

IARPA-BAA-18-03

MIST BAA Questions 1 through 9

Q1: Will IARPA consider extending the solicitation response date? As the contract structure no longer allows submission to just TA1 or just TA2, many proposers that had planned to submit alone now must develop a partnership. This not only requires increased time to identify and vet the potential partner, but also requires increased time to coordinate and construct the proposal for various management and legal reasons. A time-frame of under two months is an extremely tight window to expect proposers to submit the quality of proposal that MIST requires and deserves, given the technical, multi-disciplinary and multi-organizational nature of the program. An additional month, or two, is requested and would be greatly beneficial.

A1: IARPA is sensitive to these issues, but does not currently plan to extend the deadline for initial proposal submission. Please monitor the BAA page on fbo.gov for updates.

Q2: Can you please explain the consequences of the two dates listed on page 5? What is the difference between July 16th and October 15th? Can proposals be submitted after July 16th, 2018?

Dates

- o Posting Date: May 22, 2018
- o Proposal Due Date for Initial Round of Selections: July 16, 2018
- o BAA Closing Date: October 15, 2018

A2: Compliant proposals received by 5 pm EST on July 16, 2018 will be assured of consideration during the initial round of selections. Proposals received after July 16, 2018 and before the BAA Closing Date of October 15, 2018 are not assured of consideration during the initial round of selections but may be considered during a subsequent round of selections. The same evaluation criteria will be applied to proposals during subsequent rounds. Offerors should note that the selectability of a proposal during each round will also be informed by the availability of funding. If IARPA enters into contract negotiations with offerors whose proposals were selected during the initial round, then the expected availability of funding may be lower during any subsequent rounds.

Q3: Can proposals be submitted after July 16th, 2018?

A.3: Yes, proposals can be submitted after July 16th until the BAA closing date of October 15, 2018 however, as stated above, they might not be considered in the initial round of selections.

Q.4: After acceptance of a proposal, when will funding be activated? Fixed date or XXX time interval after notification of contract award?

A:4: After acceptance of the technical proposal, a detailed cost proposal will be requested and negotiations will occur. The funding will be “activated” once negotiations are complete and the contract is awarded. At this time, the MIST Program contracts are estimated to be awarded in late CY 2018.

Q5: Could you post a PDF version of the MIST BAA that was converted directly from Word to PDF format, so that people are able to cut and paste text/tables?

A5: Yes, we will post a pdf version.

Q6: Can you say if foreign organizations are eligible to apply under the IARPA MIST program and if so, what the deadlines may be? Also, will we need a US collaborator?

A:6 BAA Section 3.0, Eligibility Information, states the following:

“Foreign entities and/or individuals may participate to the extent that such participants comply with any necessary Non-Disclosure Agreements, Security Regulations, Export Control Laws and other governing statutes applicable under the circumstances. Proposers are expected to ensure 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 offerors should carefully consider the roles and responsibilities of foreign participants as they pursue teaming arrangements.”

The deadline for proposal submittal are as stated in the BAA and Q.2 above.

Q.7 How many pages are allowed, what portal is used for submission, and other technical details that a grants submission officer has, but that is missing from the BAA that is downloadable from your page.

A.7. All the information that you need to respond is included in the BAA. Page limits, and submission details can be found in SECTION 4: PROPOSAL AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION. IARPA uses a submission system called IDEAS. The instructions for using IDEAS are listed in BAA section 4.C.2. Also see **Q.9** below.

Q.8 Please clarify the due date and time for the initial round of selections.

A.8. The proposal due date for the initial round of selections is July 16, 2018 and the time is 5:00 pm EST. The BAA, page 5, **GENERAL INFORMATION**, has been updated to clarify as follows:

- **Dates**
 - Posting Date: May 22, 2018
 - Proposal Due Date for Initial Round of Selections: July 16, 2018, 5:00 PM EST
 - BAA Closing Date: October 15, 2018

Q.9 Please clarify the submission instructions in the IDEAS system as it relates to the proposal cover sheet.

A.9 IDEAS will request that offerors complete a proposal cover sheet that includes both technical and cost information. The BAA will be modified as follows:

Paragraph 4.C. 2:

Note: IDEAS will require offerors to complete a Cost Volume cover sheet in IDEAS prior to submittal of your Volume 1 proposal. This is separate than the Cost Volume Cover Sheet referenced in 4.B.2 and provided in Appendix B. This is due to a lag in system upgrades. Please complete the requested information but DO NOT upload your Volume 2 - Cost Proposal. Directions for submittal of Volume 2 - Cost Proposal will be provided by the contracting officer when offerors are notified of selection for negotiations.

Will be replaced to read as follows:

Note: IDEAS will require offerors to complete a proposal cover sheet within the IDEAS system at the time of Volume 1 – Technical and Management Proposal submission. This is separate than the Technical and Cost Volume cover sheets referenced in 4.B.1.a. and 4.B.2.a. and provided in Appendices A and B respectively. Information requested within the IDEAS system will include basic cost information (total funds requested from IARPA, proposed costs by option period and validity period). Please complete the requested information but DO NOT upload your Volume 2 – Cost Proposal. Directions for submittal of Volume 2 – Cost Proposal will be provided by the contracting officer when offerors are notified of selection for negotiations.