

# Arrowhead Center SBIR Accelerator (ACSA)

Applications are due June 25th

Notices will be sent out July 2nd

[Apply Today](#)

## Real-time Support for SBIR Proposal Package Preparation.

Timing matters. Run concurrently with the United State Department of Agriculture's (USDA) SBIR open submission window, Arrowhead Center's SBIR Accelerator (ACSA) provides the structure and support you need to put together a strong proposal package.

Do you have a transformative technology or innovative idea with commercial potential?

[APPLY HERE](#)

## The ACSA Model

Putting together a strong SBIR proposal takes time. Drawing on the resources and expertise of NM FAST, ACSA provides a guided, structured track of support, from registration to submission. Throughout the 12-week program, participants will receive guidance on areas such as aligning to a USDA priority area, creating actionable Letters of Support, and creating a complete proposal package that adheres to USDA requirements. Each week focuses on an aspect of proposal package development and culminates with a submission to [USDA](#).

Weekly, participants can expect to:

- Attend a virtual meeting
- Complete a portion of their proposal package
- Receive feedback, guidance, and support from NM FAST

This ACSA agency-specific program focuses on the USDA's SBIR program. The USDA SBIR Program focuses on supporting high quality research related to important scientific problems and opportunities in agriculture that could lead to significant public benefits. USDA funds innovative ideas across a wide spectrum of topics related to agriculture, food safety, crop production, livestock production and ranching, and even rural development. USDA also allows for submissions that deal with agriculturally related manufacturing and alternative and renewable energy technologies across all SBIR topic areas.

Through the ACSA program, you'll receive targeted support on the following areas of proposal development:

- Registrations
- Project Pitch
- Topic matching
- Letter(s) of support
- Forms
- Grant writing
- Budget creation

The NM FAST program will help you facilitate a meeting or phone call with an appropriate USDA program director, conduct a professional review of your completed proposal package, and be on-call during the submission process.

## The Team



**Del Mackey**  
Economic Development Officer  
Arrowhead Center

A member of the NM FAST team for five years, Del has extensive experience in helping clients prepare SBIR/STTR proposal packages for every agency.



**Dan Suhr**  
Owner and President  
Independent Platform

Since 2006, Dan Suhr has been instrumental in securing and performing SBIR Phase I and II grants from the NIH, NSF, and USDA for employers, clients and his own company. In addition to his corporate responsibilities, Dan is a proposal/plan writing workshop instructor, Coach of startup clients, and moderator of topic-specific workshops

## Tailored Benefits

### Targeted Support

Our team will walk you through the USDA SBIR proposal development process, from start to finish.

### Professional Review

Having a third party review your proposal is critical. The ACSA program has SBIR experts on-hand to review and provide constructive feedback before you submit.

### Connect

Putting together a quality SBIR proposal package can be overwhelming. We use a cohort-style approach to build a community of innovators working towards a shared goal (Don't worry: your technology will be covered by a non-disclosure agreement).

We will also connect you to experts – those who live and breathe SBIR – throughout the program. Expect to talk to USDA program managers, DCAA compliance experts, past reviewers, and more.

**We are looking for small businesses working on innovative ideas with commercial potential, that align with USDA SBIR/STTR guidelines.**

Requirements include:

#### SBIR Program Eligibility:

- Having 500 or fewer employees;
- Being independently owned and operated and organized for profit;
- Having your principal place of business in the U.S.;
- Being at least 51% owned by U.S. citizens or lawfully admitted permanent resident aliens;
- Performing all work within the U.S.;
- Having the Principal Investigator (PI) spend more than one-half of their time employed by the proposing firm; and,
- Having a minimum of two-thirds of the research work performed by the proposing firm in Phase I and one-half in Phase II.

#### To participate in ACSA, additional requirements must be met:

- Business must be based in New Mexico; and
- Business cannot have won a SBIR from USDA in the past two years.

## Timeline

Informational Webinar	June 9, 2021
Application Deadline	June 25, 2021
Acceptance Notices Sent	July 2, 2021
First Day of ACSA	July 14, 2021
Last Day of ACSA	September 29, 2021

### Application Deadline



## Frequently Asked Questions

- [How much does ACSA cost?](#)
- [I don't live in Las Cruces - can I still participate?](#)
- [What is the time commitment for participation?](#)
- [I don't have grant writing experience - can I still participate?](#)
- [Does participation in ACSA guarantee me a SBIR award?](#)

This accelerator is an initiative of the NM FAST program, which is funded in part by the U.S. Small Business Administration



## Contact Us

Name

Email Address

Message

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