**Proposed Amendments to Guidelines for the North Carolina** **Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and**

**Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I**

**Incentive Funds Program**

***Introduction***

As required by North Carolina General Statute [§ 143B-437.82](https://www.ncleg.gov/EnactedLegislation/Statutes/HTML/BySection/Chapter_143B/GS_143B-437.82.html), the North Carolina Department of Commerce is publishing for public comment the attached proposed amendments to the Guidelines for the Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Phase I **Incentive** **Funds** Program under the One North Carolina Small Business Program ([§ 143B-437.80](https://www.ncleg.net/enactedlegislation/statutes/html/bysection/chapter_143b/gs_143b-437.80.html)). Program Guidelines are more general and overarching than specific Program Solicitations and govern the administration of the Programs on an ongoing basis. Comments will be accepted for 15 business days, upon which the Guidelines will be finalized. The amended, finalized Guidelines will take effect on Thursday, September 12, 2024, and the FY 2025 Program Solicitation will be available soon thereafter.

Hard copies of the Guidelines will be made available by the Office of Science, Technology & Innovation of the N.C. Department of Commerce to those requesting them. Electronic copies will be posted on the Department of Commerce website at the following location: <https://www.commerce.nc.gov/grants-incentives/technology-funds/one-north-carolina-small-business-program>.

**Public comments on the proposed amendments to the Guidelines will be accepted in written form until 5 p.m. EST on Monday, September 9, 2024**. Written comments are to be provided to the Office of Science, Technology, & Innovation of the N.C. Department of Commerce by e-mail delivery to the following address: [chris.schmidt@commerce.nc.gov](mailto:chris.schmidt@commerce.nc.gov). Alternatively, comments may be provided by mail or hand delivery, as follows:

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| **By Mail** | **By Hand Delivery** |
| Office of Science, Technology & Innovation  Attention: Chris Schmidt, Grants Manager  N.C. Department of Commerce  1326 Mail Service Center  Raleigh, North Carolina 27699-1326 | Office of Science, Technology & Innovation  Attention: Chris Schmidt, Grants Manager  N.C. Department of Commerce  Department of Public Instruction Building  301 North Wilmington Street, Room 400T  Raleigh, North Carolina |

Oral comments can also be provided during a public comment session from 3 - 4 p.m. on Wednesday, September 4, 2024, in the N.C. Department of Commerce Fourth Floor Boardroom in the DPI Building (address above). A virtual connection for the meeting will be arranged; please email [chris.schmidt@commerce.nc.gov](mailto:david.kaiser@nccommerce.com) for details.

***Overview of Amendments***

**One North Carolina Small Business Incentive Funds Program**

* **Section D. DEFINITIONS (Page 3) –** Add Resubmission
* **Section E. ELIGIBILITY (Page 3) Item 2. –** Add “Applicant company must have been registered with the North Carolina Secretary of State’s office prior to submitting federal SBIR/STTR application OR no less than 90 days prior to application to the Incentive Program.”
* **Section E. ELIGIBILITY (Page 3) Item 6** – Substantive change that allows for resubmissions that have already received funding from the ONCSBP Incentive Program with a reduction in the maximum award allowed.