

Frequently Asked Questions (FAQ's) for BAA 10-017 “Active Transfer Learning”

Question #1

Can you clarify the award information?

Response:

The program is estimated to consist of 4 to 5 awards each in the range of \$200k to \$250k *per year*. Efforts smaller than \$200k per year are also encouraged.

It is also allowable to propose larger teaming efforts that would result in an award of \$250k to \$1.0M per year. However, the total amount of funds set aside for awards under this BAA is approximately \$1.2M per year.

Question #2

What are the allowed sensing modalities, problem domains, etc (e.g., is this only for vision or is text ok)?

Response:

This program is not restricted to vision; further, it is not restricted to target recognition. As stated in the BAA, teams receiving awards will be required to address at least one of the two government-provided problem domains; however, teams are encouraged to also work in problem domains in which they have significant expertise. This includes all sensing modalities for recognition tasks as well as planning / action selection tasks, problem solving tasks, etc (i.e., there is no restriction on the problem domains under consideration provided at least one of the government-provided domains is addressed).

As a point of clarification, white papers and proposals to this BAA are not required to exhaustively detail how the proposing entity's effort will address one of the government-provided problems. Rather, it is sufficient to detail the proposed scientific effort within the context of a problem domain or experimental situation in which the proposing entity has expertise. It should then be made clear how this work could be extended to one of the government-provided problem domains.

Question #3

Can you elaborate on the government-provided problem domains?

Response:

As stated in the BAA, no further information will be provided here until the program kickoff. However, see the response to Question #2 for assistance in formulating white papers and proposals.