Go for the Gold: Path to a Fundable Fast-Track Or Direct-to-Phase II



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Developing the Commercialization Plan

- SBIR grants are meant to support research projects on commercially viable Products
- The Commercialization Plan (CP) should be based on a company's Business Plan
- Goal of the CP is to convince reviewers that:
 - Product meets a compelling need
 - You know how to develop and commercialize the Product
 - You have, or can access, the requisite expertise and resources
- Maximum of 12 pages
- Required for Fast-track, Phase II Competing Continuations, Direct-to-Phase II and Phase IIB applications
- Instructions in SF424 Application Guide (p. B-108) (<u>https://grants.nih.gov/grants/how-to-apply-application-guide/forms-f/sbir-sttr-forms-f.pdf</u>)

Impact on the Overall Application

- Commercialization Plan contributes primarily to "Significance" score of proposal
- Potential to lead to marketable product that will have beneficial impact in field of use: Changing the ______ paradigm
- Scoring criteria may change with funding opportunity
- Talk to program officers
- Does NOT Replace the Research Strategy
- Commercialization Plan can also impact the four other review criterion scores: Innovation, Team, Approach, and Environment

Seven Components of the Commercialization Plan

- I. Value of Project, Expected Outcomes & Impact
- II. Company
- III. Market, Customer & Competition
- IV. Intellectual Property (IP) Protection
- V. Finance Plan
- VI. Production & Marketing Plan
- VII. Revenue Stream

I. Value of Project, Expected Outcomes & Impact

Describe the relative value of the Product (the value proposition) and how you intend to bring it to market

- What need are you trying to address? Quantitative ways your product uniquely addresses such need?
- How does the Product fit with your overall business goal(s)?
- What hurdles will you encounter?
- How do you plan to address hurdles and achieve your goals?

I. Value of Project, Expected Outcomes & Impact: Plan

Outline of a Product development plan, including key milestones and a timeline – Gantt Chart



II. Company

- Core Competencies
 - What are your (unique) capabilities?
- Team (Beyond the project team)
 - Leadership, Boards & staff
 - Advisers & consultants
- Corporate Objectives
 - What do you want to be when you grow up?
 - Transition from R&D company to commercial entity
 - Describe funds received to date and what you've done with them

Articulate a clear vision for your company

III. Market, Customers and Competition: Revenues

Estimating Sales Revenues:

Calculate forward:

- Number of patients with specific Dx or Tx need
- Does product address entire segment or a subset? (the "Addressable Market")
- Assume a "reasonable" time-dependent rate of market penetration (the "Accessible Market")
- Estimate price: Use current cost per year to diagnose or treat patients as a basis

Revenues = Accessible Market x Price

III. Market, <u>Customers</u> and Competition: Questions

Customers: Patients, Physicians, Payers

- What **specialists** diagnose & treat the disease?
 - How do they make money?
- Where is disease diagnosed, monitored & treated?
 - Office, hospital, clinic, home
- Who **buys** the product?
 - Patient, clinic, physician
- Is product covered by insurance?
 - CMS, private insurers

III. Market, Customers and Competition: Benefits

Competitive Advantage

	Important Benefit 1	Important Benefit 2	Important Benefit 3	Important Benefit 4
Our Product	++++	+	+++	++++
Current Competitors	*		**	**
Upcoming Competitors	**	*	***	***

IV. Intellectual Property Protection

- Patents for most biomedical products but trade secrets and copyrights may be more relevant for some products
- List patents covering Product and describe the claims
- Who owns the patents?
 - If not Company, describe rights to practice the patents
- How will you protect Project-related inventions?
- How will you expand patent coverage after Project period?
- Other options for commercial exclusivity? e.g.,
 - Regulatory exclusivity
 - Exclusive supply agreements

V. Finance Plan

- How much funding will be needed to develop the Product?
 - Key development milestones tie to Gantt chart
 - Cost to achieve milestones
- How do you plan to secure the required funding?
 - Be as specific as possible
 - Describe discussions with potential investors and partners
- Include letters of support, where appropriate

VI. Production and Marketing Plan

Preclinical testing

- Mfg scale-up
- Regulatory

Discovery

COST

- Prototype dev
- Lab validation
- Patents \rightarrow

Clinical testing

- Manufacturing
- Regulatory
- Market analysis
- Branding, TM
- Medical education
- Reimbursement

Commercial launch

- Regulatory
- Manufacturing
- Reimbursement
- Marketing & sales



VII. Revenue Stream

- How will you (or licensor) generate revenues if the project is successful?
 - Includes direct sales, contracting revenues, licensing revenues, and joint ventures
- Revenue stream projections should correlate closely with all other commercialization plan sections
- Demonstrate that you understand staffing requirements and expansion needed to obtain projected revenues

If You Weren't Funded on the First Try

Rejection is painful, but feedback provides a roadmap for next steps.

- Carefully review the Summary Statement (written critiques).
 - Discuss the Summary Statement with your NIH Program Officer.
 - Use reviewer comments to improve your application.
- Revise and resubmit the application.
 - Introduction Page: Respond to reviewer critiques.
 - Be constructive, NOT defensive.
 - Success rate for resubmissions is **26.3%** compared to **12.5%** for non-resubmissions in FY20 thus far*
- Learn more about SBIR/STTR grants.
 - Talk to successful applicants.
 - Understand the review process and dynamics: <u>http://csr.nih.gov</u>



Application Resources

- Small Business Resources:
 - Sample Applications:
 - <u>NIA</u> <u>NCI</u> <u>NIAID</u>
 - <u>Commercialization Plan Outline (NIDA)</u>
 - <u>Application Infographic</u>
 - <u>SBIR/STTR Application Guide & Annotated Forms</u>
- <u>NIH RePORTER</u>: Database of NIH-Supported Research
- <u>NIH Success Stories</u>
- IC SBIR/STTR Contacts

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Questions & Discussions







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Commercialization Plan – Business Model Canvas

