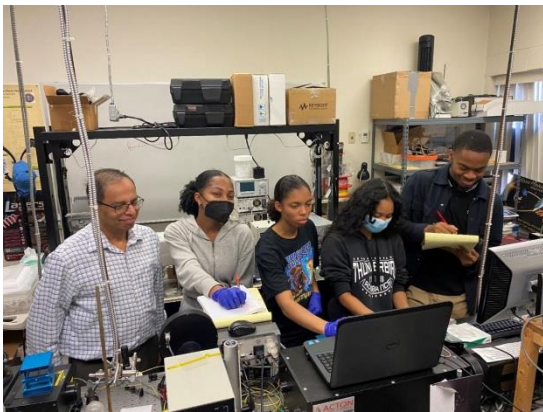
On January 17, the program will be hosting a webinar to help prepare small businesses and research institutions—especially those new to NASA SBIR/STTR or those who have been unsuccessful in previous submissions—to be successful in their submissions to the NASA SBIR/STTR program's 2023 Phase I solicitations. Presenters will explain the organization and structure of the open solicitation documents and highlight best practices and common pitfalls. The link to join will be posted on our [Program Events page](#) and sent via email.

Success Stories

Read about news and successes from some of our SBIR/STTR firms. If you are an SBIR/STTR firm with a success story to share, email us at ARC-SBIR-Outreach@mail.nasa.gov.

Mango Materials partnered with the Colorado School of Mines on NASA STTR awards to adapt a bioreactor system to convert methane into bioplastic for low-gravity environments. Mango Materials received \$6 million through NASA CCRPP, including funds from fashion investors seeking alternatives to plastic-based textiles.

[Read story](#)



In 2022, **Oakwood University**, an HBCU based in Huntsville, Alabama, became a first-time research institution participant in the NASA STTR program. Prior to this, Oakwood University and its small business partner prepared for the solicitation by participating in the pilot M-STTR opportunity. Read the university perspective on how the M-STTR program helped the team form a partnership and prepare for the 2022 STTR solicitation.

[Read story](#)

Other NASA Opportunities and News

[NASA Innovation Corps Pilot](#)

Next deadline for review: November 17, 2022

Following deadline for review: January 20, 2023

[Announcement for Partnership Proposals \(AFPP\) to Advance Tipping Point Technologies](#)

Final proposals due: November 22, 2022

[Space Technology Announcement of Collaboration Opportunity \(ACO\)](#)

Final proposals due: November 22, 2022

[Impact Story: Terrain Relative Navigation](#)

Jezero Crater on Mars is full of hazards such as rocky hills and smaller craters, making it a challenge to land in – until NASA's Mars 2020 mission, when the agency's Perseverance rover did just that with the help of improved navigation technology. Terrain Relative Navigation (TRN), a technology developed by NASA, facilitates increased landing accuracy and helps spacecraft avoid surface hazards.