



## **UTIF Application Guide**

UTAH INNOVATION CENTER Updated Feb. 2025





## BEFORE YOU BEGIN...

- 1. Identify your SBIR/STTR funding opportunity (Topic & Federal Agency).

  UTIF is supplemental funding for Utah applicants of the federal Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) programs.

  You will need to provide information about the SBIR/STTR solicitation you are applying to within your UTIF application (Federal Agency, Solicitation/FOA number, Topic, Submission deadline).
- 2. Register your company with SAM.gov, Utah Div. of Corporations and the SBA. Proof of registration with SAM.gov, the Small Business Administration (SBA), and the Utah Division of Corporations is required in order to approve your UTIF application.
- 3. Write your Executive Summary.

An Executive Summary explaining your project is needed. The executive summary should follow the format of the <u>National Science Foundation's Project Pitch</u>. The following information will be added to your UTIF application:

i) proposed innovation, ii) the technical objectives iii) the market opportunity, and iv) the company/team.



## HOW TO SUBMIT A UTIF APPLICATION



## **UTIF Application Submission Steps & Timeline**

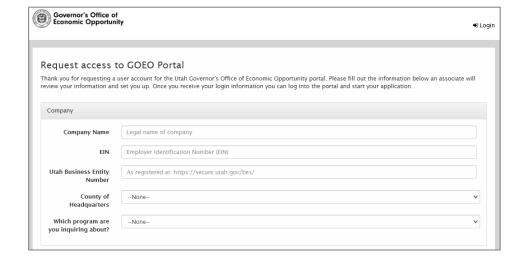
- **Step 1: Create/Access Account Under GOEO's portal**
- **Step 2: Add a UTIF Application to your Profile**
- **Step 3: Start your UTIF Application**
- **Step 4: Enter your Company Information**
- **Step 5: Verify your Eligibility to the SBIR/STTR Programs**
- **Step 6: Add the SBIR/STTR funding Opportunity Information**
- **Step 7: Add your Project Summary**
- **Step 8: Upload Attachments**
- Step 9: Certify, Review and Submit your Application
- **Step 10: UTIF Review & Approval Process**
- Step 11: How to claim your UTIF funds

#### Step 1: Create/Access Account Under GOEO's Portal

#### **NEW USER**

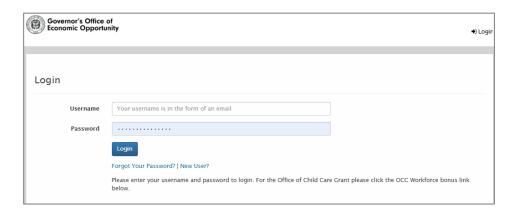
If you have not applied for GOEO funding before, complete the "New Portal User Request Form": <a href="https://goed.my.salesforce-sites.com/econ/PtlCase">https://goed.my.salesforce-sites.com/econ/PtlCase</a>

Once your request has been submitted, you will receive a confirmation email. The information will be reviewed and activation may take 24 hours. A second email with your login credentials will be provided upon activation.



#### **EXISTING USER**

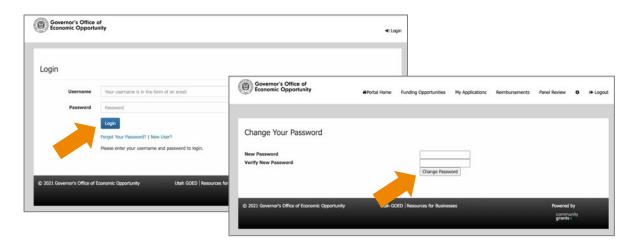
Go to <a href="https://goed.my.salesforce-sites.com/econ/">https://goed.my.salesforce-sites.com/econ/</a> and enter your user information.

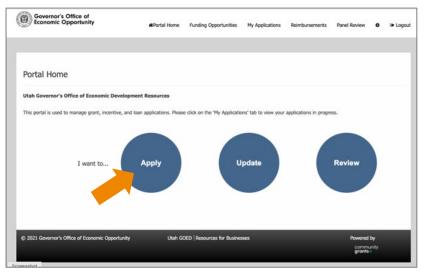


## Step 2: Add a UTIF Application to your Profile

Once your account has been activated, log into your account using your email and temporary (new users will need to update their temporary password)

On the "Portal Home" page, click on the "Apply" button.





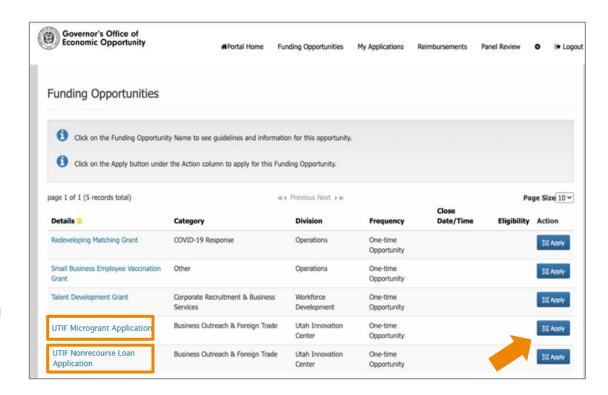
## Step 2: Add a UTIF Application to your Profile

Phase I applicant

If you are planning to submit a Phase I SBIR/STTR proposal, click on the "Apply" button to select the "UTIF Microgrant Application"

Phase II applicant

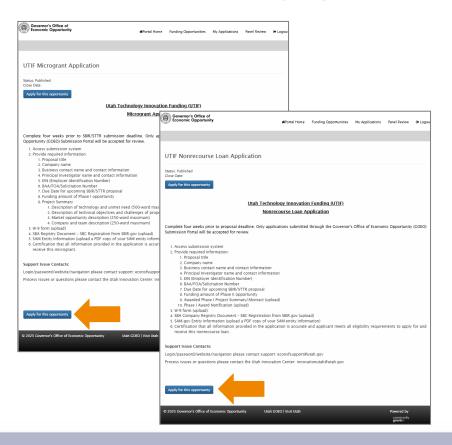
If you are planning to submit a Phase II SBIR/STTR proposal, click on the "Apply" button to select the "UTIF Nonrecourse Loan Application"



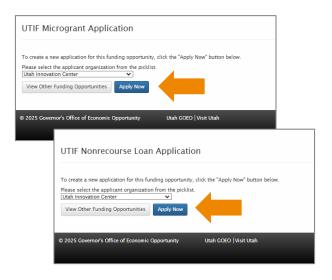
## Step 2: Add a UTIF Application to your Profile

After selecting the appropriate UTIF Application, the system will ask you to confirm your selection by clicking on:

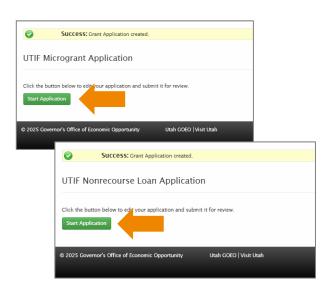
1) "Apply for this opportunity" under the application description/summary page:



2) "Apply Now" under the applicant organization pop-up window:

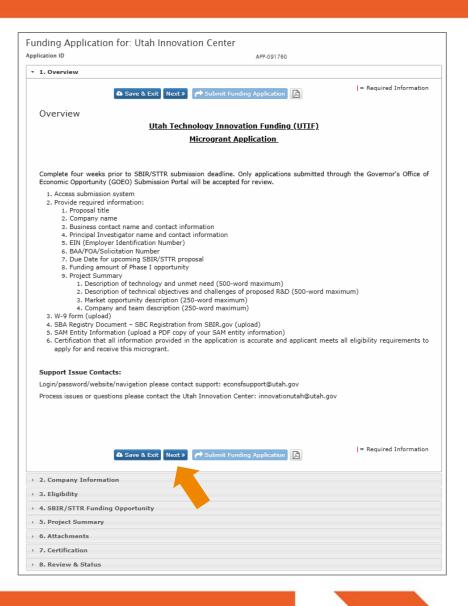


3) Once confirmed, click on "Start Application" to begin your application:



#### **Step 3: Start Your UTIF Application**

- Read the Instructions under the Overview section.
- Click "Next" to complete/navigate through each section.
- For Login/Password/Website Issues, contact econsfsupport@utah.gov.
- For clarification about the application and UTIF requirements, contact <a href="mailto:innovationutah@utah.gov">innovationutah@utah.gov</a>.
- Make sure to "Save" your application as you add information.

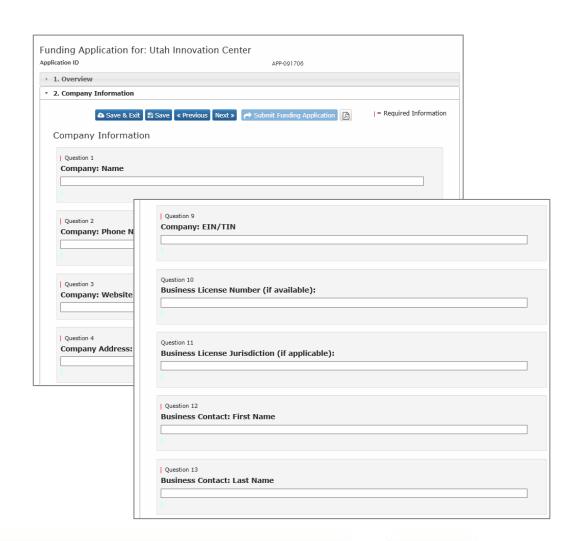


## **Step 4: Enter your Company Information**

**Under the "Company Information" section, enter:** 

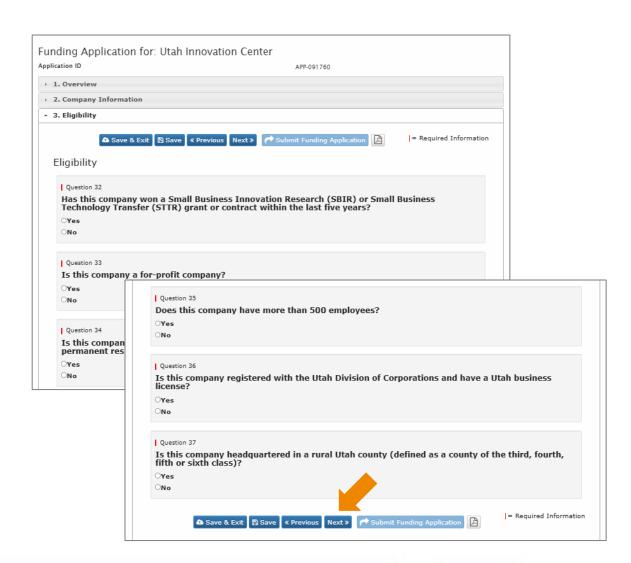
- Company name and contact information.
- Employer Identification Number or Tax Identification
   Number (see IRS website if you need to obtain one).
- Business License number and jurisdiction (city or county) if applicable.
- Business contact name and contact information.
- Principal Investigator (PI) name and contact information. This should be the same PI you are naming under your SBIR/STTR funding application (If your project has co-PIs, provide the one associated with your company).

Once completed, click "Next."



#### Step 5: Verify your Eligibility to the SBIR/STTR Programs

- Under the "Eligibility" section, answer all the questions.
- The information provided will be verified to confirm your eligibility for both the federal SBIR/STTR and UTIF programs.
- Visit the <u>Utah Division of Corporations</u> website to complete your company registration (this is different from a business license registration).
- If you are unfamiliar with SBIR/STTR requirements, please attend the free <a href="SBIR 101 Workshop">SBIR 101 Workshop</a>
- Once completed, click "Next."

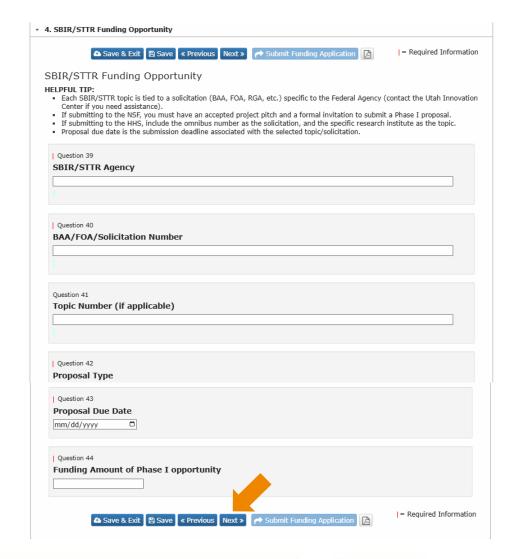


#### Step 6: Add the SBIR/STTR Funding Opportunity Information



- Federal Agency (E.g., DOD, DOE, HHS, NSF, DOT, DOC, DA, DHS, DE, NASA, EPA, NIST)
- BAA/FOA Solicitation number (funding opportunity number from the federal agency. Visit <u>Grants.gov</u> for details)
- Topic Number (listed under the solicitation)
- Proposal Type (Phase I, Phase II, Direct to Phase II, Fast Track)
- Proposal Due Date (listed under the solicitation)
- Funding Amount (enter full allowable amount listed under solicitation/topic)
- If applying to the NSF, enter the Topic and Sub-Topic numbers listed under the <u>Portfolio webpage</u>. An accepted Project Pitch from an NSF Program Director is also required under UTIF.
- If applying to the HHS/NIH, enter the selected Research Institute.
  Your proposal/innovation must align with the Program

  Description of that same Research Institute.
- Once completed, click "Next."

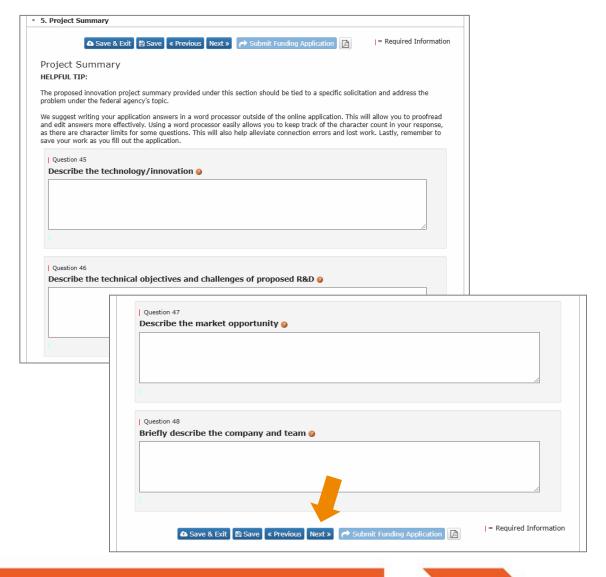


#### Step 7: Add your Project Summary

Under the Project Summary section, you are invited to describe the R&D project you are proposing in your SBIR/STTR application:

- Description of technology/Innovation (500 word maximum):
   Explain what product/service you will develop and how it address a market gap or unmet need
- Description of technical objectives and challenges of proposed R&D (500 - word maximum): Explain what type of science validation or proof of concepts is needed to develop your innovation (functional prototype) . A typical proposal has normally 2 to 5 technical objectives.
- Market opportunity description (250 word maximum): Explain
  the market segment and size, current state of the art,
  competitors, customers, and how you are planning to
  commercialize your innovation.
- Company and team description (250 word maximum): Provide a summary of the company's history, mission, size and current business activities. Explain who will be the PI and main contributors to the project (include research institution collaborators, partners or consultants if applicable).

Once completed, click " Next"



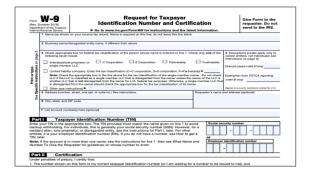
#### **Step 8: Upload Attachments**



#### Under the "Attachment" section, provide the following documents:

#### · W-9 Form:

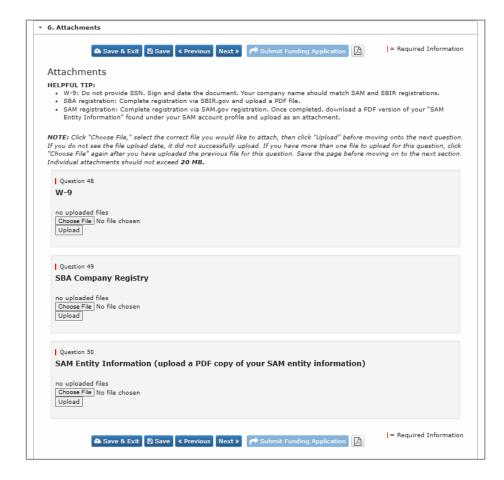
- Download and complete a copy of the form found on <u>IRS website</u>.
- Make sure to include the LLC classification (if applicable)
- Sign/date the document.
- Do not provide a SSN.



#### SBA Company Registry:

- Visit the SBIR website to complete your <u>SBIR registration</u>.
- Upload proof of registration (see example).

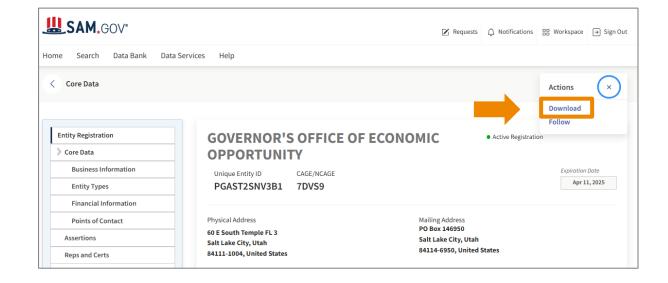


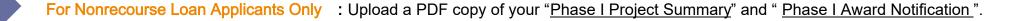


#### **Step 8: Upload Attachments**

#### SAM Entity Information:

- An active SAM registration is required to qualify under the UTIF program.
- A <u>SAM.gov registration</u> is free but may take
   2-8 weeks to process (apply in advance).
- Once your SAM registration is active, download a PDF version of your "<u>SAM</u> <u>Entity Information</u>" found under your SAM account profile (see example).



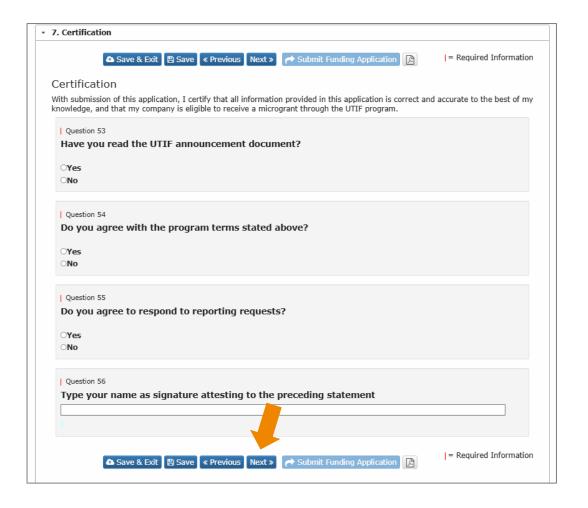


#### Step 9: Certify, Review and Submit your Application



- Read the <u>UTIF Program Announcement</u>.
- · Agree with the terms of the program.
- Agree to report information related to your application and SBIR/STTR award.
- · Type your name as a signature.

Once completed, click "Next"

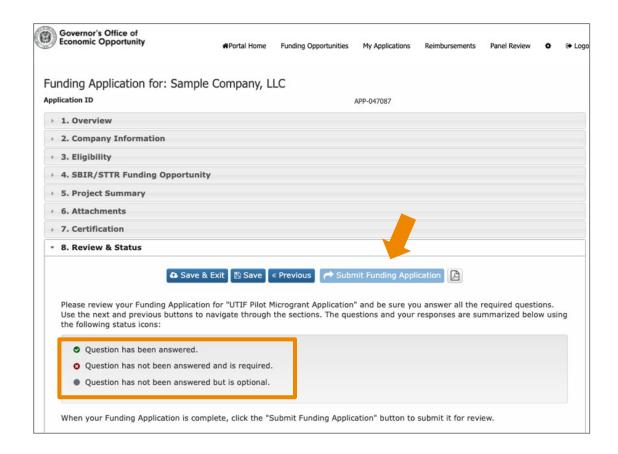


#### Step 9: Certify, Review and Submit your Application

#### How to review your UTIF application:

- •The "Submit Funding Application" button will be grayed out until all required questions are answered.
- •Complete questions will be marked with a green  $\sqrt{ }$  icon
- •Incomplete questions will be marked with a red X icon.
- Scroll down to see questions that are marked with a red X.
- Scroll back to the navigation menu and to return the section corresponding to the unanswered questions.
   Click "save" to modify your answers.
- •Click "Review & Status" to return to the submit screen.

When all required questions are answered, the "Submit Funding Application" button will change from pale to dark blue, and you will be able to submit your UTIF application.



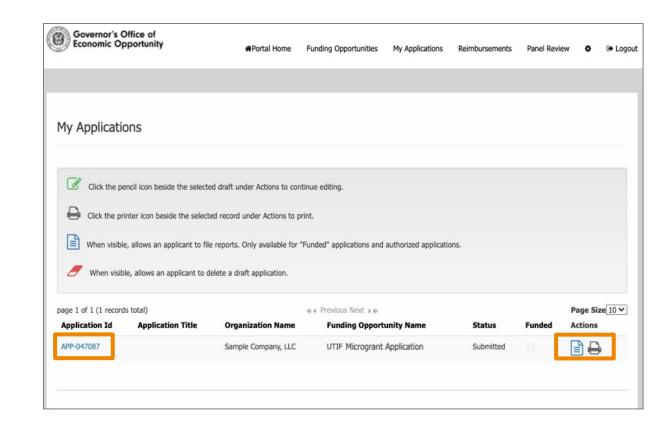


# UTIF Review & Approval Process

## Step 10: UTIF Review & Approval Process

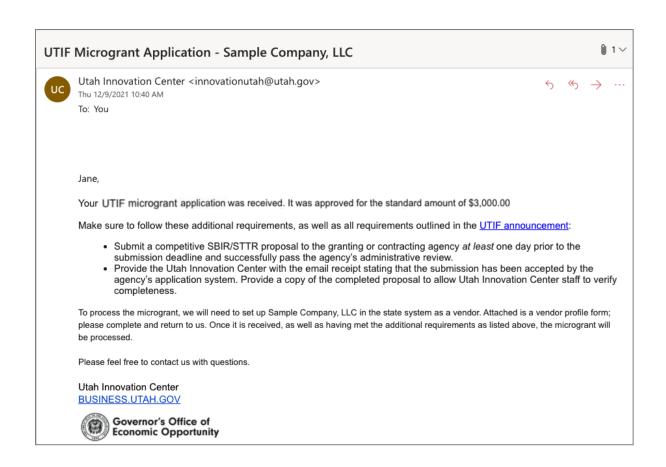


- Once submitted, your UTIF application will be reviewed within 10 business days.
- For tracking purposes, your UTIF application has an assigned Application ID.
- You may use the "Actions" icons to print or download a copy of your application.
- Email notifications will be sent to confirm submission of the UTIF application and for status updates.
- Further information may be requested to clarify your innovation and to confirm your eligibility to the program.
- Incomplete information may delay the review process or decline your funding application.



## Step 11: How to claim your UTIF funds

- Upon approval, you will be assigned to a program manager to guide and support you through the SBIR/STTR submission process.
- Submit your SBIR/STTR proposal to the federal agency at least 1 day prior to the deadline.
- UTIF Funds are disbursed after the applicant has provided:
  - An <u>email receipt</u> stating that the submission has been accepted by the agency's application system.
  - Copy of the submitted SBIR/STTR proposal.
  - Completed Utah Vendor Form (FI-170)
  - Information must be provided to the Utah Innovation Center within 90 days of the SBIR/STTR submission deadline.



## **UTIF Application - Common Mistakes**

- Not reading the Federal Agency's solicitation and addressing the topic or mission.
- Not leveraging the various <u>workshops</u>, tools, and templates offered by the Utah Innovation Center.
- <u>Failing to register</u> your small company to all required government reporting systems (SAM.gov, SBA/SBIR, eRA commons) listed under the solicitation.
- Submitting an SBIR/STTR application to the federal agency at the <u>last minute</u>.
- Innovation is <u>not based in STEM or Research & Development</u>.
- Innovations that are <u>incremental upgrades</u> of an existing product/technology, <u>no commercialization potential</u>, or <u>limited impact</u>.
- Submitting your UTIF application <u>less than 4 weeks</u> prior to the Federal Agency's SBIR/STTR application deadline.

