



Broad Agency Announcement
Advanced Propulsor, Experimental (APEX)
DARPA TACTICAL TECHNOLOGY OFFICE

HR001122S0046

10 August 2022

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PART I: OVERVIEW INFORMATION

- **Federal Agency Name** – Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA), Tactical Technology Office (TTO)
- **Funding Opportunity Title** – Advanced Propulsor, Experimental (APEX)
- **Announcement Type** – Initial Announcement
- **Funding Opportunity Number** – HR001122S0046
- **Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance Numbers (CFDA)** – Not Applicable
- **Dates**
 - Posting Date: 10 August 2022
 - Questions Due: 24 August 2022 at 5 P.M. Eastern Time
 - Proposal Due: 27 September 2022 at 5 P.M. Eastern Time
- **Concise description of the funding opportunity** – The APEX program will design, build, and test classified submarine propulsor technology. The BAA seeks full proposals for Phase 1 (Phase 1A Base, Phase 1B Option, and Phase 1C Option) and a rough order of magnitude (ROM) cost estimate for Phase 2 (Phase 2A and Phase 2B). Phase 1A focuses on design space exploration and concept design activities concluding with a Conceptual Design Review (CoDR). Phase 1B continues the maturation of selected concept(s) and concludes with a Preliminary Design Review (PDR). Phase 1C is an opportunity for risk reduction efforts in advance of Phase 2. Through a limited competition among Phase 1B performers, a single performer and single concept may be selected for Phase 2 of the program where a detailed design will be finalized and conclude with a Critical Design Review (CDR) and a quarter-scale demonstration unit will be built and tested.
- **Total amount anticipated to be awarded** – The anticipated budget for Phase 1 is approximately \$40M across multiple performers.
- Multiple awards are anticipated.
- **Types of instruments that may be awarded** – Procurement contract or Other Transaction.
- **Agency contact**
 - Points of Contact
The BAA Coordinator for this effort can be reached at:
HR001122S0046@darpa.mil
DARPA/TTO
ATTN: HR001122S0046
675 North Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-2114

PART II: FULL TEXT OF ANNOUNCEMENT

I. Funding Opportunity Description

This publication constitutes a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2) and 35.016 and 2 CFR § 200.203. Any resultant award negotiations will follow all pertinent law and regulation, and any negotiations and/or awards for procurement contracts will use procedures under FAR 15.4, Contract Pricing, as specified in the BAA.

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) is soliciting innovative proposals in the following technical area: advanced submarine propulsors.

The Advanced Propulsor, Experimental (APEX) program contains both UNCLASSIFIED and CLASSIFIED elements. This document conveys the UNCLASSIFIED aspects of the program, with other portions of this BAA, such as Addendum 1, its supporting Attachments 1-4, and the Security Classification Guide (SCG,) being classified SECRET. The documents which make up the classified portions of this BAA will be referred to as the “classified document package” and must be requested via the process detailed in subsequent sections below. See the classified document package for further information on this funding opportunity beyond what is contained in this document.

Program Overview: Performers will explore the propulsor design space of potential solutions for a submarine or unmanned underwater vehicle (UUV). Relevant areas of expertise include hydro-dynamics, hydro-acoustics, mechanical engineering, naval architecture (submarine), electro-mechanical, and other disciplines. The Design Space Exploration (DSE) process is expected to explore the design space with metrics related to efficiency, signature, mechanical design and limits, and operational considerations. The details of the DSE are included in Addendum 1 and its attachments, including metrics of interest used to evaluate trades between designs.

Phase 1A Base is a 12-month period in which performers are expected to quantitatively explore the APEX design space via a proposed DSE process. Proposals should describe the planned approach to trade space exploration and the design evolution process to assess multiple potential APEX designs and culminate in a conceptual design review (CoDR), which may include multiple potential designs. Proposers should describe the design process they intend to use, and the tools and techniques they plan to employ to conduct their DSE, as well as starting points, points of departure, and any candidate designs they intend to evaluate and why they are of interest in the trade space. CoDR level designs should only consider the full-scale designs.

Phase 1B Option is a 9-month period which may be exercised dependent upon performance and funding availability. In Phase 1B, performers will work toward defining a single APEX design approach based on the CoDR results, then refine the design through engineering design and analysis, and risk reduction activities. Phase 1B will include a System Requirements Review (SRR) and culminate with a preliminary design review (PDR) of the APEX design. PDR should include the selected full-scale objective design and a quarter-scale demonstration design variant

intended for fabrication and testing in Phase 2. Proposers will be expected to show traceability between the objective and demonstration designs.

Phase 1C Option is a 3-month period which may be exercised to refine the PDR design following Government feedback from the PDR, and conduct any necessary risk reduction activities that result from the PDR. The performer will review all design documentation, requirements, risk analysis and program costs and provide an updated brief to the Government reflecting modifications and implications to the objective and demonstration designs. Phase 1C tasks are expected to incorporate detailed analysis, design, and risk reduction activities for key sub-systems justifying a trajectory for future Phase 2 Critical Design Review (CDR)-level maturity. Proposers are expected to demonstrate via technology maturation and risk reduction activities, readiness to proceed through Phase 2 of the program, with the capability to be the system integrator for construction of the APEX demonstrator vessel and conduct water-borne demonstration testing.

The deliverable table below outlines the minimum set of program deliverables for Phase 1.

Deliverables

Deliverable	Due date	Description
Kick-off meeting presentation	1 Month after award (MAA)	Presentation that summarizes the Phase 1 plan, highlighting changes made since proposal submission and detailing the first three months of Phase 1.
Integrated Master Schedule (IMS)	1 MAA; Initial at kick-off meeting, then updated quarterly	Program schedule, incorporating detailed plans.
Technology Maturation Plan (TMP)	1 MAA; Initial at kick-off meeting, then updated quarterly	Document that defines the technology maturation plan. Must include current risk assessment and progress against risk waterfalls.
Operation Security Plan (OPSEC) and Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) Mitigation Plan	1 MAA; Initial at kick-off meeting then update for any change in security posture	Plans used to identify and monitor security activities during the performance of a contract. Both plans are intended to be a living document that will require periodic updates throughout the life of the contract.
Technical Status Teleconference	Monthly	Teleconference to discuss progress over the previous month and plans for the upcoming month.
Technical and financial status report	Monthly; delivered 2 business days prior to technical status teleconference	Report that provides technical, financial, and schedule updates.

Quarterly Program Review (QPR)	Quarterly	Presentation outlining technical progress, planned future activities, and program management updates (to include cost, schedule, and personnel).
CoDR documentation	12 MAA; CoDR data items delivered 1 week prior to CoDR	Documentation that defines the conceptual design, as influenced by trade space assessment and trade study results. It should include feasibility analysis, technology maturation plan update (including risk assessment), and preliminary assessment of projected design performance against performance objectives and associated subsystem objective metrics.
Post CoDR report	13 MAA; report delivered 1 month after CoDR	Documentation that incorporates Government provided feedback, following the CoDR, into the design(s). This can be incorporated into the Phase 1 final report if not selected for Phase 1B.
System Requirements Review (SRR) documentation	15 MAA; SRR data items delivered 1 week prior to SRR	Documentation detailing system requirements specification (functional and performance), requirement traceability matrix, and decomposition for verification and validation roadmap.
PDR documentation	21 MAA; PDR data items delivered 1 week prior to PDR	Documentation that details the preliminary design of the APEX full-scale and quarter-scale designs. Phase 2 cost ROM update. Critical system documentation should be summarized and available at the review.
Post PDR report	22 MAA; report delivered 1 month after PDR	Documentation that incorporates Government-provided feedback, following the PDR, into the design(s). This can be incorporated into the final report if not selected for Phase 1C.
Trade study reports	Report delivered within 2 weeks after completion of trade study	Report or annotated briefing that describes the trades conducted, indicating impact and traceability to respective metrics.
Risk reduction activity report	Report delivered within 2 weeks after completion of risk reduction activity	Report or annotated briefing that describes the major risk reduction activities, outcomes, and consequences to design and development.
Phase 1 final report	13 MAA, 22 MAA, or 25 MAA, as	Report that details all Phase 1 activities, capturing top-level results of all trade

	selected (13 MAA for performers ending after Phase 1A. 22 MAA for performers ending after Phase 1B. 25 MAA for performers completing Phase 1C)	studies, design performance analyses, and demonstration design.
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Management Approach: Proposers should provide a description of their program and risk management approach. The management approach should include regular teleconferences with the Government to review program, design, and development details, and regular interactions with performers to discuss any relevant interface and functional design details and to coordinate relevant program schedule items. In-person reviews should be held with the Government at major program milestones to review progress against program objectives and to receive Government inputs on risk management trades. The program management approach should identify and track technical risks and establish risk mitigation approaches early and continuously throughout the program.

Design Reviews: The Performer will execute appropriate program reviews. Phase 1 program reviews will include a CoDR SRR, and PDR with content and entrance and exit criteria tailored from a recognized industry or military standard (e.g., Defense Acquisition Guidance (DAG) guidelines available at <https://dag.dau.mil> and MIL-STD-1521B are suggested sources) for appropriate application to a technology demonstration program, as appropriate for the proposed effort. Proposals should clearly address how these standards will be tailored in the proposed effort. Any tailoring of design review content and criteria must include an assessment of the design maturation of the technology, technical risk, and incorporate demonstrable technology maturation progress and achievements. Specific expectations for the APEX program are outlined below, and should be incorporated into the proposer's comprehensive list of tailored design review criteria, which will be evaluated to assess the adequacy of the proposed systems engineering processes. In addition, these checklists will need to be approved by the Government prior to the start of the reviews to allow the Government to understand and assess the adequacy of the proposed tailoring of these reviews. Any changes or updates to the entrance and exit criteria during phases must be provided to the Government and approved, as indicated in the deliverables table.

General:

- Requirements Development - A complete set of interfaces, demonstration system performance, and design requirements is established at level 4 of the system hierarchy (i.e., system, subsystem, component, and subcomponent) for the subject review. Each requirement must include verification provisions. System interfaces are identified and documented.

- Design Definition - The design of the system is established at level 4 of the system hierarchy for the subject review, satisfies established requirements, and is sufficiently detailed to enable the next level of design definition. Appropriate design margins are identified and maintained.
- Risk Management – Technical, cost, and schedule risks are identified and assessed (e.g., consequence and likelihood). Mitigation plans are in place along with associated completion criteria. Technical risks have been updated with results of any mitigation activities.
- Technology Maturation – System/hardware/software attributes requiring maturation have been identified and associated analysis, test, and demonstration objectives have been documented. The representative test article design is documented.

CoDR

The objective of this review is to determine the feasibility of the performer's system ideas, and that they are consistent with the APEX program goals. The performer will present the system conceptual baseline, review the results of any trade studies completed, and review the system-level specification(s). The review will form the basis for deriving the preliminary design, allow DARPA to assess the performer's program approach and progress, and allow DARPA an opportunity to provide guidance.

Minimum information to be provided:

- Technology conceptual design is complete and the approach is shown to be feasible through initial analysis.
- A pathway to SRR is identified.
- System baseline technologies for propulsor approaches identified.
- Modeling and Simulation methods for verification are identified, and required enhancements or modifications are also identified.
- Initial trade space results are presented
- Design support analysis and data from all design disciplines, to support the final design.
- Projected objective system performance capabilities against demonstration profile.
- Release the final conceptual design drawing package (3-view, inboard profiles).
- Updated Phase 1B/1C IMS, and summary of proposed testing and analysis timelines and methodologies for Phase 2.

SRR

- Requirements Development – System (level 1) requirements and preliminary allocation of subsystem (level 2) and component (level 3) requirements are complete. Preliminary interfaces defined.
- Conceptual Design – Conceptual design is completed and approach is shown to be feasible through initial analysis. A pathway to the preliminary design is identified.
- Software Development – Software development plan including verification and validation approach.
- Trade Studies – Results of any trade studies completed to validate design approach.

- Cost – Initial cost estimates are documented and show a feasible path to Bill of Materials (BOM) cost that meets cost metrics.

PDR

- Requirements Development – System (level 1), subsystem (level 2), and component (level 3) requirements are complete. Initial verification methods (e.g., analysis, integration, test, and demonstration) are identified. Interfaces are documented.
- Design Definition – Assess the allocated design documented in subsystem requirements. Preliminary design is complete to the component level (level 3), closes around documented requirements, adequately demonstrates that performance achieves minimum and maximum threshold ranges, and meets size, weight, power and cost (SWaP-C) constraints.
- Software Development – Development plan with processes and metrics to measure progress.
- Risk Management – Risk matrix updated.
- Technology Maturation - Desired technology maturation can be achieved via planned development within program budget and schedule. Test plans define objectives and expected results that will validate design proof-of-concept.
- Cost – Revised bill of materials (BOM) cost based on preliminary design is documented and within established cost metrics.

CDR (Planned Phase 2 program review, mentioned for completeness and situational awareness)

- Requirements Development – Subcomponent (level 4) requirements are complete. Verification approach for each requirement has been established. Internal interfaces between subsystems are documented.
- Design Definition – Critical designs are complete to the subcomponent level (level 4) and achieve compliance with all associated requirements.
- Cost – Final design BOM costs are documented and within cost metrics.

Government Management Approach and Operations: The Government recognizes that a streamlined, collaborative management approach is essential to achieving the program technical, cost, and schedule objectives. The Government team is comprised of a core technical and programmatic team, which may be augmented with Government-led Integrated Product Teams (IPTs) for targeted technical disciplines, for example, systems engineering, integration, modeling & simulation, etc. The performers will interface with the Government teams via coordination meetings at the technical level, status meetings at the management level and quarterly program management reviews. The proposers are asked to provide a management approach to allow for collaboration with the Government team to ensure a successful program.

II. Award Information

A. General Award Information

This BAA solicits proposals only for Phase 1A (Base), Phase 1B (Option) and Phase 1C (Option) and additional proposed and substantiated Phase 1 options as described below. Multiple awards are anticipated. The amount of resources made available under this BAA will depend on the quality of the proposals received and the availability of funds.

This BAA requests a single, full proposal that includes all of the following: Phase 1A (Base), Phase 1B (Option), and Phase 1C (Option). DARPA may exercise Phase 1B Options prior to the end of the Phase 1A period of performance based on Phase 1A execution and funding availability. DARPA may exercise Phase 1C Options prior to the end of the Phase 1B period of performance based on Phase 1B execution and funding availability.

For Phase 1, proposals should focus on the process of DSE through CoDR, and then maturing the selected approach through SRR, and PDR. Proposals are expected to identify knowledge gaps and the associated analysis and test plans to fill those gaps early in the program. While it is required that offerors propose to Phase 1A base, Phase 1B option, and Phase 1C option; additional risk reduction activities may be proposed as options. If such options are proposed, proposers should delineate their period of performance accordingly in the Phase 1 timeline.

DARPA requests that Phase 1 proposals include a Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM) cost estimate for Phase 2. This ROM will be for planning purposes only and not be considered as part of the evaluation process, nor will it be binding for Phase 2 proposals (if any). Proposers need to ensure that the Phase 1A, 1B, and 1C portions of their technical proposals sufficiently demonstrate foresight for successful transition to Phases 2.

The Government reserves the right to select for negotiation all, some, one, or none of the proposals received in response to this solicitation and to make awards without discussions with proposers. The Government also reserves the right to conduct discussions if it is later determined to be necessary. If warranted, portions of resulting awards may be segregated into pre-priced options. Additionally, DARPA reserves the right to accept proposals in their entirety or to select only portions of proposals for award. In the event that DARPA desires to award only portions of a proposal, negotiations may be opened with that proposer. The Government reserves the right to fund proposals in phases with options for continued work, as applicable.

The Government reserves the right to request any additional, necessary documentation once it makes the award instrument determination. Such additional information may include but is not limited to Representations and Certifications (see Section VI.B.4, "Representations and Certifications"). The Government reserves the right to remove proposals from award consideration, should the parties fail to reach agreement on award terms, conditions, and/or cost/price within a reasonable time, or if the proposer fails to provide requested additional information in a timely manner. Proposals identified for negotiation may result in a procurement contract or Other Transaction, depending upon the nature of the work proposed, the required degree of interaction between parties, whether or not the research is classified as Fundamental Research, and other factors.

Proposers looking for innovative, commercial-like contractual arrangements are encouraged to consider requesting Other Transactions. To understand the flexibility and options associated with

Other Transactions, consult <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/contract-management#OtherTransactions>.

In accordance with 10 U.S.C. § 4022(f), the Government may award a follow-on production contract or Other Transaction (OT) for any OT awarded under this solicitation if: (1) that participant in the OT, or a recognized successor in interest to the OT, successfully completed the entire prototype project provided for in the OT, as modified; and (2) the OT provides for the award of a follow-on production contract or OT to the participant, or a recognized successor in interest to the OT.

In all cases, the Government contracting officer shall have sole discretion to select award instrument type, regardless of instrument type proposed, and to negotiate all instrument terms and conditions with selectees. DARPA will apply publication or other restrictions, as necessary, if it determines that the research resulting from the proposed effort will present a high likelihood of disclosing performance characteristics of military systems or manufacturing technologies that are unique and critical to defense. Any award resulting from such a determination will include a requirement for DARPA permission before publishing any information or results on the program. For more information on publication restrictions, see the section below on Fundamental Research

B. Proposals and Awards

Proposers shall prepare full proposals in accordance with the proposal format instructions detailed under Section IV to address Phase 1 (including options) and a ROM for Phase 2.

It is anticipated that the Government will request proposals for Phase 2 during Phase 1B Option. It is anticipated that this proposal will be due around the time of PDR. Only those performers whose Phase 1 Option 1B is exercised will be invited to submit a Phase 2 proposal.

Submission of updated full proposals for future phases is optional and associated proposal preparation costs will not be reimbursed under Phase 1 awards. Performers who choose not to submit an updated full proposal for future phases will not be considered for future awards. To continue the program beyond the Phase 1 contract is the decision of the Government and will be based on Phase 1 results, Government need, the availability of funds, the determination that performers have made sufficient progress towards meeting program performance objectives, maturing the required technologies and addressing risks, and scientific review of the proposals. Evaluations of updated full proposals for future phases will be based on evaluation criteria to be specified in the proposal request.

C. Fundamental Research

It is DoD policy that the publication of products of fundamental research will remain unrestricted to the maximum extent possible. National Security Decision Directive (NSDD) 189 defines fundamental research as follows:

‘Fundamental research’ means basic and applied research in science and engineering, the results of which ordinarily are published and shared broadly within the scientific

community, as distinguished from proprietary research and from industrial development, design, production, and product utilization, the results of which ordinarily are restricted for proprietary or national security reasons.

As of the date of publication of this solicitation, the Government expects that program goals as described herein either cannot be met by proposers intending to perform fundamental research or the proposed research is anticipated to present a high likelihood of disclosing performance characteristics of military systems or manufacturing technologies that are unique and critical to defense. Therefore, the Government anticipates restrictions on the resultant research that will require the awardee to seek DARPA permission before publishing any information or results relative to the program.

Proposers should indicate in their proposal whether they believe the scope of the research included in their proposal is fundamental or not. While proposers should clearly explain the intended results of their research, the Government shall have sole discretion to determine whether the proposed research shall be considered fundamental and to select the award instrument type. Appropriate language will be included in resultant awards for non-fundamental research to prescribe publication requirements and other restrictions, as appropriate. This language can be found at <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/additional-baa>.

For certain research projects, it may be possible that although the research to be performed by a potential awardee is non-fundamental research, its proposed subawardee's effort may be fundamental research. It is also possible that the research performed by a potential awardee is fundamental research while its proposed subawardee's effort may be non-fundamental research. In all cases, it is the potential awardee's responsibility to explain in its proposal which proposed efforts are fundamental research and why the proposed efforts should be considered fundamental research.

III. Eligibility Information

A. Eligible Applicants

All responsible sources capable of satisfying the Government's needs may submit a proposal that shall be considered by DARPA.

1. Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs) and Government Entities

a) FFRDCs

FFRDCs are subject to applicable direct competition limitations and cannot propose to this solicitation in any capacity unless they meet the following conditions. (1) FFRDCs must clearly demonstrate that the proposed work is not otherwise available from the private sector. (2) FFRDCs must provide a letter, on official letterhead from their sponsoring organization, that (a) cites the specific authority establishing their eligibility to propose to Government solicitations and compete with industry, and (b) certifies the FFRDC's compliance with the associated

FFRDC sponsor agreement's terms and conditions. These conditions are a requirement for FFRDCs proposing to be awardees or subawardees.

All proposers are expected to address transition; transition is part of the evaluation criteria in Section V.A. However, given their special status, FFRDCs should describe how and when a proposed technology/system will transition to which Non-FFRDC organization(s).

b) Government Entities

Government Entities (e.g., Government/National laboratories, military educational institutions, etc.) are subject to applicable direct competition limitations. Government Entities must clearly demonstrate that the work is not otherwise available from the private sector and provide written documentation citing the specific statutory authority and contractual authority, if relevant, establishing their ability to propose to Government solicitations and compete with industry. This information is required for Government Entities proposing to be awardees or subawardees.

c) Authority and Eligibility

At the present time, DARPA does not consider 15 U.S.C. § 3710a to be sufficient legal authority to show eligibility. While 10 U.S.C. § 4892 may be the appropriate statutory starting point for some entities, specific supporting regulatory guidance, together with evidence of agency approval, will still be required to fully establish eligibility. DARPA will consider FFRDC and Government Entity eligibility submissions on a case-by-case basis; however, the burden to prove eligibility for all team members rests solely with the proposer.

2. Non-U.S. Organizations and/or Individuals

Non-U.S. organizations and/or individuals may participate to the extent that such participants comply with any necessary nondisclosure agreements, security regulations, export control laws, and other governing statutes applicable under the circumstances.

B. Organizational Conflicts of Interest

FAR 9.5 Requirements

In accordance with FAR 9.5, proposers are required to identify and disclose all facts relevant to potential OCIs involving the proposer's organization and *any* proposed team member (subawardee, consultant). Under this Section, the proposer is responsible for providing this disclosure with each proposal submitted to the solicitation. The disclosure must include the proposer's, and as applicable, proposed team member's OCI mitigation plan. The OCI mitigation plan must include a description of the actions the proposer has taken, or intends to take, to prevent the existence of conflicting roles that might bias the proposer's judgment and to prevent the proposer from having unfair competitive advantage. The OCI mitigation plan will specifically discuss the disclosed OCI in the context of each of the OCI limitations outlined in FAR 9.505-1 through FAR 9.505-4.

Agency Supplemental OCI Policy

In addition, DARPA has a supplemental OCI policy that prohibits contractors/performers from concurrently providing Scientific Engineering Technical Assistance (SETA), Advisory and Assistance Services (A&AS) or similar support services and being a technical performer. Therefore, as part of the FAR 9.5 disclosure requirement above, a proposer must affirm whether the proposer or *any* proposed team member (subawardee, consultant) is providing SETA, A&AS, or similar support to any DARPA office(s) under: (a) a current award or subaward; or (b) a past award or subaward that ended within one calendar year prior to the proposal's submission date.

If SETA, A&AS, or similar support is being or was provided to any DARPA office(s), the proposal must include:

- The name of the DARPA office receiving the support;
- The prime contract number;
- Identification of proposed team member (subawardee, consultant) providing the support; and
- An OCI mitigation plan in accordance with FAR 9.5.

Government Procedures

In accordance with FAR 9.503, 9.504 and 9.506, the Government will evaluate OCI mitigation plans to avoid, neutralize or mitigate potential OCI issues before award and to determine whether it is in the Government's interest to grant a waiver. The Government will only evaluate OCI mitigation plans for proposals that are determined selectable under the solicitation evaluation criteria and funding availability.

The Government may require proposers to provide additional information to assist the Government in evaluating the proposer's OCI mitigation plan.

If the Government determines that a proposer failed to fully disclose an OCI; or failed to provide the affirmation of DARPA support as described above; or failed to reasonably provide additional information requested by the Government to assist in evaluating the proposer's OCI mitigation plan, the Government may reject the proposal and withdraw it from consideration for award.

C. Cost Sharing/Matching

Cost sharing is not required; however, it will be carefully considered where there is an applicable statutory condition relating to the selected funding instrument. Cost sharing is encouraged where there is a reasonable probability of a potential commercial application related to the proposed research and development effort.

For more information on potential cost sharing requirements for Other Transactions for Prototype, see <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/contract-management#OtherTransactions>.

IV. Application and Submission Information

A. Address to Request Application Package

This announcement, with its classified document package, any attachments, any templates, and any references to external websites herein constitute the total solicitation. If proposers cannot access the referenced material posted in the announcement found at <https://sam.gov/> or <https://www.darpa.mil>, contact the administrative contact listed herein.

The classified document package in support of this BAA can be requested via e-mail to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil and received through either of the following methods:

- Electronically via appropriate computer system. Senders should coordinate by sending an UNCLASSIFIED e-mail request to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil. Once appropriate access to Classified IT system is verified, the classified document package will be sent.

OR

- In hardcopy via mail. Senders should coordinate by sending an UNCLASSIFIED e-mail request to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil. Requests for the package should include, at a minimum, the organization name, technical POC name and phone number, FSO name and phone number, CAGE code, statement of facility clearance and safeguarding capability, and a valid address for receiving classified material at the SECRET level via express mail. DARPA will verify the facility clearance and the clearance of the recipient before mailing the classified material. If the classified mailing address is not authorized for express mail, this should be indicated in the request and the package will be sent via USPS registered mail. Further handling instructions will accompany the package. Proposers should allow at least five (5) business days for processing requests plus time for delivery.

B. Content and Form of Application Submission

All submissions must be written in English with type not smaller than 12-point font. All hard copies must be on 8½ inch by 11-inch paper with 1" margins. Smaller font may be used for figures, tables, and charts. Full page figures, tables, and charts may be larger than 8 ½ inch by 11 inches. Copies of all documents submitted must be clearly labeled with the DARPA BAA number, proposer organization, and proposal title/proposal short title. All monetary references in the proposal shall be in U.S. Dollars.

1. Proposal Format

All complete proposal packages must include the parts listed below.

The proposal shall be delivered in two volumes, Volume I – Technical and Management

Proposal (composed of three parts) and Volume II – Cost Proposal. While it is anticipated that Volume I will contain classified content, it is anticipated the Volume II will be mostly, if not completely, unclassified. The maximum page limit for Volume I is 80 pages. Bracketed numbers (e.g., {5}) before each section denote recommended page limits, proposers may deviate from these, as long as their overall Volume I is no longer than 80 pages. (Note: Any full-page Figure Table or Chart does not count against the page limit and can be oversized as needed to convey the information clearly)

Additionally, proposals must include a completed Template 1: “Administrative and National Policy Requirements Document” and Template 2: “Proposal Summary Slides” (both available with the BAA on sam.gov) and they do not count against the page limit.

Ensure that each section provides the detailed discussion of the proposed work necessary to enable an in-depth review of the specific technical and management approaches. Specific attention must be given to addressing both risk and payoff of the proposed work that make it desirable to DARPA.

NOTE: Non-conforming submissions that do not follow the instructions herein may be rejected without further review.

a) **Volume I, Technical and Management Proposal**

Section I: Administrative

- (a) Cover Sheet to include:
- (1) BAA number (HR001122S0046);
 - (2) Technical area;
 - (3) Lead Organization submitting proposal;
 - (4) Type of organization, selected among the following categories: “LARGE BUSINESS,” “SMALL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS,” “OTHER SMALL BUSINESS,” “HBCU,” “MI,” “OTHER EDUCATIONAL,” OR “OTHER NONPROFIT”
 - (5) Proposer’s reference number (if any);
 - (6) Other team members (if applicable) and type of organization for each;
 - (7) Proposal title;
 - (8) Technical point of contact to include: salutation, last name, first name, street address, city, state, zip code, telephone, fax (if available), electronic mail (if available);
 - (9) Administrative point of contact to include: salutation, last name, first name, street address, city, state, zip code, telephone, fax (if available), electronic mail (if available);
 - (10) Total funds requested from DARPA, and the amount of cost share (if any); and
 - (11) Date proposal was submitted.
- (b) Official transmittal letter

Section II: Summary of Proposal

- A. {3} Executive-level summary of technical rationale, technical approach, and constructive plan for accomplishment of technical goals in support of innovative claims and deliverable creation. In the proposal, this section should be supplemented by a more detailed plan in Section III of the Technical and Management Proposal. The summary should also include a top-level schedule that outlines the proposer's overall approach to executing proposed system development through demonstration testing.
- B. {2} Innovative claims for the proposed research. This section is the centerpiece of the proposal and should succinctly describe the uniqueness and benefits of the proposed approach relative to the current state-of-art alternate approaches.
- C. {2} Deliverables associated with the proposed research and the plans and capability to accomplish technology transition and commercialization.
 - a. Technical deliverables, such as reports, technical design reviews, hardware deliveries, etc.
 - b. Technology Transition deliverables, such as business case, value stream map, and transition story.

Proposers responding to this BAA must submit a separate list of all technical data or computer software that will be furnished to the Government with other than unlimited rights. The Government will assume unlimited rights if proposers fail to identify any intellectual property restrictions in their proposals. Include in this section all proprietary claims to the results, prototypes, intellectual property, or systems supporting and/or necessary for the use of the research, results, and/or prototype. If there are no proprietary claims, this should be stated. For forms to be completed regarding intellectual property, see Section IV.B.2.i of this BAA. There will be no page limit for the listed forms.

- D. {1} General discussion of other research in this area.
- E. {2} A clearly defined organization chart for the program team which includes, as applicable: (1) the programmatic relationship of team members; (2) the unique capabilities of team members; (3) the tasks and responsibilities of team members; (4) the teaming strategy among the team members; and (5) the key personnel along with the amount of effort to be expended by each person during each year. DARPA requires key personnel identified in the proposal to be assigned as proposed, and any resulting contract/agreement will indicate no substitution shall be made without prior approval of the Government.

Section III: Detailed Proposal Information

- A. {20} DSE approach: Detailed technical approach and plan for DSE methodology to be used in Phase 1 to explore potential APEX design concepts. Specific details of the DSE are included in the classified addendum and attachments as part of the classified document package which accompanies this document. Successful proposals will include details in this section on software tools, modeling approaches, methodologies, trade space considerations, and other relevant details as to how proposers will conduct their DSE efforts. Proposers should indicate what Government provided tools or information they might need to execute their DSE to the fullest extent, but should not cost these Government-Furnished Equipment

(GFE) or Government-Furnished Information (GFI) requests. Proposals should also include timelines associated with their DSE methodology (e.g., rates of design generation to be expected, timelines/gates associated with down-selection of designs), and boundaries associated with what the DSE will or will not explore. In short, this section should convey to DARPA how the proposer will develop their insight on APEX design choices, leading to an understanding of the Pareto front associated with the design space.

- B. {15} APEX vision: Proposers should provide an initial concept or concepts for how APEX might be designed and what critical technologies and technical challenges exist that they would propose exploring in Phase 1. The rationale underlying proposers' initial thought processes, and their concepts for how APEX should be built, should be addressed. In particular, proposers are encouraged to identify key trades or areas of uncertainty in their initial conceptual design and point to methodology in their DSE designed to evaluate and resolve those trades.
- C. {10} Testing and Evaluation: Proposers should identify critical technologies and system attributes that constitute the major technical and system integration risks on the program; identify major risk reduction activities and demonstrations required to validate the ability to achieve component and system level performance goals; provide a description of the test methodologies and key test activities (including early scaled model testing) for the Phase 1 and future phases including test rationale, objectives, facilities, and metrics; and an assessment of the technical maturity level at the end of Phase 1.
- D. {10} Provide a management plan that describes the proposed system development processes and management approach to support successful program execution. The proposal should describe teaming arrangements as appropriate. Lessons learned from prior experience in managing efforts with this level of complexity and uncertainty should be discussed.

Provide an overview of the system development processes to be used along with the organizational responsibilities and authority for the development effort. Describe the development approach to facilitate the final design and ensure that it meets program objectives. Describe how key system knowledge acquired during the program will be captured, as well as describe the use of key tracking measures to enable efficient assessment of program progress. Describe ongoing design update activities, including integration of risk reduction activities, test results, interfaces, and integration support.

Proposals should identify the team structure and plan for coordination with the system integrator as appropriate. This should include considerations for regular interchange meetings.

Describe how activities will be managed and integrated across geographically and/or organizationally separate team elements. Describe the proposed approach to subcontractor management, quality control, safety, and security. Describe the proposed level of Government interaction to facilitate efficient interactions and streamlined decision making.

Include in the management plan the proposed programmatic approach to cost, schedule, and risk management. Although formal Earned-Value Management (EVM) is not required for the program, the proposer is expected to describe how they will provide ongoing assessment of technical and programmatic progress against the program plan, critical path, schedule and cost. Define the content of technical and financial progress reports to enable efficient program monitoring, tracking, and reporting. Program management tools should be the same tools used internally to manage the program. No additional unique information for the Government is desired or required.

- E. {no page limit} Statement of Work (SOW) – In plain English, clearly define the technical tasks/subtasks to be performed, their durations, and dependencies among them. The proposer shall employ a common work breakdown structure (WBS), or other detailed project organization structure, for numbering all activities in the SOW, IMS, and cost proposal. Major hardware and software component development and test activities shall be detailed to level 2 (subsystem) or below for work through CoDR and to level 3 (component) or below for work through PDR, such that there is a direct correlation between material purchases and individual items, understanding of individual test composition and cost, etc. A less detailed WBS breakdown is acceptable for level-of-effort type tasks such as program management, program control, etc. The page length for the SOW will be dependent on the amount of the effort. For each task/subtask, provide:
- A general description of the objective (for each defined task/activity);
 - A detailed description of the approach to be taken to accomplish each defined task/activity;
 - Identification of the primary organization responsible for task execution (prime, sub, team member, by name, etc.);
 - The completion criteria for each task/activity - a product, event or milestone that defines its completion;
 - A definition of all deliverables (reporting, data, reports, software, etc.) to be provided to the Government in support of the proposed research tasks/activities; and
 - Clear identification of any tasks/subtasks (to be performed by either an awardee or sub-awardee) that will be accomplished on-campus at a university, if applicable.

Note: The SOW must be structured so that Phase 1A, Phase 1B option, Phase 1C, and any additional options are clearly delineated and separately defined.

See Figure 2 below for an example of a notional WBS.

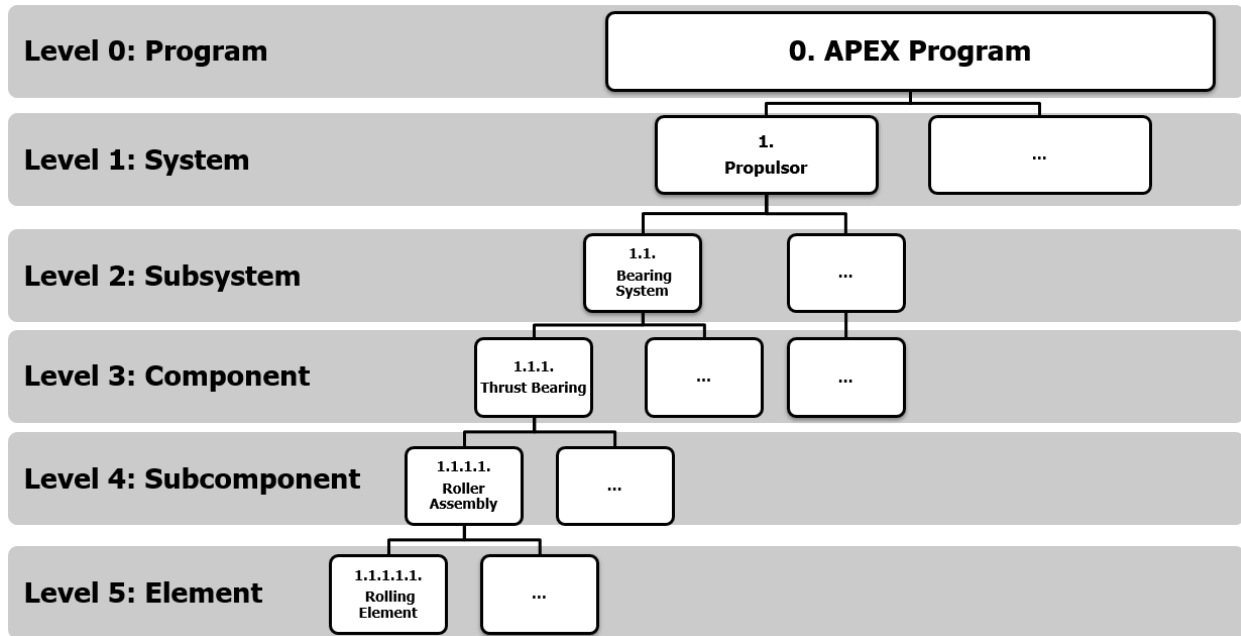


Figure 2. Sample WBS Structure Levels

Do not include any proprietary information in the SOW.

- F. {no page limit} Include an Integrated Master Schedule (IMS) in a common format (e.g., MS Project) that details all of the proposed program activities. The IMS shall detail the specific tasks to be accomplished, their interrelationships, and time sequencing. The IMS should be provided at the same or lower level of detail as the SOW.
- G. {no page limit} Design Review Content and Data Package Development: Describe the content of the program review plans. Provide a complete list of the content, proposed entrance and exit criteria for each of these reviews and identify which deliverables will contain the expected content. For PDR, also identify a list of anticipated subsystems that will be addressed by this review. Describe how technology maturation and risk reduction results that occur outside of the design review cycle will be documented and delivered. Identify how all deliverables will be initially developed and updated for subsequent reviews, including planned completion dates as captured in the IMS. Provide an overview of the capture, documentation, and design control processes and tools used for, including but not limited to, requirements management, configuration management, technical documentation and drawings, design data packages, and test reports.
- H. {no limit} Description of the results, products, transferable technology, and expected technology transfer path to supplement information included in the summary of the proposal. This should also address mitigation of life-cycle and sustainment risks associated with transitioning intellectual property for U.S. military applications, if applicable. See also Section IV.B.2.i of this BAA., "Intellectual Property."
- I. {10} Program Team and Experience: The proposer shall provide a management plan that describes the proposed engineering processes and management approach to support

successful Phase 1 execution. Boiler plate process description is strongly discouraged; this section should rather be seen as an opportunity to illustrate, where applicable, how the proposer's processes have been used during proposal writing. In this section, the proposal shall:

- Describe proposed teammates, their competencies, and proposed role.
- Provide resumes and qualifications of key personnel including the proposed Program Manager and any functional area leads as defined by the proposer's team organization. Key personnel should have adequate experience from past programs that is relevant to their proposed role on this program. This section shall describe the role on the program, along with the percentage time commitment of each of these key personnel (not part of page count).
- Provide an overview of the decision processes to be used along with the organizational responsibilities and authority for the engineering effort.
- Describe how key system knowledge acquired during the program will be captured and made available to the Government, as well as describe the use of key tracking measures to enable efficient assessment of program progress.
- Discuss the proposer's ability to execute programs of similar content and complexity on schedule and within budget as demonstrated by the team's corporate experience and key personnel performance on relevant past programs.
- Address program control approach to include method, content, and frequency of cost performance reporting as well as the approach for conducting variance analyses, developing corrective action plans, and assessing the impact on estimates to complete.
- Describe the proposed level and method of Government interaction to facilitate efficient interactions (e.g., Technical Interchange Meetings (TIM), deep dives) and streamlined decision making, to include situations in which variances arise.
- Describe how activities will be managed and integrated across geographically and/or organizationally separate team elements.
- Define the content of technical and financial progress reports that enables efficient program monitoring, tracking, and reporting.
- While shipbuilding experience is not required for Phase 1 of this program, proposers should describe the capability of the team to conduct system integration and fabrication of XLUUV sized sea frames. If applicable, the proposer shall discuss fabrication facilities, validation and testing capabilities, and representative examples of sea-going vessel construction experience, with the goal of demonstrating the capability of constructing a scaled demonstration asset, if the team were selected to complete the full program.

- J. {5} Description of Security Management architecture and/or approach for the proposed effort. Detail unique additional security requirements information system certification expertise for CUI or classified processing, OPSEC, program protection planning, test planning, transportation plans, work being performed at different classification levels, and/or utilizing test equipment not approved at appropriate classification level (may not be applicable for fundamental research). This should include a description of the facilities that would be used for the proposed effort as well.

b) Volume II, Cost Proposal

All proposers, including FFRDCs, must submit the following:

Cover sheet to include:

- (1) BAA number (HR001122S0046);
- (2) Technical area;
- (3) Lead Organization submitting proposal;
- (4) Type of organization selected among the following categories: "LARGE BUSINESS," "SMALL DISADVANTAGED BUSINESS," "OTHER SMALL BUSINESS," "HBCU," "MI," "OTHER EDUCATIONAL," OR "OTHER NONPROFIT";
- (5) Proposer's reference number (if any);
- (6) Other team members (if applicable) and type of organization for each;
- (7) Proposal title;
- (8) Technical point of contact to include: salutation, last name, first name, street address, city, state, zip code, telephone, fax (if available), electronic mail (if available);
- (9) Administrative point of contact to include: salutation, last name, first name, street address, city, state, zip code, telephone, fax (if available), and electronic mail (if available);
- (10) Award instrument requested: cost-plus-fixed-fee (CPFF), cost-contract—no fee, cost sharing contract – no fee, or other type of procurement contract (specify), or Other Transaction;
- (11) Place(s) and period(s) of performance;
- (12) Total proposed cost separated by basic award and option(s) (if any);
- (13) Name, address, and telephone number of the proposer's cognizant Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) administration office (if known);
- (14) Name, address, and telephone number of the proposer's cognizant Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) audit office (if known);
- (15) Date proposal was prepared;
- (16) DUNS number or Unique Entity ID (SAM.gov);
- (17) TIN number;
- (18) CAGE Code;
- (19) Sub-awardee Information; and
- (20) Proposal validity period.

Additional Cost Proposal Information**A. Supporting Cost and Pricing Data**

The proposer should include supporting cost and pricing information in sufficient detail to substantiate the summary cost estimates. The proposal should include a description of the method used and the basis of estimates used to estimate costs and supporting documentation. The realism of the total cost estimate should be addressed. This may be shown by a comparison to previous efforts that were of a similar size, scope and complexity, or by outlining the approach that was used to establish the total cost of the program. The realism of the total cost estimation

should be substantiated, where possible, by showing the as-bid cost and schedule as well as the at-completion cost and schedule of previous science and technology development efforts of similar size, scope, and complexity. Allocations for tasks in the cost proposal should include a task-level basis of estimate. The Government requires that tables included in the cost proposal also be provided in an editable (e.g., MS Excel) format with calculation formulas intact to allow traceability of the cost proposal numbers across the prime and subcontractors. The required DARPA Standard Cost Proposal Spreadsheet (link provided below) has multiple tabs to provide this key information. Proposers must substantiate that their proposed approach does not defer critical demonstrations that impart significant total program cost growth risk in potential follow-on Phase 2. Proposers should provide an explanation of the realism of their total costs for Phase 1. This may be based on comparison to programs of a similar scope and complexity, or by comparison of the as-bid and final costs for similar size Science and Technology (S&T) efforts, or by other methods that should be explained in the proposal.

B. Cost Breakdown Information and Format

Detailed cost breakdown to include:

- Basis for total cost estimate
- Assessment of realism of the total cost estimate by comparison to efforts of similar size, scope, and complexity, or by other means described in the proposal
- Discussion of other cost estimation techniques used
- Total program costs broken down by major cost items (i.e., direct labor, including labor categories; subcontracts; materials; other direct costs; overhead charges, etc.) and further broken down by task and phase
- Major program tasks by fiscal year
- An itemization of major subcontracts and equipment purchases
- Documentation supporting the reasonableness of the proposed equipment costs (vendor quotes, past purchase orders/purchase history, detailed engineering estimates, etc.) shall be provided.
- An itemization of any information technology (IT) purchase, as defined by FAR 2.101. Documentation supporting the reasonableness of the proposed equipment costs (e.g., vendor quotes, past purchase orders/purchase history, detailed engineering estimates, etc.) shall be provided, including a letter stating why the proposer cannot provide the requested resources from its own funding for prime and all sub-awardees.
- A summary of projected funding requirements by month
- The source, nature, and amount of any industry cost-sharing
- Identification of pricing assumptions of which may require incorporation into the resulting award instrument (e.g., use of Government Furnished Property/Facilities/Information, access to Government Subject Matter Experts, etc.)

Phase 2 ROM: Proposers shall include a ROM cost estimate for anticipated follow-on Phase 2 as well as a list of assumptions used to inform the basis for the cost estimate. This submission will be used for planning purposes only and will not be included in the proposal evaluation process. Included in the assumptions, proposers should describe their Phase 2 program plan and provide a ROM cost and schedule detailed to WBS level 2.

Tables included in the cost proposal should be in editable (e.g., MS Excel) format with calculation formulas intact.

The Government requires that proposers use the provided MS Excel™ DARPA Standard Cost Proposal Spreadsheet in the development of their cost proposals. A customized cost proposal spreadsheet may be an attachment to this solicitation. If not, the spreadsheet can be found on the DARPA website at <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/contract-management> (under “Resources” on the right-hand side of the webpage). All tabs and tables in the cost proposal spreadsheet should be developed in an editable format with calculation formulas intact to allow traceability of the cost proposal. This cost proposal spreadsheet should be used by the prime organization and all subcontractors. In addition to using the cost proposal spreadsheet, the cost proposal still must include all other items required in this announcement that are not covered by the editable spreadsheet. Subcontractor cost proposal spreadsheets may be submitted directly to the Government by the proposed subcontractor via e-mail to the address in Part I of this solicitation. **Using the provided cost proposal spreadsheet will assist the Government in a rapid analysis of your proposed costs and, if your proposal is selected for a potential award, speed up the negotiation and award execution process.**

Per FAR 15.403-4, certified cost or pricing data shall be required if the proposer is seeking a procurement contract award per the referenced threshold; because this BAA requests unique and innovative solutions, the adequate price competition exemption does not apply. Certified cost or pricing data are not required if the proposer proposes an award instrument other than a procurement contract (e.g., Other Transaction.)

a. Sub-awardee Proposals

The awardee is responsible for compiling and providing all sub-awardee proposals for the Procuring Contracting Officer (PCO) / Agreements Officer (AO), as applicable. Sub-awardee proposals should include Interdivisional Work Transfer Agreements (ITWA) or similar arrangements. Where the effort consists of multiple portions that could reasonably be partitioned for purposes of funding, these should be identified as options with separate cost estimates for each.

All proprietary sub-awardee proposal documentation, prepared at the same level of detail as that required of the awardee’s proposal and that cannot be uploaded with the proposed awardee’s proposal, shall be provided to the Government either by the awardee or by the sub-awardee organization when the proposal is submitted. Sub-awardee proposals submitted to the Government by the proposed awardee should be submitted in a sealed envelope (or submitted electronically via BAAT separately from the prime) that the proposed awardee will not be allowed to view. The sub-awardee must provide the same number of copies to the PCO/AO as is required of the awardee. See Section IV.B.3 of this BAA for proposal submission information.

b. Other Transaction Requests

The Government may award either a Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) based contract or an Other Transaction for Prototype (OT) agreement for prototype system development.

All proposers requesting an OT must include a detailed list of milestones. Each milestone must include the following:

- Milestone description,
- Completion criteria,
- Due date, and;
- Payment/funding schedule (to include, if cost share is proposed, awardee and Government share amounts).

It is noted that, at a minimum, milestones should relate directly to accomplishment of program technical metrics as defined in the BAA and/or the proposer's proposal. Agreement type, expenditure or fixed-price based, will be subject to negotiation by the Agreements Officer. Do not include proprietary data.

2. Additional Proposal Information

a) Proprietary Markings

Proposers are responsible for clearly identifying proprietary information. Submissions containing proprietary information must have the cover page and each page containing such information clearly marked with a label such as "Proprietary." NOTE: "Confidential" is a classification marking used to control the dissemination of U.S. Government National Security Information as dictated in Executive Order 13526 and should not be used to identify proprietary business information.

b) Security Information

(1) Program Security Information

Proposers should include with their proposal any proposed solution(s) to program security requirements unique to this program.

(2) Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI)

For unclassified proposals containing controlled unclassified information (CUI), applicants will ensure personnel and information systems processing CUI security requirements are in place.

(a) CUI Proposal Markings

If an unclassified submission contains CUI or the suspicion of such, as defined by Executive Order 13556 and 32 CFR Part 2002, the information must be appropriately and conspicuously marked CUI in accordance with DoDI 5200.48. Identification of what is CUI about this DARPA program will be detailed in a Security Classification Guide and will be provided as part of the BAA classified document package upon request.

(b) CUI Submission Requirements

Unclassified submissions containing CUI may be submitted via DARPA's BAA Website (<https://baa.darpa.mil>) in accordance with Part II Section VIII of this BAA.

(c) Proposers submitting proposals involving the pursuit and protection of DARPA information designated as CUI must have, or be able to acquire prior to contract award, an information system authorized to process CUI information IAW NIST SP 800-171 and DoDI 8582.01.

(3) Classified Submissions

For classified proposals, applicants will ensure all industrial, personnel, and information systems processing security requirements are in place and at the appropriate level (e.g., Facility Clearance Level (FCL), Automated Information Security (AIS), Certification and Accreditation (C&A), and any Foreign Ownership Control and Influence (FOCI) issues are mitigated prior to submission. Additional information on these subjects can be found at <https://www.dcsa.mil/>.

(a) Classified Proposal Markings

At this time, DARPA anticipates that proposals submitted in response to this BAA will generate or involve access to classified information. Classified submissions shall be transmitted and marked in accordance with the following guidance. Security classification guidance via a Security Classification Guide (SCG) and/or DARPA DD Form 254, "DoD Contract Security Classification Specification," will be provided as part of the BAA classified document package upon request.

If a submission contains Classified National Security Information or the suspicion of such, as defined by Executive Order 13526, the information must be appropriately and conspicuously marked with the proposed classification level and declassification date. Submissions requiring DARPA to make a final classification determination shall be marked as follows:

"CLASSIFICATION DETERMINATION PENDING. Protect as though classified _____ (insert the recommended classification level, e.g., Top Secret, Secret or Confidential)"

NOTE: Classified submissions must indicate the classification level of not only the submitted materials, but also the classification level of the anticipated award.

Submissions containing both classified information and CUI must be appropriately and conspicuously marked with the proposed classification level as well as ensuring CUI is marked in accordance with DoDI 5200.48.

(b) Classified Submission Requirements and Procedures

Proposers submitting classified information must have, or be able to obtain prior to contract award, cognizant security agency approved facilities, information systems, and appropriately cleared/eligible personnel to perform at the classification level proposed. All proposer personnel performing Information Assurance (IA)/Cybersecurity related duties on classified Information Systems shall meet the requirements set forth in DoD Manual 8570.01-M (Information Assurance Workforce Improvement Program). Additional information on the subjects discussed in this section may be found at <https://www.dcsa.mil/>.

Proposers choosing to submit classified information from other collateral classified sources (i.e., sources other than DARPA) must ensure (1) they have permission from an authorized individual at the cognizant Government agency (e.g., Contracting Officer, Program Manager); (2) the proposal is marked in accordance with the source Security Classification Guide (SCG) from which the material is derived; and (3) the source SCG is submitted along with the proposal.

When a proposal includes a classified portion, and when able according to security guidelines, we ask that proposers send an e-mail to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil as notification that there is a classified portion to the proposal. When submitting classified proposals, digital submissions are preferred (email or CD-ROM) and will be accepted via appropriate channels. Pre-coordinate transmission by sending an unclassified e-mail to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil. Proposals submissions containing the classified portion of the proposal should be submitted as a single searchable Adobe PDF file. A single hard copy may be submitted, if desired, in accordance with the instructions outlined below.

See Security Classification Guide and guidance on the DD Form 254, "DoD Contract Security Classification Specification.

Confidential, Secret, and Top-Secret Information

Use transmission, classification, handling, and marking guidance provided by previously issued SCGs, the DoD Information Security Manual (DoDM 5200.01, Volumes 1 - 4), and the National Industrial Security Program Operating Manual, including the Supplement Revision 1 (DoD 5220.22-M and DoD 5200.22-M Sup. 1), when submitting Confidential, Secret, and/or Top Secret classified information.

Confidential and Secret

Confidential and Secret classified information may be submitted via ONE of the three following methods:

- Hand-carried by an appropriately cleared and authorized courier to the DARPA Classified Document Registry (CDR). Prior to traveling, the courier shall contact the APEX Program Security Representative (Savon Jefferson) at savon.jefferson.ctr@darpa.mil and DARPA CDR at 703-526-4052 to coordinate arrival and delivery.

OR

- Mailed via U.S. Postal Service (USPS) Registered Mail or USPS Express Mail to the mailing address listed in the contact information in Part I of this BAA. All classified information will be enclosed in opaque inner and outer covers and double-wrapped. The inner envelope shall be sealed and plainly marked with the assigned classification and addresses of both sender and addressee. Senders should mail to the mailing address listed in the contact information herein.

The inner envelope shall be addressed to Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, ATTN: DARPA/TTO Savon Jefferson, with a reference to the BAA number. The outer envelope shall be sealed with no identification as to the classification of its contents and addressed to Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency, Security & Intelligence Directorate, Attn: CDR.

OR

- Electronically via appropriate computer system. Senders should pre-coordinate by sending an UNCLASSIFIED e-mail request to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil and the APEX Program Security Representative (Savon Jefferson) at savon.jefferson.ctr@darpa.mil. Once appropriate access to Classified IT system is verified, the sender will be provided with submission instructions.

Top Secret Information

Top Secret information may be submitted via ONE of the two following methods:

- Hand-carried by an appropriately cleared and authorized courier to the DARPA CDR. Prior to traveling, the courier shall contact the APEX Program Security Representative (Savon Jefferson) at savon.jefferson.ctr@darpa.mil and the DARPA CDR at 703-526-4052 to coordinate arrival and delivery.

OR

- Electronically via appropriate computer system. Senders should pre-coordinate by sending an UNCLASSIFIED e-mailed request to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil and the APEX Program Security Representative (Savon Jefferson) at savon.jefferson.ctr@darpa.mil. Once appropriate access to Classified IT system is verified, the sender will be provided with submission instructions.

Sensitive Compartmented Information (SCI)

It is not expected that the inclusion of SCI will be necessary for proposals to this BAA and proposers are specifically discouraged from including such information.

If included, SCI must be marked, managed and transmitted in accordance with DoDM 5105.21 Volumes 1 - 3. Questions regarding the transmission of SCI may be sent to the DARPA

Technical Office Program Security Officer (PSO) via the BAA mailbox or by contacting the DARPA Special Security Officer (SSO) at 703-812-1970.

Successful proposers may be sponsored by DARPA for access to SCI. Sponsorship must be aligned to an existing DD Form 254 where SCI has been authorized. Questions regarding SCI sponsorship should be directed to the DARPA Personnel Security Office at 703-526-4543.

Special Access Program (SAP) Information

It is not expected that the inclusion of SAP information will be necessary for proposals to this BAA and proposers are specifically discouraged from including such information.

If included, SAP information must be marked in accordance with DoDM 5205.07 Volume 4 and transmitted by specifically approved methods which will be provided by the Technical Office PSO or their staff.

Proposers choosing to submit SAP information from an agency other than DARPA are required to provide the DARPA Technical Office PSO written permission from the source material's cognizant Special Access Program Control Officer (SAPCO) or designated representative. For clarification regarding this process, contact the DARPA Technical Office PSO via the BAA mailbox or the DARPA SAPCO at 703-526-4102.

Additional SAP security requirements regarding facility accreditations, information security, personnel security, physical security, operations security, test security, classified transportation plans, and program protection planning may be specified in the DD Form 254.

NOTE: All proposals containing Special Access Program (SAP) information must be processed on a SAP information technology (SAP IT) system that has received an Approval-to-Operate (ATO) from the DARPA Technology Office PSO or other applicable DARPA SAP IT Authorizing Official. The SAP IT system ATO will be based upon the Risk Management Framework (RMF) process outlined in the Joint Special Access Program Implementation Guide (JSIG), current version (or successor document). (Note: A SAP IT system is any SAP IT system that requires an ATO. It can range from a single laptop/tablet up to a local and wide area networks.)

The Department of Defense mandates the use of a component's SAP enterprise system unless a compelling reason exists to use a non-enterprise system. The DARPA Chief Information Officer (CIO) must approve any performer proposal to acquire, build, and operate a non-enterprise SAP IT system during the awarded period of performance. Use of the DARPA SAP enterprise system, SAVANNAH, does not require CIO approval.

SAP IT disposition procedures must be approved in accordance with the DoD CIO Memorandum of April 20, 2020¹.

¹ The title of this memorandum is CUI and the memo is classified SECRET//HANDLE VIA SPECIAL ACCESS CHANNELS ONLY. This memorandum may be provided under separate cover.

(4) Both Classified and Unclassified Submissions

For a proposal that includes both classified and unclassified information, the proposal may be separated into an unclassified portion and a classified portion. The proposal should include as much information as possible in the unclassified portion and use the classified portion ONLY for classified information. The unclassified portion can be submitted through the DARPA BAA Website, per the instructions in Section IV.B.4.b below. The classified portion must be provided separately, according to the instructions outlined in the ‘Classified Submission Requirements and Procedures’ section above.

c) Disclosure of Information and Compliance with Safeguarding Covered Defense Information Controls

The following provisions and clause apply to all solicitations and contracts; however, the definition of “controlled technical information” clearly exempts work considered fundamental research and therefore, even though included in the contract, will not apply if the work is fundamental research.

DFARS 252.204-7000, “Disclosure of Information”

DFARS 252.204-7008, “Compliance with Safeguarding Covered Defense Information Controls”

DFARS 252.204-7012, “Safeguarding Covered Defense Information and Cyber Incident Reporting”

The full text of the above solicitation provision and contract clauses can be found at

<http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/additional-baa#NPRPAC>.

Compliance with the above requirements includes the mandate for proposers to implement the security requirements specified by National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) Special Publication (SP) 800-171, “Protecting Controlled Unclassified Information in Nonfederal Information Systems and Organizations” (see

<https://nvlpubs.nist.gov/nistpubs/SpecialPublications/NIST.SP.800-171r2.pdf>) and DoDI 8582.01 that are in effect at the time the solicitation is issued.

For awards where the work is considered fundamental research, the contractor will not have to implement the aforementioned requirements and safeguards. However, should the nature of the work change during performance of the award, work not considered fundamental research will be subject to these requirements.

d) Representations and Certifications

In accordance with FAR 4.1102 and 4.1201, proposers requesting a procurement contract must complete electronic annual representations and certifications at <https://www.sam.gov/>.

In addition, all proposers are required to submit for all award instrument types supplementary DARPA-specific representations and certifications at the time of proposal submission. See <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/reprs-certs> for further information on required representation and certification depending on your requested award instrument.

e) Human Subjects Research (HSR)/Animal Use

Proposers that anticipate involving human subjects or animals in the proposed research must comply with the approval procedures detailed at <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/additional-baa>, to include providing the information specified therein as required for proposal submission.

f) Approved Cost Accounting System Documentation

Proposers that do not have a Cost Accounting Standards (CAS) compliant accounting system considered adequate for determining accurate costs that are negotiating a cost- type procurement contract must complete an SF 1408. For more information on CAS compliance, see <http://www.dcaa.mil/>. To facilitate this process, proposers should complete the SF 1408 found at <http://www.gsa.gov/portal/forms/download/115778> and submit the completed form with the proposal.

g) Small Business Subcontracting Plan

Pursuant to Section 8(d) of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. § 637(d)) and FAR 19.702(a)(1), each proposer who submits a contract proposal and includes subcontractors might be required to submit a subcontracting plan with their proposal. The plan format is outlined in FAR 19.704.

h) Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. § 749d)/FAR 39.2

All electronic and information technology acquired or created through this BAA must satisfy the accessibility requirements of Section 508 of the Rehabilitation Act (29 U.S.C. § 749d)/FAR 39.2.

i) Intellectual Property

All proposers must provide a good faith representation that the proposer either owns or possesses the appropriate licensing rights to all intellectual property that will be utilized under the proposed effort.

(1) For Procurement Contracts

Proposers responding to this BAA requesting procurement contracts will need to complete the certifications at DFARS 252.227-7017. See <https://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/additional-baa> for further information. If no restrictions are intended, the proposer should state “none.” The table below captures the requested information:

Technical Data Computer Software To be Furnished with Restrictions	Summary of Intended Use in the Conduct of the Research	Basis for Assertion	Asserted Rights Category	Name of Person Asserting Restrictions
(LIST)	(NARRATIVE)	(LIST)	(LIST)	(LIST)

This information is included in the required Template 1: “Administrative and National Policy Requirements Document”.

(2) For All Non-Procurement Contracts

Proposers responding to this BAA requesting a Technology Investment Agreement, or Other Transaction for Prototypes shall follow the applicable rules and regulations governing these various award instruments, but, in all cases, should appropriately identify any potential restrictions on the Government’s use of any Intellectual Property contemplated under the award instrument in question. This includes both Noncommercial Items and Commercial Items. Proposers are encouraged use a format similar to that described in Paragraph (1). above. If no restrictions are intended, then the proposer should state “NONE.”

All proposers responding to this BAA must submit a separate list of all contract deliverables, including technical data or computer software that will be furnished to the Government with other than unlimited rights. The Government will assume unlimited rights if proposers fail to identify any intellectual property restrictions in their proposals. Include in this section all limited data rights or Government purpose rights, or proprietary claims to the results, data, reports, prototypes, software, or systems supporting and/or necessary for the use of the research, results, and/or prototype. If there are no proprietary claims, this should be stated.

In support of integration and future transition opportunities, DARPA expects to receive, at a minimum, Government purpose rights for APEX program deliverables.

j) System for Award Management (SAM) and Universal Identifier Requirements

All proposers must be registered in SAM unless exempt per FAR 4.1102. FAR 52.204-7, “System for Award Management” and FAR 52.204-13, “System for Award Management Maintenance” are incorporated into this solicitation. See <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/additional-baa> for further information.

International entities can register in SAM by following the instructions in this link: https://www.fsd.gov/sys_attachment.do?sys_id=c08b64ab1b4434109ac5ddb6bc4bcbb8.

3. Submission Information

All times listed herein are in U.S. Eastern Time. Proposers are warned that submission deadlines as outlined herein are strictly enforced. When planning their response to this solicitation, proposers should take into account that some parts of the submission process may take from one business day to one month to complete (e.g., registering for a DUNS number or TIN).

DARPA will acknowledge receipt of all submissions and assign an identifying control number that should be used in all further correspondence regarding the submission. DARPA intends to use electronic mail correspondence regarding HR001122S0046. Submissions may not be submitted by fax; any so sent will be disregarded.

Submissions will not be returned. An electronic copy of each submission received will be retained at DARPA and all other non-required copies destroyed. A certification of destruction may be requested, provided the formal request is received by DARPA within 5 days after notification that a proposal was not selected.

Note: Proposers submitting a proposal via the DARPA BAA Submission site MUST complete all submission activities (including selecting the “Finalize” button and allowing sufficient time for all files to upload) prior to the deadline. Failure to do so will result in a late submission.

For proposal submission date, see Part I., Overview Information. Submissions received after these dates and times may not be reviewed.

The proposal must be received at DARPA/TTO, 675 North Randolph Street, Arlington, VA 22203-2114 (Attn.: HR001122S0046) on or before 27 September 2022 at 5 P.M. Eastern Time in order to be considered during the initial round of selections; however, proposals received after this deadline may be received and evaluated up to six months (180 days) from date of posting on the System for Award Management, Contract Opportunities (<https://SAM.gov>). The ability to review and select proposals submitted after the initial round deadline specified in the BAA or due date otherwise specified by DARPA will be contingent on availability of funds. Proposers are warned that the likelihood of available funding is greatly reduced for proposals submitted after the initial closing date deadline.

Refer to Section VI.A for how DARPA will notify proposers as to whether or not their proposal has been selected for potential award.

- (a) For Proposers Requesting Procurement Contracts or OTs and Submitting to a DARPA-approved Proposal Submissions Website

Unclassified full proposals sent in response to this BAA may be submitted via DARPA's BAA Website (<https://baa.darpa.mil>). Note: If an account has recently been created for the DARPA BAA Website, this account may be reused. Accounts are typically disabled and eventually deleted following 75-90 days of inactivity – if you are unsure when the account was last used, it is recommended that you create a new account. If no account currently exists for the DARPA BAA Website, visit the website to complete the two-step registration process. Submitters will need to register for an Extranet account (via the form at the URL listed above) and wait for two separate e-mails containing a username and temporary password. The “Password Reset” option at the URL listed above can be used if the password is not received in a timely fashion. After accessing the Extranet, submitters may then create an account for the DARPA BAA website (via the "Register your Organization" link along the left side of the homepage), view submission instructions, and upload/finalize the proposal. Note: Even if a submitter's organization has an existing registration, each user submitting a proposal must create their own Organization Registration.

All unclassified concepts submitted electronically through DARPA's BAA Website must be uploaded as zip archives (i.e., files with a .zip or .zipx extension). The final zip archive should be no greater than 100 MB in size. Only one zip archive will be accepted per submission –

subsequent uploads for the same submission will overwrite previous uploads, and submissions not uploaded as zip archives will be rejected by DARPA.

Classified submissions must NOT be submitted through DARPA's BAA Website (<https://baa.darpa.mil>), though proposers will likely still need to visit <https://baa.darpa.mil> to register their organization (or verify an existing registration) to ensure the BAA office can verify and finalize their submission.

Proposers using the DARPA BAA Website may encounter heavy traffic on the submission deadline date; proposers should start this process as early as possible. Technical support for DARPA's BAA Website may be reached at BAAT_Support@darpa.mil, and is typically available during regular business hours (9:00 AM – 5:00 PM Eastern Time).

For a proposal that includes both classified and unclassified information, the proposal may be separated into an unclassified portion and a classified portion. The proposal should use the unclassified portion to the maximum extent reasonable, especially for parts such as the Volume II – Cost Proposal. The unclassified portion can be submitted through the DARPA BAA Website, per the instructions above. The classified portion must be submitted separately, according to the instructions outlined in the “Security Information” section above. If a classified proposal may not be partitioned into classified and unclassified portions, then submit according to the instructions outlined in the “Security Information” section above.

When a proposal includes a classified portion, and when able according to security guidelines, we ask that proposers send an e-mail to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil as notification that there is a classified portion to the proposal. Electronic submission (via email or CD-ROM) is required, but proposers may also send a single hard copy by mail if desired. When sending the classified portion via mail according to the instructions outlined in the “Security Information” section above, proposers should submit one hard copy of the classified portion of their proposal and two (2) CD-ROMs containing the classified portion of the proposal as a single searchable Adobe PDF file.

Please ensure that all CDs are well-marked. Each copy of the classified portion must be clearly labeled with HR001122S0046, proposer organization, proposal title (short title recommended), and Copy _ of 2.

(b) For Proposers Requesting Procurement Contracts or OTs and Submitting Hard Copies

Proposers may submit a single hard copy of their proposal, if desired. Proposers opting to submit a hard copy must also submit an electronic copy via email and/or two (2) electronic copies of the full proposal in single searchable Adobe PDF format on a CD-ROM. Each copy must be clearly labeled with HR001122S0046, proposer organization, proposal title (short title recommended), applicable handling caveat (e.g., Proprietary, CUI, or classification), and Copy _ of 2. All hard copies must be on 8 ½ by 11 paper with any applicable banner and portion markings.

4. Other Submission Requirements

DARPA will post a consolidated Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ) document for any UNCLASSIFIED questions and answers and will distribute to those entities who had received the CLASSIFIED document package any CLASSIFIED questions and answers. To access the posting go to: <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/opportunities>. Under the HR001122S0046 summary will be a link to the FAQ. See Section VII for directions on submitting unclassified and classified questions. Questions must be received by the FAQ/Questions due date listed in Part I, Overview Information.

V. Application Review Information

A. Evaluation Criteria

Proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria, listed in descending order of importance. The following sections provide a detailed description of areas to be considered within each evaluation criterion. These descriptions are meant to assist the evaluator in fully assessing all aspects of each criterion. Proposers are strongly encouraged to provide a cross-reference matrix detailing where in their proposals they have provided information addressing the evaluation criteria to include section, page number, etc.

1. Overall Scientific and Technical Merit

The proposed technical approach is innovative, feasible, achievable, and complete.

The proposal displays a robust DSE approach, APEX vision, and testing and evaluation plan that clearly displays the proposer's competence and preparedness to address the challenges of the APEX program.

The proposal demonstrates sound engineering judgment and technical insight during the trade space analysis and design point selection. Sufficient detail is provided to support the feasibility of the solution. The proposed solution can reasonably be expected to exhibit high performance with margin for the reference missions.

The proposer's enabling technology design and performance predictions will be reviewed to assess the extent of innovation in the solution proposed and whether the design feasibly meets or exceeds program objectives. The Government will review the proposed technology maturation plan to assess whether the plan adequately identifies and fully characterizes technical, schedule and cost risks. The proposed development approach and content of the proposed tailored design reviews will be reviewed to assess the adequacy of proposer's systems engineering and design practices for maturing the design and executing the enabling technology maturation plan.

The proposal identifies major technical, schedule, and cost risks and planned mitigation efforts are clearly defined and feasible. Technical risks are addressed as early as possible, and schedule margin to the program critical path is maximized for all technical developments. Adequate tests are planned to validate designs and design margins. Adequate component selection events are

planned to validate design trades for components commensurate with the fidelity of applicable modelling capabilities.

Proposals will be reviewed to assess the extent to which they identify and explain the key technical risks; to include aggressive, but appropriate, activities for reducing these risks and maintaining traceability to achieving systems-level objectives and metrics for all phases of the program. The Government will evaluate the detailed rationale for why the proposed program meets DARPA's objectives of a non-traditional and aggressive program.

The Government will evaluate the extent to which the technical and systems engineering approach fully explores the mission and design trade space, and credibly addresses the major program reviews, deliverables, and management approach to develop comprehensive systems requirements and an aggressive, robust and effective systems-level approach and design.

The Government will evaluate the extent to which the proposal demonstrates the ability to incorporate any planned Phase 1 test(s) and / or demonstration(s) results into the preliminary design to improve confidence in a proposer's concept at PDR. The Government will also assess the extent to which Phase 1 activities adequately reduce the technical, cost, and schedule risk for Phase 2.

2. Proposer's Capabilities and/or Related Experience

The proposed technical team has the expertise and experience to accomplish the proposed tasks. The proposer's prior experience in similar efforts clearly demonstrates an ability to deliver products that meet the proposed technical performance within the proposed budget and schedule. The proposed team has the expertise to manage the cost and schedule. Similar efforts completed/ongoing by the proposer in this area are fully described including identification of other Government sponsors.

The proposer substantiates the ability to develop and integrate components to raise the technology readiness level.

The proposer identifies key personnel and substantially commits them to this effort. The proposed personnel have substantial related experience in the assigned area of responsibility (e.g., hydrodynamics experts with relevant experience positioned to work on the hydrodynamics aspects of the program). The proposed team is highly cohesive, and utilization of personnel dedicated to rapidly advancing the technical capability is maximized.

3. Potential Contribution and Relevance to the DARPA Mission

The potential contributions of the proposed effort are relevant to the national technology base. Specifically, DARPA's mission is to make pivotal early technology investments that create or prevent strategic surprise for U.S. National Security.

In addition, this evaluation will take into consideration the extent to which the proposed intellectual property (IP) rights will potentially impact the Government's ability to transition the

technology to the research, industrial, and operational military communities. The extent to which the proposer clearly demonstrates its capability to transition the technology to the research, industrial, and/or operational military communities in such a way as to enhance U.S. defense will be considered.

4. Realism of Proposed Cost and Schedule

The proposed costs are realistic for the technical and management approach and accurately reflect the technical goals and objectives of the solicitation. The proposed costs are consistent with the proposer's Statement of Work and reflect a sufficient understanding of the costs and level of effort needed to successfully accomplish the proposed technical approach. The costs for the prime proposer and proposed subawardees are substantiated by the details provided in the proposal (e.g., the type and number of labor hours proposed per task, the types and quantities of materials, equipment and fabrication costs, travel and any other applicable costs and the basis for the estimates).

All major tasks proposed and critical to the technical approach are captured in the SOW. The SOW and integrated master schedule will be reviewed to assess whether they are credible, executable, and address program objectives and deliverables. The Government will review the extent to which the SOW and IMS detail activities to an appropriate work breakdown structure level to enable adequate visibility for the cost proposal evaluation and execution management. Task descriptions and associated technical elements provided are complete and in a logical sequence with all proposed deliverables clearly defined such that a final outcome that achieves the goal can be expected as a result of award.

The proposed schedule aggressively pursues performance metrics in an efficient time frame that accurately accounts for the anticipated workload. The proposed schedule identifies and mitigates any potential schedule risk.

The proposer substantiates that they can realistically complete the proposed work within the cost and schedule provided in the proposal.

The Government will assess the extent to which proposed costs for the technical and management approach are realistic, appropriately balance cost and risk, and accurately reflect the technical goals and objectives of the BAA. Additionally, the Government will assess the extent to which the proposer has substantiated they can realistically complete the proposed work within the cost provided in the proposal. The assessment will consider as-proposed and at-completion cost of previous S&T efforts of similar size, scope, and complexity.

It is expected that the effort will leverage all available relevant prior research in order to obtain the maximum benefit from the available funding. For efforts with a likelihood of commercial application, appropriate direct cost sharing may be a positive factor in the evaluation. DARPA recognizes that undue emphasis on cost may motivate proposers to offer low-risk ideas with minimum uncertainty and to staff the effort with junior personnel in order to be in a more competitive posture. DARPA discourages such cost strategies.

The Government will evaluate if the proposer substantiates that they can realistically complete the proposed work within the cost and schedule provided in the proposal. Government Furnished Property (GFP) costs are itemized and appropriately substantiated.

The Phase 2 ROM is for planning purposes only and will not be included in the cost realism evaluation.

B. Review of Proposals

1. Review Process

It is the policy of DARPA to ensure impartial, equitable, comprehensive proposal evaluations based on the evaluation criteria listed in Section V.A. and to select the source (or sources) whose offer meets the Government's technical, policy, and programmatic goals.

DARPA will conduct a scientific/technical review of each conforming proposal. Conforming proposals comply with all requirements detailed in this solicitation; proposals that fail to do so may be deemed non-conforming and may be removed from consideration. Proposals will not be evaluated against each other since they are not submitted in accordance with a common work statement. DARPA's intent is to review proposals as soon as possible after they arrive; however, proposals may be reviewed periodically for administrative reasons.

Award(s) will be made to proposers whose proposals are determined to be the most advantageous to the Government, consistent with instructions and evaluation criteria specified in the BAA herein, and availability of funding.

2. Handling of Source Selection Information

DARPA policy is to treat all submissions as source selection information (see FAR 2.101 and 3.104), and to disclose their contents only for the purpose of evaluation. Restrictive notices notwithstanding, during the evaluation process, submissions may be handled by support contractors for administrative purposes and/or to assist with technical evaluation. All DARPA support contractors performing this role are expressly prohibited from performing DARPA-sponsored technical research and are bound by appropriate nondisclosure agreements. Subject to the restrictions set forth in FAR 37.203(d), input on technical aspects of the proposals may be solicited by DARPA from non-Government consultants/experts who are strictly bound by the appropriate non-disclosure requirements.

3. Federal Awardee Performance and Integrity Information (FAPIIS)

Per 41 U.S.C. 2313, as implemented by FAR 9.103 and 2 CFR § 200.205, prior to making an award above the simplified acquisition threshold, DARPA is required to review and consider any information available through the designated integrity and performance system (currently FAPIIS). Awardees have the opportunity to comment on any information about themselves entered in the database, and DARPA will consider any comments, along with other information in FAPIIS or other systems prior to making an award.

VI. Award Administration Information

A. Selection Notices and Notifications

1. Proposals

After the evaluation of a proposal is complete, the proposer will be notified that (1) the proposal has been selected for funding pending award negotiations, in whole or in part, or (2) the proposal has not been selected. These official notifications will be sent via email to the Technical POC and/or Administrative POC identified on the proposal coversheet.

B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

1. Meeting and Travel Requirements

There will be a program kickoff meeting and all key participants are required to attend. Performers should also anticipate regular program-wide Principal Investigator (PI) Meetings and periodic site visits at the Program Manager's discretion.

2. Solicitation Provisions and Award Clauses, Terms and Conditions

Solicitation clauses in the FAR and DFARS relevant to procurement contracts and FAR and DFARS clauses that may be included in any resultant procurement contracts are incorporated herein and can be found at <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/additional-baa>.

3. Controlled Unclassified Information (CUI) and Controlled Technical Information (CTI) on Non-DoD Information Systems

Further information on Controlled Unclassified Information identification, marking, protecting, and control, to include processing on Non-DoD Information Systems, is incorporated herein and can be found at <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/additional-baa>.

C. Reporting

The number and types of reports will be specified in the award document, but will include as a minimum monthly technical and financial status reports. The reports shall be prepared and submitted in accordance with the procedures contained in the award document and mutually agreed on before award. Reports and briefing material will also be required as appropriate to document progress in accomplishing program metrics. A Final Report that summarizes the project and tasks will be required at the conclusion of the performance period for the award, notwithstanding the fact that the research may be continued under a follow-on vehicle. At least one copy of each report will be delivered to DARPA and not merely placed on a SharePoint site.

D. Electronic Systems

1. Wide Area Work Flow (WAWF)

Performers will be required to submit invoices for payment directly to <https://wawf.eb.mil>, unless an exception applies. Performers must register in WAWF prior to any award under this BAA.

2. i-Edison

The award document for each proposal selected for funding will contain a mandatory requirement for patent reports and notifications to be submitted electronically through i-Edison (<https://public.era.nih.gov/iedison>).

VII. Agency Contacts

For information concerning agency level protests see <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/additional-baa#NPRPAC>.

Administrative, technical, or contractual questions should be sent via e-mail to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil. DARPA strongly encourages the proposer to review the entire classified document package prior to submitting any questions. If you have a classified inquiry, please send an unclassified e-mail to this e-mail address and we will provide you with instructions for submitting your classified inquiry. All requests must include the name, e-mail address, and phone number of a point of contact.

The BAA Coordinator may be reached at:
HR001122S0046@darpa.mil
DARPA/TTO
ATTN: HR001122S0046
675 North Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-2114

VIII. Other Information

DARPA highly encourages teaming before proposal submission and, as such, will facilitate the formation of teams with the necessary expertise. Interested parties should submit a one-page profile including the following information:

- Contact information to include name, organization, email, telephone number, mailing address, and organization website (if applicable).
- A brief description of the proposer's technical competencies.
- Desired expertise from other teams, as applicable.
- (Note: All content must be UNCLASSIFIED and non-proprietary)

All profiles must be emailed to HR001122S0046@darpa.mil in PDF format. The consolidated teaming profiles will be provided to entities who also submitted a valid profile. Specific content, communications, networking, and team formation are the sole responsibility of the participants. Neither DARPA nor the DOD endorses the information and organizations contained in the consolidated teaming profile document, nor does DARPA or the DOD exercise any responsibility for improper dissemination of the teaming profiles.