

COMMUNICATIONS AND NETWORKING TECHNOLOGY
BAA 07-012
Amendment #2

Questions and Answers (Set #2)

5 March 2007

QUESTION #1 - Are proposals that focus solely on computer science research and software technologies for topics (iv) and (v) acceptable? Specifically, will proposals that do not address radio hardware technology (e.g., bi-directional antenna) be considered?

ANSWER #1 - Proposals that focus solely on computer science research and software technologies for topics (iv) and (v) are acceptable. Proposals that do not address radio hardware technology (e.g., bi-directional antenna) will be considered.

QUESTION 2 - If a proposal focuses on the algorithm and software development that responds to topics (iv) and (v), could it make assumptions for the hardware and radio technologies used in the system, and employ simplified models and/or simulations in the research?

ANSWER #2: - Proposals focusing on the algorithm and software development that responds to topics (iv) and (v), could make assumptions that the hardware and radio technologies used in the system, and employ simplified models and/or simulations in the research.

QUESTION #3 - Are the listed topics mutually exclusive? For example, could a proposal cover the cross-layer interaction between MANET routing (topic iv) and autonomic middleware design (topic v)?

ANSWER #3 – The listed topics are not necessarily mutually exclusive. A single proposal can cover multiple areas that are interlinked.

QUESTION #4 - Will the government provide guidance regarding the underlying radio technology and the expected flight dynamics of aerial vehicles?

ANSWER #4 - Not necessarily. It is the responsibility of the offeror to carry out some of the groundwork.

QUESTION #5 - Will there be any ITAR restrictions on this project, i.e., will project participants be restricted to US citizens only?

ANSWER #5 - Proposals from foreign companies, including their subsidiaries and subcontractors, will be considered for funding under this BAA only if the submitter can document and establish compliance with the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) for the work that will be performed. This documentation is not limited by the page limits established in the BAA and will need to be supplied before any decision to fund the proposal is made. Note that insofar as the research proposal involves export-sensitive technology, even U.S. firms and entities must ensure that all access to this technology is limited to "U.S. persons" as defined in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations.

QUESTION #6 - The BAA states, "Proposals from foreign companies/entities will not be considered under this solicitation." Does this apply to U.S. subsidiaries of foreign companies? Must all persons proposed under the BAA be U.S. Citizens?

ANSWER #6 – See the response to question #5 above.

QUESTION #7 - Are the two goals of the topic of equal importance?

ANSWER #7 – The two goals of the topic is of equal importance.

QUESTION #8 - What is the driving need behind this topic?

ANSWER #8 – The driving need behind this topic is small UAV to ground communications, and/or gateways to UAV communications for ISR applications.

QUESTION #9 – What is the level of mobility?

ANSWER #9 – The level of mobility is 65 mph or below. See the response to question #8 above.

QUESTION #10 - Is there a specific use scenario?

ANSWER #10 – See the response to question # 8 above.

QUESTION #11 – What is the type of surroundings (land / sea)?

ANSWER #11 – The type of surroundings is land and sea.

QUESTION #12 – What is the antenna type (how directional)?

ANSWER #12 – The antenna type is directional and up to 30 degrees is desirable.

QUESTION #13 - Do the multipath enhancements need to retain compatibility with legacy systems?

ANSWER #13 - Multipath enhancements with backward compatibility is desirable; but not required. The decision on whether or not to submit multipath enhancements compatible with the legacy systems is up to the offeror.

QUESTION #14 - Would it be useful to identify solutions which could enhance the utility of cognitive radio (topic ii) and coordination / location awareness between UAVs (topic v)?

ANSWER #14 – It would be useful to identify solutions which could enhance the utility of cognitive radio (topic ii) and coordination / location awareness between UAVs (topic v).

QUESTION #15 - Department code: For white paper, do I need to include form 424? Do I need to refer to the department code? My work is on wireless networking. I notice both 312 and 313 include radio network. Which one should I refer to?

ANSWER # 15 – Form 424 is submitted with grant white papers and proposals to grants.gov. It is the offeror's responsibility to choose the applicable Department Code that best relates to their proposal to ensure that it is properly routed to the correct Program Officer. A list of Department Codes can be found at <http://www.onr.navy.mil> on the right side of the screen. There are no limitations on the number of areas of research for which a submitter can apply.

QUESTION #16 - Submission: The description of the white paper submission process is not very clear to me. The BAA mentions that only hardcopy will be acceptable. But it also indicates that it can be submitted electronically. Can white paper be emailed or not? If it can be emailed, to whom the white paper should be emailed?

ANSWER #16 – White papers can be submitted “either electronically or hardcopy”. The address to which electronic proposals are to be sent can be found in paragraph #5 (Submission of Grant White Papers and Proposals to Grants.gov or by Hardcopy) under Section IV entitled Application and Submission Information”.

QUESTION #17 - Page limit: Can I exceed 4 pages if cost does not need one page?

ANSWER #17 – You may exceed the four (4) page limitation for the Main Body as long as you do not exceed the five (5) single-sided page limitation for White Papers.

QUESTION #18 - Cost: The three cost factors listed on page 6 for white paper are not very clear to me. I am not sure how to evaluate each. Can I just include standard cost, such as labor, materials, travel, facilities? Do I also need to include fringe and indirect cost? Is there a reference file for cost description?

ANSWER #18 – Cost should include standard cost, such as labor, materials, travel, facilities and any other costs (fringe and indirect costs) that would be applicable to the research effort.