



**Request for Proposals  
For MassVentures  
START (SBIR TARgeted Technologies) Program Stage I Grants**

January 31, 2019

MassVentures hereby invites all Massachusetts companies that meet the eligibility criteria set forth below to submit applications to its START program for Stage I grants.

**What is START?**

START is a program funded by the Commonwealth of Massachusetts to assist Massachusetts companies that have received at least the equivalent of a Phase II Small Business Innovation Research ("SBIR") or Small Business Technology Transfer ("STTR") grant to commercialize their technologies. The program was created to assist high growth companies that will expand employment opportunities, promote manufacturing and commercialization, and stimulate innovation across the Commonwealth.

**Who is eligible?**

Any Massachusetts company whose application to the program is not based on pharmaceutical, therapeutic or medical device technology and has received a Phase II SBIR or STTR award.

There is no strict requirement about when the qualifying Phase II SBIR or STTR award was received. However, if it was received prior to February 1, 2015, you should explain in your application why it remains commercially relevant today.

A "Massachusetts company" is one that conducts its research, development, manufacturing and commercialization primarily in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts, and is committed to continuing to do so. It is expected that START funds will be spent primarily in Massachusetts.

Further details on program eligibility requirements are at: <http://www.mass-ventures.com/start-program/#tab-id-7>

**How do I apply?**

A detailed description of the application process is located at <http://www.mass-ventures.com/start-program/#tab-id-5>

**When is the Deadline for Applications?**

The deadline for submitting applications is Thursday, February 28, 2019, at 5:00 pm EST.

## How Do I Get More Information?

Many of your questions will be answered on our website (<http://www.mass-ventures.com/start-program/>). Please make sure to review the full START section, including our Frequently Asked Questions page. If you have further questions after reviewing these pages, please contact the START Program Manager, John Fitzpatrick, at [jfitzpatrick@mass-ventures.com](mailto:jfitzpatrick@mass-ventures.com).

In addition, we will conduct a **conference call** on Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at 2:00 pm at which potential applicants can ask us questions about the START Program and the Stage I application and selection process.

When: Wednesday, February 13, 2019, at 2:00 pm  
Call-in Info: Dial in #(218) 486-1616 Pin #7551599

Finally, MassVentures is planning to host an **in-person information session** in which potential applicants can:

- Hear from the START managers about the process
- Learn from past winners about what makes a successful application
- Get insights from judges on what they look for in applicants

This information session will be held on:

Thursday, February 14, 2019 from 1:00 - 2:30 pm  
Morse, Barnes-Brown & Pendleton, P.C.  
CityPoint, 230 3rd Avenue, 4th Floor, Waltham, MA 02451  
Space is limited - please RSVP to [GCormier@mass-ventures.com](mailto:GCormier@mass-ventures.com).