

**Amendment No. 0001
Questions and Answers**

Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) Number 09-029

“Fundamentals of Cyberspace and Software”

The purpose of Amendment No. 0001 is to provide answers to questions.

Question 1: Are Applied Research and ATD like activities within the scope of the BAA?

Answer 1: This BAA is for Basic Research only.

Question 2: Do you accept White Papers?

Answer 2: White papers are not being accepted under this BAA.

Question 3: May I call or meet with you to discuss the BAA, possible relevant work, or background about the Navy's needs?

Answer 3: As stated in the BAA, all communications shall be submitted via e-mail. Please e-mail your specific questions and the answers will be posted in an amendment to the BAA.

Question 4: If my company ends up being the Offeror, is it acceptable to have the Principal Investigator come from one of the subcontractor organizations?

Answer 4: It is not acceptable to have the Principal Investigator come from one of the subcontractor organizations.

Question 5: The BAA does not specifically call out the importance of the Lifecycle view and managing the program trade space of cost, schedule, key performance parameters, etc. across the lifecycle. Is this intentional? Are you interested in research that will improve DoD program management over the lifecycle for systems you describe?

Answer 5: This was not intentional, however ONR is interested in research that will improve DoD program management over the life cycle of the systems stated in the BAA.

Question 6: Are you defining "software...networks... and systems" broadly, as combinations of technology, organization processes, people, and physical contexts? Or are you defining them more narrowly as technical artifacts ("bits")?

Answer 6: Software...networks...and systems are defined broadly and as combinations of technology, organization processes, people, and physical contexts.

Question 7: To what extent do you believe it is necessary to model endogenously the environmental factors, e.g. threats and threatening agents, humans-in-the-loop, interests and values of various stakeholders and antagonists, fault and degradation causes, etc.?

Answer 7: It depends upon the nature of the proposed problems and approach.

Question 8: Given the instructions in the BAA and a team structure partnering industry with academia, should the proposal be a grant or contract or either?

Answer 8: It is not the government's responsibility to determine the type of award vehicle. Generally grants are awarded to Universities and non-profit organizations; however, this does not prohibit for-profit companies from proposing a grant. Please be aware that fee is not an allowable cost under grants. Further guidance can be found in the Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (DoD 3210.6-R).

Question 9: It's possible that several team partners will be self-funded. Should their activities and deliverables be included in the technical proposal, but excluded from the cost proposal if they are not getting BAA funding. Correct?

Answer 9: If the activities are an integral part of the proposed technical work you need to describe how those activities contribute to your objective and clearly differentiate them from the proposed work being considered for ONR funding. If their work is on your critical path, then you'll need to discuss why you're confident they will provide the deliverable when needed.

Question 10: Is there any preference by ONR for a large organization to serve as offeror rather than a small business, assuming the team, cost, and deliverables are the same in both cases?

Answer 10: There is no preference for a large organization to serve as the offeror rather than a small business.

Question 11: Is there any advantage if our team submitted several interrelated proposals, e.g. separating the academic team from the industry team, etc.?

Answer 11: There is no advantage if your team submitted several interrelated proposals.

Question 12: How frequently do you anticipate program reviews to be held that will entail travel?

Answer 12: Program reviews should be held at least once a year.

Question 13: Is the above BAA intended primarily for universities, or industry?

Answer 13: The BAA is soliciting novel ideas independent of origin, e.g. academia, government, or industry research.

Question 14: For the purpose of this BAA could cyberspace be interpreted as Global Commons?

Answer 14: Cyberspace can be interpreted as Global Commons.

Question 15: What emphasis will be put on current commercialization of the research in the choosing of grant topics?

Answer 15: Commercialization is not a requirement under this BAA.

Question 16: Will proposals addressing “Topics of highest interest,” as listed in the BAA, receive precedence over proposals addressing “Other topics of interest”?

Answer 16: As stated in the BAA, there are many research opportunities and challenges that are anticipated in this area. Although we are encouraging proposals addressing “Topics of highest interest,” all proposals will be evaluated and selected based on the Evaluation Criteria stated in Section V of the BAA.

Question 17: Is there a preference for collaborative proposals?

Answer 17: There is no preference for collaborative proposals.

Question 18: The research being proposed has its origins in previously funded work; will this impact suitability for this BAA?

Answer 18: Previously funded work will not impact the suitability of proposals submitted under this BAA. However, offerors shall provide information on all current and pending support for ongoing projects and proposals including those from other sources.

Question 19: Are interdisciplinary teams preferred?

Answer 19: Interdisciplinary teams are not preferred.

Question 20: Page 6 says that if a grant is sought, the proposal must be submitted through grants.gov; however, later, it says that full proposals must be submitted directly to the appropriate technical POC. Should a hard copy be sent to the technical POC in addition to the grants.gov submission?

Answer 20: The requirements for submitting a proposal for a contract and grant are different. Offerors seeking a contract must submit their full proposal package to the technical point of contact stated in the BAA. Offerors seeking a grant must submit their proposal through grants.gov unless one of the exceptions applies (1) an offeror finds that it would be an excessive burden to comply with this requirement, and (2) if grants.gov is not accepting the proposal. See page 12 of the BAA for additional information.

Question 21: Page 5 indicates the award levels will be \$100k to \$450k lump-sum awards per year. The juxtaposition of the terms "lump-sum" and "per year" is a bit confusing; is this the anticipated range for each year of funding for a multi-year award, or for the total funding for each award?

Answer 21: “ONR plans to fund \$100,000 to \$450,000 lump-sum awards per year.” The \$100,000 to \$450,000 is the amount of anticipated to either fully fund or incrementally fund an effort.