



ARTS Proposers Day

Contracting Officer for ARTS
Kevin Woody, DOI - CO



[DOI.GOV/IBC](https://doi.gov/IBC)

DOI Introduction

Department of the Interior –
Interior Business Center (DOI- IBC)

In partnership with

The Intelligence Advanced Research Projects
Activity (IARPA)

Precedence of BAA

- Please note that nothing discussed today should be construed as overriding the BAA.
- All vendors should propose only to what is discussed in the BAA and not to these slides or information conveyed today.

Award Instruments

- Procurement Contracts, using FAR 35 – Research and Development Contracting.
- Multiple awards are anticipated.
- The BAA is anticipated to result in contract awards that include all phases of **ARTS**. Funding for the Option Period(s) shall depend upon performance during the Base Period (and succeeding Option Periods), as well as program goals, the availability of funding, and IARPA priorities. Funding of Option Periods is at the sole discretion of the Government.
- The Government reserves the right to select for award all, some, one, or none of the proposals received in response to the BAA.

General Information

- Carefully read all information in the BAA.
- Certain sections will contain page limitations. Any information beyond the page limitations will not be considered.
- Be sure to include all REQUIRED documents and attachments.
- Classified proposals are not anticipated for this program
- Proposal Due Date and Time - Be sure to submit early enough to avoid transmittal issues. Proposals after the due date will not be considered. It is strongly recommended to submit 48 hours before the deadline.

Eligibility Information

- The following are generally **not** eligible to submit proposals under this BAA or participate as team members under proposals submitted by eligible entities:
 - Other Government Agencies,
 - Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs),
 - University Affiliated Research Centers (UARCs),
 - Any organizations that have a special relationship with the Government; e.g., that would give them
 - access to privileged and/or proprietary information,
 - access to Government equipment or real property.

Eligibility (cont)

- Foreign entities and/or individuals may participate but only as a part of a U.S. based team. The prime contractor must be a U.S. entity. Foreign entities and individuals may participate as subcontractors or employees of a U.S. based 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.

BAA Release Information

- BAA will be posted to SAM.gov via Department of the Interior, Interior Business Center (DOI-IBC)
- The BAA will be released for 45 days.
- All information required for submitting a proposal will be outlined in the BAA.

Proposal Submission Process

- Proposals must be submitted through IARPA's IDEAS system
 - Interested Offerors must register electronically IAW instructions on: <https://iarpa-ideas.gov>. (will be available after BAA is posted)
 - Interested Offerors are strongly encouraged to register in IDEAS at least one week prior to proposal "Due Date"
 - Offerors must ensure the version submitted to IDEAS is the "Final Version"
- The BAA will have instructions for how to respond if there are system problems with IDEAS

Evaluation Process

- Each BAA will detail the method for evaluation and selection but IARPA generally follows a two-step process:
 - First step is evaluation and selection for negotiations. This is conducted through a scientific/peer review process after which offerors are notified of selection
 - Second step is negotiation and contract award conducted by the Contracting Officer and the DOI team
- Proposals will be reviewed individually against the BAA requirements in accordance with FAR 35, Research and Development Contracting, and not against each other.

Evaluation Process (cont)

- Preliminary review for proposal completeness, eligibility requirements, conformance with BAA requirements
- All information necessary for the review and evaluation of a proposal must be contained in the proposal itself. No other material will be provided to the panel. Proposals should contain sufficient technical detail to allow for in depth technical assessment.

Organizational Conflicts of Interest

- IARPA follows FAR Part 9 regarding Organizational Conflicts of Interest (OCIs). The main principles being:
 - Preventing conflicting roles that might bias a contractor's judgement
 - Preventing an unfair competitive advantage
- The BAA will describe how offerors are to identify and disclose all facts relevant to potential OCIs for the offeror as well as any proposed team members
- OCI disclosures may require a mitigation plan describing the actions the offeror will take or intends to take to prevent the conflict
- IARPA generally prohibits contractors from concurrently providing System Engineering Technical Assistance (SETA) and T&E support while being a technical R&D performer due to OCI concerns. Each case will be determined individually

Pre-Publication Review

- IARPA encourages publication of **UNCLASSIFIED** IARPA-funded research in peer-reviewed journals, presentation at conferences and publication in conference proceedings.
- Prior to public release of any work submitted for publication, the Performer will:
 - Communicate results to be publicly released with the IARPA Program Manager to discuss any sensitivities (e.g., security, speculation on IC use cases, etc.)
 - Provide advance courtesy copies to the IARPA PM and Contracting Officer Representative (COR/COTR)

Academic Institutional Acknowledgement

- According to Executive Order 12333, contracts or arrangements with academic institutions may be undertaken only with the consent of appropriate officials of the institution.
- An Academic Institution Acknowledgement letter is required for offerors that are academic institutions.
- A template for this letter will be included in the BAA. Each letter must be signed by a senior official of the institution (e.g. President, Chancellor, Provost or other appropriately designated individual).
- IARPA requires this letter before entering into negotiations and/or awarding a contract. It is highly advised that it be submitted with the proposal.

Intellectual Property

- The Government needs to be able to effectively manage the program and evaluate the output and deliverables, communicate the information across Government organizations and support further use and development of program results
- Offerors will address their IP Rights assertions in their proposal. The Government may request additional information as may be necessary to evaluate
- The Government will evaluate the IP rights being offered and whether they are in the Government's best interests.

Proposal Evaluation Criteria

- Current Evaluation Factors
 - A. Overall Scientific and Technical Merit
 - B. Effectiveness of Proposed Work Plan
 - C. Contribution and Relevance to the IARPA Mission and Program Goals
 - D. Relevant Experience and Expertise
 - E. Resource Realism
- The above factors are **anticipated** and proposers should review the BAA for the criteria as they may change when the BAA is released. More detail for each area is anticipated.
- Cost Proposal – Full cost proposals will **NOT** be requested at time of BAA submission. If selected, DOI will request full cost proposals with instructions.

Communications

- All questions or discussions regarding this solicitation must be directed to the Contracting POC.
- The primary contracting POC for the BAA will be Kevin Woody (Kevin_Woody@ibc.doi.gov)
- All communication throughout this process must be handled formally and through the proper channels, which means all parties must ensure a DOI Contract Specialist or Contracting Officer is present and/or engaged during any and all communication exchanges.
- Any informal communications or outside communication will delay and may also jeopardize a potential award.

Potential Important Dates

- Proposals will be due approximately 45 days from BAA issuance. Proposals submitted after the closing date will not be considered or evaluated by the Government.
- Submit your proposal package at least 24-48 hours prior to the close
- Full BAA Posting: **Week of 17 July, 2023**
- Question Period: 2 weeks, must be submitted by week of 01 Aug 2023
- Proposals due (via) by **Week of 29 Aug 2023, Via IDEAS**
- Don't forget that the BAA may involve amendments after it is initially released – these will be posted at on SAM.gov. Proposals will be expected to comply with all amendments.

Questions & Answers (time permitting)

- Q&As at today's Proposers' Day reflect informal information and do not override the BAA. The BAA is the authoritative document.
- Please read entire BAA before submitting questions
- Pay attention to Proposal & Submission Information.