United States Department of the Interior

INTERIOR BUSINESS CENTER

Washington, DC 20240

DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR

In partnership with

The Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity (IARPA)

EMERGING TECHNOLOGY ACCELERATOR (ETA) PROGRAM ANNOUNCEMENT

DOI-ETA-FY26-30

AMENDMENT 0003

Issued By:

The Department of the Interior (DOI), Interior Business Center (IBC)

Acquisition Services Directorate (AQD)

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GENERAL ANNOUNCEMENT INFORMATION

Via IARPA's statutory authority (50 U.S.C. § 3024(m)(6)), this ETA Program Announcement will result in the award of multiple Prototype Other Transaction Agreements (OT).

Proposals received as a result of this ETA Program Announcement will be evaluated in accordance with (IAW) the evaluation criteria specified herein through a scientific review process. Awards based on responses to this ETA Program Announcement will be the result of a full and open competition.

The ETA Program Announcement will appear under Contract Opportunities: https://SAM.gov

A link will also be placed on the IARPA website: https://iarpa.gov

Federal Contracting Office Responsible for this ETA Program Announcement: DOI/IBC/AQD

Announcement Type: Initial

Announcement Number: DOI-ETA-FY26-30

Announcement Period: Fiscal Year (FY) 2026 through FY2030

Electronic Mail: Questions pertaining to this ETA Program Announcement must be submitted no later than **13 May 2026** to the following e-mail addresses:

William_Galvin@ibc.doi.gov
Kevin_Woody@ibc.doi.gov
IARPA_DOI_ETA@ibc.doi.gov

All e-mails must include the name of the Proposer's organization, valid e-mail address, name and phone number of the Proposer's point of contact (POC), in the Subject Line include the Name of the Program (Reference Attachment 1 - Emerging Technologies Accelerator (ETA) Programs). Do not send questions with proprietary content. Questions and Answers (Q&A) will be posted via Amendment to this ETA Program Announcement.

Number and Type of Anticipated Awards: Multiple Prototype OTs as a result of this full and open competition.

Resources made available under this ETA Program Announcement will depend on the quality of the proposals received and the availability of funds.

Program Websites: (Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs)

ARCADE: https://www.iarpa.gov/research-programs/arcade

COSMIC: https://www.iarpa.gov/research-programs/cosmic

DECIPHER: https://www.iarpa.gov/research-programs/decipher

LocUS: https://www.iarpa.gov/research-programs/locus

MOVES: https://www.iarpa.gov/research-programs/moves

DOI/IBC/AQD Acquisition Office Points of Contact:

William Galvin Jr
Agreements Officer
E-Mail: William_Galvin@ibc.doi.gov

Kevin Woody
Agreements Specialist
E-Mail: Kevin_Woody@ibc.doi.gov

SECTION 1: FUNDING OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

1.A. Program Overview

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

1.B. Test and Evaluation (T&E)

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

1.C. Program Metrics

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

Meeting program metrics is a performance indicator under all IARPA research programs. Program metrics are used to evaluate the effectiveness of the proposed solution in achieving the stated program goals/objectives, and to determine whether satisfactory progress is being made. The metrics described in this ETA Program Announcement are shared with the intent to scope the effort, while affording maximum flexibility, creativity, and innovation to Proposers' solutions to the stated problems/goals.

1.D. Program Waypoints, Milestones, and Deliverables

Waypoints provide a clear measure of progress towards meeting the program milestones so the IARPA Program Manager (PM) and advisors can provide more effective guidance/assistance to Performers. Performance against these waypoints will be reviewed throughout the program; the PM and advisors will use performance against the waypoints to assess whether course corrections are needed to ensure program success.

1.D.1 Program Milestones, Waypoints, and Deliverables Timeline

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

1.D.2 Software Deliverable Formatting

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

1.D.2.1 Program Application Programming Interface and Lexicon

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

1.E. Meeting and Travel Requirements

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

1.E.1 Technical Exchange Meetings (TEM) and Workshops

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

1.E.2 Anticipated Period of Performance (PoP)

(Subject to Change post Technical Evaluations)

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

1.F. Place of Performance

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

1.G. Program Specific Definitions

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs

SECTION 2: AWARD INFORMATION

The Government reserves the right to select for negotiation all, some, one, or none of the proposals received in response to this ETA Program Announcement and to make awards without discussions. The Government also reserves the right to conduct discussions if it is later determined to be necessary.

IARPA reserves the right to accept proposals in their entirety or to select only portions of a proposal for award. If IARPA desires to award only a portion of a proposal, negotiations may be opened with the Proposer. The Government reserves the right to fund proposals incrementally, in phases, and/or options for continued work, as applicable.

The Government reserves the right to request additional, necessary documentation, which may include but is not limited to Representations and Certifications. The Government reserves the right to remove Proposers from award consideration should the parties fail to reach agreement on award terms (Articles), conditions, and/or cost/price within a reasonable time, and the Proposer fails to timely provide requested additional information.

IAW 50 U.S.C. § 3024(m)(6), to receive an OT, **one** of the following conditions must be met:

> There is at least one Non-Traditional Defense Contractor (NDC) or non-profit research institution participating to a significant extent in the prototype project.
>
> All significant participants in the transaction, other than the Federal Government, are small businesses (including small businesses participating in a program described under Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638)) or NDCs.
>
> At least one-third of the total cost of the prototype project is to be paid out of funds provided by sources other than the Federal Government.

NDC is defined as follows:

> An entity that is not currently performing and has not performed, for at least the one year period preceding the solicitation of sources by DoD for the procurement or transaction, any contract or subcontract for the DoD that is subject to full coverage under the Cost Accounting Standards (CAS) prescribed pursuant to Section 1502 of Title 41 and the regulations implementing such section.

The Government may award a follow-on production Contract or OT for any award under this ETA Program Announcement if: (1) the 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. Follow-On Production Contracts/OTs shall follow the guidance from 10 U.S.C. § 4022 supplemented by additional criteria from 50 U.S.C. § 3024(m)(6)(C)(vii).

In all cases, the Government Agreements Officer (AO) shall have sole discretion to negotiate all terms and conditions (Articles) with selectees. The Government shall not reimburse Proposers for any proposal preparation costs incurred under this ETA Program Announcement.

Exercise of Option Periods or the continued funding of Phases shall depend upon the quality of performance, program goals, the availability of funds, and IARPA's priorities. Selection to perform Option Periods/Phases will be made via the Terms and Conditions contained within the Articles of the OT. Exercising Option Periods or the continued funding of Phases is at the sole discretion of the Government.

Awards shall be made to Proposers on the basis of the Evaluation Factors listed in this ETA Program Announcement, as well as the successful completion of negotiations.

The AO will contact Proposers whose proposals are selected for negotiation to obtain additional information. The Government may establish a deadline for the close of fact-findings and negotiations that allows a reasonable time for award. Proposers not responsive to Government deadlines established and communicated with the request may be removed from award consideration. Proposers may also be removed from award consideration should the parties fail to reach agreement within a reasonable time on terms, conditions, and cost/price.

SECTION 3: ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

3.A. Eligible Applicants

All responsible sources capable of satisfying the Government's needs and meeting the criteria in 50 U.S.C. § 3024(m)(6), may submit a proposal.

Government Agencies, Federally Funded R&D Centers, University Affiliated Research Centers (UARC), Government-Owned, Contractor-Operated facilities, Government Military Academies, and any other similar type of organizations that have a special relationship with the Government, that gives them access to privileged and/or proprietary information or access to Government equipment or real property, **are not eligible** to submit a proposal under this ETA Program Announcement or participate as team members under proposals submitted by eligible entities.

An entity of which only a portion has been designated as a UARC may be eligible to submit a proposal or participate as a team member subject to an organizational conflict of interest review. Foreign entities and/or individuals may participate but only as a part of a U.S. based team and only IAW deemed export restrictions/licensing requirements, when applicable. The prime Performer must be a U.S. entity.

Foreign entities and individuals may participate as subcontractors or employees of a U.S. entity; however, all foreign participation must comply with any necessary Non-Disclosure Agreements, Security Regulations, Export Control Laws, and other governing statutes applicable under the circumstances. Proposers are responsible for ensuring that the efforts of foreign participants do not either directly or indirectly compromise the laws of the United States, nor its security interests. As such, both foreign and domestic Proposers shall carefully consider the roles and responsibilities of foreign participants as they pursue teaming arrangements.

3.A.1 Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCI)

Proposers are required to identify and disclose all facts relevant to potential OCIs involving the Proposers and any proposed team member (sub-contractor, consultant). Under this Section, the Proposer is responsible for providing this disclosure with each proposal submitted pursuant to

this ETA Program Announcement. The disclosure must include the Proposer's and as applicable, proposed team members' 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 prevent the Proposer from having an unfair competitive advantage. The OCI mitigation plan will specifically discuss the disclosed OCI in the context of each of the OCI limitations.

IARPA generally prohibits 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 disclosure requirement above, address whether a Proposer or team member (e.g., subcontractor, consultant) is providing SETA, Advisory and Assistance Services (A&AS), or similar support (e.g., T&E services) to IARPA under: (a) a current award or subaward; or (b) a past award or subaward.

If SETA, A&AS, or similar support is or was being provided to IARPA, the proposal must include:

(1) The name of the IARPA program or office receiving the support;

(2) The prime contract number, and;

(3) Identification of proposed team member (sub awardee, consultant) providing the support.

As part of the proposal, include either (a) a copy of the OCI notification including mitigation plan or (b) a written certification that neither they nor their subcontractor teammates have any potential conflicts of interest, real or perceived. A sample certification is provided in Appendix A-4.

The Government will evaluate OCIs and potential OCIs to determine whether they can be avoided, neutralized or mitigated and/or whether it is in the Government's interest to grant a waiver. The Government will make OCI determinations, as applicable, for proposals that are otherwise selectable under this ETA Program Announcement Evaluation Factors. The Government may require Proposers provide additional information to assist the Government in evaluating OCIs and OCI mitigation plans.

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

3.A.2 Multiple Submissions

Entities may participate as a prime or subcontractor in more than one submission to this ETA Program Announcement. However, if multiple submissions which include a common team member are selected, such common team members shall not receive duplicative funding (i.e., no one entity can be paid twice to perform the same task).

3.B. U.S. Academic Institutions

According to Executive Order 12333, as amended, paragraph 2.7: Elements of the Intelligence Community (IC) are authorized to enter into contracts or arrangements for the provision of goods or services with private companies or institutions in the United States and need not reveal the

sponsorship of such contracts or arrangements for authorized intelligence purposes. OTs or arrangements with academic institutions may be undertaken only with the consent of appropriate officials of the institution.

Proposers must submit a completed and signed Academic Institution Acknowledgement Letter for each U.S. academic institution that is a part of their team, whether the academic institution is serving in the role of a prime, subcontractor or a consultant at any tier of their team, with their technical proposal. Each Letter must be signed by a Senior Official from the institution (e.g. President, Chancellor, Provost, or other appropriately designated official). A template of the Academic Institution Acknowledgement Letter is enclosed in Appendix A-2.

Note: AO will not enter into negotiations with a Proposer whose team includes a U.S. academic institution until all required Academic Institution Acknowledgment Letters are received.

3.C. Other Eligibility Criteria

3.C.1 Collaboration Efforts

Collaborative efforts and teaming arrangements among potential Proposers are encouraged. Specific content, communications, networking, and team formations are the sole responsibility of interested Proposers.

SECTION 4: WHITE PAPER, PROPOSAL, SUBMISSION INFORMATION

This notice constitutes the total ETA Program Announcement, which contains all information required to submit a proposal.

4.A. Proposal Information

4.A.1 Submission Requirements

Proposers shall submit a White Paper in advance of a full proposal.

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs for a list of active programs.

Proposers will not propose to more than one program per White Paper. Proposers who wish to propose to more than one program must submit a separate White Paper for each program.

All submissions must be written in English with type not smaller than 12-point font. A smaller font may be used for figures, tables, and charts. Note: The excessive use of Artificial Intelligence to generate the White Paper is strongly discouraged.

Once the Government has received sufficient White Papers per Program, the AO will issue an ETA Program Announcement Amendment re-labeling the Program Title in Attachment 1 – ETA Programs from **"Active"** to **"Not Active."**

White Papers received for a **"Not Active"** Program will not be considered or evaluated.

The AO will also issue an Amendment to add or delete Programs in Attachment 1 – ETA Programs as determined by IARPA's priorities, mission, and availability of funds. For newly added programs in Attachment 1 – ETA Programs, the Amendment will include a timeline for the submission of Q&As.

White Paper Format

Section I Administrative (1 Page)

Cover Sheet

ETA Program Announcement (i.e. DOI-ETA-FY26-30)

White Paper for Program "_____" (Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs)

Organization submitting the White Paper: Name, Address, Unique Entity ID and CAGE Code.

Under which of the following three conditions from 50 U.S.C. § 3024(m)(6), does your organization qualify to receive an OT:

1. There is at least one NDC or non-profit research institution participating to a significant extent in the prototype project.

   NDC or Non-Profit Research Institution Name?

   Describe how the NDC or Non-Profit Research Institution is participating to a significant extent in the prototype project:

2. All significant participants in the transaction other than the Federal Government are small businesses (including small businesses participating in a program described under Section 9 of the Small Business Act (15 U.S.C. 638)) or NDCs.

   List the significant participants that are small businesses or NDCs:

3. At least one-third of the total cost of the prototype project is to be paid out of funds provided by sources other than the Federal Government.

   Total Funds Requested: $_____

   One-third of the Total Cost paid by Performer: $_____

Other Team Members (Not Included Above)

Proposal Title (If Applicable)

Technical Point of Contact: First Name, Last Name, Address, Voicemail, E-Mail Address

Administrative Point of Contact: First Name, Last Name, Address, Voicemail, E-Mail Address

Date White Paper was submitted.

Section II White Paper Details (up to 8 Pages)

This section provides an overview of the proposed solution.

Executive Summary

Executive Summary of the approach (up to 250 words).

Innovative Claims

Innovative claims for the proposed research. This section is the centerpiece of the White Paper and should succinctly describe the uniqueness and benefits of the proposed approach relative to the current state-of-art alternate approaches.

Technical Approach

Technical rationale, technical approach (segregated by task), and constructive plan for the accomplishment of the technical goals in support of innovative claims and deliverables. At a high level, describe the qualifications of your Team Members and the tasks they will be responsible to accomplish.

Deliverables

Deliverables associated with the proposed research and the plans and capability to accomplish the technology transition for IC operational use. Articulate what Intellectual Property (IP) Rights the Government will receive (i.e. Unlimited Rights, Government Purpose Rights (GPR)).

Cost and Schedule

Provide a high-level cost estimate/Rough Order of Magnitude, inclusive of Other Team Members, over the proposed timeline of the project by Federal Government FY. At this stage, do not submit a highly detailed Excel Spreadsheet.

Technical References (Exempt from Page Limit), if applicable

List of Technical References. Provide a copy of the Principal Investigator biography.

Note: Government Program Personnel will perform a high-level assessment of the White Papers. The AO may invite Proposers to present in person in the Washington D.C. area to expand and further explain the white paper solution. Instructions such as location, time, and presentation format (i.e. PowerPoint), will be included in the AO invitation. A copy of the presentation will be kept by the Government. On a case-by-case basis, the AO may allow virtual presentations.

Once the Government assessment inclusive of the presentation described immediately above (if applicable) has been completed, the AO will notify the Proposer in writing whether the proposed solution was determined viable and whether the Government has an interest in pursuing it. Government Program decisions are final. At the White Paper stage including the optional oral presentation, Proposers are not entitled to a debriefing.

If the proposed solution is determined viable, the AO will extend an invitation to submit a written proposal (Volume I initially; Volume II if requested). The Government reserves the right to request a full proposal (Volumes I and II) simultaneously, if warranted.

Proposers are required to comply with the following submission requirements for proposals to be considered compliant. Proposals that are considered non-compliant will not be evaluated and will not be considered for award. Specifically, Proposers must comply with the following:

(1) Proposers must submit current, accurate and complete proposals (Volume I initially; Volume II if requested) to receive consideration for award.

(2) Proposal (Volume I) must be received by the time and date specified in the AO's invitation to submit a written proposal. A proposal received after the date/time specified will be deemed late, will not be evaluated, and will not be considered for award.

(3) If a cost proposal (Volume II) is requested, Proposers must use the Cost Proposal Template provided by the AO (Excel Format). Cost Proposals that do not use the AO provided template will not be evaluated. Proposers will be required to resubmit using the AO provided template, which may result in a delayed award or rejection.

(4) Proposals must comply with all the proposal format and content requirements specified in Section 4.B of this ETA Program Announcement.

(5) Proposals must comply with the page limitations outlined in Section 4 of this ETA Program Announcement. The Government will only evaluate Volume I, Technical Approach up to the page limit specified in Section 4.

(6) Additional supporting or background materials submitted with the proposal(s) not specified in Section 4 will not be evaluated.

(7) Selection for award remains contingent upon the technical evaluation, program balance, and funding availability described in Section 5.

4.A.2 Proposal Evaluation Participants

Both IARPA and DOI intend to use SETA support to provide expert advice, regarding portions of the proposals submitted and/or to provide logistical support in carrying out the evaluation and award process.

The following entities will be supporting IARPA:

- AirIn Technologies, Inc.
- Barone Intelligence & Defense
- Bluemont Technology & Research, Inc.
- Booz Allen Hamilton
- Crimson Phoenix, LLC
- Green Mountain Analytics
- Guidehouse, Inc.
- Infusement Group
- MBO Partners
- NAVSTAR Inc.
- Serco, Inc.
- SiteWorks

All Government and SETA personnel shall have signed, and be subject to, the terms and conditions of non-disclosure agreements. By submission of its proposal, a Proposer agrees that its proposal information may be disclosed to employees of these organizations for the limited purposes stated above. Proposers who object to this arrangement shall provide clear notice of their objection as part of their transmittal letter. If Proposers do not send a notice of objection to this arrangement in their transmittal letter, the Government shall assume consent to the use of Contractor support personnel in assisting the review of submittal(s) under this ETA Program Announcement. Only Government personnel will make evaluation and award determinations.

4.B. Proposal Format and Content

To facilitate the evaluation of the proposal, the government encourages Proposers to submit proposals which: are clear and concise; limited to essential matters sufficient to demonstrate a complete understanding of the Government's requirements; include sufficient detail for effective evaluation; and provide a convincing rationale to address how the Proposer intends to meet the requirements and objectives, rather than simply rephrasing or restating the Government's requirements and objectives.

All proposals shall be in the format outlined below. Non-compliant proposals may be rejected without review. Proposals shall consist of "Volume I - Technical and Management Proposal" and <u>only if requested</u> "Volume II - Cost Proposal." All proposals shall be written in English.

Additionally, when printed, text shall be black and paper size 8-1/2 by 11-inch, white in color with 1" margins from paper edge to text or graphic on all sides. Times New Roman font with font size not smaller than 12-point. Font size for figures, tables and charts no smaller than 10-point. All content shall be clearly legible with the unaided eye. Excessive use of small fonts, for other than figures, tables, and charts, or unnecessary use of figures, tables, and charts to present information may render the proposal non-compliant. Text and graphics may be printed on both sides of a sheet (double-sided). Front and backside of a single sheet are counted as two (2) pages if both sides are printed upon. Foldout pages are not permitted. The page limitation for full proposals includes all figures, tables, and charts. All pages shall be numbered. No other materials may be incorporated in any portion of the proposal by reference, to circumvent page count limitations. All information pertaining to a volume shall be contained within that volume. Any information beyond the page limitations will not be considered in the evaluation.

The Government anticipates proposals submitted under this ETA Program Announcement will be UNCLASSIFIED. Proposals that contain classified information will not be evaluated.

Each proposal submitted **shall** consist of the following:

Volume I – Technical & Management Proposal (Reference Section 4.B.1 below)

Section 1 - Transmittal Letter (A Table of Contents is not required but if included, will not be considered in the page count)

Section 2 – Detailed Proposal Information

Section 3 – Attachments. Attachments are not included in the overall page limit for Volume I. Proposals that include Human Subject Research (HSR) must include Attachment # 11.

Templates are included in Appendix A:

Attachment 1 – Cover Sheet. Template is required.

Attachment 2 – Academic Institution Acknowledgment Letter (Reference Appendix A-2). Template is required, if applicable.

Attachment 3 – IP Rights (Reference Appendix A-3). Estimated not-to-exceed 4 Pages.

Attachment 4 – OCI Notification or Certification (Reference Appendix A-4). Template is required.

Attachment 5 – Three Chart Summary of the Proposal (Reference Appendix A-5). Template is required.

Attachment 6 – Research Data Management Plan (Reference Appendix A-6). Template is required.

Attachment 7 – Privacy Plan (No Template Provided).

Attachment 8 – Bibliography (No Template Provided).

Attachment 9 – Relevant Papers (No Template Provided).

Attachment 10 – Consultant Letters of Commitment (if needed). (No Template Provided).

Attachment 11 – HSR Documentation (No Template Provided).

Volume II – Cost Proposal (Reference Section 4.B.2 below) *(To be submitted only if requested by the AO)*

Section 1 – Cover Sheet (Reference Appendix B-1)
Section 2 – Estimated Cost Breakdown (Reference Appendix B-2)
Section 3 – Supporting Information

4.B.1 Volume I: Technical and Management Proposal

Volume I shall not exceed 15 pages. Any pages exceeding this limit will not be considered during the evaluation process. Proposals shall be accompanied by an Official Transmittal Letter, using Proposer format.

Volume I may include an attached bibliography of relevant technical papers or research notes (published and unpublished), which document the technical ideas and approach on which the proposal is based. Other supporting materials will not be evaluated.

4.B.1.1 Section 1: Transmittal Letter

Transmittal Letter

The transmittal letter shall include the following (not to exceed 1 page):

Introduction of Proposer and team (subcontractors and consultants), the ETA Program Announcement Number, Program Name (Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs), Proposer's Program Name (if applicable), the proposal validity period, any non-negotiable conditions on which the proposal is based, such as IP restrictions, etc., and the Proposer's points of contact information: name, e-mail and phone number for both technical and administrative.

Note: Any information required elsewhere in the proposal must be included in the appropriate section of the proposal (i.e., including information in the transmittal letter alone may not be sufficient). If there is a conflict between the transmittal letter and the proposal, the proposal shall dominate.

4.B.1.2 Section 2: Detailed Proposal Information

This section shall provide a detailed, in-depth discussion of the proposed research as well as supporting information about the Proposer's capabilities and resources. Specific attention shall be given to addressing both the risks and payoffs of the proposed research and how the proposed research will achieve the goals, objectives, metrics, and milestones. The Government reserves the right to reject a proposal if the information requested below is not adequately addressed. This part shall provide:

A. **Task Description Document (TDD)** - Clearly define the technical tasks and sub-tasks to be performed, their durations and the dependencies among them. For each task and sub-task, provide:

- A general description of the objective;
- A detailed description of the approach to be taken, developed in an orderly progression and in enough detail to establish the feasibility of accomplishing the goals of the task;

- Identification of the primary organization responsible for task execution (prime, subcontractor, team member, etc.) by name;
- The exit criteria for each task/activity (i.e., a product, event, waypoint, or milestone that defines its completion); and
- Identification of all deliverables (e.g., reports, software) to be provided to the Government as well as the data rights associated with each deliverable.

Awards will not contain a Proprietary TDD.

At the end of this section, provide a Gantt chart, showing all tasks and sub-tasks on the left with the performance period on the right. All milestones and decision points shall be clearly labeled on the chart. If necessary, use multiple pages to ensure legibility of all information.

B. **A Detailed Description of the Objectives, Scientific Relevance, Technical Approach, and Expected Significance of the Work** - Clearly identify key elements of the proposed work and how they relate to each other. Describe the technical methods or approaches that will be used to meet or exceed each program milestone along with an explanation outlining why the proposed methods/approaches are feasible. Additionally, describe any anticipated risks along with possible mitigations. Proposals containing only a general discussion of the problem without detailed description of approaches, plausibility of implementation, and critical metrics may be deemed not selectable.

C. **State-of-the-Art** - Compare the proposed approach to other on-going research, highlighting the uniqueness of the proposed approach and differences between the proposed effort and the current state-of-the-art. Identify advantages and disadvantages of the proposed work with respect to potential alternative approaches.

D. **Data Sources** - Identify and describe data sources to be utilized in pursuit of the stated research goals.

Proposers proposing to use existing data sets shall provide written verification that said data sets were obtained IAW U.S. laws and, where applicable, use will be in compliance with End User License Agreements, Copyright Laws, Terms of Service, and laws and policies regarding privacy protection of U.S. Persons.

Proposers proposing to obtain new data sets shall ensure that their plan for obtaining the data complies with U.S. Laws and, where applicable, with End User License Agreement, Copyright Laws, Terms of Service, and laws and policies regarding privacy protection of U.S. Persons.

Proposers shall also address IP restrictions on the use or transfer of such data sets, in Appendix A.3.

E. **Deliverables** - Based on the required deliverables, clearly identify the data to be delivered, including technical data and computer software. In Attachment 3 (Ref. Section 4.B.1.3 and Appendix A.3), Proposers shall address IP rights in such data.

F. **Cost, Schedule, Milestones** - Describe the cost, schedule, and milestones for the

proposed research, including cost estimates by cost element, for the PoP/Phase, option period(s) as applicable and the total program summary, and company cost share, if any, as well as cost by technical area(s) and tasks. The milestones shall not include proprietary information (Proposer can use their own format for milestones).

Note: Volume II - Cost Proposal is not required unless requested by the AO.

SAMPLE FORMAT

Cost Element (Burdened)	**Phase 1 – Base**	**Phase 2 – Option**	**Phase 3 – Option**
Labor			
Subcontracts/Consultant			
Materials & Equipment			
Travel			
Other Direct Costs			
(Cost Share, if any)			
Total			

G. **Proposer's Previous Accomplishments** - Discuss previous accomplishments and work in this or closely related research areas and how these will contribute to and influence the current work.

H. **Facilities** - Describe the facilities that shall be used for the proposed effort, including computational and experimental resources.

I. **Detailed Management Plan** - Provide a detailed Management Plan that clearly identifies organizations and individuals within organizations that make up the team, and delineate the expected duties, relevant capabilities, and task responsibilities of team members and expected relationships among team members. Identify the expected levels of effort (percentage of time, or fraction of a Full Time Equivalent (FTE)) for all Key Personnel.

Additionally, include a description of the technical, administrative, and business structure of the team along with an internal communication plan. Describe the project/function/sub-contractor relationships (including formal teaming agreements), Government research interfaces, planning, scheduling, and control practices utilized, as well as the team leadership structure. Provide a brief biography of all Key Personnel (including alternates, if desired) and significant contributors who shall be involved in the research along with the amount of effort to be expended by each person during the year. Participation by Key Personnel and significant contributors is <u>expected to exceed 25% of their time</u>. A compelling explanation is required for any variation from this figure.

If the team intends to use consultants, they shall also be included in the organizational

chart with an indication of whether the person shall be an "individual" or "organizational" consultant (i.e., representing themselves or their organization), and organizational affiliation.

Reference Table below for the required format.

Team organization (Example)

Participants	Org	Role	Unique, Relevant Capabilities	Role: Tasks	Time
Dan Wind	RST Univ	Key Personnel	Physics	Design, FAB	90%

J. **Resource Share** - Include the type of support, if any, the Proposer might request from the Government, such as facilities, equipment, materials.

Also include, if applicable, resources the Proposer is willing to provide at no additional cost to the Government to support the research effort IAW 50 U.S.C. § 3024(m)(6)(C)(vii) (which cites and refers to 10 U.S.C. 4022(d)(1)):

> At least one-third of the total cost of the prototype project is to be paid out of funds provided by sources other than the Federal Government.

Cost sharing is not required, and it is not an evaluation criterion but is encouraged where there is a reasonable probability of a potential application related to the proposed R&D effort.

K. **Names of other Federal, State or Local Agencies or Other Parties Receiving the Proposal and/or Funding the Proposed Effort** - If none, state "None." Concurrent submission of the proposal to other organizations will not prejudice its review but may impact the decision to fund the effort.

L. **Research Data Management Plan (RDMP)** –

In this Section, reference the reader to Attachment 6 where your proposal will include the following:

Submit a RDMP that outlines how Research Data will be produced, collected, managed and preserved through the course of performance.

The RDMP may not require the preservation of all Research Data:

Proposers shall consider the cost and benefits of managing and preserving the Research Data in determining whether to preserve it. At a minimum, all Research Data associated with a peer-reviewed manuscript or final published article (hereinafter "Publications") must be made publicly accessible by the award recipient before, on or at a reasonable time after the publication date. The Publications associated data must be covered in this RDMP.

Research Data is defined herein as the digital- recorded factual material commonly accepted in the scientific community as necessary to validate research findings including data sets used to support scholarly publications, but does not include laboratory notebooks, preliminary analyses, drafts of scientific papers, plans for future research, peer review reports, communications with colleagues, or physical objects, such as laboratory specimens.

The RDMP must address the following:

(1) Describe the types of Research Data collected or produced in the course of the project. Include standards to be used for Research Data and metadata content and format.

(2) A plan for making the Research Data that underlie Publications digitally accessible to the public before or, at the time of publication or conference presentation, or within a reasonable time after publication. The requirement could be met by including the data as supplementary information to the Publication or by depositing the Research Data in a searchable, machine readable and digitally accessible form suitable for repositories available to the public free of charge. Such repositories could be discipline-specific repositories, general purpose research data repositories or institutional repositories. The published article or conference paper shall indicate how the public may access Research Data underlying the paper's results and findings. Proposers shall attempt to make the Research Data available for at least three years after published article or conference. (Note: Proposers shall make a best effort in identifying research data sets that may be used for Publications that occur after OT end. The Proposer shall deliver these data sets to the Government and make them available in repositories available to the public prior to the end of the PoP, if not included as supplementary information to Publications.)

(3) Policies and provisions for sharing and preservation, including a) policies and provisions for appropriate protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, and IP, b) descriptions of tools, including software, needed to access and interpret the Research Data, and c) policies and provisions for re-use, re-distribution, and production of derivatives.

(4) If, for legitimate reasons (e.g., privacy, confidentiality, security, IP rights considerations; size of data sets, cost; time), the Research Data underlying the results of peer-reviewed publications or conference papers cannot be shared and preserved, the plan must include a justification citing such reasons.

In addressing these elements (e.g., types of data to be shared and preserved, standards to be used for data and metadata, repositories to be used for archiving data, timeframes for sharing and preservation), the RDMP shall reflect the best practices of the relevant scientific discipline and research community. At a minimum, Research Data underlying Publications and associated metadata shall include an acknowledgement of IARPA support and a link to the associated Publication.

4.B.1.3 Section 3: Attachments

Each attachment listed below shall be included with the proposal. They do not count against the Volume I page limit.

Attachment 1: Cover Sheet. A template is provided in Appendix A-1.

Attachment 2: Signed Academic Institution Acknowledgement Letter(s) (if applicable).
A template is provided in Appendix A-2.

Attachment 3: IP Rights. This attachment is estimated not to exceed 4 pages and shall address the following:

(1) **Representation as to Rights** - Proposer shall provide a good faith representation that they either own or have sufficient licensing rights to all IP that will be utilized in their proposal.

(2) **Program-Specific IP Approach** - IARPA requires sufficient rights to IP developed or used in the conduct of the proposed research to ensure that IARPA can successfully (a) manage the program and evaluate the technical output and deliverables, (b) communicate program information across Government organizations, and (c) support transition to and further use and development of the program results by IC users and others. IARPA can achieve this mission through Unlimited Rights. There may be any number of approaches to IP rights to achieve IARPA's program goals. In addressing the approach to IP rights, Proposers shall (1) describe the intended use of patented invention(s) or data, including, technical data and computer software, in the conduct of the proposed research; (2) describe the rights being offered to the Government along with a justification if less than Unlimited Rights is being offered; (3) explain how IARPA will be able to reach its program goals with the rights offered to the Government; (4) identify the cost to the Government to acquire additional or alternative rights beyond those being offered, if applicable; and (5) provide possible alternatives in any area in which the offered rights may be insufficient for IARPA to achieve its program goals (e.g., the possibility of future licensing of privately-developed software to U.S. Government agencies at a reasonable cost.)

(3) **Patented Inventions** - Proposers shall provide documentation proving ownership of or sufficient rights to all inventions (or inventions for which a patent application has been filed) that will be utilized under the proposal for the IARPA program. If a patent application has been filed for an invention that the proposal intends to utilize, but the application has not yet been made publicly available and contains proprietary information, the Proposer may provide only the serial number, inventor name(s), assignee names (if any), filing date, filing date of any related provisional application, and a

summary of the patent title, together with either: (1) a representation that the Proposer owns the invention, or (2) proof of sufficient licensing rights in the invention. Proposer shall also indicate its intention to incorporate patented technology into any deliverable - i.e., if Proposer intends for any deliverable to embody any invention covered by any patent or patent application listed by the Proposer in Volume I, Attachment 3 (Appendix A-3), Proposer shall also specify in the Attachment the deliverable to which the Proposer expects to incorporate the invention. In doing so, the Government requests that Proposers further specify any rights offered to the Government for inventions that will be utilized in the program (beyond the implied license that accompanies a patent owner's sale of a patented product).

(4) **Non-commercial Data** - Proposers shall identify all non-commercial data, including technical data and computer software, that it plans to generate, develop and/or deliver in which the Government shall acquire less than unlimited rights. In doing so, Proposers must assert (a) the specific restrictions on the Government's rights in those deliverables, (b) the basis for such restrictions, (c) the intended use of the technical data and non-commercial computer software in the conduct of the proposed R&D of applicable deliverables, and (d) a supporting rationale of why the proposed approach to data rights is in the Government's best interest. **If no restrictions are intended, then the Proposer shall state "NONE."**

(5) **Commercial Data** - Proposer shall identify all commercial data, including technical data and commercial computer software, that may be included in any deliverables contemplated under the research effort and assert any applicable restrictions on the Government's use of such commercial data. **If no restrictions are intended, then the Proposer shall state "NONE."**

(6) **Data Developed with Mixed Funding** - If mixed funding is anticipated in data generated, developed, and/or delivered under the research effort, the Government seeks at minimum GPR for all non-commercial data deliverables; offering anything less shall be considered a weakness in the proposal. United States Government (USG) purposes include any activity in which the USG is a party, including cooperative agreements with international or multi-national defense organizations, or sales or transfers by the USG to foreign governments or international organizations. Government purposes include competitive procurement, but do not include the rights to use, modify, reproduce, release, perform, display, or disclose technical data or computer software for commercial purposes or authorize others to do so.

(7) **Open Source** - If Proposers propose the use of any open-source data or freeware, any conditions, restrictions or other requirements imposed by that software shall also be addressed. Proposers shall leverage the format in Appendix A.3 for their response.

(8) **Identification of Relevant Government Contracts** - For all technical data and computer software that a Proposer intends to deliver with other than unlimited rights that are identical or substantially similar to technical data and computer software that the Proposer has produced for, delivered to, or is obligated to deliver to the Government under any contract or subcontract, the Proposer shall identify (a) the contract number under which the data, software, or documentation was produced; (b) the contract number under which, and the name and address of the organization to whom, the data and

software was most recently delivered or shall be delivered; and (c) any limitations on the Government's rights to use or disclose the data and software, including, when applicable, identification of the earliest date the limitations expire.

(9) **Definitions** - Proposers shall clearly define such rights in the "IP Rights" Attachment of their proposal. Proposers are reminded of the requirement for prime Performers to acquire sufficient rights from subcontractors to accomplish the program goals.

(10) **Evaluation** - The Government will use the asserted data rights during the evaluation process to evaluate the impact of any identified restrictions. The technical content of the "IP Rights" Attachment shall include only the information necessary to address the proposed approach to IP; any other technical discussion in the attachment shall not be considered during the evaluation process.

Attachment 4: OCI Notification or Certification Template provided in Appendix A-4.

Attachment 5: Three Chart Summary of the Proposal. A PowerPoint summary that quickly and succinctly indicates the concept overview, key innovations, expected impact, and other unique aspects of the proposal. The format for the summary slides is included in Appendix A-5 and is required to be used by the Proposer. Attachment 5 does not count against the page limit. Slide 1 shall be a self-contained, intuitive description of the technical approach and performance. These slides may be used during the evaluation process to present a summary of the proposal from the Proposer's perspective.

Attachment 6: Research Data Management Plan. (Estimated 2 to 3 pages). Template provided in Appendix A-6 is required to be used by the Proposer.

Attachment 7: Privacy Plan (No page limit). No template provided; Proposer's format is acceptable.

Attachment 8: Bibliography. A brief bibliography of relevant technical papers and research notes (published and unpublished) which document the technical ideas on which the proposal is based. No template provided; Proposer's format is acceptable.

Attachment 9: Relevant Papers. Copies of no more than three relevant papers may be included in the submission. Proposers shall include a one-page technical summary of each paper provided, suitable for individuals who are not experts in the field. No template provided; Proposer's format is acceptable.

Attachment 10: Consultant Letters of Commitment (if needed). No template provided; Proposer's format is acceptable.

Attachment 11: HSR Documentation. No template provided; Proposer's format is acceptable.

4.B.2 Volume II: Cost Proposal (No Page Limit)

NOTE: This Volume is only required if the Proposer's Technical Proposal (Volume I) is selected for negotiation. The notification of selection will be issued in writing by the AO and will include a request to submit the full Cost Volume within 10 business days or as otherwise authorized by the AO. The notification may include a more accurate representation of the anticipated PoP.

The Government anticipates cost reimbursement proposals; however, Proposers requesting other than cost reimbursement (i.e., FFP) may be directed by the AO to provide "other than certified cost or pricing data" and/or cost supporting information in a different format than described below. The resultant OTs will reflect Fixed-Cost Milestones/Deliverables.

The AO may consider granting the request for an FFP award under the following circumstances:

- Small Businesses,
- Proposers without an approved accounting system,
- Start-Up companies,
- Consortia that may include universities and non-profits or;
- Where cost-sharing or government participation in the work is appropriate.

Note: OTs do not typically require certified cost or pricing data.

The cost proposal shall contain sufficient factual information to establish the Proposer's understanding of the project, the perception of project risks, the ability to organize and perform the work and to support the realism and reasonableness of the proposed cost, to the extent appropriate.

The Government 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. The Government discourages such cost strategies. Cost reduction approaches that shall be received favorably include innovative management concepts that maximize direct funding for technology and limit diversion of funds into overhead.

4.B.2.1 Section 1: Cover Sheet

Reference Appendix B.1 for the Cover Sheet Template. Proposers must use and submit this template.

4.B.2.2 Section 2: Estimated Cost Breakdown

Proposers must submit numerical cost and pricing data using the Cost Proposal Template (Ref. Appendix B2). Cost Proposal Template in Excel Format will be provided to those Proposers invited to submit Volume II. The Excel files shall not be password protected. The cost proposal template tabbed by Phase (if applicable), shall include formulas and shall not be hard numbered.

4.B.2.3 Section 3: Supporting Information

In addition to the above, supporting cost and pricing information shall be provided in sufficient detail to substantiate the Proposer's cost estimates. Include a description of the Basis of Estimate (BOE) in a narrative for each cost element and provide supporting documentation, as applicable:

Direct Labor. Provide a complete cost breakout by labor category, hours and rates. Specify all Key Personnel by name and clearly state their labor category and proposed rate. Describe the basis of the proposed rates and provide a copy of the most recent Forward Pricing Rate Agreement (FPRA) or Forward Pricing Rate Recommendation (FPRR). If the Proposer does not have a FPRA, provide payroll records or contingency hire letters with salary data to support each proposed labor category, including those for key individuals, and the most recent Forward Pricing Rate Proposal (FPRP) Submission, if available. Proposer shall also address whether any portion of their labor rates is attributable to uncompensated overtime.

Salary Rate Limitation: The Performer shall not use program funds to pay the direct salary of an individual at a rate in excess of the Federal Executive Schedule (EX) Level II (https://www.opm.gov/policy-data-oversight/pay-leave/salaries-wages/salary-tables/26Tables/exec/html/EX.aspx) in effect on the date the funds were obligated. For the purposes of the salary rate limitation, "Direct salary," "salary", and "institutional base salary" have the same meaning and are collectively referred to as "direct salary."

An individual's direct salary is the annual compensation that the Performer pays for an individual's direct effort under the Agreement. Direct salary excludes any income that an individual may be permitted to earn outside of duties to the Performer. Direct salary also excludes fringe benefits, overhead, and general and administrative expenses (also referred to as indirect costs or facilities and administrative [F&A] costs).

The salary rate limitation does not restrict the salary that an organization may pay an individual working under the Agreement, it merely limits the portion of that salary that may be paid with Federal funds. The salary rate limitation also applies to individuals under subawards.

Labor Escalation Factor. State the proposed escalation rate and the basis for that rate (e.g., based upon Global Insight indices, Cost Index or historical data). If the escalation rate is based upon historical data, provide data to demonstrate the labor escalation trend. Provide a sample calculation demonstrating application of the factor to direct labor including the last three years (if available) of historical labor escalation that was incorporated into Government contracts.

Subcontracts. (Include consultants and Inter-organizational Transfers (IOTs)) – The Proposer is responsible for compiling and providing full subcontractor proposals with the Cost Volume. Subcontractor cost element sheets shall be completed for the PoP/Phase, Option Period(s) (as applicable) and the total summary using the same format required for the prime contractor. If available, provide a copy of the most recent FPRA or FPRR. Information shall be presented in Excel with intact formulas using the format provided as an Attachment and addressing the supporting cost information outlined in Section 4. In addition to the full and complete subcontractor cost proposals, the Proposer shall also provide its analysis of each subcontractor's proposal including justification as to why the subcontractor was selected and its determination that the cost/price is fair and reasonable. **If subcontractors have concerns about proprietary cost information, subcontractors can contact the AO for instructions.**

AO Instruction: If a subcontractor has concerns about proprietary cost information, subcontractors will not initially have to upload a complete cost breakout in the IARPA Distribution and Evaluation System (IDEAS). Subcontractors shall provide the overall cost and technical area so the prime can provide an accurate overall total cost. Only after selection as a potential Prime/subcontractor awardee, the AO will then ask the subcontractor for a full cost

breakout.

Material and Equipment. Provide copies of quotes, bill of materials, historical data, past invoices, or any other information including the analysis to support proposed costs.

Travel. The proposed travel supporting detail shall include destination and purpose of each trip, number of trips, number of travelers, days per trip, and cost per traveler in sufficient detail to verify the BOE. Profit/Fee on travel is not authorized.

Proposed conference travel must have an immediate, direct, and tangible benefit to the Government such as providing a deliverable at the conference (e.g., gives a presentation, presents a paper or research findings sponsored in whole or in part by IARPA). Travel for personnel to simply attend a conference will not be approved/funded as a direct charge to the OT.

CONUS travel requires a 14-day advance notification; OCONUS travel requires a 30-day advance notification for approval from the AOR or AO.

Other Direct Costs (ODCs). ODCs shall be listed separately and supported by quotes, historical data or any other information including the Proposer's analysis.

Indirect Costs. Proposer shall show indirect cost calculations, identify the proposed indirect rate by contractor FY and program period and provide information on indirect cost pools and allocation bases for each year and program period involved. If a Government agency, within the last three years, has audited the Proposer's indirect rates, the Proposer shall identify the agency that conducted the audit, when the rates were approved and the period for which they are effective. Include a copy of the rate agreement. Absent current Government rate recommendations, it is incumbent on the Proposer to provide other means of demonstrating indirect rate realism (e.g., three years of historical actual costs with applicable pools and bases). If proposed rates vary significantly from historical experience, the Proposer shall explain the variance.

Cost Sharing. Describe the source, nature and amount of cost-sharing, if any.

Other Pricing Assumptions. Identify all pricing assumptions that shall be incorporated into the resulting award (e.g., use of Government Furnished Property/Facilities/Information, access to Government Subject Matter Experts, etc.).

Facilities Capital Cost of Money (FCCM). If proposing FCCM, the Proposer shall show FCCM cost calculations, identify the proposed FCCM factors by contractor FY and program year and provide a copy of the FPRA, Forward Price Rate System (FPRS) or FPRR, if available.

Profit/Fee. Identify the proposed profit or fee percentage and the proposed profit/fee base. Provide justification for the proposed profit or fee.

4.C. Submission Details

4.C.1 Due Dates

White Papers per Program: Continuous, after the posting of Q&As (Preferred). Reference Section 4 titled "White Paper, Proposal, Submission Information" for additional information.

Technical and Cost Volumes: By invitation only. Reference Section 4 for additional information.

4.C.2 Proposal Delivery

White Papers and Proposals shall be submitted electronically by uploading to IDEAS. Proposers interested in providing a submission shall first register by electronic means IAW the instructions provided at the following web site: https://iarpa-ideas.gov/client/signin.aspx

Proposers are strongly encouraged to register in IDEAS. Failure to register will prevent the submittal of documents.

Note: IDEAS will require Proposers complete a proposal cover sheet within IDEAS at the time Volume I – Technical and Management Proposal is submitted. This is separate and distinct from the Technical and Cost Volume cover sheets. Information requested within IDEAS will include basic cost information (Funds requested from IARPA and validity period). Complete the requested information, but DO NOT upload Volume II – Cost Proposal. Directions for submittal of Volume II – Cost Proposal will be provided by the AO when Proposers are notified of their selection for negotiations.

The Proposer will receive an automated confirmation e-mail from IDEAS. Please forward that automated message to William_Galvin@ibc.doi.gov, Kevin_Woody@ibc.doi.gov and IARPA_DOI_ETA@ibc.doi.gov

The Government strongly suggests that the Proposer document the submission of their proposal by printing the electronic receipt (time/date stamped) that appears on the final screen following the compliant submission of a proposal to the IDEAS website.

Volume I submitted by any means other than IDEAS (e.g., hand-carried, postal service, commercial carrier and e-mail) shall not be considered unless the Proposer attempted electronic submittal, but was unsuccessful and notified the Government using the following procedure:

(1) The Proposer shall send an e-mail to William_Galvin@ibc.doi.gov, Kevin_Woody@ibc.doi.gov and IARPA_DOI_ETA@ibc.doi.gov prior to the proposal due date/time specified, indicate that an attempt was made to submit electronically, and that the submittal was unsuccessful.

(2) This e-mail shall include contact information for the Proposer. Upon receipt of such notification, the AO will provide additional guidance regarding submission.

Once the Government has received sufficient White Papers per Program, the AO will issue an ETA Program Announcement Amendment re-labeling the Program Title in Attachment 1 – ETA Programs from **"Active"** to **"Not Active."**

White Papers received for a **"Not Active"** Program will not be considered or evaluated.

The AO will also issue an Amendment to add or delete Programs in Attachment 1 – ETA Programs as determined by IARPA's priorities, mission, and availability of funds.

Selection remains contingent on the technical and funding availability evaluation factors.

Although classified proposals are not anticipated for this program, if a Proposer chooses to submit a classified proposal, the Proposer must first contact the AO William_Galvin@ibc.doi.gov, Kevin_Woody@ibc.doi.gov and IARPA_DOI_ETA@ibc.doi.gov for detailed submittal instructions. In no case shall classified information be uploaded to IDEAS.

4.D. Funding Restrictions

Facility construction costs are not allowable under this activity. Funding may not be used to pay for the commercialization of technology.

SECTION 5: PROPOSAL REVIEW INFORMATION

5.A. Technical and Funding Availability Evaluation Factors

The factors used to evaluate and select proposals for negotiation are described in the following paragraphs. The proposals shall be evaluated based on technical and funding availability factors. These are of equal importance. Each proposal shall be evaluated on its own merits and its relevance to each Program goal(s) rather than against other proposals submitted in response to this ETA Program Announcement when considering the technical evaluation factors. Within the technical evaluation factor, the specific technical criteria are in descending order of importance, as follows:

Overall Scientific and Technical Merit,

Potential Contribution and Relevance to the IARPA Mission,

Resource Realism (For Technical Evaluation).

Award shall be made to a Proposer based on the technical and funding availability factors described below, and subject to successful negotiations with the Government. Award shall not be made to a Proposer(s) whose proposal(s) is determined not selectable. Proposers are cautioned that failure to follow submittal and proposal instructions may negatively impact their proposal evaluation or may result in rejection of the proposal for non-compliance.

5.A.1 Technical Evaluation Factor

5.A.1.1 Overall Scientific and Technical Merit

The proposed technical approach is innovative, feasible, achievable, and complete. The proposed technical team has the expertise, defined roles/responsibilities, and experience to accomplish the proposed tasks and meet program metrics. 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 proposal identifies major technical risks and planned mitigation efforts are clearly defined and feasible.

5.A.1.2 Potential Contribution and Relevance to the IARPA Mission

The proposed solution meets the letter and intent of the stated program goals and all elements within the proposal exhibit a comprehensive understanding of the problem. The Proposer describes how the solution contributes to IARPA's mission to invest in high- risk/high-payoff research that can provide the U.S. with an overwhelming intelligence advantage. The proposed IP restrictions (if any) will not significantly impact the Government's ability to transition the technology.

5.A.1.3 Resource Realism (For Technical Evaluation)

The proposed resources are realistic for the technical and management approach and accurately reflect the technical goals and objectives of the ETA Program Announcement. The proposed resources are consistent with the proposer's TDD and reflect a sufficient understanding of the level of effort needed to successfully accomplish the proposed technical approach. The proposal clearly identifies capital equipment, computational resources, and other direct costs related to the proposal.

5.A.2 Funding Availability Factor

The Government will seek to maximize the likelihood of meeting program objectives within available funding, which may involve awarding one or more OTs from the proposals recommended as technically selectable based on reviews of the Technical Evaluation Factors. To determine which technically selectable proposals to award within available funding, the Government will consider elements such as overall program technical balance and overall program risk when determining how to best achieve overall program objectives

Note: If the Proposer has submitted the proposal to other federal, state or local agencies or other parties that may fund the proposed effort, it may impact IARPA's decision to fund the effort.

5.B. Method of Evaluation and Selection Process

IARPA conducts impartial, equitable, comprehensive proposal reviews to select the source(s) whose proposal meets the Government's technical, policy and programmatic goals. For evaluation purposes, a proposal is the document described in Section 4. Other supporting or background materials submitted with the proposal shall not be considered.

The award process has three steps:

> First Step: Selection of the White Paper via a high-level assessment by the Program's PM and his/her team to determine viability. The Government reserves the right to request a full proposal (Volumes I and II) simultaneously, if warranted.
>
> Second Step: Selection based on the review of the technical factors (Volume I).
>
> Third Step: Negotiation and OT award. Award is contingent on AO's determination of a fair and reasonable cost/price and agreement on terms and conditions.

Selection for negotiations will be conducted through a peer or scientific review process led by the PM. This process entails establishing a Scientific Review Panel (SRP) made up of qualified Government personnel who will review and assess each proposal's strengths, weaknesses, and risks[1] against the technical evaluation criteria. If necessary, non-Government technical experts with specialized expertise may advise Government panel members and the PM. However, only Government personnel will make selection recommendations and decisions.

Proposals will be reviewed individually and not be compared against each other. When SRP reviews are complete, the PM will prepare a recommendation to the IARPA Scientific Review Official (SRO) identifying proposals as selectable, selectable with modification, or not selectable based on consideration of all stated factors (technical and funding availability). The SRO will make the final decision as to selectability for negotiations. At this point, Proposers will be notified in writing as to whether they have been determined selectable, selectable with modification, or not selectable.

5.C. Negotiation and OT Award

After selection (Volume I) but before award, the AO will contact Proposers whose proposals were selected or selected with modifications to engage in negotiations. At that time, the AO will also request a full cost proposal (Volume II), and the documentation necessary for IARPA to perform the research security risk assessment described below. The AO's evaluation will include a review of the proposed anticipated costs/prices of the Proposer and those of associate, participating organizations, to ensure the Proposer has fully analyzed the budget requirements, provided sufficient supporting information, has adequate systems for managing the OT (i.e. accounting, purchasing), and that data is traceable and reconcilable. The AO will also determine whether the prospective Performer meets responsibility standards and has an acceptable research security assessment compliant with The National Security Presidential Memorundum-33 (NSPM-33)[2] to be considered for award. Additional information and supporting data may be requested.

If proposed costs submitted are substantially different than the estimates provided in the technical proposal, then an OT may not be awarded.

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[1]**Strength**: An aspect of a proposal that has appreciable merit or appreciably exceeds specified performance or capability requirements in a way that will be advantageous to the Government during OT performance.

Weakness: A flaw in the proposal that increases the risk of unsuccessful OT performance.

Risk: The potential for unsuccessful OT performance. The consideration of risk assesses the degree to which a proposed approach to achieving the technical factor or subfactor may involve risk of disruption of schedule, increased cost or degradation of performance, the need for increased Government oversight, and the likelihood of unsuccessful performance.

[2]2021, OSTP NSPM-33, Presidential Memorandum on United States Government-Supported R&D National Security Policy, National Security & Defense, Issued on: January 14, 2021, [https://trumpwhitehouse.archives.gov/presidential-actions/presidential-memorandum-united-states-government-supported-research-development-national-security-policy/]

OTs shall be awarded to those Proposers whose proposals are deemed most advantageous to the Government, all stated evaluation factors considered, and pending the successful conclusion of negotiations.

Research Security Risk Assessment

Each proposal determined selectable or selectable with modification, will be subject to the following Research Security Risk Assessment to be considered for award:

IARPA is implementing the research security policy of National Security Presidential Memorandum-33 (NSPM-33)[1]. This policy directs federal sponsors of Research and Development (R&D) to assess whether participants in proposed R&D have potential foreign conflicts of interest or conflicts of commitment that pose risks to the security of the R&D. The goal is to identify any such risks and mitigate these risks where possible prior to being considered for award.

NSPM-33 requires "*covered individuals*" to submit two types of disclosure forms prior to being considered for award. These forms consist of 1) biographical sketches for key personnel and 2) data on current and pending support. IARPA has elected to adopt the common forms developed by the Office of Science and Technology Policy (OSTP) and currently maintained by the National Science Foundation (NSF) for both the biographical sketch and current and pending support disclosures. In the future, "*covered institutions*" (further described below) must certify that they have a *Research Security Program* (RSP) consistent with the guidance published by OSTP[2]. IARPA is partnering with the NSF to certify RSP compliance of covered institutions.

Covered Individuals

IARPA designates "covered individuals" as "key personnel" on an R&D proposal who meet the following criteria:

- An individual who contributes in a substantive, meaningful way to the scientific development or execution of the proposed R&D, ***and***
- Is employed or compensated by the entity submitting the proposal or its subcontractors

Covered individuals typically include Program Managers (PM), Principal Investigators (PI), Project Managers (PM), and paid research staff, etc.

Some key elements of the NSF *biographical sketch* disclosure common form[3] for covered individuals include:

- Identifying Information, Position Title, Organization and Location Name
- Professional Preparation
- Appointments and Positions

- Products
- Certify the individual is not part of a Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program

Some key elements of the NSF *current and pending support* disclosure common form[4] for covered individuals include:

- Identifying Information, Position Title, Organization and Location Name
- List of *Proposals and Active Projects* (both current and pending):
- Title
- Status of Support
- Source of Support
- Primary Place of Performance
- Proposal/Active Project Start/End Dates
- Total Anticipated Proposal/Project Amount in US Dollars
- Person-Month(s)
- Overall Objectives:
- Statement of Potential Overlap with other projects
- List of All *In-Kind Contributions*, if any (both current and pending):
- Type and Status of Support
- Receipt Date
- Source of Support:
- Person-Month(s)
- US Dollar Value
- Overall Objectives
- Statement of Potential Overlap
- Certify the individual is not part of a Malign Foreign Talent Recruitment Program

IARPA will use a 3-tiered risk assessment model to evaluate covered individual disclosures for foreign conflicts of interest or conflicts of commitment that may indicate potential undue foreign influence, and other risk factors relating to professional and financial activities.

- Low Risk: *No Risk Mitigation Required for Award*
- Medium Risk: *Risk Mitigation Plan Recommended for Award*
- High Risk: *Award Not Recommended Without Risk Mitigation - if possible*

IARPA requires the completed NSPM-33 disclosure forms to be submitted *with each proposal (Volume I)*. **When research security risk is identified for particular key personnel, IARPA will address the identified risk, where possible, with a mutually acceptable risk mitigation plan.**

If IARPA receives a proposal without the required disclosures, or the disclosure forms contain inaccurate or incomplete information, IARPA may determine that the proposal is not compliant and *reject the submission, eliminating it from further consideration.* IARPA also reserves the right to request further clarification or detail from potential performers regarding their disclosures or certifications before making the final determination on risk.

Covered Institutions

OSTP issued additional guidelines[5] in July, 2024 defining *"Covered Institutions"* as entities who meet the following criteria:

- An institution of higher education, a federally funded R&D center (FFRDC), or a non-profit research institution, ***and***
- Receives in excess of $50 Million per year in FY22 constant dollars (3-year average)

Many institutions participating in IARPA funded R&D meet these criteria. Please note that *all Covered Institutions* must *certify* that they have 1) a compliant policy regarding foreign talent recruitment programs (FTRP) and malign foreign talent recruitment programs (MFTRP) pursuant to Sections 10631 and 10632 of the CHIPS and Science Act of 2022[6] and that 2) no covered individuals (as designated above) in the proposal are part of such a program. IARPA requires these *completed certifications to be submitted with each proposal (Volume I).*

In the future, *covered institutions* must also certify in writing or electronically that they have a *fully-compliant RSP*. The RSP must address four separate areas:

- Cybersecurity
- Foreign Travel Security

- Research Security Training
- Export Control Training

While OSTP's current guidance offers multiple ways for a covered institution to satisfy the RSP requirements, this guidance is still under review by NSF, who has a leadership role in implementing the administration of RSP certification. *Please note that IARPA will be adopting NSF's final guidance for validating RSP certification* (reference NSF's website for additional information on the RSP requirements). Since the RSP certification deadline has yet to be finalized, IARPA will accept proposals from covered institutions in the process of implementing RSPs, but which are not yet certified as NSPM-33 compliant.

Additional Research Security Resources

Some of the key disclosure requirements for proposers seeking IARPA sponsored R&D awards have been referenced above. However, the following links provide a compact list of general resources addressing evolving US research security policy and countering undue foreign influence.

Office of the Director of National Intelligence Research Security Resources

National Science Foundation Research Security Training

National Security Presidential Memorandum 33

Office of Science and Technology Policy NSPM-33 Implementation Guidance

Office of Science and Technology Policy NSPM-33 Guidelines for Federal Research Agencies Regarding Foreign Talent Recruitment Programs

The CHIPS and Science Act of 2022

Office of Science and Technology Policy, Guidelines for Research Security Programs at Covered Institutions

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1 2021, OSTP NSPM-33, Presidential Memorandum on United States Government-Supported Research and Development National Security Policy, National Security & Defense, Issued on: January 14, 2021 [Presidential Memorandum on United States Government-Supported Research and Development National Security Policy – The White House]

2 2022, Guidance for Implementing National Security, Presidential Memorandum 33 (NSPM-33), Report by the Subcommittee on Research Security, Issued January 2022 [010422-NSPM-33-Implementation-Guidance.pdf]

3 NSF Biographical Sketch Common Form [https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/researchprotection/commonform_biographicalsketch.pdf]

4 NSF Current and Pending (other) Support Common Form [https://www.nsf.gov/bfa/dias/policy/researchprotection/commonform_cps.pdf]

5 OSTP Guidelines for Research Security Program at Covered Institutions, July 9 2024 [OSTP-RSP-Guidelines-Memo.pdf]

6 2022 Chips and Science Act, Subtitle D—Research Security, [H.R.4346 - CHIPS and Science Act]

Note: If IARPA determines that a Proposer failed to provide the disclosure forms; failed to fully disclose; failed to submit disclosure forms containing accurate or complete information; failed to provide the certification as described above; or failed to reasonably provide additional information requested by IARPA to assist in assessing the Proposer's disclosures and RSP, IARPA may reject the proposal and withdraw it from consideration for award.

In order to identify and mitigate the potential undue foreign influence and other risk factors relating to professional and financial activities, IARPA will use a 3-tiered risk assessment model to identify risk factors and resulting risk ratings for each proposal determined to be selectable or selectable with modification.

The research security risk assessment ratings are as follows:

Risk Rating	Definition
Low	The Proposer's disclosures for "covered individuals", "covered institutions", and RSP certifications are compliant with NSPM-33 requirements and guidelines. The Government has High confidence that the proposed disclosures and RSP certifications minimize the potential for undue influence, including other risk factors relating to professional and financial activities, and the Proposer can be considered for award. No other risk factors were identified, and no risk mitigation plan is required, or in the alternative, any other risks identified were already addressed by the Proposer's acceptable risk mitigation plan.
Medium	The Proposer's disclosures for "covered individuals", "covered institutions", and RSP certifications are mostly compliant with NSPM-33 requirements and guidelines. The Government has Medium confidence that the proposed disclosures and RSP minimize the potential for undue influence, including other risk factors relating to professional and financial activities, without corrective action. However, based on the risk factors identified, a risk mitigation plan is required for the proposal to further minimize identified risk. IARPA will work with the Proposer to mitigate the identified risk(s) and the Proposer must agree with the mutually acceptable risk mitigation plan in order to be considered for award. Should the Proposer not agree to the risk mitigation plan, the proposal is unacceptable; thereby nullifying award consideration.
	The Proposer's "covered individuals", "covered institutions", and RSP certifications are not compliant with NSPM-33 requirements and guidelines. The Government has Low confidence that the proposed disclosures and RSP certifications, and other significant risk factors identified relating to

High	professional and financial activities minimizes the potential for undue influence without corrective action. A mutually acceptable risk mitigation plan is not possible based on the Proposer's non-compliance or other unremedied risk factors. Security risk is unacceptable nullifying award consideration.

5.D. Proposal Retention

Proposals shall not be returned upon completion of the source selection process. The original of each proposal received shall be retained at DOI and IARPA and all other non-required copies shall be destroyed. A certification of destruction may be requested, provided that the formal request is sent to the DOI contracting agent via e-mail to William_Galvin@ibc.doi.gov, Kevin_Woody@ibc.doi.gov and IARPA_DOI_ETA@ibc.doi.gov within 5 days after notification of proposal results.

SECTION 6: AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

6.A. Award Notices

As soon as practicable after the evaluation of a proposal is complete, the Proposer will be notified that: (1) the proposal was selectable, or (2) the proposal was selectable with modification, or (3) the proposal was not selectable.

6.B. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

6.B.1 Proprietary Data

IARPA treats all proposals as proprietary information and will disclose their contents only for the purpose of evaluation. All proposals containing proprietary data shall have the cover page and each page containing proprietary data clearly marked as containing proprietary data. It is the Proposer's responsibility to clearly define to the Government what the Proposer considers proprietary data.

6.B.2 Intellectual Property

General. The Government may request additional information from the Proposer, as may be necessary, to evaluate the Proposer's IP rights assertions. If the Proposer does not identify any restrictions with respect to a particular deliverable, the Government shall assume in its review of the proposal that there are no restrictions on the Government's use of such deliverables. Further, failure to provide full information may result in a determination that the proposal is not compliant with this ETA Program Announcement, and the Government reserves the right to reject a proposal if the Proposer does not appropriately address all required IP rights.

IP Ownership. Regardless of the scope of the Government's rights, Proposers may freely use data for their own commercial purposes (unless restricted by the negotiated OT, U.S. export control laws or security classification). Therefore, data including technical data and computer software developed under any award resulting from this ETA Program Announcement may remain the property of the Proposers, subject to IARPA's rights as set forth in the OT. IARPA seeks the rights to technical data and/or computer software, developed, or used for the Programs

identified in Attachment 1 – ETA Programs. For inventions first conceived or actually reduced to practice under this effort, IARPA will obtain a non-exclusive, non-transferable, irrevocable, paid-up license to practice, or have practiced for or on its behalf, such invention throughout the world; Performer may elect to retain title.

Indemnification. Proposers expecting to use, but not deliver, data or patentable inventions, including commercial open-source tools in implementing their approach shall be required to indemnify the Government against legal liability arising from such use.

Technical Data--Withholding of Payment. If technical data, specified to be delivered under an award under this ETA Program Announcement, is not delivered within the time specified by the OT or is deficient upon delivery (including having restrictive markings not specifically authorized by the OT), the AO is permitted, until such data is accepted by the Government, to withhold payment. Payments may not be withheld, nor any other action taken pursuant to this paragraph when the Performer's failure to make timely delivery or to deliver such data without deficiencies arises out of causes beyond its control and without fault or negligence of the Performer. The withholding of any amount or subsequent payment to the Performer shall not be construed as a waiver of any rights accruing to the Government under the OT.

6.B.3 Human Subject Research

All research involving human subjects, to include use of human biological specimens and human data, selected for funding must comply with the federal regulations for human subject protection, namely 45 C.F.R. Part 46, Protection of Human Subjects.

Institutions awarded funding for research involving human subjects must provide documentation of a current Assurance of Compliance with Federal regulations for human subject protection, for example a Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS), Office of Human Research Protection Federal Wide Assurance (http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp). All institutions engaged in HSR, to include subcontractors, must also have a valid Assurance. In addition to a local Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval, IARPA will review and approve the HSR documentation before HSR may begin. However, IARPA does not require a secondary review by a Government IRB.

For all proposed research that will involve human subjects, the institution must provide evidence of or a plan for review by an IRB with the final proposal submission to IARPA as outlined in the management plan. The IRB conducting the review must be the IRB identified on the institution's Assurance. The informed consent document must comply with federal regulations (45 C.F.R. Part 46).

The amount of time required to complete the IRB review/approval process may vary depending on the complexity of the research and/or the level of risk to study participants. Ample time should be allotted to complete the approval process. No IARPA funding can be used towards HSR until ALL approvals are granted.

In limited instances, HSR may be exempt from Federal regulations for human subject protection, for example, under DHHS, 45 C.F.R. 46.101(b). Proposers claiming that their research falls within an exemption from Federal regulations for human subject protection must provide written documentation with their proposal that cites the specific applicable exemption and explains clearly how their proposed research fits within that exemption.

6.B.4 Animal Subject Research (ASR)

No research proposals involving ASR shall be accepted under this ETA Program Announcement.

6.B.5 Publication Approval

IARPA 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 sensitive or classified information. Any award resulting from such a determination will include a requirement for IARPA's permission before publishing any information or results of the program.

It is anticipated that research funded under these programs will be unclassified research that will not require a pre-publication review. However, Performers should note that pre-publication approval of certain information may be required if it is determined that its release may result in the disclosure of sensitive intelligence information. A courtesy soft copy of any work submitted for publication shall be provided to the IARPA PM and the Agreements Officer Representative (AOR) a minimum of 10 business days prior to release in any forum.

6.B.6 Export Control

(1) The Performer shall comply with all U.S. export control laws and regulations, including the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), 22 C.F.R. Parts 120 through 130, and the Export Administration Regulations (EAR), 15 C.F.R. Parts 730 through 774, and any amendments thereto, in the performance of the OT. In the absence of available license exemptions/exceptions, the Performer shall be responsible for obtaining the appropriate licenses or other approvals, if required, for exports of (including deemed exports) hardware, technical data, and software, or for the provision of technical assistance.

(2) The Performer shall be responsible for obtaining export licenses, if required, before utilizing non-U.S. persons (as defined in the ITAR and EAR, as applicable) in the performance of the OT, including instances where the work is to be performed on-site at any Government installation (whether in or outside the United States), where the foreign person shall have access to export-controlled technologies, including technical data or software.

(3) The Performer shall be responsible for all regulatory record keeping requirements associated with the use of licenses and license exemptions/exceptions.

(4) The Performer shall appropriately mark all OT deliverables controlled by ITAR and/or EAR.

(5) The Performer shall be responsible for ensuring that the provisions of this section apply to its subcontractors.

(6) The Performer may be required to certify knowledge of and intended adherence to these requirements in the representations and certifications of the OT.

6.B.7 Subcontracting

Proposers shall declare teaming relationships in their Technical and Cost proposals. IARPA neither promotes nor discourages the establishment of exclusive teaming agreements within Proposer teams. Individuals or organizations associated with multiple teams shall take care not to over-commit those resources being applied.

6.B.8 Reporting

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs.

6.B.9 System for Award Management (SAM)

Selected Proposers will be required to register in SAM prior to award. Information on SAM registration is available: http://www.sam.gov

6.B.10 Lawful Use and Privacy Protection Measures

All data gathered by the Proposer shall be obtained IAW U.S. laws and in compliance with the End User License Agreement, Copyright Laws, Terms of Service, and laws and policies regarding privacy protection of U.S. Persons. Before using such data, the Proposer shall provide proof that the data was acquired IAW U.S. laws and regulations.

6.B.11 Public Access to Results

IARPA is committed to making the results of this research available and maximally useful to the public, industry, government, and the scientific community.

Upon acceptance for publication, the author's final peer-reviewed manuscript(s) or conference paper(s) must be submitted to the IARPA designated repository for public access, IAW the instructions on IARPA's website at www.iarpa.gov.

IARPA follows the Gold Standard Science and enthusiastically supports the Presidential Executive Order (E.O.) 14303, *Restoring Gold Standard Science*.

Additional information is available at IARPA - Gold Standard Science (https://www.iarpa.gov/gss).

6.B.12 Other OT Requirements

6.B.12.1 Electronic Invoicing and Payment Requirements – Invoice Processing Platform (IPP)

Payment requests must be submitted electronically through the U. S. Department of the Treasury's Invoice Processing Platform System (IPP).

"Payment request" means any request for financing payment or invoice payment by the Performer. To constitute a proper invoice, the payment request must comply with the requirements identified in the OT.

IPP website address: https://www.ipp.gov

The Performer must use the IPP website to register access and use IPP for submitting requests for payment. The Performer Government Business Point of Contact (listed in SAM) will receive enrollment instructions via e-mail from the Federal Reserve Bank of St. Louis (FRBSTL) within 3 - 5 business days of the award date. Assistance with enrollment can be obtained by contacting the IPP Production Helpdesk via e-mail IPPCustomerSupport@fiscal.treasury.gov or phone 866-973-3131.

Appendix A: Templates for Volume I: Technical Proposal

Appendix A1: Cover Sheet Template for Volume I: Technical Proposal

(1) ETA Program Announcement Number	**DOI-ETA-FY26-30**
(2) Program Name (Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs)	
(3) Lead Organization Submitting Proposal: Address, Unique Entity ID, CAGE Code	
(4) Type of Business. Is the Lead Organization a NDC?	
(5) Contractor's Reference Number (if any)	
(6) Other Team Members and Type of Business. Identify the NDC, if other than the Lead Organization.	
(7) Proposal Title	
(8) Technical Point of Contact to Include: Title, First Name, Last Name, Street Address, City, State, Zip Code, Telephone, E-Mail Address	
(9) Administrative Point of Contact to Include: Title, First Name, Last Name, Street Address, City, State, Zip Code, Telephone, E-Mail Address	
(10) Volume I no more than the specified page limit	Yes/No
(11) Restrictions on IP rights details provided in Appendix A format?	Yes/No
(12) Research Data Management Plan included?	Yes/No
(13) OCI Waiver Determination, Notification or Certification Included?	Yes/No
(13a) If No, is written certification included (Appendix A)?	Yes/No
(14) Are one or more U.S. Academic Institutions part of your team?	Yes/No
(14a) If Yes, are you including an Academic Institution Acknowledgment Statement with your proposal for each U.S. Academic Institution that is part of your team (Appendix A)?	Yes/No
(15) Total Funds Requested from IARPA and the Amount of Cost Share (if any)	$
(16) Date of Proposal Submission	

Appendix A2: Academic Institution Acknowledgment Letter

Proposers must use this template.

-Please Place on Official Letterhead –

<Insert date>

To: Agreements Officer Department of the Interior
Interior Business Center
Acquisition Services Directorate
Herndon, VA 20170

Subject: Academic Institution Acknowledgment Letter Reference: Executive Order 12333, As Amended, Para 2.7

This letter is to acknowledge that the undersigned is the responsible official of <insert name of academic institution>, authorized to approve the contractual relationship in support of the Office of the Director of National Intelligence's Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity and this academic institution.

The undersigned further acknowledges that he/she is aware of the Intelligence Advanced Research Projects Activity's proposed contractual relationship with insert name of institution through DOI-ETA-FY26-30 and is hereby approved by the undersigned official, serving as the president, vice president, chancellor, vice-chancellor, or provost of the institution.

Date

Appendix A3: IP Rights

The use of this Template is optional; however, any other format used must include the same content as that in the template below.

[Please provide your good faith representation of ownership or possession of appropriate licensing rights to all IP that shall be utilized under the Program.]

PATENTS				
Patent number (or application number)	**Patent name**	**Inventor name(s)**	**Patent owner(s) or assignee**	**Incorporation into deliverable**
(List)	(List)	(List)	(List)	(Yes/No; applicable deliverable)

(1) Intended use of the patented invention(s) listed above in the conduct of the proposed research:

(2) Description of license rights to make, use, offer to sell, or sell, that are being offered to the Government in patented inventions listed above:

(3) How the offered rights will permit the Government to reach its program goals (including transition) with the rights offered:

(4) Cost to the Government to acquire additional or alternative rights.

(5) Alternatives, if any, that would permit IARPA to achieve program goals.

NON-COMMERCIAL ITEMS			
Technical Data, Computer Software To be Furnished with Restrictions	**Basis for Assertion**	**Asserted Rights Category**	**Name of Person Asserting Restrictions**
(List)	(List)	(List)	(List)

COMMERCIAL ITEMS			
Technical Data, Computer Software To be Furnished with Restrictions	**Basis for Assertion**	**Asserted Rights Category**	**Name of Person Asserting Restrictions**
(List)	(List)	(List)	(List)

(1) Intended use of the data, including technical data and computer software, listed above in the conduct of the proposed research:

(2) Description of Asserted Rights Categories, specifying restrictions.

(3) Government's ability to use, modify, reproduce, release, perform, display, or disclose technical data, computer software, and deliverables incorporating technical data and computer software listed above: (3) How the offered rights will permit the Government to reach its program goals (including transition) with the rights offered:

(4) Cost to the Government to acquire additional or alternative rights.

(5) Alternatives, if any, that would permit IARPA to achieve program goals.

Appendix A4: Organizational Conflicts of Interest Certification Letter

The use of this template is required

(Month DD, YYYY)

Department of the Interior
Interior Business Center/Acquisition Services Directorate
Emerging Technology Accelerator
ATTN: William Galvin Jr. and Kevin Woody
Herndon, VA 20170

Subject: OCI Certification

Reference: DOI-ETA-FY26-30, (Insert assigned proposal ID #)

Dear__,

IAW ETA Program Announcement DOI-ETA-FY26-30, Section 3.A.1 Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCI), and on behalf of (Proposer's Name), I certify that neither (Proposer's Name) nor any of our subcontractor teammates have as a potential conflict of interest, real or perceived, as it pertains to the _____ Program.

Please note the following subcontractors and their proposed roles:

[Please list all proposed contractors by name with a brief description of their proposed involvement.]

If you have any questions, or need any additional information, please contact (Insert name of contact) at (Insert phone number and e-mail address).

Sincerely,

(Insert organization name) (Shall be signed by an official that has the authority to bind the organization)

(Insert signature)

(Insert name of signatory) (Insert title of signatory)

Appendix A5: Three Chart Summary of the Proposal

The use of this Template is required in PowerPoint format.

Chart 1: Overview

Self-contained, intuitive description of the technical approach and performance

- Avoid acronyms, especially those that are contractor specific

Chart 2: Key Innovations

- Innovation 1
- Innovation 2
- Innovation 3

Graphics / Data

Chart 3: Expected Impact

- Deliverable 1; Performance and Impact
- Deliverable 2; Performance and Impact
- Unique aspects of the proposal

Appendix A6: Research Data Management Plan (RDMP)

The use of this template is required.

The Proposer must address each of the elements noted below.

The RDMP shall comply with the requirements stated in Section 4. In doing so, it will support the objectives of the ODNI Public Access Plan at www.iarpa.gov

Sponsoring IARPA Program (required) (Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs):

1. **Proposer** (i.e., lead organization) (required):
2. **Proposer point of contact** (required): *The point of contact is the proposed PI or his/her Designee*.
   a. Name and Position:
   b. Organization:
   c. E-mail:
   d. Phone:
3. **Research data types** (required): Provide a brief, high-level description of the types of data to be collected or produced in the course of the project.
4. **Standards for research data and meta data content and format** (required): *Use standards reflecting the best practices of the relevant scientific discipline and research community whenever possible.*
5. Plans for making the research data that underlie the results in peer-reviewed journal articles and conference papers digitally accessible to the public at the time of publication/conference or within a reasonable time thereafter (required)**:** *The requirement could be met by including the data as supplementary information to a peer reviewed journal article or conference paper or by depositing the data in suitable repositories available to the public.*

   a. **Anticipated method(s) of making research data publicly accessible:**

   ____Provide dataset(s) to publisher as supplementary information (if publishers allow public access)

   ____Deposit dataset(s) in Data Repository

   ____Other (specify)_____

   b. **Proposed research data repository or repositories** (for dataset(s) not provided as supplementary information): *Suitable repositories could be discipline-specific repositories, general purpose research data repositories, or institutional repositories, as long as they are publicly accessible.*

   c. Retention period, at least three years after publication of associated research results**:** *State the minimum length of time the data will remain publicly accessible*.

d. Submittal of metadata to IARPA**:** *Proposers are required to make datasets underlying the results published in peer-reviewed journal or conferences digitally accessible to the public to the extent feasible. Here, the Proposer shall state a commitment to submit metadata on such datasets to IARPA in a timely manner.*

Note: This does not supersede any requirements for deliverable data, as the award document may include metadata as a deliverable item.

6. Policies and provisions for sharing and preservation (as applicable):

   a. Policies and provisions for appropriate protection of privacy, confidentiality, security, and IP:

   b. Descriptions of tools, including software, which may be needed to access and interpret the data:

   c. Policies and provisions for re-use, re-distribution, and production of derivative works:

7. Justification for not sharing and/or preserving data underlying the results of peer reviewed publications (as applicable): *If, for legitimate reasons, the data cannot be shared and preserved, the plan must include a justification detailing such reasons. Potential reasons may include privacy, confidentiality, security, IP rights considerations; size of data sets; cost of sharing and preservation; time required to prepare the dataset(s) for sharing and preservation.*

Appendix B: Templates for Volume II, Section 1: Cost Proposal

Appendix B1: Cover Sheet for Volume II: Cost Proposal

(1) ETA Program Announcement Number	DOI-ETA-FY26-30
(2) Program Name (Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs)	
(3) Lead organization submitting proposal	
(4) Type of Business. Is the Lead Organization a NDC?	
(5) Contractor's Reference Number (if any)	
(6) Other Team Members (if applicable) and Type of Business for Each. Identify the NDC, if other than the Lead Organization	
(7) Proposal Title	
(8) Technical Point of Contact to Include: Title, First Name, Last Name, Street Address, City, State, Zip Code, Telephone, E-Mail Address	
(9) Administrative Point of Contact to Include: Title, First Name, Last Name, Street Address, City, State, Zip Code, Telephone, E-Mail Address	
(10) OT Type Requested (i.e. Cost Reimbursement, FFP):	
(11) Place(s) and Period(s) of Performance	
(12) Total Proposed Cost Separated by Base Award, Phases, and Option(s) (if any)	
(13) Name, Address, Telephone Number of the Proposer's Defense Contract Management Agency (DCMA) Administration Office or Equivalent Cognizant Contract Administration Entity (If Applicable)	
(14) Name, Address, Telephone Number of the Proposer's Defense Contract Audit Agency (DCAA) Audit Office or Equivalent Cognizant Contract Audit Entity (If Applicable).	
(15) Date Proposal was Prepared	
(16) Unique Entity ID	
(17) TIN Number	
(18) CAGE Code	
(19) Proposal Validity Period [Minimum of 180 days]	
(20) Cost Summaries Provided (Appendix B)	

(21) Size of Business IAW NAICS Code 541715	

Appendix B2: Cost Proposal Template.

Excel Format will be provided to those Proposers invited to submit Volume II.

Prime Proposer/Subcontractor Cost Element Sheet for Volume II: Cost Proposal			
Complete a Cost Element Sheet for the Base Period, each Phase, and each Option Period			
COST ELEMENT	BASE	RATE	AMT
DIRECT LABOR (List each labor category separately. Identify all Key Personnel by name.)	# of Hours	$	$
TOTAL DIRECT LABOR			$
FRINGE BENEFITS	$	%	$
TOTAL LABOR OVERHEAD	$	%	$
SUBCONTRACTORS, CONSULTANTS (List separately. Reference table below)			$
MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT (List each material and equipment item separately.)	Quantity	$ unit price	$
SOFTWARE & IP (List separately. Reference table below)	$	$	$
TOTAL MATERIALS & EQUIPMENT			$
MATERIAL OVERHEAD	$	%	$
TRAVEL (List each trip separately.)	# of travelers	$ price per traveler	$
TOTAL TRAVEL			$
OTHER DIRECT COSTS (List each item separately.)	Quantity	$ unit price	$
TOTAL ODCs			$
G&A	$	%	$
SUBTOTAL COSTS			$
COST OF MONEY	$	%	$
TOTAL COST			$
PROFIT/FEE	$	%	$
TOTAL PRICE/COST			$
GOVERNMENT SHARE, IF APPLICABLE			$
RECIPIENT SHARE, IF APPLICABLE			$
SUBCONTRACTORS/IOTs) & CONSULTANTS PRICE SUMMARY			

A	B	C	D	E	F

SUB-CONTRACTOR IOT & CONSULTANT NAME	SOW TASKS PERFORMED *	TYPE OF AWARD	SUB-CONTRACTOR, IOT & CONSULTANT QUOTED PRICE	COST PROPOSED BY PRIME FOR SUBCONTRACTOR, IOT & CONSULTANT	DIFFERENCE (Column D - Column E) IF APPLICABLE
TOTALS					
*Identify TDD, Milestone or Work Breakdown Structure paragraph, or provide a narrative explanation as an addendum to this Table that describes the effort to be performed.					

Appendix B3: Software and IP Costs

Software and IP Costs		
Item	**Cost**	**Date of Expiration**

NOTE: Educational institutions and non-profit organizations, at the prime and subcontractor level, may deviate from the cost template in Appendix B when estimating the direct labor portion of the proposal to allow for OMB guided accounting methods (2 C.F.R. 220) that are used by their institutions. The methodology shall be clear and provide sufficient detail to substantiate proposed labor costs. For example, each labor category shall be listed separately; identify all Key Personnel and significant contributors provide hours/rates or salaries and percentage of time allocated to the project.

Appendix B4: Travel Costs and Trip Breakdown

Base - Phase 1 as applicable							
Trip #	Month of Trip	# of Travelers	Name of Traveler/Company	# of Days	Location	Purpose of Travel	Estimated Cost

Option Period - Phase 2 as applicable							
Trip #	Month of Trip	# of Travelers	Name of Traveler/Company	# of Days	Location	Purpose of Travel	Estimated Cost

Option Period - Phase 3 as applicable							
Trip #	Month of Trip	# of Travelers	Name of Traveler/Company	# of Days	Location	Purpose of Travel	Estimated Cost

Appendix B5: Deliverables Table

Reference Attachment 1 – ETA Programs