

# EPA Small Business Innovation Research

## Program Highlights

July 13, 2021

## Announcements

### EPA SBIR 2021-2022 Phase I Solicitation Now Open

The [2021-2022 EPA SBIR Phase I solicitation](#) is now to open until August 3. EPA is calling for small businesses to apply for Phase I awards up to \$100,000 to demonstrate proof of concept in the following topic areas: clean and safe water, air quality, homeland security, sustainable materials management, safer chemicals and risk assessment. See the full solicitation posted on FedConnect to learn more about the specific topic areas and to access application instructions.

Want more information on how to apply for the current EPA SBIR Phase I solicitation? View the [presentation slides and Q&A](#) from the EPA SBIR informational webinar or explore the How to Apply guide [here](#).

### EPA SBIR Manufacturing Projects Highlight

Over the past decade, the EPA SBIR program has supported numerous projects to develop and commercialize innovative technologies that will help improve manufacturing. Check out [this article](#) to learn more about these projects.

### Attend the Virtual 2021 National SBIR Week

The 2021 National SBIR Week is being held July 19-July 23. This virtual, collaborative outreach effort aims to connect technology entrepreneurs with SBIR/STTR programs- the country's largest source of early stage funding. Attendees will have the chance to hear directly from participating federal agency program managers. Find more details and register [here](#).

## SBIR Small Business Spotlight

[Aquagga Inc.](#), an EPA SBIR small business out of Alaska, was recently [announced](#) as a winner of EPA's *Innovative Ways to Destroy PFAS Challenge*. Dr. Brian Pinkard, Chief Technology Officer and Co-Founder at Aquagga Inc, won first prize of \$40,000 for a hydrothermal processing concept that uses high-temperature and high-pressure water to dispose of PFAS-contaminated waste onsite that may be applicable for aqueous film forming foam. Aquagga's [SBIR project](#) is focused on developing and commercializing this innovative hydrothermal process to treat PFAS contaminated water.

[XploSafe, LLC](#), an EPA SBIR small business out of Oklahoma, was [announced](#) as a winner of the EPA's *2021 Green Chemistry Challenge* in the small business category. They developed PhosRox, a novel sorbent capable of simultaneously capturing ammonia, phosphate, and nitrate from wastewater that can then be applied as a time-release fertilizer. Read more about XploSafe's award-winning innovation [here](#) and learn about their [EPA SBIR project](#) that led to this technology development.

**EPA SBIR SOLICITATION  
NOW OPEN:**

**June 16, 2021 - August 3, 2021**

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 Innovation Research 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.

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

### Federal SBIR Information:

[www.SBIR.gov](http://www.SBIR.gov)

### EPA SBIR ALUMNI: Share your story.

If you're a former EPA SBIR awardee whose technology has made an impact, we want to hear from you. Contact [Richards.April@epa.gov](mailto:Richards.April@epa.gov) and share any successes your technology or small business has experienced since your EPA SBIR award.

