



**FISCAL YEAR 2025 REPORT ON THE COMMITMENT,  
DISBURSEMENT, AND USE OF FUNDS**

As Required by § 143B-437.83 of the  
North Carolina General Statutes

<b>Citation of Law or Resolution:</b>	S.L. 2009-451
<b>Section Number:</b>	Section 14.5(c)
<b>Due:</b>	September 1, 2025

**Receiving Entities:**

The Joint Legislative Commission on Governmental Operations

The Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Finance Committees

The Chairs of the House of Representatives and Senate Appropriations Committees

The Fiscal Research Division of the General Assembly

**Submitting Entity:**

The Board of Science, Technology & Innovation of the North Carolina Department of  
Commerce

## BACKGROUND

The federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Programs, referred to as *America's Seed Fund*, grant competitive awards to small businesses for Phase I proof-of-principle research and development (R&D) and Phase II early-stage product development.

The SBIR program is a highly competitive, merit-based award system designed to stimulate technological innovation, strengthen the role of small businesses in meeting federal R&D needs, and increase private sector commercialization of innovations derived from federal R&D. Enacted in 1982 as part of the Small Business Innovation Development Act (and then reauthorized multiple times since then), the SBIR program requires federal agencies with more than \$100 million in extramural R&D to allocate a percentage of their budgets exclusively for small businesses. This set-aside began in 1983 at 2% and is currently 3.2%, resulting in \$3.95 billion in awards in fiscal year 2023<sup>1</sup> to small businesses R&D. Participating agencies include: Department of Defense (DoD); Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS); Department of Energy (DOE); Department of Agriculture (USDA); National Science Foundation (NSF); National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA); Department of Homeland Security (DHS); Department of Transportation (DOT); Environmental Protection Agency (EPA); Department of Education (DE); and Department of Commerce (DOC) (see *chart showing One North Carolina Small Business Program Matching Awards by Phase I SBIR/STTR Granting Agency, FY 2006-2025, on page 7*).

The STTR program is like the SBIR program, but its unique feature is its *requirement* that the small business work jointly with a non-profit research institution. A minimum of 40% of the work must be performed by the small business and a minimum of 30% by the non-profit research institution. Such institutions include federally funded research and development centers (FFRDCs), universities, university-affiliated hospitals, and other non-profits. Established by Title II of the Small Business Research and Development Enhancement Act of 1992, Public Law 102-564, the STTR program requires federal agencies with more than \$1 billion of extramural R&D to reserve 0.45% of their budgets for R&D small businesses and their partners. This set-aside currently resulted in \$537 million in awards for fiscal year 2023.<sup>1</sup>

The One North Carolina Small Business Program (hereinafter “the Program”) — the subject of this report—entails two State-funded programs: the **SBIR/STTR Phase I Matching Funds Program** and the **SBIR/STTR Phase I Incentive Funds Program**.<sup>2</sup> North Carolina is among a handful of innovative states that have seen the value of leveraging federal SBIR/STTR funds with State support of this type.

This report provides FY 2025 (7/1/2024-6/30/2025) commitment and disbursement information for both the Matching Funds Program and the Incentive Funds Program. Due to federal grant delays this year, the Board of Science, Technology, & Innovation (which administers the Program) voted unanimously to extend the Matching Program Solicitation through July 31, 2025. Those awards are also included in this report. However, the distribution amounts reported are inclusive of the fiscal year, not the solicitation period. Information about previous fiscal years is available in previously submitted year-end reports.

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<sup>1</sup> 2023 is the latest year for which comprehensive data are available.

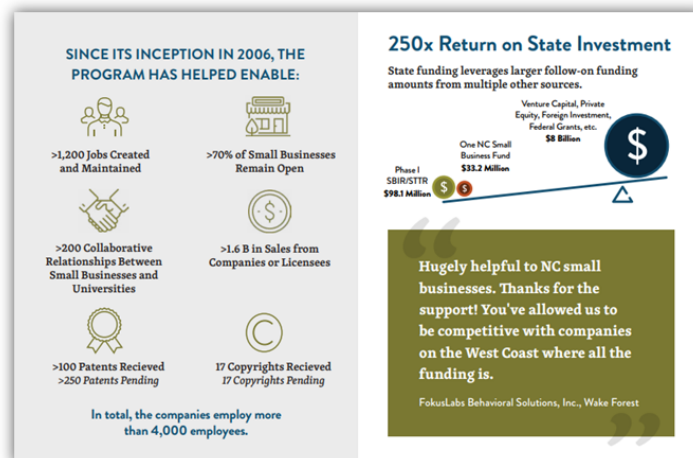
<sup>2</sup> Descriptions of both programs are provided later in this report on pages 5, and 15, respectively.

## PROGRAM IMPACT

Between FY 2006 and FY 2025, 920 grants, totaling more than \$41.7 million, were issued to North Carolina small businesses.<sup>3</sup> As measured in a comprehensive evaluation of the Program in 2023,<sup>4</sup> this support has helped enable:

- The creation and retention of nearly 2,000 private sector jobs statewide – more to come as more companies benefit and grow. Together, the small businesses employ more than 4,000 employees.
- 514 small businesses [as of FY2025] to develop innovative new technologies, most of which have been commercialized, including biotechnologies, nanotechnologies, medical technologies, computer software, military/defense technologies, agricultural technologies, pharmaceuticals, textiles, and other high-tech applications.
- More than 70 percent of the small businesses remain in operation.
- The small businesses attract more than \$8 billion in external investment, including follow-on federal funds.
- 60 percent of North Carolina matching grant winners to win Phase II federal grant awards, each with a considerably larger average value of \$1 million (nationally, 54 percent of Phase I award winners graduate to Phase II awards).
- The development of hundreds of items of intellectual property (e.g., patents, copyrights).
- The small businesses produce more than \$1.6 billion in sales or licenses.
- Hundreds of significant technology/business-development collaborative relationships between North Carolina universities & businesses.

Most of these companies are small and still growing, albeit rapidly. Thus, these impacts will spur expansion.



<sup>3</sup> This includes 289 Incentive grants, totaling \$1,709,139.95, and 631 Matching grants, totaling \$40,070,864.78. Information on grants in previous years is available in previously submitted year-end reports.

<sup>4</sup> The Board of Science, Technology & Innovation conducts a comprehensive, in-depth evaluation of the Program every two years. The latest evaluation of this type was conducted in 2023.

## TESTIMONIALS

*"State Matching Funds from the One North Carolina Small Business Program helped the company cover SBIR-related overhead during lean production times, allowing it to expand its workforce and grow."*

United Protective Technologies, Locust, NC – Stanly County  
Received \$139,861 SBIR Award from Department of Defense (Navy)

*"With the resources [from the One N.C. Small Business Program] we are able to continue our PCB fabrication, product prototyping, and business development efforts to secure partners. It has allowed us to also go to trade shows to demonstrate the promise of our solution."*

C3I Tech, LLC, High Point, NC – Guilford County  
Received \$249,524 SBIR Award from Department of Defense (Army)

*"The program successfully met its goal of fostering the growth of growth technology companies in North Carolina, as evidenced by it enabling Hoofprint Biome to add a scientific professional to our team and improve the outcome of our Phase I project. The application procedure is conducive to an early-stage technology company like Hoofprint."*

Hoofprint Biome, Inc., Raleigh, NC – Wake County  
Received \$273,111 from National Science Foundation

*"The matching funds, in combination with additional company funds, allowed us to accelerate the hiring of a marketing specialist to support the expedited growth of our company. This position has been a valued addition to our team and contributes to the company's exposure/brand awareness and sales/marketing campaigns."*

Boyte Group, Inc. DBA Active Defender, Carthage, NC – Moore County  
Received \$74,836 SBIR Award from Department of Defense (Air Force)

*"The One North Carolina Match is a wonderful program. The program funds have helped us emerge from the uncertainty of the COVID years and reboot our company here in NC."*

Converter Source, LLC, Arden, NC – Buncombe County  
Received \$165,828 SBIR Award from National Aeronautics and Space Administration

## MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM

### Overview

The North Carolina SBIR/STTR Phase I Matching Funds Program awards matching funds to North Carolina-based small businesses that have received a federal SBIR or STTR Program Phase I award. The North Carolina Board of Science, Technology & Innovation, a division of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, administers the Program.

Under the Program's authorizing provisions, awards can be made to eligible businesses for up to 100 percent of a company's federal Phase I SBIR/STTR Program award, up to a maximum amount of \$200,000, until funds available for the Program have been exhausted.<sup>5</sup> Applicants who receive Matching Awards receive 75 percent (Stage 1) of the award amount upon receipt of an SBIR/STTR Phase I award and receive the remaining 25 percent (Stage 2) of the award if their Phase I report is accepted by the funding agency and they submit a related Phase II application to the funding agency. Federal Phase II SBIR/STTR awards often exceed \$1 million.

### Purpose

The purpose of the Matching Program is to foster job creation and economic development in North Carolina by increasing the competitive position of North Carolina small businesses in attracting SBIR and STTR grant funding, and to provide an incentive for Phase I award-winning firms to participate in the more substantial Phase II program. The goals of the Matching Program are to:

1. Increase the amount of federal research dollars received by North Carolina small businesses.
2. Increase the intensity of the research conducted under Phase I, making North Carolina small businesses more competitive for Phase II funds.
3. Help North Carolina businesses bridge the funding gap period between the final Phase I payment and the first Phase II payment in the federal SBIR/STTR Program.
4. Encourage the establishment and growth of high-quality, advanced technology companies in the State of North Carolina.

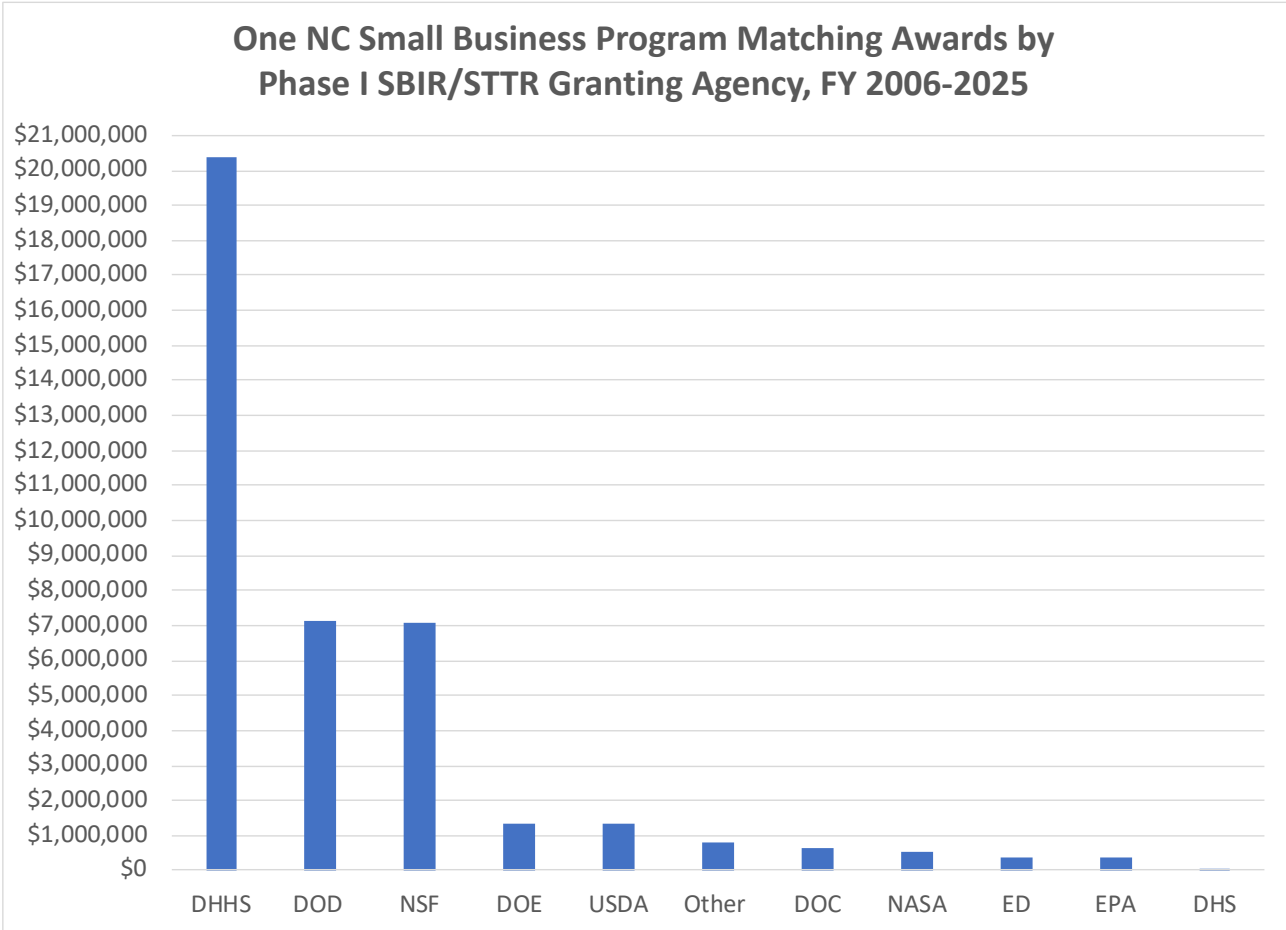
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<sup>5</sup> Due to funding limitations, the FY 2025 solicitation awards were capped at 50 percent of a company's federal Phase I SBIR/STTR Program award, up to a maximum amount of \$75,000.

## MATCHING FUNDS PROGRAM (CONTINUED)

### FY 2025 Summary

- The award ceiling was \$75,000. In addition, businesses located in Tier 3 areas were eligible only if they had not received more than two previous grants from the One N.C. Small Business Matching Program. Companies in Tier 1 and 2 counties were not subject to the same eligibility restrictions.
- Restrictions imposed only for applicants from Tier 3 counties reinforce the Board's commitment to a broad reach that includes rural counties throughout the State.
- The One N.C. Small Business Program (ONCSBP) received \$2,000,000 in direct appropriations for the Matching Funds Program. For the second time in Program history, the One N.C. Fund, as allowed by statute, transferred \$1,500,000 to the ONCSBP. Additional funding also came from previous awards for which grantees were unable to meet the requirements to receive their Stage 2 disbursement. The unused Stage 2 funding is carried forward to support subsequent solicitations.
- The Matching Funds Program awarded 51 Matching Grants, totaling \$3,686,533.30 in FY 2025, obligating 100% of direct appropriations.



*Note: The award amount by agency is highly correlated with the size of each agency's research and development (R&D) budget and the research & development and the R&D strengths of a state's small businesses.*

**TABLE 1: FY 2025 One North Carolina Small Business Matching Funds Program Grantees and Disbursements**

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
ACCUNOVO BIOTECHNOLOGIES INC	Theranostic NTSR1-targeting Agents for Complementary Management of PSMA-negative Prostate Cancer	CHAPEL HILL	ORANGE	\$75,000.00	2022	\$18,750.00
Advanced Materials Manufacturing	Nickel-Based Composite Metal Foam (CMF) in Nuclear Energy Applications	Raleigh	WAKE	\$60,000.00	2024	\$15,000.00
Aegis Power Systems, Inc.	Wide Bandgap High Power High Density Inverter Ruggedization and Characterization Study	Murphy	CHEROKEE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Amissa Inc	Augmented Preclinical Alzheimer's Disease Detection Through Wearable Health and Driving Behavior Data.	Charlotte	MECKLENBURG	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Anuma Aerospace Corporation	Persistently Elevated Gas-free Aerostatic Sensor Utility System (PEGASUS)	Raleigh	WAKE	\$60,000.00	2024	\$15,000.00
Arclet	SBIR Phase I: Health Communication Software Integration with AI and LMLs To Target Localized, High-Quality Health Information Messaging	Asheville	BUNCOMBE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Artiam Bio Inc.	Therapeutic Strategy for NASH	Morrisville	WAKE	\$70,708.50	2022	\$17,677.12
Atlantic Fish Co	Development of hybrid plant-based fish nugget containing cultivated fish muscle tissue	Washington	DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
AxNano, LLC	Reclaiming Beneficial Biosolids: A PFAS Removal and Destruction Approach	Greensboro	GUILFORD	\$50,000.00	2025	\$37,500.00
BioKier, Inc.	Clinical development of a colon-targeted butyrate tablet to evaluate effects on cholesterol and trimethyl amine oxide in subjects at risk for cardiovascular disease	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$60,000.00	2024	\$45,000.00
Blue Ridge Research and Consulting, LLC	Full-Scale eVTOL Cabin Noise Measurements and Analysis	Asheville	BUNCOMBE	\$48,043.00	2025	\$0.00



Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
Boundless Science LLC	Extra-Corporeal Oxygenator with Minimal Blood Surface Contact	Durham	DURHAM	\$60,000.00	2024	\$15,000.00
Boyte Group Inc.	Active Defender - Advanced Situational Awareness and Communication for Crisis Management in Schools	Carthage	MOORE	\$37,418.00	2024	\$9,354.50
C3I Tech, LLC	Biohaptics for Enhanced Trust Authentication	HIGH POINT	GUILFORD	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Calla Health Foundation	Development and validation of patient-ready Callascope for cervical imaging	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Cerulean Scientific Inc.	Slippery, Omniphobic Coating to Prevent Thrombosis and Biofilm Formation on Peripheral Vascular Grafts	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
CLAIRigene, LLC	APOE-targeted therapy for precision medicine in late onset Alzheimer's disease: A novel epigenome editing approach for downregulation of APOEε4 expression	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2023	\$18,750.00
Clue Genetics Inc.	ClueGen: a fungi-focused metabologenomics platform for natural product discovery	Hillsborough	ORANGE	\$60,000.00	2024	\$45,000.00
Collaborations Pharmaceuticals Inc.	Machine learning approaches to predict Acetylcholinesterase inhibition	Fuquay Varina	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2022	\$18,750.00
COSMIC EATS, INC.	Innovative Solutions for Sustainable Agriculture: Enhancing Post-Harvest Quality, Reducing Contamination, and Easing Sterilization for Value Added Mushroom Producers	CARY	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
CubeCab Co.	Overcoming Barriers for Reuseable Ground to Orbit Thermal Nuclear Rocketry	Greenville	PITT	\$69,136.00	2025	\$51,852.00
Data Driven Bioscience Inc	Clinical validation of DuoSeq, a Swiss army knife genomic approach to diagnosis of blood cancers	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
DeIAQUA Pharmaceuticals, Inc.	Triblock copolymer micelles for enhanced drug solubilization and stability	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Dignify Therapeutics LLC	Therapy for Fecal Incontinence and Fecal Urgency	Research Triangle Park	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Emp Consulting	Medical Echelon of Care Conceptual Model for Wargaming	Taylorsville	ALEXANDER	\$69,908.50	2025	\$52,431.38
Enfuego Therapeutics, Inc.	Ligand-Directed KRAS G12V Mutant-Specific Therapeutics	Pittsboro	CHATHAM	\$60,000.00	2024	\$15,000.00
Equiti Foods LLC	Achieving health equity through food as medicine and medically tailored meals: local economic opportunity	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
EydisBio Inc.	Development of orally bioavailable and blood-brain barrier penetrant, small molecule TAK1 inhibitors as a novel treatment for Alzheimer's Disease	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Fathom Science Inc	Environmental Situational Intelligence for Offshore Platform Systems (ESIOPS)	Raleigh	WAKE	\$48,662.00	2025	\$36,496.50
Fathom Science Inc	Developing a Novel AI/ML Approach for High-efficiency, High-fidelity Marine Wave Energy Characterization and Assessment for Powering the Blue Economy	Raleigh	WAKE	\$60,000.00	2024	\$15,000.00
ForagR Medicines	High-throughput platform for small molecule, in-cell targeting of undruggable proteins via their mRNAs	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
ForesightCares Inc	AVA_ AI Video-Based Mobile Application for Reliable, Accessible, and Low-Cost Fall Risk Assessments of Older Adults	Matthews	UNION	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
ForesightCares Inc	STTR Phase I:Camera-Based Multimodal AI for Health Monitoring	Matthews	UNION	\$75,000.00	2022	\$18,750.00
Freescale LLC	Development and Analysis of Functional Nanolinks for Printed Neuromorphic Electronics and Smart Sensors	Cary	WAKE	\$60,000.00	2024	\$15,000.00
GreenLifeTech Corporation	Novel Method for Produce Preservation and Sterilization in Modern Refrigerators	Banner Elk	AVERY	\$50,000.00	2024	\$12,500.00
GreenLight Biosciences, Inc	Developing an RNAi-based biological seed treatment to protect soybeans from the causal agent of Sudden Death Syndrome (SDS) Fusarium virguliforme	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Hoofprint Biome, Inc.	Bioengineering probiotic yeast to mitigate methane emissions from cattle	Raleigh	WAKE	\$60,000.00	2024	\$60,000.00
inSoma Bio, Inc.	An off the shelf alternative to fat transfer for soft tissue repair	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Junipero Therapeutics, Inc.	Precision CNS Epigenome Editing by Induced Proximity	Kannapolis	CABARRUS	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
LED RADIOFLUIDICS CORP	Development of LED Photoredox Radiolabeling Device	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$75,000.00	2023	\$18,750.00
LUMEOVA, Inc	Ultra-Wideband High-Power Digital Fiber Optic Transmitter Laser	Raleigh	WAKE	\$73,102.00	2025	\$0.00
mHealth Systems, Inc.	MiREA, a mHealth intervention to Reduce Health Disparities by Improving Equitable Access to Mandated College Students with Problematic Alcohol and Marijuana Use	Mint Hill	MECKLENBURG	\$71,345.00	2025	\$53,508.75
Mimetics, LLC	Applying Dynamical Systems Theory to Improve Analysis of Time Series Transcriptional Data from Bioproduction Processes	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$60,000.00	2024	\$15,000.00

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
mithrilAI Corp.	SaiFE: Trusted AI with Hardware Security Enforcement	Raleigh	WAKE	\$60,000.00	2024	\$45,000.00
Mucommune, LLC	Sustained release of VRC07 from capsule-intravaginal ring for preventing HIV transmission	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Multi3D INC	Highly Conductive Polymer Composites Enable Next-Generation Electronics Manufacturing	Middlesex	NASH	\$60,000.00	2024	\$15,000.00
Mycologics LLC	SBIR Phase I: A novel biocontrol agent against fungal infection and fungal toxin contamination on food and feed crops	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2023	\$18,750.00
NeuroGT, Inc.	Development of gene therapy product for treating MPS IIIB	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Om Bharti LLC	Computer-aided modeling and analysis tools for bioprocess industrialization	WILMINGTON	NEW HANOVER	\$69,898.00	2023	\$17,474.50
OncoTab, Inc.	Optimized targeted radiotherapy of pancreatic cancer	Marvin	UNION	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Oncurie, Inc.	A novel platform for targeted radiopharmaceuticals for imaging and therapy of ovarian cancer	Raleigh	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
OsRostrum Inc	Low-Cost Mobile Phenotyping Platform to Accelerate Genetic Improvements and Extend the Productive Lives of Cattle Via 3d Artificial Intelligence	Graham	ALAMANCE	\$62,500.00	2025	\$0.00
Piximune, Inc.	Antibody-based gene-agnostic treatment for inherited retinal degeneration	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Predictive, LLC	Knowledge Graphs for Infectious Diseases	Raleigh	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Prevention Strategies, LLC	A Gamified Approach to Adolescent Alcohol Prevention that Strengthens Social Skills and Personal Values	Greensboro	GUILFORD	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
Proximal Design Labs LLC	An Easy-to-use Virtual Reality Development Toolkit for Education	Raleigh	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2022	\$18,750.00
Raglan LLC	Battery Optimization for Air Force Ground Electric Vehicles: FX23D-TCSO1-0065	Wilmington	NEW HANOVER	\$24,985.50	2023	\$6,246.37
Raglan LLC	Raglan Open Architecture ECU for USSOCOM FOSOV NSCV”.	Wilmington	NEW HANOVER	\$60,000.00	2024	\$60,000.00
Resonantia Diagnostics, Inc.	SBIR Phase I: Acoustic Sensor Based Point of Care Diagnostic Platform for Rapid Identification and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Secmation, LLC	CHISEL - Chiplet-based High-Integrity Secure Embedded Link	CARY	WAKE	\$69,919.50	2025	\$0.00
Sediment	Measuring coastal sediment grain size instantly using Instagrain, a hand-held camera with on-device machine learning	Greensboro	GUILFORD	\$75,000.00	2025	\$75,000.00
SimplusDx, Inc.	A rapid point-of-care test for therapeutic drug monitoring of tacrolimus	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Smart Material Solutions, LLC	Light-trapping features made with a scalable nanomanufacturing process	Raleigh	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
SmartAirway	A Novel Articulating Stylet for Improving First-Pass Intubation Success	Fayetteville	CUMBERLAND	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Social Cascade, Inc.	Integrating AI now-casting models with digital communications to reduce RSV infections in rural areas	Raleigh	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Solar Unsoiled	A Photovoltaic Soiling Model for Development-Phase Solar Assets	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
SonoVoice, Inc.	STTR Phase 1: The SonoVoice Voice Evaluation and Monitoring System	Raleigh	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Sorbenta, Inc.	Novel sorbents for removal of PFAS from water	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
Susteon Inc.	Intensified Process for CO2 Capture from Ship Engine Flue Gas	Morrisville	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
TeleSwivel, LLC	Replacing the Pintle/Lunette: Autonomous Vehicle Towing	Durham	DURHAM	\$60,000.00	2024	\$45,000.00
Third Floor Materials Inc	Compressive hyperspectral imaging with free form plasmonic filter arrays	Durham	DURHAM	\$53,919.30	2025	\$0.00
TransChromix	Novel brain-penetrant drugs for translation-targeting therapeutics of Alzheimer's disease	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Triangle Environmental Health Initiative	Selective Ion Separation and Recovery for Wastewater Treatment	Durham	DURHAM	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Tripill Biotechnology, Corp.	The Development of Radiolabeled PSMA Agent with Low Salivary Gland Uptake	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
United Protective Technologies, LLC	Alternate Lubrication Mechanisms for Small UAV and Attritable Weapon Systems	Locust	STANLY	\$60,000.00	2024	\$15,000.00
Venti, LLC	Counter Terrorism CBRN Detection	New Bern	CRAVEN	\$37,388.00	2024	\$9,347.00
Vigilant Cyber Systems, Inc.	Automated Tactical Effectiveness Service for Electromagnetic Effectors (aTES-EE)	Mount Airy	SURRY	\$69,998.00	2025	\$52,498.50
Vindhya Data Science Inc.	BIOCLIN: A precision medicine platform to support biomarker-driven clinical trials	Morrisville	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$56,250.00
Vulcan Elements Inc	Asymmetric Motor Advantage for Army Through Novel Magnetic Coatings	Raleigh	WAKE	\$75,000.00	2025	\$0.00
<b>(51 Recipients)</b>						
<b>Total Amount Awarded for FY2025 Matching Program</b>						<b>\$3,686,533.30</b>
<b>Total Amount Disbursed in FY2025 for Matching Program</b>						<b>\$2,573,136.62</b>

NOTE: Committed and disbursed amounts in the table above differ because One North Carolina Small Business Matching Funds Program awards are disbursed in two payments, as explained on page 5 of this report. The second disbursement (final 25% of award) most often occurs in a different fiscal year from the year originally obligated.

## INCENTIVE FUNDS PROGRAM

### Overview

The North Carolina SBIR/STTR Phase I Incentive Funds Program reimburses qualified North Carolina businesses for a portion of the costs incurred in preparing and submitting Phase I proposals for the U.S. Government's SBIR and STTR Programs. Under the Incentive Funds Program, the State issues qualified applicants a grant for approved Phase I Proposal preparation costs, up to \$12,000. These grants are awarded to qualified applicants on a first-come, first-served basis, up to the limits of available funding. The North Carolina Board of Science, Technology & Innovation, a division of the North Carolina Department of Commerce, administers the Program.

### Purpose

The purpose of the Incentive Program is to foster job creation and economic development in North Carolina by encouraging North Carolina small businesses to compete for federal SBIR and STTR awards. The goal of the Incentive Program is to increase the number of North Carolina applications for federal SBIR and STTR Phase I awards.

### FY 2025 Summary

- The One North Carolina Small Business Program received \$2,000,000 in direct appropriations; all was applied to its Matching Program. The Incentive Funds Program was funded with a portion of previous awards that were de-obligated when grantees were unable to meet requirements to receive their Stage II disbursement.
- The Program awarded 51 Incentive grants, obligating \$418,863.46.
- On average, the share of Incentive Funds awards to Tier 1 and 2 counties is 11% higher than the share of Matching Fund awards to Tier 1 and 2 counties resulting in greater geographical fund distribution across the State.

**TABLE 2: FY 2025 One North Carolina Small Business Incentive Funds Program Grantees and Disbursements**

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
A&M CONSULTING, LLC	Low work function LaB6 nanowire for high current field emission electron source	Morrisville	WAKE	\$299.54	2024	\$299.54
Adjutor Technologies, LLC	Project Title: Decentralized Collaborative Protocol for Air Traffic Management	Canton	HAYWOOD	\$12,000.00	2025	\$0.00
Advanced Materials Manufacturing	Lightweight Multifunctional Material to Improve the Safety and Transportation of Microreactors	Raleigh	WAKE	\$8,246.43	2025	\$8,246.43
Aegis Power Systems, Inc.	High Voltage Converter for Energy Demand Reduction and Clean Energy Tech	Murphy	CHEROKEE	\$12,000.00	2024	\$12,000.00
Aegis Power Systems, Inc.	Wide Bandgap High Power High Density Inverter Ruggedization and Characterization Study	Murphy	CHEROKEE	\$11,164.99	2025	\$11,164.99
AKALAKA co.	CarePTO: Improving Time-to-Paid Time Off for Care Partners	Durham	DURHAM	\$1,500.00	2024	\$1,500.00
Algaen Corporation	Heterotrophic Cultivation of Marine Diatom Haslea ostrearia and Function of the Blue Pigment Marennine	Winston-Salem	FORSYTH	\$6,691.95	2025	\$0.00
American Droid LLC	Robotic End-Effector Direct Drive Motor Design	New Bern	CRAVEN	\$661.88	2024	\$661.88
AntiXero, LLC	AntiXero: An Extended Duration Solution for Cancer-Associated Dry Mouth	Raleigh	WAKE	\$3,000.00	2024	\$3,000.00
Applied Research Transformation, PLLC	Computer Vision for Low-Carbon 3D Concrete Printing	Cary	WAKE	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00
ARIS Inc	Multifunctional Microporous Material for Airframe Noise Mitigation	Greensboro	GUILFORD	\$11,550.00	2025	\$11,550.00
Atom Bioworks Inc	Designer DNA Nanostructure Radiopharmaceuticals for Pancreatic Adenocarcinoma Imaging	Cary	WAKE	\$4,782.58	2024	\$4,782.58
Atrevida Science Inc.	From Data to Decision: A Deployable AI System for Mission-Driven Contextual Insights	Charlotte	MECKLENBURG	\$3,904.20	2025	\$0.00



Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
AxNano, LLC	Reclaiming Beneficial Biosolids: A PFAS Removal and Destruction Approach	Greensboro	GUILFORD	\$9,374.32	2025	\$9,374.32
Biofluids Medical LLC	development of a novel approach to rapidly coat an angioplasty balloon in the surgical theater for treatment of vascular disease'	Winston Salem	FORSYTH	\$2,642.18	2025	\$0.00
BioMojo LLC	Developing improved visualization, measurement and data standards for augmentation of conventional and robotic surgeries using Advanced Imaging Technologies	Cary	WAKE	\$11,296.63	2024	\$11,296.63
BioMojo LLC	BioMojo Interactive Exploration Adventure (BIEA)	Cary	WAKE	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00
Brighton Development, LLC	Self-Sterilizing Contact Lens Case to Prevent Biofilm Contamination of Contact Lenses and Cases	Cary	WAKE	\$6,111.00	2024	\$6,111.00
Brilliant Aerospace	Resilient Autonomous Navigation System for the Lunar South Pole: A Multi-Modal Sensing, Distributed Processing, and Machine Learning Approach	GREENSBORO	GUILFORD	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00
Calla Health Foundation	Development and validation of patient-ready Callascope for cervical imaging	Durham	DURHAM	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00
Cerulean Scientific Inc.	Outpatient Diagnostic Lumbar Subcutaneous Shunt	Durham	DURHAM	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00
CN-Seamless	Air Force SBIR X24.5 CSO: FX245-PCSO1-1029 - Development of a user friendly, modular, and automated platform to perform maintenance, manufacturing, and demolition in the field.	Raleigh	WAKE	\$3,920.88	2024	\$3,920.88
Converter Source, LLC	Sensorless Position Estimator for Reciprocating Linear Actuator Hardware	Arden	BUNCOMBE	\$11,169.02	2025	\$11,169.02
Coprata, Inc.	Toilet Seat Device for Self-managed Habit Training in Chronic Constipation	Durham	DURHAM	\$6,000.00	2025	\$6,000.00

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
Daheco Engines & Energy	Pressurized Hydropower Storage	Valdese	BURKE	\$595.50	2025	\$595.50
Deep Creek Pharma, LLC	Modified Thrombin Binding Aptamer Treatment of CRC Metastasis	Yadkinville	YADKIN	\$1,875.84	2025	\$1,875.84
DF Clinical LLC	Development of a technology environment for subjective sensory mapping to improve emotional regulation in individuals in recovery from opioid use disorder	Cary	WAKE	\$3,000.00	2025	\$3,000.00
Drakeford, Scott, & Associates, LLC	Rest In Me Sleepwatch: A wearable device that teaches users the value of sleep happy habits to overall health	Durham	DURHAM	\$1,484.78	2024	\$1,484.78
Ecobot	Leveraging environmental permitting data with artificial intelligence (AI) to ground-truth earth observation imagery	Asheville	BUNCOMBE	\$4,310.05	2024	\$4,310.05
Elemance	Design Optimization and Finite Element Analysis of Amphibious Combat Vehicle Design for Weight Reduction	Winston Salem	FORSYTH	\$3,845.00	2025	\$3,845.00
EMF Disturbance Monitors	A Novel Application of Electromagnetic Field Disturbance Monitors to Enable Early Diagnosis of Congestive Heart Failure and Cardiomyopathy	Cary	WAKE	\$5,687.50	2024	\$5,687.50
EVA Solutions, Inc.	Revolutionizing Dental Pain Management: A Novel Device Integrating Vibration and Nerve Stimulation for Injection Comfort	Apex	WAKE	\$2,778.13	2025	\$0.00
ExstoBio	An AI software platform enables safe and guided medicinal cannabis analgesic care to combat the dual chronic pain and opioid epidemic	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$5,856.01	2024	\$5,856.01
ForesightCares Inc	Empowering Parkinson's Patients: AI-Driven Home Assessments for Smarter Disease Management	Matthews	UNION	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
Geometric Data Analytics	AIR2S: Artificial Intelligence Risk-Reduction System	Durham	DURHAM	\$3,217.50	2025	\$3,217.50
GreenLifeTech Corporation	Novel Technology for Increasing Fresh Food Availability and Safety in Rural Communities	Banner Elk	AVERY	\$10,312.50	2025	\$10,312.50
Haw River Mushrooms, LLC	Increasing Accessibility of Mushroom-Rich Diets for Children and Youth	Graham	ALAMANCE	\$4,200.00	2024	\$4,200.00
Helixomer, Inc.	Development of an RNA-based thrombin inhibitor for treatment of neuroinflammation	hillsborough	ORANGE	\$4,084.62	2024	\$4,084.62
HireBrain Corporation	SBIR Phase I: Transforming How We Hire: A Cognitive Approach to Hiring Bias Mitigation	Huntersville	MECKLENBURG	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00
IngateyGen LLC	Development of A Self Stabilizing Natural Peanut Butter Without Oil Overlay using CRISPR Genome editing technology	Durham,	DURHAM	\$7,619.40	2025	\$7,619.40
Inhalon Biopharma, Inc.	Leveraging recent clinical data to develop a physiologically based pharmaco-kinetic model for distribution of monoclonal antibodies to different parts of the respiratory tract	Durham	DURHAM	\$7,982.69	2025	\$0.00
iSimcha, LLC	Research LinQ- a multi domain multi knowledge medical research chatbot	Durham	DURHAM	\$5,466.00	2025	\$0.00
LiRA Inc.	Understanding the integration of lip-reading in voiceless patient care	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$12,000.00	2024	\$12,000.00
Mucommune, LLC	Engineering a physiologically tuned reservoir intravaginal ring releasing lactic acid for the treatment and prevention of bacterial vaginosis	Durham	DURHAM	\$11,472.18	2024	\$11,472.18
Mucommune, LLC	Reservoir intravaginal ring for sustained release of glycerin to provide prolonged therapy against vaginal dryness	Durham	DURHAM	\$5,130.90	2025	\$5,130.90

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
MuriPhys, LLC	Targeting Adrenergic Pathways to Mitigate Stress-Induced Neurological Episodes in Familial Hemiplegic Migraine Type 1 (FHM1)	Durham	DURHAM	\$8,818.48	2025	\$8,818.48
myKare, inc.	Development of a Novel Handheld Pediatric Nasal Irrigation and Aspiration Device for use in Infants	Chapel Hill	ORANGE	\$6,000.00	2025	\$6,000.00
NC Solar Inverters LLC	Increased Grid Storage Availability at Lower Cost through a Novel SiC Inverter	Cary	WAKE	\$7,000.00	2025	\$7,000.00
NOBiotics LLC	3xTASH: Advanced Triple-Action Hydrogel Dressing for Rapid Hemostasis, Infection Control, and Comprehensive Wound Healing in Combat and High-Risk Trauma Injuries	Raleigh	WAKE	\$10,498.80	2025	\$0.00
Nuream, Inc.	Develop and Validate Novel Fabric System for In Situ Electrophysiological Sleep Monitoring	Wilmington	NEW HANOVER	\$12,000.00	2025	\$0.00
OsRostrum Inc	Low-Cost Mobile Phenotyping Platform to Accelerate Genetic Improvements and Extend the Productive Lives of Cattle Via 3d Artificial Intelligence	Graham	ALAMANCE	\$7,395.00	2025	\$0.00
Phase, Inc.	3D PRINTED BLOOD BRAIN BARRIER MODEL WITH INTEGRATED ELECTRODES FOR HIGH THROUGHPUT SCREENING	Cornelius	MECKLENBURG	\$3,444.00	2024	\$3,444.00
Piximune, Inc.	Antibody-based gene-agnostic treatment for inherited retinal degeneration	Durham	DURHAM	\$7,000.00	2025	\$7,000.00
Precision, Inc.	Developing rapid, quantitative, and sensitive assay for very early detection (predicting), diagnosing and monitoring Type 2 Diabetes from single blood draw	Morrisville	WAKE	\$2,500.00	2024	\$2,500.00
Protochips, Inc.	System for High Voltage in situ Electrical (HVISE) Characterization	Morrisville	WAKE	\$2,832.06	2024	\$2,832.06

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
Radiant Dx, Inc.	Claritas™: A Novel Phenotypic and Spatial-Omics Platform for "Disease in a Dish" Toxicity Screening and Drug Discovery	Durham	DURHAM	\$8,000.00	2025	\$8,000.00
Reselute, Inc.	Local and Sustained Release of Antibiotics in the Surgical Treatment of Diabetic Charcot Foot	Durham	DURHAM	\$10,646.60	2025	\$0.00
Resonantia Diagnostics, Inc.	SBIR Phase I: Acoustic Sensor Based Point of Care Diagnostic Platform for Rapid Identification and Antimicrobial Susceptibility Testing	Durham	DURHAM	\$5,796.25	2025	\$5,796.25
Setter Research, Inc.	Tactical Time Transfer and Synchronization (T3S)	Greensboro	GUILFORD	\$2,742.00	2025	\$2,742.00
SMART GIRLS HQ LLC	An interactive platform that enhances discovery and efficacy in upper elementary science with gamified digital twins	CHARLOTTE	MECKLENBURG	\$6,189.60	2025	\$0.00
Smart Material Solutions, LLC	Light-trapping features made with a scalable nanomanufacturing process	Raleigh	WAKE	\$4,455.03	2024	\$4,455.03
Smarttrak LLC	Physics-Informed AI Models for Power Electronics Renewable Energy Systems	Holly Springs	WAKE	\$9,000.00	2025	\$9,000.00
Social Cascade, Inc.	Integrating nowcasting models with digital communications to reduce the asthma burden in rural areas	Raleigh	WAKE	\$10,109.23	2025	\$10,109.23
Soelect, Inc.	Advancing Sustainable Solid-State Lithium-Sulfur Batteries through Low-Tortuosity Ultrathin Lithium Foils and Polysulfide-Shuttling-Blocker Solid Electrolytes	Greensboro	GUILFORD	\$10,427.79	2025	\$0.00
Swabbot Solutions, LLC.	Automated Cleaning Validation direct Surface Swab Method for Environmental Monitoring of Biological contaminants in Food Safety Indications	Raleigh	WAKE	\$7,000.00	2025	\$7,000.00

Company Name	Project Title	City	County	Total Grant Amount	Fiscal Year Committed	Amount Paid in FY2025
Triangle Environmental Health Initiative	Oyster-based nutrient removal system for onsite wastewater treatment and reuse	Durham	DURHAM	\$8,336.70	2025	\$8,336.70
United Protective Technologies, LLC	Hydrometeor Impact and Peridynamic-fracture in Hypersonics (HIPHY)	Locust	STANLY	\$5,540.01	2025	\$0.00
Vigilant Cyber Systems, Inc.	Directed Energy Artificial Intelligence Missile Defender (DEAIMD)	Mount Airy	SURRY	\$9,095.98	2024	\$9,095.98
Vigilant Cyber Systems, Inc.	MDA251-D0004 PaVSAM	Mount Airy	SURRY	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00
Vindhya Data Science Inc.	Development of a comprehensive biomarker-based knowledge graph (KG) using the power of large language models (LLMs): GRAPHETTI	Morrisville	WAKE	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00
Virati, LLC	Virati Thermal Handguard Solution	Brasstown	CLAY	\$12,000.00	2024	\$12,000.00
Virati, LLC	Virati VoxDrone: Emergency Communication UAS (Unmanned Aerial System)	Brasstown	CLAY	\$12,000.00	2025	\$12,000.00
Vitality Robotics	Automated Image-Based Flow Cytometry Platform for Digital Fluorescence	Durham	DURHAM	\$12,000.00	2025	\$0.00
WaterBros Desal, LLC	A Hypertwist Power Take-Off for Coastal Structure Integrated Wave Energy Converters	Charlotte	MECKLENBURG	\$2,350.00	2024	\$2,350.00
Zymeron Corporation	Nanoparticle-based Drug Delivery Platform for Traumatic Brain Injury	Durham	DURHAM	\$9,796.44	2025	\$9,796.44
<b>(51 Recipients)</b>						
<b>Total Amount Awarded for FY2025 Incentive Program</b>						<b>\$418,863.46</b>
<b>Total Amount Disbursed in FY2025 for Incentive Program</b>						<b>\$349,670.40</b>

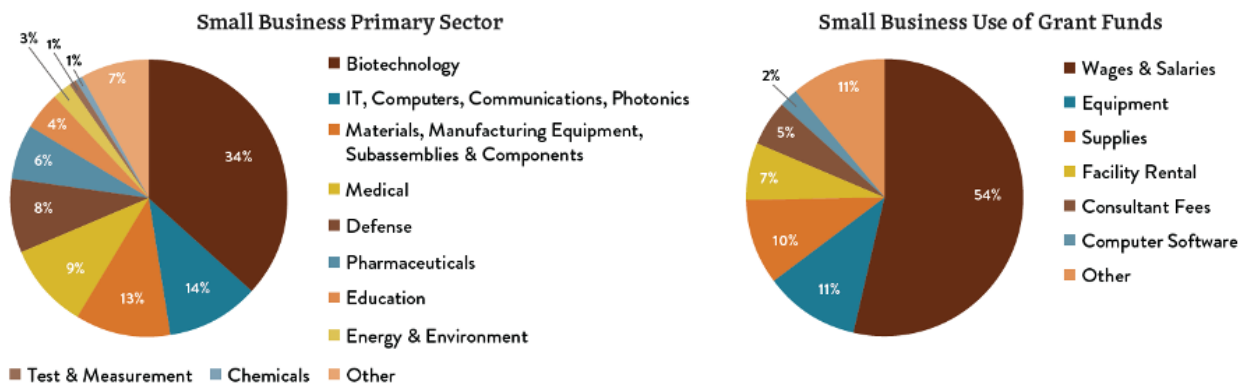
NOTE: Committed and disbursed amounts in the table above differ because applications received at the end of the solicitation period are paid early in the next fiscal year.

## EDUCATION AND OUTREACH

In Session 2021, G.S. 143B-437.80 was modified to enable the use of up to 10% of appropriated funds for education and outreach components. This year, the Office of Science, Technology & Innovation (OSTI) hosted two events.

OSTI co-sponsored an innovation event with Fayetteville State University designed for innovators, researchers and entrepreneurs. This regional event provided information on funding sources and allowed researchers, businesses, and supporting agencies to collaborate and take innovation to the next level.

With support from OSTI, a virtual workshop was hosted by the Small Business Technology Development Center that focused on SBIR/STTR proposal preparation for submission to the U.S. Department of Defense. Registration for the event totaled 363 people.



## CONCLUSION

A handful of innovative states, including North Carolina, have seen the value of leveraging federal SBIR/STTR funds with State support. North Carolina's entrepreneurial community has enthusiastically heralded the One North Carolina Small Business Program's creation for its impact on growing the state's entrepreneurial economy, and for the fact that it reflects a substantial recognition by lawmakers of the importance of innovation and entrepreneurship to the economic health of the state. As the impact measures above indicate, the Program enables North Carolina's small businesses to generate the kinds of innovation critical for making the state a leader in the global economy.

**Table 3: FY 2025 One North Carolina Small Business Program Funding Sheet**

<b>APPROPRIATIONS &amp; CARRIED-FORWARD FUNDS</b>	
FY2025 Appropriations	\$2,000,000.00
Transfer from One NC Fund	\$1,500,000.00
Funds Carried Forward from Previous Years*	\$ 608,646.76
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,108,646.76</b>
<b>FUNDS OBLIGATED IN FY 2025</b>	
Matching Funds Grant Program (through July 31, 2025)**	\$3,686,533.30
Incentive Funds Grant Program	\$418,863.46
Education and Outreach	\$3,250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$4,108,646.76</b>
<b>FUNDS DISBURSED IN FY 2025</b>	
Matching Funds Grant Program	\$2,573,136.62
Incentive Funds Grant Program	\$349,670.40
Education and Outreach	\$3,250.00
<b>Total</b>	<b>\$2,926,057.02</b>

\* Funds were de-obligated and carried forward as explained in Program Summaries on pages 6 and 15.

\*\* See explanation of one-month extension on page 2.