FUNDING OPPORTUNITIES AND RESOURCES FOR DEVELOPING TECHNOLOGIES TO FIGHT COVID-19.
The federal government and scientific community have definitely ramped up efforts to combat the Coronavirus Disease (SARS-CoV-2) by offering *multiple funding opportunities* for small businesses with technology that could help fight the pandemic. These are constantly changing, so you should regularly monitor agency websites for new notices.

NATIONAL INSTITUTES OF HEALTH (NIH) OPPORTUNITIES

URGENT AND EMERGENCY COMPETING REVISIONS AND ADMINISTRATIVE SUPPLEMENTS TO EXISTING GRANT AWARDS
To accelerate funding for research related to COVID-19, NIH has released notices for revising or supplementing existing Phase I or Phase II SBIR/STTR grant awards.

Companies with active grants are now eligible to apply. This funding mechanism moves faster *because scientific review is conducted internally by NIH experts instead of the traditional peer review process*. This allows NIH to award funds more quickly (3 months or less) for COVID-19 research. These opportunities are explained in their Notice of Special Interest (NOSI) announcements.

Each Institute and Center offering this funding has their own NOSI. It is important that you *review these notices from the Institute that awarded your original grant* for special instructions, scope, and deadlines. A list of these notices can be found at NIH Coronavirus research funding

Applications must be submitted using the following targeted funding opportunities or subsequent re-issued equivalents:

- PA-18-935
  Urgent Competitive Revision to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements (Urgent Supplement - Clinical Trial Optional) is intended to provide funds for NIH grantees applying to **expand the scope** of their active grant.

- PA-18-591
  Administrative Supplements to Existing NIH Grants and Cooperative Agreements (Parent Admin Supp Clinical Trial Optional) is intended to provide funds for NIH grantees where the work proposed in the supplement is fully **within the scope** of the ongoing grant.

To be eligible to apply for these solicitations, the original project period for your existing grant must still be active. *If your grant is in a no-cost extension (NCE), then you are <u>not</u> eligible to apply.*

If you are eligible and have technology that is applicable, you will need to determine whether the *additional* research you propose is within the scope of your current grant. This will dictate which Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA) to use when submitting your proposal. Submissions to both Program Announcements will be viewed equally. *Be aware that the NOSI and FOA for these supplements have special criteria and instructions that must be followed.*

NIH RAPID ACCELERATION OF DIAGNOSTICS (RADX)
The National Institute of Biomedical Imaging and Bioengineering (NIBIB) is <u>urgently</u> soliciting proposals for up to $500M in funding across multiple projects. The goal is to rapidly produce innovative point-of-care and home-based COVID-19 diagnostic tests that will help everyone return safely to normal activities.

This funding leverages the NIH Point-of-Care Technology Research Network (POCTRN). The application process is split into three phases (Phase 0, I, and II) and the institute will provide commercialization experts for the initial phase along with many resources other than funding for the next two phases, including expert technical, clinical, manufacturing, and regulatory advisors.

Unlike typical SBIR programs, this mechanism will assist not only in product development but also commercialization and distribution.
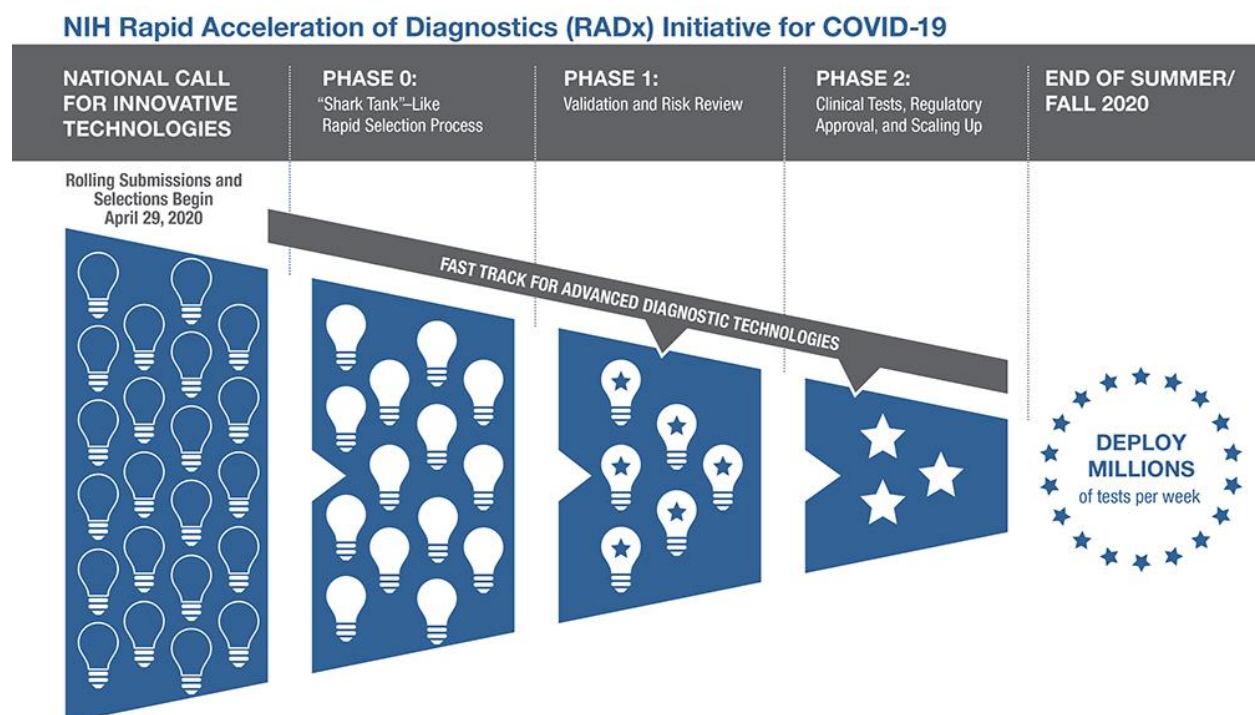
CREDIT: NIH

COVID-19 PORTFOLIO TOOLS
The NIH is offering more than funding opportunities. They have created a current database of literature to provide additional insight to help the scientific community develop COVID-19 research. Learn more at [COVID-19 Portfolio Tool](#).

Semantic Scholar has also developed a resource called the CORD-19 Open Research Dataset, a library of nearly 60,000 scholarly articles that is free to the entire global research community. Learn more at [CORD-19 .](#)

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HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES

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HHS offers funding through BARDA (Biomedical Advanced Research and Development Authority) to support the transition of medical countermeasures (vaccines, drugs, diagnostics) from research through advanced development and FDA approval.

BARDA provides a rolling review of proposals that occurs in two stages: a Quad Chart and White Paper submission (final deadline October 31, 2020) and a Full Proposal, if you pass the first stage (submission deadline October 31, 2020 or as specified in the invitation letter).

Current areas of interest:

- AOI 7.7.1 Diagnostic assay for human coronavirus using existing FDA-cleared platforms

- AOI 7.7.2 Point-of-care diagnostic assay for detection of SARS-CoV-2 virus

- AOI 7.7.3 Diagnostic assay for detection of COVID-19 disease (SARS-CoV-2 infection), Including Serology Tests

- AOI 8.3 COVID-19 Vaccine

- AOI 9.2 COVID-19 Therapeutics

- AOI 9.3 Immunomodulators or therapeutics targeting lung repair

- AOI 9.5 Pre-exposure and post-exposure prophylaxis

- AOI 10 Respiratory protective devices

- AOI 11 Ventilators

- AOI 17 Advanced Manufacturing Technologies

View solicitation: https://beta.sam.gov/opp/d1b6e601426e4e4c943235babdd4133a/view or go to beta.sam.gov and search "BARDA BAA".

BARDA also offers the DRIVE program (**D**ivision of **R**esearch, **I**nnovation, and **Ve**ntures), specifically targeting COVID-19 research, including Diagnostics, Vaccines, and Advanced Manufacturing Techniques. Abstracts are due by June 30, 2020.

Proposals submitted on DRIVePortal https://drive.rti.org/.

NATIONAL SCIENCE FOUNDATION (NSF) OPPORTUNITIES

NSF is encouraging small businesses with technology applicable to COVID-19 that includes but is not limited to:

- Artificial intelligence
- Digital health
- Diagnostics
- Distributed ledger
- Environmental technologies
- Medical devices
- Pharmaceutical technologies
- Disinfection and sterilization
- Filtration and separations

The first step is to submit a required Project Pitch:

- Select "COVID-19" as the SBIR/STTR topic area on the Project Pitch form
- Reference the word "COVID-19" and the Dear Colleague Letter (NSF 20-065) in the "Describe the Technology/Innovation" field

Companies that receive an invitation to submit a proposal (based on an invited COVID-19 Project Pitch) should then submit their NSF SBIR/STTR Phase I proposals through NSF Fastlane. Follow the NSF SBIR and STTR Phase I solicitation guidelines with the following additional guidance:

- The term "COVID-19" must be in the proposal title
- Small businesses are encouraged to facilitate an expedited submission and review by submitting a nine-page project description (closer to the nine-page solicitation minimum - the maximum is fifteen pages)

To ensure that your proposal meets NSF guidelines, refer to the specific instructions you'll find at NSF SBIR/STTR proposal instructions.

Contact BBCetc to learn more about how we can assist you in successfully preparing and submitting your NIH and NSF applications.