

ONR BAA Announcement #08-021



BROAD AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT (BAA)

INTRODUCTION:

This publication constitutes a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2). A formal Request for Proposals (RFP), solicitation, and/or additional information regarding this announcement will not be issued. This announcement will remain open until 30 SEP 2009 or until replaced by a successor BAA. This announcement replaces ONR BAA # 07-032. Proposals may be submitted any time during this period.

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) will not issue paper copies of this announcement. The ONR reserves the right to select for award, all some or none of the proposals in response to this announcement. ONR provides no funding for direct reimbursement of proposal development costs. Technical and cost proposals (or any other material) submitted in response to this BAA will not be returned. It is the policy of ONR to treat all proposals as sensitive competitive information and to disclose their contents only for the purposes of evaluation.

Awards under this BAA will consist of contracts. Therefore, proposals submitted as a result of this announcement will fall under the purview of the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR).

I. GENERAL INFORMATION

1. Agency Name -

Office of Naval Research

Contract and Grant Awards Division

875 North Randolph Street

Arlington, VA 22203-1995

2. Research Opportunity Title –

SSBN Security Technology

3. Program Name –

SSBN Security Technology Program (SSTP)

4. Research Opportunity Number -

BAA 08-021

5. Response Date -

This announcement will remain until 30 SEP 2009 or until replaced by a successor BAA, whichever first occurs. Proposals may be submitted any time during this period.

6. Research Opportunity Description -

The Office of Naval Research and the Submarine Security & Technology Branch (N875) of the Chief of Naval Operations' Submarine Warfare Division (N87) are interested in receiving white papers focused on the identification of science based signal detection technologies that, individually or as a system, can impact the security of the SSBN and the survivability of the SSGN/SSN submarine forces. Passive and active detection technologies with both near term (0-5 years) and far term (10-20 years) implications will be considered.

As part of its effort to understand the impact of technology on submarine security and survivability, the SSTP may entertain white papers focused on improving the understanding of the generation, radiation, propagation and scatter of a variety of signal types (acoustic, chemical, optical, E&M, hydrodynamic and radiological) associated with a submarine's operation.

The ONR is seeking participants for this program that are capable of designing, developing, and demonstrating the capabilities required to achieve the goals described in this announcement. Offerors have the opportunity to be creative in the selection of the technical and management processes, either commercial or DoD practices, that best suit their approach.

It is recommended that you discuss your white paper contents with the SSTP Technical Point of Contact prior to submission.

7. Point(s) of Contact -

Questions of a technical nature shall be directed to the Technical Point of Contact, as specified below:

SSBN Security & Technology Point of Contact:

Submarine Security & Technology Branch
SSBN Security Technology Program
Code N875
Deputy Chief of Naval Operations
2000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-2000
Tel: (202) 433-4563
Email: N875Contracts@navy.mil

Questions of a business nature shall be directed to the Contract Specialist, as specified below:

Gabriel G. Aviles
Senior Contract Specialist, Code 254
Office of Naval Research
875 North Randolph Street
Arlington, VA 22203-1995
Telephone: (703) 696-8460
Fax: (703) 696-3365 Email: gabriel.aviles@navy.mil

8. Instrument Type(s) –

It is anticipated that awards will take the form of contracts.

9. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers - N/A

10. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Titles - N/A

11. Other Information -

This announcement is restricted to basic and applied research and that portion of advanced technology development not related to the development of a specific system or hardware procurement. Contracts made under this BAA are for scientific study and experimentation directed towards advancing the state of the art and increasing knowledge or understanding.

II. AWARD INFORMATION

- Total Amount of Funding the Program Office expects to Award through the Announcement

\$2 million per annum for the duration of this BAA

- Anticipated Number of Awards

Two (2) to four (4)

- Anticipated Award Types

Awards will take the form of contracts. ONR will not issue grants, cooperative agreements, or other transaction agreements under this BAA.

- Previous Year(s) Average Individual Award Amounts:

\$350,000 - \$400,000

- Anticipated Period of Performance

Up to five (5) years

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

All responsible sources from academia and industry may submit proposals under this BAA. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs) are encouraged to submit proposals and join others in submitting proposals. However, no portion of this BAA will be set aside for HBCU and MI participation.

Federally Funded Research & Development Centers (FFRDCs), including Department of Energy National Laboratories, are not eligible to receive awards under this BAA. However, teaming arrangements between FFRDCs and eligible principal bidders are allowed so long as they are permitted under the sponsoring agreement between the Government and the specific FFRDC.

Navy laboratories and warfare centers as well as other Department of Defense and civilian agency laboratories are also not eligible to receive awards under this BAA and should not directly submit either white papers or full proposals in response to this BAA. If any such organization is interested in one or more of the programs described herein, the organization should contact an appropriate ONR POC to discuss its area of interest. The various scientific divisions of ONR are identified at <http://www.onr.navy.mil/>. As with FFRDCs, these types of federal organizations may team with other responsible sources from academia and industry that are submitting proposals under this BAA.

Teams are encouraged to submit proposals in any and all areas. However, Offerors must be willing to cooperate and exchange software, data and other information in an integrated program with other contractors, as well as with system integrators, selected by ONR.

Some topics cover export controlled technologies. Research in these areas is limited to "U.S. persons" as defined in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) - 22 CFR § 1201.1 et seq.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION

1. Application and Submission Process -

White Papers are encouraged prior to submitting a Full Proposal. The Navy's initial evaluation of the White Papers should give Offerors some indication of whether a Full Proposal would likely result in an award. Initial Navy evaluations of the White Papers will be issued via E-mail notification. Detailed technical and cost proposals will be subsequently encouraged from those Offerors whose proposed technologies have been identified through the above-referenced E-mail as being of "particular value" to the Navy. However, any such encouragement does not assure a subsequent award. Any Offeror may submit a Full Proposal even if its White Paper was not identified as being of "particular value."

2. Content and Format of White Papers/Full Proposals -

White Papers and Full Proposals submitted under the BAA are expected to be unclassified; however, confidential/classified proposals are permitted. If a classified proposal is submitted, the resultant contract will be unclassified.

Classified and unclassified proposals shall be submitted directly to the Technical Point of Contract (TPOC). An 'unclassified' Statement of Work (SOW) must accompany any classified proposal.

The inner wrapper of the classified proposal should be addressed to the attention of the TPOC.

Proposal submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR Subpart 15.207, applicable law, and DoD/DoN regulations. Offerors are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information. The proposal shall include a severable, self-standing Statement of Work, which contains only unclassified information and does not include any proprietary restrictions.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Titles given to the White Papers/Full Proposals should be descriptive of the work they cover and not be merely a copy of the title of this solicitation."

White Paper Format

- Paper Size – 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins – 1 inch
- Spacing – single or double-spaced
- Font – Times New Roman, 12 point
- Number of Pages – No more than 9 single-sided pages (excluding cover page and resumes). White Papers exceeding the page limit may not be evaluated.

- Copies – one (1) original, two (2) additional hard copies, and one electronic copy on a 3.5” Diskette or CD-ROM (in Microsoft Word or Excel 97 compatible or PDF format). For unclassified electronic submissions, the proposers should also mail in an electronic copy on a 3.5” Diskette or CD-ROM.

Full Proposal Format – Volume 1 - Technical and Volume 2 - Cost Proposal

- Paper Size – 8.5 x 11 inch paper
- Margins – 1 inch
- Spacing – single or double-spaced
- Font – Times New Roman, 12 point
- Number of Pages – Volume 1 is limited as to the number of pages allowed in several sections as described below under Full Proposal Content. The cover page, table of contents, and resumes are among the sections excluded from the page limitations. Volume 2 is unlimited as to the number of pages allowed.
- Copies – one (1) original, two (2) additional hard copies and one electronic copy on a 3.5” Diskette or CD-ROM (in Microsoft® Word or Excel 97 compatible or .PDF format). For unclassified electronic submissions, the proposers should also mail in an electronic copy on a 3.5” Diskette or CD-ROM.

White Paper Content

- Cover Page – The Cover Page shall be labeled “PROPOSAL WHITE PAPER”; shall include the BAA number, proposed title, Offeror’s administrative and technical points of contact, with telephone numbers, facsimile numbers and Internet addresses; and shall be signed by an authorized officer.
- One page summary of the technical ideas for the proposed research;
- One page summary of the deliverables associated with the proposed research;
- One page summary of the schedule and milestones for the proposed research, including rough estimates of cost for each year of the effort and total cost;
- One page listing of key personnel along with the approximate percentage of time to be expended by each person during each contract year;
- Two page concise summary of the qualifications of key personnel;
- Three page technical rationale and approach which contains arguments to substantiate claims made in the summary of technical ideas and is consistent with the summary of the deliverables and the summary of the schedule and milestones for the proposed research.

Full Proposal Content

Volume 1: Technical Proposal

Each section of the Technical Proposal must start on a new page.

- **Cover Page:** This should include the words “Technical Proposal” and the following:
 - 1) BAA number;
 - 2) Title of Proposal;
 - 3) Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable;
 - 4) Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
 - 5) Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address) and;
 - 6) Duration of effort (differentiate basic effort and options)

- **Table of Contents:**

- **Statement of Work:** (5 Pages) A Statement of Work (SOW) clearly detailing the scope and objectives of the effort and the technical approach. It is anticipated that the proposed SOW will be incorporated as an attachment to the resultant award instrument. To this end, such proposals must include a severable self-standing SOW without any proprietary restrictions, which can be attached to the resultant award instrument. Include a detailed listing of the technical tasks/subtasks organized by year and a section which lists all proposed deliverables. When options are contemplated, the SOW must clearly identify separate optional tasks.

- **Project Schedule and Milestones:** (1 Page) A summary of the schedule of events and milestones.

- **Deliverables:** A detailed description of the results and products to be delivered, along with suggested due dates.

- **Assertion of Data Rights:** For a contract award an Offeror may provide with its proposal assertions to restrict use, release or disclosure of data and/or computer software that will be provided in the course of contract performance. The rules governing these assertions are prescribed in Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS) clauses 252.227-7013, -7014 and -7017. These clauses may be accessed at the following web address:

<http://farsite.hill.af.mil/VFDFARA.HTM>

The Government may challenge assertions that are provided in improper format or that do not properly acknowledge earlier federal funding of related research by the Offeror.

- **Qualifications:** (5 pages) A discussion of previous accomplishments and work by the offeror in this or closely related areas, and the qualifications of the investigators. Key personnel resumes shall be attached to the proposal and will not count toward the page limitations.

- **Management Approach:** (5 pages) A discussion of the overall approach to the management of this effort, including brief discussions of the total organization; use of personnel; project/function/subcontractor relationships; government research interfaces; and planning, scheduling and control practice. Identify which personnel and subcontractors (if any) will be involved. Include a description of the facilities that are required for the proposed effort with a description of any Government Furnished Equipment/Hardware/Software/Information required, by version and/or configuration.
- **Technical Approach :** (10 pages) The Offeror shall provide a detailed plan that coherently describes the technical approach proposed for contract performance and which demonstrates a technical understanding of the proposed Statement of Work (SOW). The technical approach should address each of the numbered task areas delineated in the SOW, providing specific or unique techniques to be employed and anything else the Offeror considers relevant in performing the SOW. The technical approach should indicate how the work will be performed, including the capabilities and resources which will be applied, what problem areas exist, the proposed solutions and a full explanation of the proposed disciplines, procedures and techniques to be followed. Emphasis should be placed upon the extent that the Offeror's technical approach ensures timely delivery and successful completion of the tasks outlined by the SOW submission.
- **Personnel:** The Offeror shall provide resumes of proposed key personnel to be utilized by the contractor/subcontractor in the performance of this contract. The Offeror shall ensure that the proposed personnel are fully capable of performing in an efficient, reliable and professional manner. Upon review of the resumes, if the Government questions the qualifications or competence of any person proposed, the burden of proof to sustain that person's qualifications shall be upon the Offeror.
- **Past Performance:** (1 page) Past performance will consist of a description of the Offeror's Government contracts (both prime and major subcontracts (those involving 25% or more of the effort)) received during the past three (3) years) which are similar to the effort being proposed. The Offeror may describe any quality awards or certificates that indicate the Offeror possesses a high quality process for providing desired research and development outcomes.

VOLUME 2: Cost Proposal

The Cost Proposal shall consist of a cover page and two parts. Part 1 will provide a detailed cost breakdown of all costs by cost category by offeror's fiscal year, and Part 2 will provide a cost breakdown by task/sub-task corresponding to the task numbers in the proposed Statement of Work. Options must be separately priced.

Although not required and provided for informational purposes only, detailed

instructions, entitled “Instructions for Preparing Cost Proposals for Contracts and Agreements”, including a sample template for preparing costs proposals for contracts and agreements, may be found at ONR’s website listed under the ‘Acquisition Department – Contracts & Grants Submitting a Proposal’ link at: http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/how_to.asp

Cover Page: The use of the SF 1411 is optional. The words “Cost Proposal” should appear on the cover page in addition to the following information:

- BAA number
- Title of Proposal
- Identity of prime Offeror and complete list of subcontractors, if applicable
- Technical contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
- Duration of effort (separately identify basic effort and any proposed options)
- Summary statement of proposed costs
- Cognizant DCAA and DCMA points of contact, as well as their addresses, phone/fax numbers and electronic mail addresses (if readily available)

Part 1 – Contract Costs: Detailed breakdown of all costs by cost category by calendar or Government fiscal year:

- Direct Labor – Individual labor categories or persons, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates;
- Indirect Costs – Fringe Benefits, Overhead, G&A, COM, etc. (Must show base amount and rate);
- Proposed Contractor-Acquired Equipment - such as computer hardware for proposed research projects should be specifically itemized with costs or estimated costs. An explanation of any estimating factors, including their derivation and application, shall be provided. Where possible, indicate purchasing method (competition, price comparison, market review, etc...);
- Travel – Number of trips, destination, duration, etc.;
- Subcontract – A cost proposal as detailed as the Offeror’s cost proposal will be required to be submitted by the subcontractor. The subcontractor’s cost proposal can be provided in a sealed envelope with the Offeror’s cost proposal or will be obtained from the subcontractor prior to Award*;
- Consultant – Provide consultant agreement or other document which verifies the proposed loaded daily/hourly rate;
- Materials - Should be specifically itemized with costs or estimated costs. An explanation of any estimating factors, including their derivation and application, shall be provided. Include a brief description of the Offeror's procurement method to be used (competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.);

- Other Directs Costs - particularly any proposed items of equipment or facilities. Equipment and facilities generally must be furnished by the contractor/recipient. (Justifications must be provided when Government funding for such items is sought). Include a brief description of the Offeror's procurement method to be used (Competition, engineering estimate, market survey, etc.);
- Options – the Base Period of Performance and Option Periods must be priced at the submission of the proposal. Unpriced options will not be included in the contract;
- Fee/Profit

***Note:** DoD Federal Acquisition Regulation provision 252.215-7003 (48 CFR § 252.215-7003) is incorporated into this solicitation by reference. The offeror is to exclude excessive pass-through charges from subcontractors. The offeror must identify in its proposal the percentage of effort it intends to perform and the percentage to be performed by each of its proposed subcontractors. If more than 70 percent of the total effort will be performed through subcontracts, the offeror must include the additional information required by the above-cited clause.

Part 2 : Cost breakdown by task/sub-task using the same task numbers in the Statement of Work. When options are contemplated, options must be separately identified and priced by task/sub-task corresponding to the same task numbers in the Statement of Work.

3. Significant Dates and Times -

This announcement will remain until 30 SEP 2009 or until replaced by a successor BAA, whichever first occurs. Proposals may be submitted any time during this period.

4. Submission of Late Proposals – N/A

5. Address for the Submission of White Papers and Full Proposals –

Unclassified white papers and full proposals may be submitted either hardcopy or electronically. Classified white papers and full proposals may be submitted hard copy only.

For classified submissions, submit only through FedEx and use the following address:

Chief of Naval Operations
 Attn: Dr. Marshall Orr
 Washington Naval Yard
 1014 N Street, S.E.
 Building 200, 3rd Floor, Suite 33N328
 Washington, DC 20374-0001

For unclassified hardcopy submissions, use the following address:

Deputy Chief of Naval Operations
ATTN: Submarine Security & Technology Branch
SSBN Security Technology Program N875
2000 Navy Pentagon
Washington, DC 20350-2000

For unclassified electronic submissions not to exceed 5MB, use the following e-mail address:

N875Contracts@navy.mil

V. EVALUATION INFORMATION

1. Evaluation Criteria –

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) plans to make awards that represent the best value to the Government in accordance with the evaluation criteria. Award decisions will be based on a competitive selection of proposals resulting from a scientific and cost review. White papers and full proposals will be evaluated using the following criteria:

- Overall scientific and technical merits of the proposal to contribute to the Submarine Security Program;
- The offeror's capabilities, related experience, facilities, techniques or unique combinations of these which are integral factors for achieving the proposal objectives;
- The qualifications, capabilities, and experience of the proposed Principal Investigator, team leader, or key personnel who are critical in achieving the proposal objectives and;
- Realism of the proposed budgetary costs and availability of funds.

Overall, the technical factors (first three bullets above) are more important than the cost factor, with the technical factors being listed in descending order of importance. The degree of importance of cost will increase with the degree of equality of the proposals in relation to the other factors on which selection is to be based, or when the cost is so significantly high as to diminish the value of the proposal's technical superiority to the Government.

For proposed awards to be made as contracts to large businesses, the socio-economic merits of each proposal will be evaluated based on the extent of the Offeror's commitment in providing meaningful subcontracting opportunities for small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses, woman-owned small businesses, HUBZone small businesses, veteran-owned small businesses, service disabled veteran-owned small businesses, historically black colleges and universities, and minority institutions.

The Government will evaluate options for award purposes by adding the total cost for all options to the total cost for the basic requirement. Evaluation of options will not obligate

the Government to exercise the options during contract performance.

2. Evaluation Panel -

Technical and cost proposals submitted under this BAA will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 3.104-5 and 15.207. The cognizant program officer and other Government scientific experts will perform the evaluation of technical proposals. Restrictive notices notwithstanding, one or more support contractors may be utilized as subject-matter-expert technical consultants. Similarly, support contractors may be utilized to evaluate cost proposals. However, proposal selection and award decisions are solely the responsibility of Government personnel. Each support contractor's employee having access to technical and cost proposals submitted in response to this BAA will be required to sign a non-disclosure statement prior to receipt of any proposal submissions.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION

1. Administrative Requirements –

- The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code – The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for this announcement is 541712 with a small business size standard of 500 employees.
- CCR - Successful Offerors not already registered in the Central Contractor Registry (CCR) will be required to register in CCR prior to award of any contract. Information on CCR registration is available at <http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/ccr.htm>.
- Certifications – In accordance with FAR 4.1201, prospective contractors shall complete and submit electronic annual representations and certifications at <http://orca.bpn.gov>. In addition to completing the Online Representations and Certifications Application (ORCA), proposals must be accompanied with a completed DFARS and contract specific representations and certifications. These "DFARS and Contract Specific Representations and Certifications", i.e., Section K, may be accessed under the Contracts & Grants section of the ONR Home Page at http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/rep_cert.asp.
- Subcontracting Plans - Successful contract proposals that exceed \$550,000, submitted by all but small business concerns, must be supported by a Small Business Subcontracting Plan in accordance with FAR 52.219-9, prior to award.
- Models - Model contract documents may be found on the ONR website at http://www.onr.navy.mil/02/model_awards.asp.

2. Reporting -

The following is a sample of deliverables that could be required under a typical research effort:

- Technical and Financial Progress Reports
- Presentation Material
- Other Documents or Reports
- Final Report

However, please note that specific deliverables (that may include software and hardware deliverables) may be proposed by each offeror and finalized during negotiations.

VII. OTHER INFORMATION

1. Government Property/Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and Facilities

Each proposer must provide a very specific description of any equipment/hardware that it needs to acquire to perform the work. This description should indicate whether or not each particular piece of equipment/hardware will be included as part of a deliverable item under the resulting award. Also, this description should identify the component, nomenclature, and configuration of the equipment/hardware that it proposes to purchase for this effort. It is the Government's desire to have the contractors purchase the equipment/hardware for deliverable items under their contract. The purchase on a direct reimbursement basis of special test equipment or other equipment that is not included in a deliverable item will be evaluated for allowability on a case-by-case basis. Maximum use of Government integration, test, and experiment facilities is encouraged in each of the Offeror's proposals.

Government research facilities and operational military units are available and should be considered as potential government furnished equipment/facilities. These facilities and resources are of high value and some are in constant demand by multiple programs. It is unlikely that all facilities would be used for any one specific program. The use of these facilities and resources will be negotiated as the program unfolds. Offerors should explain as part of their proposals which of these facilities are critical for the project's success.

2. Security Classification

In order to facilitate intra-program collaboration and technology transfer, the Government will attempt to enable technology developers to work at the unclassified level to the maximum extent possible. If access to classified material will be required at any point during performance, the Offeror must clearly identify such need prominently in their proposal.

3. Department of Defense High Performance Computing Program

The DoD High Performance Computing Program (HPCMP) furnishes the DoD S & T and RT & E communities with use-access to very powerful high performance computing systems. Awardees of ONR contracts, grants, and assistance instruments may be eligible to use HPCMP assets in support of their funded activities if ONR Program Officer approval is obtained and if security/screening requirements are favorably completed. Additional information and an application may be found at <http://www.hpcmo.hpc.mil/>.

4. Protection of Proprietary and Sensitive Information

The parties acknowledge that, during performance of the contract resulting from this BAA, the recipient may require access to certain proprietary and confidential information (whether in its original or derived form) submitted to or produced by the Government. Such information includes, but is not limited to, business practices, proposals, designs, mission or operation concepts, sketches, management policies, cost and operating expense, technical data and trade secrets, proposed Navy budgetary information, and acquisition planning or acquisition actions, obtained either directly or indirectly as a result of the effort performed on behalf of ONR. The recipient shall take appropriate steps not only to safeguard such information, but also to prevent disclosure of such information to any party other than the Government. The recipient agrees to indoctrinate company personnel who will have access to or custody of the information concerning the nature of the confidential terms under which the Government received such information and shall stress that the information shall not be disclosed to any other party or to recipient personnel who do not need to know the contents thereof for the performance of the contract. Recipient personnel shall also be informed that they shall not engage in any other action, venture, or employment wherein this information will be used for any purpose by any other party.

5. Project Meetings and Reviews

Individual program reviews between the ONR sponsor and the performer may be held as necessary. Program status reviews may also be held to provide a forum for reviews of the latest results from experiments and any other incremental progress towards the major demonstrations. These meetings will be held at various sites throughout the country. For costing purposes, offerors should assume that 20% of these meetings will be in Howard County, Maryland, 20% in various states indigenous to contractor location, and 60% at government facilities. Interim meetings are likely, but these will be accomplished via video telephone conferences, telephone conferences, or via web-based collaboration tools and cannot be implemented for classified work.