



U.S. Small Business  
Administration

# NEWS RELEASE

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## Maine DISTRICT

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### **U.S. Small Business Administration and the Maine Technology Institute to host national Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) Road Tour in Portland on August 24**

*Event to create opportunities for Maine small businesses to earn federal grant  
funding*

**PORTLAND** – Today, the U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA), in conjunction with the Maine Technology Institute, announced that they will be hosting the SBIR Road Tour in Portland, Maine on Friday, August 24. With welcoming remarks from Maine’s Governor, The Honorable Paul LePage, this event will provide Maine small businesses the opportunity to meet directly with Program Managers and senior staff of 11 participating federal agencies, which provide grant funding for promising technologies and projects.

“I am delighted that Maine was selected to be one of the coveted stops on the national SBIR Road Tour,” said Amy Bassett, SBA’s District Director for Maine. “The Road Tour provides Maine’s small businesses with direct access to funding decision-makers from 11 federal agencies that provide research and development grants. They will be in Maine to provide vital guidance and advice to small businesses interested in accessing this federal funding,” added Bassett.

The Maine Technology Institute, which provides technical support to small businesses seeking funding, will be hosting the event with the SBA Maine District Office.

“Helping Maine small businesses secure critically-needed research and development funds from the federal government to help drive and grow innovation in our state is a core competency of MTI,” said Brian Whitney, President of MTI. “MTI is pleased to partner with the SBA to host this SBIR Road Tour to ensure that Maine small businesses and entrepreneurs have the best opportunity to secure federal grant funds to help convert their innovative ideas into new products, services and companies,” added Whitney.

The event will be held on Friday, August 24 from 7:00 a.m. to 3:00 p.m. at the Clarion Hotel, 1230 Congress Street in Portland. For more information, or to register for the event, please go to:

<https://www.mainetechnology.org/events/2018-sbir-sttr-road-tour/>

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