

**Special Notice 13-SN-0025**  
**Special Program Announcement for 2013 Office of Naval Research**  
**Research Opportunity:**  
**“Sea-Based Aviation National Naval Responsibility (SBA NNR)**  
**Structures and Materials Focus Area”**

**I. INTRODUCTION:**

This announcement describes a research thrust, entitled “Sea-Based Aviation National Naval Responsibility (SBA NNR) Structures and Materials Focus Area,” under the upcoming ONRBAA14-001, Long Range Broad Agency Announcement for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology which can be found at <http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/Funding-Opportunities/Broad-Agency-Announcements.aspx> beginning 30 September 2013. The research opportunity described in this announcement specifically falls under the Naval Air Warfare and Weapons (Code 35), 1) Aerospace Science Research sub-section. The submission of proposals, their evaluation and the placement of research grants and contracts will be carried out as described in that Broad Agency Announcement.

The requirements for proposal submission, evaluation, and award of any resulting contracts and grants will ultimately be subject to the terms described in the upcoming, FY14 Long Range BAA, ONRBAA14-001. Prior to 30 September 2013, potential Offerors may review the current FY13 Long Range BAA, ONRBAA13-001, to get a general understanding of what the proposal requirements may be in the upcoming, FY14 Long Range BAA, ONRBAA14-001.

The purpose of this announcement is to focus attention of the scientific community on the area to be studied and the planned timetable for the submission of white papers and proposals.

**II. TOPIC DESCRIPTION:**

**Background:**

ONR established National Naval Responsibilities (NNRs) to highlight S&T areas where the Navy and Marine Corps depend primarily on Department of Navy-funded research products. The SBA NNR was initiated in 2011 to maintain the health, currency, and technical superiority of Sea-based Aviation S&T. Three focus areas have been identified under the SBA NNR and are: 1) Aircraft Research, 2) Structures and Materials, and 3) Propulsion.

A description of the research opportunity described in this announcement can be found at:

<http://www.onr.navy.mil/Science-Technology/Departments/Code-35/All-Programs/aerospace-research-351/Sea-Based-Aviation.aspx>

The Structures and Materials focus area of the SBA NNR will investigate material research opportunities for advanced aircraft design, addressing weight, durability, strength, manufacturability, cost, design, materials selection, fabrication, inspection and repair, maintenance, and other material development and optimization considerations for Naval aircraft operating in a sea-based aviation environment. The SBA NNR Structures & Materials Focus Area will provide innovative research and technology in five sub-areas:

- Structural Mode Characterization
- High-Loading, Lightweight Structural Materials
- Advanced Structural Concepts
- Materials Degradation/Corrosion
- Structural Protection /Maintenance

This Special Notice addresses the Structures and Materials Focus Area. ONR seeks to initiate 6.1 Basic Research and 6.2 Applied Research efforts beginning Government Fiscal Year 2014.

### **Objective:**

The Office of Naval Research (ONR) is interested in receiving initially white papers and eventually proposals from selected Offerors for the Sea-Based Aviation National Naval Responsibility (SBA NNR) Structures and Materials Focus Area.

### **III. WHITE PAPER SUBMISSION**

White papers should not exceed 4 single-sided pages, exclusive of cover page and resume of principal investigator, and should be in 12-point Times New Roman font with margins not less than one inch. The cover page should be labeled "White Paper for ONR 2014 Research Opportunity: Sea-Based Aviation National Naval Responsibility (SBA NNR) Structures and Materials Focus Area" and include the following information: title of the proposed effort, technical point of contact, telephone number, fax numbers, and e-mail address. The 4-page body of the white paper should include the following information: (1) Principal Investigator; (2) Relevance of the proposed effort to the research areas described in Section II; (3) Technical objective of the proposed effort; (4) Technical approach that will be pursued to meet the objective; (5) A summary of recent relevant technical breakthroughs; and (6) A funding plan showing requested funding per

fiscal year. A resume of the principal investigator, not to exceed 1 page, should also be included after the 4-page body of the white paper.

Although not required, white papers are strongly encouraged for all offerors seeking funding. Each white paper will be evaluated by the Government to determine whether the technology advancement proposed appears to be of particular value to the Department of the Navy. Initial Government evaluations and feedback will be issued via e-mail notification from the Technical Point of Contact. The initial white paper appraisal is intended to give entities a sense of whether their concepts are likely to be funded.

Detailed Full Proposal (Technical and Cost volumes) 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 Government. However, any such encouragement does not assure a subsequent award. Full Proposals may also be submitted by any offeror whose white paper was not identified as being of particular value to the Government or any offeror who did not submit a white paper.

For white papers that propose efforts that are considered of particular value to the Navy but either exceed available budgets or contain certain tasks or applications that are not desired by the Navy, ONR may suggest a full proposal with reduced effort to fit within expected available budgets or an effort that refocuses the tasks or application of the technology to maximize the benefit to the Navy.

White papers should be submitted electronically to the program technical points of contact, Mr. William Nickerson. These white papers shall be in Microsoft Word or Adobe PDF format. **White Papers will be accepted on a rolling basis through 30 September 2014.**

#### **IV. FULL PROPOSAL SUBMISSION AND AWARD INFORMATION**

Requested full proposals should be submitted under **ONRBAA14-001**. Recommended full proposal submission should be by **28 February 2014**. Full Proposals received after that date will be considered as time and availability of funding permit.

ONR anticipates that both grants and contracts will be issued for this effort. Full proposals for contracts should be submitted in accordance with the instructions at Section IV, Application and Submission Information, item 2.b, Full Proposals. Full proposals for grants should be submitted in accordance with the instructions at Section IV, Application and Submission Information, item 5, Submission of Grant Proposals through Grants.gov. All full proposals for grants must be submitted through [www.grants.gov](http://www.grants.gov). The following information must be completed as follows in the SF 424 to ensure that the application is directed to the correct individual for review: Block 4a, Federal Identifier: Enter N00014; Block 4b, Agency Routing Number, Enter the three (3) digit Program Office Code (351) and the Program Officer's name, last name first, in brackets (Nickerson, William). All attachments to the application should also include

this identifier to ensure the proposal and its attachments are received by the appropriate Program Office.

Award decisions will be based on a competitive selection of proposals resulting from a technical and cost review. Evaluations will be conducted using the following evaluation criteria.

- Overall technical merits of the proposal;
- The proposed performers 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 (PI), team leader and key personnel who are critical in achieving the proposal objects; and
- The realism of the proposed costs and availability of funds.

ONR plans to fund multiple individual awards for one to two year basic effort with availability of option year funding. For planning purposes, the scope of 6.1 Basic Research efforts submitted under this BAA Special Notice is expected to be equivalent to the scope of a single investigator grant. It is anticipated that the scope of 6.2 Applied Research efforts will be approximately one to three full-time equivalents per year.

Although ONR expects the above described program plan to be executed, ONR reserves the right to make changes.

Funding decisions should be made by **30 June 2014**. Selected projects will have an estimated award date of **December 2014**.

## V. SIGNIFICANT DATES

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>
Recommended White Paper Submission Date	Rolling Call; through 30 September 2014
Notification of Proposal Request to Selected Offerors*	31 December 2013
Recommended Full Proposal Submission	28 February 2014
Notification of Selection: Full Proposals*	June 2014
Awards*	December 2014

Note: \* These are approximate dates.

## VI. POINTS OF CONTACT

In addition to the points of contact listed in ONRBAA14-001, the specific points of contact for this announcement are listed below:

Technical Point of Contact:

Mr. Bill C Nickerson, Program Officer, Code 351, [william.nickerson@navy.mil](mailto:william.nickerson@navy.mil)

Business Point of Contact:

Ms. Stacey Crawford, Contact Specialist, Code 255, [stacey.crawford@navy.mil](mailto:stacey.crawford@navy.mil)

## VII. Submission of Questions

Any questions regarding this announcement must be provided to the Technical Points of Contact and/or the Business Point of Contact listed above. All questions shall be submitted in writing by electronic mail.

Answers to questions submitted in response to this Special Notice will be addressed in the form of an Amendment and will be posted to the following web pages:

- Federal Business Opportunities (FEDBIZOPPS) Webpage – <https://www.fbo.gov/>
- Grants.gov Webpage – <http://www.grants.gov/>
- ONR Special Notice Webpage - <http://www.onr.navy.mil/Contracts-Grants/Funding-Opportunities/Special-Notices.aspx>

Questions regarding **White Papers or Full Proposals** should be submitted to the Technical Point of Contact no later than two weeks before the dates recommended for receipt of White Papers and/or Full Proposals. Questions after this date may not be answered.