

# Technical and Business Assistance (TABA) Overview and Listening Session

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# (q) Discretionary Technical Assistance



- Created by the 2011 SBIR reauthorization
- Granted agencies the ability to enter agreements with a vendor to provide SBCs with technical assistance services
  - Making better technical decisions concerning such projects;
  - Solving technical problems which arise during the conduct of such projects;
  - Minimizing technical risks associated with such projects; and
  - Developing and commercializing new commercial products and processes resulting from such projects.
- SBCs could request technical assistance from an individual or entity other than the vendor selected by the agency
- Amounts:
  - Phase I: NTE \$5,000 per year
  - Phase II: NTE \$5,000 per year, which shall be in addition to the amount of the recipients award

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- Vendor selection for agency and SBC: one or more vendors
- Technical and business assistance – adds the following: product sales, IP protections, market research, market validation, development of regulatory plans and manufacturing plans
- Amount of TABA
  - Phase I: an amount equal to not more than \$6,500 per year
  - Phase II: an amount equal to not more than \$50,000 per project
  - Which may, as determined appropriate by the head of the Federal agency, be included as part of the recipient's award or be in addition to the amount of the recipient's award
- Flexibility
  - Business and Technical, 1 or more vendors
  - Business-related services aimed at improving the commercialization success of a small business concern may be obtained from an entity, such as a public or private organization or an agency of or other entity established or funded by a State that facilitates or accelerates the commercialization of technologies or assists in the creation and growth of private enterprises that are commercializing technology

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- Multiple Award Recipients
  - SBA shall establish a limit on the amount of technical and business assistance services that may be received or purchased by a SBC that has received multiple Phase II SBIR or STTR awards for a fiscal year
- Annual Reporting on TABA
  - SBC shall submit to the Federal agency contracting with the vendor a description of the technical or business assistance provided and the benefits and results of the technical or business assistance provided
    - Applied to SBC's with an award for which the requirement was in effect on the day of enactment (8/13/18)
  - Not later than the end of FY19, SBA shall:
    - Conduct a survey of vendors providing TABA
    - Submit a report to Congress reviewing the efficacy of the provision of the technical or business assistance

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