



# EPA's Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Program

The Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) is one of 10 federal agencies that participate in the SBIR Program established by the Small Business Innovation Development Act of 1982. The purpose of this Act was to strengthen the role of small businesses in federally funded R&D and help develop a stronger national base for technical innovation. **A small business is defined as a for profit organization with no more than 500 employees.** In addition, the small business must be independently owned and operated, not dominant in the field of operation in which it is proposing, and have its principal place of business located in the United States. Joint ventures and limited partnerships are eligible for SBIR awards, provided the entity created qualifies as a small business.

EPA issues annual solicitations for Phase I and Phase II research proposals from science and technology-based firms. Under Phase I, the scientific merit and technical feasibility of the proposed concept is investigated. EPA awards firm-fixed-price Phase I contracts of up to \$100,000 and the period of performance for these contracts is typically 6 or 10 months. Through this phased approach to SBIR funding, EPA can determine whether the research idea, often on high-risk advanced concepts, is technically feasible, whether the firm can do high-quality research, and whether sufficient progress has been made to justify a larger Phase II effort. The Phase I report also serves as a basis for follow-on commitment discussions.

Phase II contracts are limited to small businesses that have successfully completed their Phase I contracts. The objective of Phase II is to further develop the concept proven feasible in Phase I. Competitive awards are based on the results of Phase I and the scientific and technical merit and commercialization potential of the Phase II proposal. In Phase II, EPA can award contracts of \$225,000 or \$295,000 and the period of performance is typically 1 or 2 years. The goal of Phase II is to complete the R&D required to commercialize the technology or product.

**EPA will issue three Phase I Solicitations in 2002—Solicitations for Mobile Sources and for Stormwater/Arsenic will open on January 22, 2002, and close on March 21, 2002. The third Solicitation will cover all remaining EPA topics and will open on March 28, 2002, and close on May 23, 2002.** Last year's solicitation describes the SBIR Program, application requirements, and all research topics. If you need a fax copy or if you have any questions, call the EPA HELPLINE at: **(800) 490-9194**. Last year's solicitation also is available at the EPA Web Site. The three new SBIR solicitations will be available as they open by calling the HELPLINE or by visiting the EPA Web Site at:

<http://www.epa.gov/ncerqa/sbir>



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# **EPA'S SMALL BUSINESS INNOVATION RESEARCH (SBIR) PROGRAM**

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## **NEW PHASE I SOLICITATION SCHEDULE**

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EPA's SBIR program provides financial support to help small science- and technology-based firms develop new environmental technologies and ready them for commercialization. The program targets research to prevent pollution, reduce water and air pollution, manage solid and hazardous wastes, and improve environmental monitoring—in each case, addressing priorities that stem from the Agency's Strategic Plan. In FY 2002, EPA will issue three (3) Phase I Solicitations. There will be two special solicitations—Mobile Sources and Stormwater—and the regular SBIR Solicitation. The special solicitations are designed to meet the pressing needs of EPA's Office of Transportation and Air Quality and EPA Region I. The opening and closing dates are different from the regular solicitation and Phase I contracts will be awarded for \$100,000 over 10 months. The regular solicitation will cover all other EPA research topics and it will NOT include mobile sources or stormwater topics. The FY 2002 Phase I Solicitation Schedule is as follows:

### **CONTROL AND MONITORING OF MOBILE SOURCE EMISSIONS**

(Subtopics: Digital Valve Technology for Engines, Heavy Duty Diesel Engine After-Treatment for NO<sub>x</sub> and Particulate Matter, On-Vehicle Diesel Fuel Sulfur Control, On-Vehicle Real-Time Monitoring, Air Toxics Monitoring and Low Level Particulate Mass Measurement.)

**PHASE I OPENS:     January 31, 2002**

**CLOSING DATE:     March 21, 2002**

### **TECHNOLOGIES FOR STORMWATER, CSOs and ARSENIC in DRINKING WATER**

(Subtopics: Control of Stormwater Runoff and Combined Sewer Overflows (CSOs), In-Situ Treatment of Urban Sediments, Rehabilitation of Urban Infrastructure and Treatment of Arsenic in Drinking Water.)

**PHASE I OPENS:     January 31, 2002**

**CLOSING DATE:     March 21, 2002**

### **REGULAR PHASE I SOLICITATION (Excludes Mobile Sources and Stormwater/Arsenic Subtopics)**

(Subtopics: Nanomaterials and Clean Technology, Control of Air Pollution, Drinking Water and Municipal/Industrial Wastewater Treatment, Solid Waste Recycling, Hazardous Waste Management and Site Remediation, and Monitoring and Measurement Technologies.)

**PHASE I OPENS:     MARCH 28, 2002**

**CLOSING DATE:     MAY 23, 2002**

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