



## **ONR SPECIAL BROAD AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT (sBAA)**

**N0001426SB002**

### **Accelerating Maritime Modernization:**

#### **Innovation in Naval Manufacturing, Sustainment, and Industrial Base Capability**

The Navy Manufacturing Technology Program (ManTech) is executed under the Department of War (DOW) ManTech Program and is the Navy's investment mechanism for staying at the forefront of defense-essential manufacturing capability. The Program develops technologies and processes for the affordable and timely production and sustainment of more capable defense systems. The Program impacts all phases of acquisition. It aids in achieving reduced acquisition and total ownership costs, enhanced throughput, and expanded capability by developing, maturing, and transitioning key manufacturing technologies. ONR will focus investments on those that have the most benefit to the warfighter and industrial base.

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## **A. OVERVIEW OF THE RESEARCH AND DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITY**

This announcement is issued on behalf of the Navy Manufacturing Technology (ManTech) Program. The focus of this research and development opportunity is on targeted manufacturing improvements to directly impact speed, throughput, and industrial base resiliency. This is vital for developing the next generation of manufacturing capabilities that will enable the ability to build faster, arm faster, and repair faster. We seek innovations that will fundamentally improve the efficiency of our shipyards, maintenance depots, and supply chain partners. Offerors must clearly articulate how their proposed research will dismantle existing barriers and contribute to a more robust and responsive industrial ecosystem, improving the resilience and competitiveness of the Nation's shipbuilding enterprise.

This publication constitutes a Special Broad Agency Announcement (sBAA) for awards by the Office of Naval Research (ONR), ONR Code 25 and others approved by Code 25, as specified in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.101(b)(3)(ii) and 35.102. A formal Request for Proposals (RFP), solicitation, and/or additional information regarding this announcement will not be issued.

ONR reserves the right to fund all, some, or none of the proposals received under this sBAA. ONR provides no funding for direct reimbursement of proposal development costs.

Technical and cost proposals (or any other material) submitted in response to this sBAA will not be returned. It is the policy of ONR to treat all proposals submitted under this sBAA as sensitive competitive information and to disclose their contents only for the purposes of evaluation.

**BAA Feedback:** ONR is seeking feedback on the pre- and post-award process to improve communication and the overall process. Please provide your feedback to the questionnaires below, as appropriate.

Feedback on the pre-award process for an award:

<https://forms.osi.apps.mil/r/KDHbVQmme7>

Feedback on the post-award process for an award:

<https://forms.osi.apps.mil/r/yq3ZA1ziYQ>

## **B. BASIC INFORMATION**

### **1. Federal Agency Name**

Office of Naval Research  
One Liberty Center  
875 N. Randolph Street  
Arlington, VA 22203-1995

### **2. Funding Opportunity Title**

*“Accelerating Maritime Modernization: Innovation in Naval Manufacturing, Sustainment, and Industrial Base Capability”*

**3. Announcement Type**

Initial Announcement

**4. Funding Opportunity Number**

N0001426SB002

**5. Assistance Listing Number**

RESERVED

**6. Executive Summary**

This sBAA solicits proposals for innovations in manufacturing technology aligned with the Navy Manufacturing Technology (ManTech) Program's strategic objectives. The overarching goal of Navy ManTech is to develop, mature, and transition advanced manufacturing technologies that will accelerate throughput, affordability, and enhance capability of the Navy's new construction and sustainment activities. This sBAA seeks to address the most critical challenges facing the naval industrial base by pursuing breakthroughs that enhance manufacturing and repair capabilities across the enterprise.

A key application of these advancements is the Navy's Golden Fleet Initiative, a focused effort to maximize the readiness, capability, and longevity of our naval assets. This initiative directly supports the strategic imperative to increase shipbuilding speed, industrial throughput, and the operational availability of the fleet. Proposals should demonstrate a clear contribution to the broader ManTech goals, with applicability to the specific challenges impacting manufacturing the Fleet of the Future.

To ensure rapid development of valuable efforts while maintaining flexibility to address evolving requirements, this sBAA will be executed through two separate phases. Phase I focuses on the speed of developing and transitioning immediate, high-value technological efforts to meet current demands.

Phase II will provide a continuing opportunity to further expand the sBAA, soliciting new and innovative technologies that align with emerging and future Navy needs. Phase II will commence upon closing of the Phase I white paper submission timeframe and will remain open until one (1) year from the date of publication of this sBAA, providing ONR the opportunity to select and fund additional opportunities that address the needs of this sBAA. Phase II submissions determined to be favorable to the Government may be considered at any time prior to the closing of the sBAA.

All responsible sources from academia, industry, and the research community may submit proposals under this sBAA. All businesses, both small and large, are encouraged to submit proposals and compete for funding consideration.

Navy ManTech is interested in receiving proposals for projects that accelerate throughput, affordability, enhanced capability, demonstrate a clear and quantifiable impact on the production or sustainment lifecycle, and present a credible transition plan to a designated naval platform or industrial facility. Navy ManTech operates under USC Title 10, Section 4841 and DOW 4200.15, which define program requirements and restrictions that should be referenced in ensuring applicability of proposed technology concepts.

Proposals submitted under this sBAA should also seek to address one or more of the following high-level priorities that define the Golden Fleet Initiative. Proposals should have applicability to manufacturing technologies applicable to core Golden Fleet Initiative platforms, including, but not limited to, the recently announced new battleship [BBG(X)/BBGN], next generation frigate [FF(X)], unmanned surface vessels, and associated combat systems. Though Golden Fleet Initiative platforms are a priority of this sBAA, high-quality manufacturing technology improvements applicable for other US Navy platforms may be considered. The following Golden Fleet Initiative priorities represent the desired end-state for the naval shipbuilding and repair enterprise:

| Priority Area                              | Description                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
|--------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Speed, Throughput, and Availability</b> | Focuses on reducing the time it takes to construct new vessels, perform maintenance overhauls, and return ships to operational status. This ensures faster shipbuilding, repairs, and aims to enhance fleet readiness. |
| <b>Advanced Manufacturing</b>              | Emphasizes investment in cutting-edge technologies, including robotics, automation, and digital environments, to revolutionize shipbuilding and maintenance processes for higher efficiency and quality.               |
| <b>Sustainment and Repair</b>              | Develops innovative technologies and processes for maintenance and repair to extend ship lifespans, improve reliability, reduce maintenance deferrals, and maximize operational availability across the naval fleet.   |
| <b>Industrial Base Modernization</b>       | Technology enhancements applicable to shipyards and maintenance depots to meet modern demands, incorporating digital tools and advanced manufacturing capabilities to increase operational efficiency and capacity.    |

|                                              |                                                                                                                                                                                        |
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| <b>Supply Chain Capacity &amp; Logistics</b> | Addresses challenges in ensuring a robust and resilient supply chain capable of supporting accelerated shipbuilding, maintenance, and repairs while minimizing delays and disruptions. |
|----------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

Technology areas that ONR is pursuing for this sBAA are provided below:

## 6.2 Applied Research Technology Focus Areas

6.2 Applied Research funding supports efforts to translate scientific discoveries and advances (developed under basic research or other sources) into potential solutions for military applications. Applied research explores the novel capability and practicality of new concepts, technologies, or systems, often with a focus on solving specific operational challenges or enhancing current capabilities. Outputs may include advanced prototypes, models, or designs that demonstrate the viability of a technology in a lab or controlled environment. This budget activity or funding category bridges the gap between fundamental science and technology development, emphasizing proof-of-concept work with potential relevance to DoD mission needs. This sBAA seeks 6.2 Applied Research projects that develop new manufacturing processes and/or develop technologies impacting the manufacturability of components or systems. Specific 6.2 Applied Research manufacturing technical areas of interest include but are not limited to:

|                                                          |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                 |
|----------------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Novel Materials Scale-up</b>                          | Investigating new or modified ferrous and nonferrous alloys, and coatings that enhance ship performance, durability, and stealth, contributing to sustainment and repair needs, as well as industrial modernization.<br><br>Investigating non-traditional materials, such as composites and advanced polymers, to reduce weight, mitigate corrosion, improve signature management, and lower lifecycle maintenance costs. Applications include superstructures, masts, and internal components. |
| <b>Advanced Sensor Integration Concepts</b>              | Developing sensors for improved situational awareness, structural health monitoring, and threat detection, aligning with operational availability and sustainment priorities.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                   |
| <b>Robotics, Automation &amp; Advanced Manufacturing</b> | Advancing the application and integration of robotic and advanced manufacturing systems to improve capacity, efficiency, precision, and safety in shipyards.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |

|                                                           |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                            |
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| <b>Digital Tools &amp; Computational Modeling</b>         | Researching foundational elements of digital tools to optimize ship design, construction, and sustainment processes, addressing speed, availability, and industrial base modernization.                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Artificial Intelligence / Machine Learning (AI/ML)</b> | Developing specialized AI/ML algorithms, taxonomies, and ontologies aligned to shipbuilding use cases to enable enhanced data-driven decision-making.                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Novel/Advanced Non-kinetic Capabilities</b>            | Developing foundational components and concepts for advanced non-kinetic capabilities, focusing on demonstrating feasibility of novel technologies for Electronic Attack (EA), Electronic Support (ES), and Electronic Protection (EP) designed to disrupt an adversary's situational awareness and mission effectiveness. |

### 6.3 Advanced Technology Development Technology Focus Areas

6.3 Advanced Technology Development funding supports efforts aimed at maturing and demonstrating innovative technologies in operationally relevant environments to bridge the gap between applied research and system acquisition. This funding is critical for advancing prototype development, validating technological concepts through rigorous testing, and ensuring successful transitions into deployment-ready solutions. 6.3 Advanced Technology Development funding focuses on accelerating breakthroughs in advanced manufacturing, enhancing shipyard capabilities, and revolutionizing sustainment processes to maximize the Navy's readiness and fleet availability. This sBAA seeks 6.3 Advanced Technology Development projects that develop new manufacturing processes and/or develop technologies impacting the manufacturability of components or systems. Specific 6.3 Advanced Technology Development manufacturing areas of interest include, but are not limited to:

|                                               |                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                     |
|-----------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Digital Tools and Intelligent Planning</b> | <p>Develop and integrate AI/ML-driven tools and digital analytics for informed planning and design optimization.</p> <p>Create predictive quality tools to anticipate and identify production issues before they occur.</p> <p>Implement adaptive manufacturing controls that can adjust processes in real-time to maintain quality and efficiency.</p> <p>Establish systems for creating seamless digital Objective Quality Evidence (OQE) to streamline and accelerate verification and validation.</p> <p>Develop a standardized, secure, and interoperable data infrastructure that enables seamless data exchange between various manufacturing systems and digital tools.</p> |
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|                                                          | Digital twin and model-based engineering capabilities for use in connecting digital enterprise solutions for integrated planning, execution, and communications.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                    |
| <b>Automation and Advanced Manufacturing Processes</b>   | <p>Develop advanced manufacturing processes, including automated unit fabrication, assembly, and material handling to increase production throughput and precision.</p> <p>Leverage automation and multi-agent robotics to perform coordinated, complex tasks in fabrication, assembly, and material handling.</p> <p>Advance man-machine teaming by integrating technology like Collaborative Robots (Cobots), designed for safe, direct interaction with human workers in confined and/or shared manufacturing workspaces without requiring significant workspace.</p> <p>Develop and implement advanced human augmentation systems to enhance the shipyard and maintenance workforce, improving strength, endurance, and precision while enabling personnel to safely and efficiently perform physically demanding tasks, reduce fatigue, and boost productivity in fabrication, assembly, and repair processes.</p>                                                                                                                                                                             |
| <b>Autonomous Systems for Inspection and Maintenance</b> | <p>Enable autonomous and remote inspection &amp; maintenance through advanced sensor platforms and data processing.</p> <p>Leverage sensor fusion to create a comprehensive, data-rich understanding of an asset's condition for quality assurance and predictive maintenance. This will support a Condition Based Maintenance Plus (CBM+) strategy, which goes beyond traditional methods by incorporating Reliability-Centered Maintenance (RCM) analysis, prognostics, and enhanced diagnostics to predict failures.</p> <p>Deploy robotic systems to perform tasks in hazardous or hard-to-reach spaces, improving safety and reducing operational downtime.</p> <p>Leverage AI/ML tools to create predictive maintenance systems that analyze real-time equipment data, predict failures, and facilitate timely repairs to minimize downtime.</p> <p>Apply robust maintenance and inspection technologies like automated imaging and sensing systems to identify defects quickly, improve safety, and optimize manufacturing and repair processes within naval manufacturing environments.</p> |
| <b>Advanced Electronics Design and Manufacturing</b>     | Develop durable, compact, and power-efficient electronics for extreme maritime environments.                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                        |

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|                                                                         | <p>Utilize modular designs to enable rapid upgrades and repairs for critical systems such as weapons), sensors, and communications systems/equipment.</p> <p>Develop advanced packaging techniques to enhance the ruggedness and reliability of electronic systems regarding components, systems, and systems of systems utilizing Sensor Open Systems Architecture (SOSA) / Modular Open Systems Approach (MOSA).</p> <p>Develop concepts in counter/directed energy materials, components, systems and systems of systems manufacturing.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                      |
| <b>Non-Destructive Testing (NDT) and Advanced Inspection Techniques</b> | <p>Develop and integrate advanced non-destructive testing methods, such as phased array ultrasonic testing (PAUT), to enhance inspection accuracy and reliability in shipbuilding, repairs, and maintenance operations.</p> <p>Develop a framework for rapid verification and validation of advanced inspection techniques and tools.</p> <p>Introduce portable or automated NDT systems capable of conducting real-time assessments to streamline workflows and reduce downtime during construction or sustainment activities.</p> <p>Leverage cutting-edge imaging technologies and AI/ML solutions to analyze inspection data, rapidly detect potential defects, and enable predictive maintenance strategies.</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                               |
| <b>Supply Chain and Logistics Integration</b>                           | <p>Evaluate procurement risks across the industrial base, including the impact of conflicting demand signals and the alignment of material delivery with production schedules (i.e., including alternative materials)</p> <p>Develop and prototype an AI-driven logistics platform that provides real-time, end-to-end visibility of the naval supply chain, from supplier to shipyard.</p> <p>Integrate and demonstrate a parts procurement system capable of automating orders based on predictive maintenance alerts and inventory analysis.</p> <p>Mature and validate additive manufacturing processes for producing qualified, non-critical parts on-demand, and develop a "digital library" of certified part designs for fleet-wide distribution.</p> <p>Cyber-security industrial control systems and operational technologies capable of enhancing connectivity and security across the shipbuilding industrial base.</p> |
| <b>Non-metallic Materials for</b>                                       | <p>Development of manufacturing processes applicable to composites, polymers, coatings, and other non-metallic materials to reduce</p>                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                                              |

|                                  |                                                                                                      |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Shipbuilding Applications</b> | weight, enhance performance, mitigate corrosion, and impact lifecycle maintenance and affordability. |
|----------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|

6.3 Advanced Technology Development funding transitions proven concepts into practical subsystems, prototypes, and system-level applications, advancing naval operational and industrial readiness. These efforts ensure the integration of speed, scalability, and technology modernization aligned with the Navy's Golden Fleet Initiative priorities. 6.3 Advanced Technology Development whitepapers and proposals must clearly articulate a transition path and maturation of the resulting manufacturing technology to Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and Manufacturing Readiness Level (MRL) 6 - 7 enabling near-term implementation following completion of 6.3 Advanced Technology Development focused efforts.

The technology areas described above require deep shipbuilding knowledge and adherence to NAVSEA process qualifications. Navy ManTech recognizes that non-traditional suppliers with deployment-ready solutions are essential to achieve efficiencies expeditiously. Therefore, Navy ManTech strongly encourages the formation of collaborative, diverse teams that can provide solutions with clearly defined near-term implementation paths and well-defined benefits.

Furthermore, Navy ManTech seeks partners capable of delivering innovative solutions that can measurably enhance shipyard efficiency, safety, quality, and operational resilience. All proposed solutions should demonstrate a clear pathway to implementation, integration, and sustainability within a naval shipyard environment.

## **7. Funding Details**

This sBAA is expected to be conducted in two phases. For Phase I, ONR plans to fund approximately 3 - 5 individual 6.2 project awards with project values of \$500K - \$3M and 5 - 10 individual 6.3 project awards with a value of \$1.5M - \$5M. However, lower and higher cost proposals will be considered. The period of performance for projects may range from 1 to 2 years. Phase II funding is subject to the availability of funds, and the Phase II scope may be adjusted via formal amendment to this sBAA to address emerging or urgent Navy requirements. Although ONR expects the above-described funding plan to be executed, ONR reserves the right to make changes.

The Navy ManTech Program seeks innovative projects under both 6.2 Applied Research and 6.3 Advanced Technology Development funding categories. This sBAA is aimed at addressing critical challenges within naval manufacturing, sustainment, and industrial base capability. Proposed solutions should clearly support the Navy's Golden Fleet Initiative and Navy ManTech goals by accelerating throughput, affordability, and enhanced capability for manufacture and sustainment of naval platforms. Offerors are encouraged to align proposals with specific technical focus areas, outlined below, as they represent priority development areas for improving operational readiness and transitioning advanced technologies into practical applications.

## **8. Key Dates**

## **White Paper Submissions**

**Phase I White Papers:** The Phase I white paper submission period will remain open for exactly sixty (60) days following the date of sBAA publication.

**Phase II White Papers:** The Phase II white paper submission period will begin sixty-one (61) days following the date of sBAA publication and remain open for approximately one (1) year from the date of sBAA publication, subject to funding availability. White papers may be submitted at any time during this Phase II window.

**White Paper Late Submissions:** The Government reserves the right not to review white papers submitted after the sixty (60) day Phase I deadline, during Phase II, or after the final one-year closing date, whichever occurs first.

## **Full Proposal Requirements and Evaluation Timelines**

**Phase I Proposals:** Full proposal submission is required within forty-five (45) days from the date of the Government's selection notification, no later than 5:00 PM EDT. It is anticipated that final award selections will be made within sixty (60) days following full proposal submission. Offerors will be notified via email of their project's selection or non-selection for FY27 funding as soon as the evaluation process concludes. Full proposals received after the designated due date and time may not be considered for FY27 funding.

**Phase II Proposals:** Full proposal submission is required within forty-five (45) days from the date of the Government's selection notification, no later than 5:00 PM EDT. It is anticipated that final award selections will be completed within forty-five (45) days following full proposal submission. Offerors will be notified via email of their project's selection or non-selection for FY27 funding immediately upon evaluation completion. Full proposals received after the designated due date and time may not be considered for FY27 funding.

## **9. North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code**

The NAICS code for contracts under this announcement is **541715** - Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology) with a small business size standard of **1,000 employees**.

The ONR Reps and Certs shall include this NAICS and size standard. The Offeror proposal submission must include Section K - ONR Representations, Certifications and Other Statements of offerors, which must include the NAICS code information.

## **10. Agency Contact Information**

All UNCLASSIFIED communications shall be submitted via e-mail to the Technical Point of

Contract (TPOC) with a copy to the designated Business POC, as designated below.

The government reserves the right to determine, at its sole discretion, which questions warrant a formal response. If the Business POC determines that a question requires clarification for all potential offerors, a response will be provided via an Amendment to the announcement, which will be posted to the following web pages:

- Sam.gov Webpage – Contract Opportunities – <https://sam.gov/>
- ONR BAAs, FOAs, and Special Program Announcements Webpage - <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/funding-opportunities>

CLASSIFIED questions shall be handled through the ONR Security POC. Specifically, any entity wanting to ask a CLASSIFIED question shall send an UNCLASSIFIED email to the ONR Security POC with a copy to both the Technical POC and the Business POC stating that the entity would like to ask a CLASSIFIED question. DO NOT EMAIL ANY CLASSIFIED QUESTIONS. The Security POC will contact the entity and arrange for the CLASSIFIED question to be asked through a secure method of communication.

Questions regarding White Papers or Full Proposals should be submitted 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.

**Questions of a technical nature** shall be submitted to:

Point of Contact Name: Neil Graf  
Point of Contact Occupation Title: Program Officer  
Division Title: ManTech Program Lead  
Division Code: Code 33  
One Liberty Center  
875 N. Randolph Street  
Arlington, VA 22203-1995  
Email Address: [ONR.NCR.NavyManTechBAA@us.navy.mil](mailto:ONR.NCR.NavyManTechBAA@us.navy.mil)

**Questions of a Business nature, regarding Contract proposal submissions, or suggestions for improvement,** shall be submitted to:

Point of Contact Name: Stephanie Marsh, Contracting Officer.  
Office of Naval Research  
ONR Code 253  
One Liberty Center  
875 N. Randolph Street  
Arlington, VA 22203-1995  
Email Address: [ONR.NCR.NavyManTechBAA@us.navy.mil](mailto:ONR.NCR.NavyManTechBAA@us.navy.mil)

**Questions of a Security nature** shall be submitted to:

Industrial Security Specialist: Andre Ewing  
Office of Naval Research  
Security Department, Code 54  
One Liberty Center  
875 North Randolph St.  
Arlington, VA 22203-1995  
Email Address: [ONR.NCR.NavyManTechBAA@us.navy.mil](mailto:ONR.NCR.NavyManTechBAA@us.navy.mil)

## **C. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION**

### **1. Eligible Applicants**

All responsible sources from industry, academia, and the research community may submit proposals under this sBAA. Historically, Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs) are encouraged to submit white papers for evaluation. However, no portion of this sBAA will be set aside for HBCUs/MIs, small businesses, or other socio-economic participation. All businesses, both small and large, are encouraged to submit white papers and compete for funding consideration.

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

Navy laboratories, military universities, and warfare centers as well as other DOW and civilian agency laboratories are also not eligible to receive awards under this sBAA and should not directly submit either white papers or full proposals in response to this sBAA. If any such organization is interested in one or more of the programs described herein, the organization should contact an appropriate ONR Technical POC to discuss its area of interest.

University Affiliated Research Centers (UARC)s are eligible to submit white papers and proposals under this sBAA unless precluded from doing so by their DOW UARC contract.

Teams are also encouraged and may submit proposals in any area; however, offerors must be willing to cooperate and exchange software, data, and other information in an integrated project with other contractors, as well as with system integrators, selected by ONR.

Disclosures of current and pending support made in this application may render an applicant ineligible for funding. Prior to award and throughout the period of performance, DOW may continue to request updated continuing and pending support information, which will be reviewed and may result in discontinuation of funding.

### **2. Eligibility for Competition**

Proposals for supplementation of existing projects are eligible to compete with white papers

and proposals for new awards under this sBAA.

### **3. Contracted Fundamental Research**

With regard to any restrictions on the conduct or outcome of work funded under this sBAA, ONR will follow the guidance on and definition of “contracted fundamental research” as provided in the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Memorandum of 24 May 2010. The memorandum can be found at [https://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/pgi/docs/2012-D054%20Tab%20D%20OUSD%20\(ATL\)%20memorandum%20dated%20May%2024%202010.pdf](https://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/pgi/docs/2012-D054%20Tab%20D%20OUSD%20(ATL)%20memorandum%20dated%20May%2024%202010.pdf)

As defined therein, the definition of “contracted fundamental research,” in a DOW contractual context, includes research performed under contracts that are (a) funded by RDT&E Budget Activity 1 (Basic Research), whether performed by universities or industry or (b) funded by Budget Activity 2 (Applied Research) and performed on campus at a university.

Pursuant to DOW policy, research performed under contracts that are (a) funded by Budget Activity 2 (Applied Research) and NOT performed on-campus at a university or (b) funded by Budget Activity 3 (Advanced Technology Development) does not meet the definition of “contracted fundamental research.” In conformance with the USD (AT&L) guidance and National Security Decision Directive found at [https://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/pgi/docs/National\\_Security\\_Decision\\_Directive\\_189.pdf](https://www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/dars/pgi/docs/National_Security_Decision_Directive_189.pdf).

ONR will place no restriction on the conduct or reporting of unclassified “contracted fundamental research,” except as otherwise required by statute, regulation or executive order. The research shall not be considered fundamental in those rare and exceptional circumstances where the applied research effort presents a high likelihood of disclosing performance characteristics of military systems or manufacturing technologies that are unique and critical to defense, and where agreement on restrictions have been recorded in the contract. For certain research projects, it may be possible that although the research being performed by the prime contractor is restricted research, a subcontractor may be conducting “contracted fundamental research.” In those cases, it is the prime contractor’s responsibility in the proposal to identify and describe the subcontracted unclassified research and include a statement confirming that the work has been scoped, negotiated, and determined to be fundamental research according to the prime contractor and research performer.

Non-fundamental research is normally awarded under contracts and may require restrictions during the conduct of the research and DOW pre-publication review of such research results due to subject matter sensitivity. Potential offerors should consult with the appropriate ONR Technical POCs to determine whether the proposed effort would constitute fundamental or non-fundamental research.

**4. Cost Sharing or Matching** - Cost sharing is encouraged but not required and will not be used as a factor during the merit review of any proposal hereunder. However, the Government may consider voluntary cost sharing if proposed. Additional guidance can be found at 2 CFR

200.306 and FAR 35.002(b). See Section D.1.(c) below for information on cost sharing for OTs awarded under 10 U.S.C. § 4021 and 10 U.S.C. § 4022.

## **D. INSTRUMENT TYPE**

Awards will take the form of procurement contracts. The following provides brief descriptions of the instrument type:

- a. Procurement Contract: A legal instrument, consistent with 31 U.S.C. 6303, which reflects a relationship between the Federal Government and another entity/contractor when the principal purpose of the instrument is to acquire property or services for the direct benefit or use of the Federal Government.

The model contracts at the links below are only provided as examples. In the event of any conflict between these examples and current FAR, DFARS, NMCARS, 2 CFR 200 Uniform Guidance or ONR clauses or terms and conditions, current FAR, DFARS, NMCARS, 2 CFR 200 Uniform Guidance or ONR clauses or terms and conditions will govern.

- An example of a cost plus fixed fee model contract can be found on the ONR website at the following link: <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/how-to-apply/submit-contract-proposal>.
- Examples of the SSP and Gov Inventory CDRLs can be found on the ONR website at the following link: <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/how-to-apply/submit-contract-proposal>. This is not an inclusive list of all CDRLs for an award.

## **E. APPLICATION CONTENTS AND FORMAT**

### **1. General Information**

All submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR Subpart 15.108, applicable law, and DOW/DoN regulations. Offerors are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains any proprietary information.

Titles given to the submissions should be descriptive of the work they cover and not be merely a copy of the title of this announcement.

### **2. Non-Proprietary Statement of Work**

For all proposals, a non-proprietary version of the Statement of Work must also be submitted. Do not put proprietary data or markings in or on the Statement of Work. For proposals containing data that the offeror does not want disclosed to the public for any purpose, or used by the Government except for evaluation purposes, the contractor shall mark the title page with the following legend:

*“This proposal includes data that shall not be disclosed outside the Government and shall not be duplicated, used, or disclosed--in whole or in part--for any purpose other than to evaluate the proposal. If, however, a contract is awarded to this offeror as a result of--or in connection with-- the submission of this data, the Government shall have the right to duplicate, use, or disclose the data to the extent provided in the resulting contract. This restriction does not limit the Government’s right to use information contained in this data if is obtained from another source without restriction. The data subject to this restriction are contained in (insert numbers or other identification of sheets).”*

Each sheet of data that the offeror wishes to restrict must be marked with the following legend:

*“Use or disclosure of data contained on this sheet is subject to the restriction on the title page of this proposal.”*

### **3. White Paper Format and Content Requirements**

As the initial step for this special announcement, the submission of a white paper is required. The Government will evaluate submitted white papers to identify concepts that offer significant value and strategic relevance to the Department of the Navy.

Following this initial appraisal, the Technical Point of Contact (TPOC) will provide feedback via email. Offerors whose white papers are deemed promising will be encouraged to submit a Detailed Full Proposal (Technical and Cost volumes). This encouragement does not guarantee a contract award.

Offerors may be advised to submit a full proposal with a reduced scope or refocused tasks to align with available funding and maximize benefit to the Navy.

White papers must adhere to the following requirements:

| <b>Requirement</b>  | <b>Specification</b>                                                                                                                                               |
|---------------------|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| Page Limit          | 5 pages. This limit is exclusive of the Project Lead resume and any references.                                                                                    |
| Font                | 12-point Times New Roman with one-inch margins.                                                                                                                    |
| Format              | Microsoft Word (preferred) or Adobe PDF (no Adobe PDF scanned images shall be included; documents must be searchable and generated directly from source software). |
| Project Lead Resume | A one-page resume for the Project Lead must be included after the 5-page body.                                                                                     |

The 5-page body of the white paper must include:

- **Project Classification & Strategic Alignment:** Briefly identify the target Funding Type (6.2 Applied Research or 6.3 Advanced Technology Development), the applicable Golden Fleet Initiative priority area(s), the target platform(s), and the specific Technical Focus Area addressed from the BAA.
- **Organization Background & Teaming:** Provide a concise overview of the Offeror's organization, core competencies, and relevant manufacturing expertise. Briefly identify any key partners and explicitly address your teaming strategy.
- **Technical Concept & Appropriateness:** Describe the technology innovation, proposed technical scope, and current technology maturity level. Clearly articulate your Technical Approach to addressing the root cause of the problem and explain your ManTech Appropriateness by highlighting alignment with strategic objectives, specifically the "Golden Fleet" initiative.
- **Naval Need & Impact:** Define the critical Navy Need or capability gap your concept addresses. Detail the anticipated Impact by explaining tangible benefits to affordability, quality, and manufacturability (e.g., cost reduction, schedule acceleration, increased throughput). Provide a high-level benefit to the Navy such as impact to throughput, capability, and/or Return on Investment (ROI) justification.
- **Path to Transition:** Outline your Implementation Potential and transition strategy. Identify a specific target naval platform or industrial facility, describe the degree to which key stakeholders are involved, and define the final project deliverable that will be ready for transition. Briefly identify any anticipated Intellectual Property (IP) or Data Rights restrictions and explain how your data rights strategy will support, rather than hinder, the long-term sustainment and scaling of the technology across the naval industrial base.
- **Rough Order of Magnitude (ROM):** Provide high-level schedule and cost estimates for the proposed effort. Briefly justify the Financial Feasibility by demonstrating that the proposed investment cost is reasonable and appropriate given the project's complexity and potential ROI.

#### 4. Full Proposal Format and Content Requirements

**Proposal Package:** The following documents with attachments comprise a complete proposal package:

- (1) Proposal Checklist (pdf format)
- (2) Cost Proposal Template (Excel format) for the prime and all proposed subcontractors
- (3) DCAA Pre-award Survey of Prospective Contractor Accounting System Checklist to be submitted by contractors without an approved DCAA/DCMA accounting system approval. (pdf format)
- (4) ONR Contract Specific Representations and Certifications (pdf format)
- (5) Offeror's DCAA or DCMA Accounting System Approval Letter (pdf format)
- (6) Technical Proposal Template (pdf format)
- (7) Statement of Work (SOW) (word format)

Items 1 – 4 above are located at: <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/how-to-apply/submit-contract-proposal>. Items 6 and 7 are included as attachments to this sBAA. Items 1 – 4 have instructions embedded into them that will assist in completing the documents. In addition, both the Proposal Checklist and the Cost Proposal Template require completion of cost-related information. Please note that attachments can be incorporated into the Proposal Checklist.

The format requirements for attachments are as follows:

- Paper Size – 8.5 x 11-inch paper
- Margins – 1 inch
- Spacing – single or double-spaced
- Font – Times New Roman, 12-point

Offerors responding to this sBAA must submit a separate list of all technical data or computer software that will be furnished to the Government with other than unlimited rights with the proposal checklist. The Government will assume unlimited rights if offerors fail to identify any intellectual property restrictions in their proposals. Include all proprietary claims to results, prototypes, and/or deliverables. If no restrictions are intended, then the offeror should state “NONE”.

For proposals below the simplified acquisition threshold (less than or equal to \$350K), the Technical Proposal Template and Proposal Checklist documents, and the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet are required. Purchase orders can also contain options, as long as the total amount of the base and all options does not exceed \$350K.

For proposed subcontracts or inter-organizational transfers over \$350K, Offerors must provide a **separate fully completed Cost Proposal Spreadsheet** in support of the proposed costs. This spreadsheet, along with supporting documentation, must be provided with the offeror’s proposal. If the subcontract information is proprietary, it can be submitted via e-mail to the Program Officer. The e-mail should identify the proposal title, the prime Offeror and that the attached proposal is a subcontract, including a description of the effort to be performed by the subcontractor.

All documents except the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet and Statement of Work Template must be submitted in a secure, pdf-compatible format. The Cost Proposal Spreadsheet must be submitted using the ONR Microsoft Excel Cost Proposal template with all formulas left intact. The Statement of Work Template must be submitted using the ONR Statement of Work template. All attachments to any required proposal documents must be submitted in a secure, pdf-compatible format.

The secure pdf-compatible format is intended to prevent unauthorized editing of the proposal prior to any award. **Do not password protect** any proposal documents. Should an Offeror amend its proposal, the amended proposal should be submitted following the same guidance applicable to the original proposal.

Any proposed options that are identified in the Technical Proposal Template or Proposal Checklist document but are not fully priced out in the Cost Proposal Spreadsheet, will not be included in any resulting contract. If proposing options, they **must** be separately priced and separate worksheet tabs should be provided for the base period and each option. In addition to providing a summary by period of performance (base and any options), the Contractor is also responsible for providing a breakdown of cost for each task identified in the Statement of Work. The sum of all costs by task worksheets **MUST** equal the total cost summary.

The Excel spreadsheet should be in a “useable condition” to aid the Government with its evaluation. The term “useable condition” indicates that the spreadsheet should visibly include and separately identify within each appropriate cell any and all inputs, formulas, calculations, etc. The Offeror should not provide “value only spreadsheets” similar to a hard copy.

Fixed Fees on ONR Contracts: The Government Objective is set in accordance with the DFARS 215.404-71. See the below table for range and normal values:

| <b>Contract Risk Factor</b>                | <b>Contract Type</b> | <b>Assigned Value (Normal range)</b> | <b>Normal Value</b>    |
|--------------------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------------------------|------------------------|
| Technical <sup>(1)</sup>                   |                      | 3% - 7% <sup>(2)</sup>               | 5%                     |
| Management/<br>Cost Control <sup>(1)</sup> |                      | 3% - 7% <sup>(2)</sup>               | 5%                     |
| Contract Type Risk                         | Firm Fixed Price     | 2% - 6% <sup>(3)</sup>               | 3% - 5% <sup>(4)</sup> |
| Contract Type Risk                         | Cost Plus Fixed Fee  | 0% - 1% <sup>(2)</sup>               | 0.5%                   |

(1) Assign a weight (percentage) to each element according to its input to the total performance risk. The total of the two weights equal 100%

(2) Assign a weighting score relative to the Risk Factor.

(3) Depends on the specific Contract Type (With/without financing, performance-based payments, and/or progress payments).

(4) Depends on the specific Contract Type.

Technology Incentive (TI) is rarely utilized at ONR, because the contracts issued by ONR typically are not eligible for TI (See DFARS 215.404-71-2(c) (2)). Any consideration of TI requires strong and convincing justification in the proposal, which are then subject to negotiation and determination of a fair and reasonable fee, within the context of the specific award.

Typically, the range of fee is 5% to 7.5% on an ONR awarded contract.

## **F. SUBMISSION REQUIREMENTS AND DEADLINE**

### **1. Address to Request (Access) Application or Proposal Package**

This sBAA may be accessed from the sites below. Amendments, if any, to this sBAA will be posted to these websites when they occur. Interested parties are encouraged to periodically check these websites for updates and amendments.

- a. System for Award Management (Sam.gov - Contract Opportunities)  
(<https://sam.gov/>)
- b. ONR website (<https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/funding-opportunities/announcements>)

### **2. Unique Entity Identifier (UEI) and System for Award Management (SAM)**

All offerors submitting proposals or applications must:

- a. Be registered in the SAM prior to submission;
- b. Provide a valid unique entity identifier in its application;
- c. Obtain a CAGE Code; and
- d. Maintain an active SAM registration with current information at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application or proposal under consideration by a Federal awarding agency;
- e. Ensure your Reqs and Certs are updated annually

SAM may be accessed at <https://sam.gov/>

A Federal awarding agency may not make a Federal award to an applicant/offeror until the applicant has complied with all applicable unique entity identifier and SAM requirements and, if an applicant/offeror has not fully complied with the requirements by the time the Federal awarding agency is ready to make a Federal award, the Federal awarding agency may determine that the applicant/offeror is not qualified to receive a Federal award and use that determination as a basis for making a Federal award to another applicant/offeror.

### **3. Security Classification**

White Papers and Proposals submitted under this sBAA are expected to be unclassified; however, classified white papers/proposals are permitted. If a classified proposal is submitted and selected for award, the resultant contract will be unclassified. An 'unclassified' Statement of Work (SOW) must accompany any classified proposal.

Classified proposals shall be submitted directly to the attention of ONR's Document Control Unit at the following address and marked in the following manner:

OUTSIDE ENVELOPE - (no classification marking):

“Office of Naval Research  
Attn: Document Control Unit  
ONR Code 54  
875 North Randolph Street  
Arlington, VA 22203-1995”

The inner wrapper of the classified White Paper and/or Full Proposal should be addressed to the attention of the cognizant Technical POC, ONR Code XX and marked in the following manner:

INNER ENVELOPE - (stamped with the overall classification of the material)

“Program Name:  
Office of Naval Research  
ATTN: ONR Program Officer Name  
ONR Code: ONR Program Officer Code XX  
875 North Randolph Street  
Arlington, VA 22203-1995”

#### **4. White Paper Submission**

The due date for Phase I white papers is sixty (60) days following publication of this sBAA no later than 5:00 PM Local Eastern Time. White papers are to be submitted through ONR Submission Portal (see white paper section for additional information). If an Offeror does not submit a white paper before the specified due date and time, it is not eligible to participate in the remaining Full Proposal submission process and is not eligible for funding.

Outcomes of Navy evaluations Phase I white papers will be issued via email notification approximately thirty (30) to sixty (60) days following Phase I white paper submission due date. The Government reserves the right to conduct follow-up inquiries to clarify white paper concepts, request additional details, or suggest modifications prior to determining whether an Offeror will be invited to submit a full proposal. However, any such request does not guarantee a subsequent award. Any Offeror whose white paper technology was not identified as being of “particular value” to the Navy is ineligible to submit a full proposal under this sBAA.

Phase II white papers may be submitted at any time following the conclusion of the Phase I white paper submission period until the closing of this sBAA. Phase II submissions determined to be favorable to the Government may be considered at any time prior to the closing of this sBAA. Phase II whitepaper selections are subject to funding availability and scope and/or technology focus areas revision in amendments to this sBAA.

ONR utilizes the ONR Submission Portal for the submission of white papers. The ONR Submission portal is a web portal that bridges the gap between Government agencies and

performers to streamline the process of doing business with the Government. Through this portal, performers will be able to submit white papers. To access the ONR Submission Portal, go to <https://submissions.nre.navy.mil/>.

The ONR Submission Portal accepts CUI submission but not Export Controlled CUI.

## **5. How to Register for the ONR Submission Portal**

The registration and submission guide for the ONR Submission Portal can be found at <https://submissions.nre.navy.mil/UserSupport/UserSupportPage>.

When completing the submission, the Program Officer's information can be found as follows:

For ONR - The Program Officer's information and correct email address can be found on the ONR website at <https://www.onr.navy.mil/our-research/our-program-officers>.

If you need assistance, the ONR Submission Portal Help Desk is standing by to assist you.

**Email:** [ONR.NCR.053.list.onedesk@us.navy.mil](mailto:ONR.NCR.053.list.onedesk@us.navy.mil)

**Phone:** 948-215-3003 option "0"

**Hours:** Monday – Friday, 6 a.m. to 6 p.m. ET. Closed on Federal Holidays.

## **6. Full Proposal Submission Requirements**

The due date for receipt of Phase I Full Proposals is forty-five (45) days from notification of selection by 5:00 PM (EDT). It is anticipated that final selections will be made within sixty (60) days after full proposal submission. The Government reserves the right to conduct follow-up inquiries to clarify proposal concepts, request additional details, or suggest modifications prior to determining whether a proposal is selected for award. As soon as the final full Phase I proposal evaluation process is completed, offerors will be notified via email of their project's selection or non-selection for FY27 funding. Full Phase I proposals received after the published due date and time may not be considered for funding in FY27.

Due date for Phase II proposals is forty-five (45) days from notification of selection by 5:00 PM (EDT). It is anticipated that final selections will be made within (60) days after full proposal submission. As soon as the final full Phase II proposal evaluation process is completed, offerors will be notified via email of their project's selection or non-selection for FY27 funding. Full Phase II proposals received after the due date and time may not be considered for funding in FY27. See Appendix 1 for instructions for Contracts.

For ONR – ONR utilizes the ONR Submission Portal for the submission of full proposals for contracts. The ONR Submission Portal is a web portal that bridges the gap between government agencies and performers to streamline the process of doing business with the government. Through this portal, performers will be able to review opportunities and submit proposals. To access the ONR Submission Portal go to

<https://submissions.nre.navy.mil/>.

The registration and submission guide for the ONR Submission Portal can be found at <https://submissions.nre.navy.mil/UserSupport/UserSupportPage>.

## **7. Submission Dates and Times**

See Section B.8, “Key Dates” for information.

### **Submission of Late Proposals (Applicable to White Papers and Full Proposals)**

Any white paper, proposal, modification, or revision, that is received at the designated Government office after the exact time specified for receipt of proposals is “late” and may not be considered unless it is received before award is made, the contracting officer determines that accepting the late proposal would not unduly delay the acquisition, and

(a) If it was transmitted through an electronic commerce method authorized by the announcement, it was received at the initial point of entry to the Government infrastructure not later than 5:00 p.m. one working day prior to the date specified for receipt of proposals; or

(b) There is acceptable evidence to establish that it was received at the Government installation designated for receipt of proposals and was under the Government’s control prior to the time set for receipt of proposals.

However, a late modification of an otherwise timely and successful proposal that makes its terms more favorable to the Government may be considered at any time it is received and may be accepted.

Acceptable evidence to establish the time or receipt at the Government installation includes the time/date stamp of that installation on the proposal wrapper, other documentary evidence of receipt maintained by the installation, or oral testimony or statements of Government personnel.

If an emergency or unanticipated event interrupts normal Government processes so that proposals cannot be received at the Government office designated for receipt of proposals by the exact time specified in the announcement, and urgent Government requirements preclude amendment of the announcement closing date, the time specified for receipt of proposals will be deemed to be extended to the same time of day specified in the announcement on the first work day on which normal Government processes resume.

The contracting officer must promptly notify any offeror if its proposal, modifications, or revision that was received late and must inform the offeror whether its proposal will be considered.

Late Phase I white papers and proposals may be considered for Phase II selection.

## **8. Intergovernmental Review**

RESERVED

## G. APPLICATION REVIEW INFORMATION

### 1. Review Criteria

Awards under this sBAA will be made in accordance with FAR 35.102(e). The primary basis for selecting proposals for acceptance shall be technical merit, Navy relevance and impact, funds availability, and small business participation. To the extent appropriate, cost realism and reasonableness will also be considered when selecting proposals. ONR reserves the right to request and require any additional information and documentation after it makes the type of award instrument determination. ONR reserves the right to remove Offerors from award consideration when the parties fail to reach agreement on award terms, conditions, and cost/price within a reasonable time, or when the Offeror fails to timely provide requested or required additional information.

White paper and full proposals will be reviewed in accordance with Appendix 1 of N00014-26-S-B002, with specific focus on the following areas which align to the primary evaluation criteria:

#### A. Overall Scientific and Technical Merits:

- i) **ManTech Appropriateness:** Evaluates how well the proposal aligns with the strategic objectives of the Navy ManTech program and its specific relevance to initiatives like the "Golden Fleet." It also assesses whether the technology's maturity level is appropriate for the proposed development and transition pathway.
- ii) **Technical Approach:** Assesses the soundness, clarity, and feasibility of the proposed technical plan. This includes evaluating the level of innovation, how effectively the plan addresses the root cause of the problem, and the degree to which key stakeholders are involved in the approach.

#### B. Potential Naval Relevance and Contribution:

- i) **Navy Need:** Assesses the clarity with which the proposal defines the problem and demonstrates its direct alignment with a critical naval requirement, capability gap, or strategic priority.
- ii) **Impact:** Evaluates the project's tangible benefits to affordability, quality, and manufacturability (e.g., cost reduction, schedule acceleration, or performance improvement). The credibility of supporting Return On Investment (ROI) analysis and the demonstrated potential for operational impact are key considerations.
- iii) **Implementation Potential:** Assesses the feasibility and clarity of the transition plan. This includes the identification of a specific naval platform or facility, a designated funding path for implementation, and a final project deliverable that is ready for transition. This assessment will heavily consider the Offeror's proposed Intellectual Property (IP) and Data Rights assertions, evaluating whether the proposed rights (e.g., Government Purpose Rights) are sufficient to enable successful transition, scaling, and long-term sustainment within the naval industrial base without creating

unacceptable vendor lock. Furthermore, for 6.3 Advanced Technology Development efforts, this evaluation mandates a strict transition path demonstrating the maturation of the resulting manufacturing technology to Technology Readiness Level (TRL) and Manufacturing Readiness Level (MRL) 6 through 7 to enable near-term implementation.

### **C. Organizational Structure, Capability, and Teaming:**

- i) **Organization Background & Teaming:** Evaluates the Offeror's organization, core competencies, relevant manufacturing expertise, and teaming strategy. Additionally, this assessment will heavily weigh the Offeror's organizational credentials—specifically an active DD-2345 Joint Certification Program (JCP) certification and applicable Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) levels—to ensure the team has the authorization and infrastructure to securely access and protect critical project information.
- ii) **Management Approach:** Assesses overall approach to managing this effort, including the total organization, use of personnel, and project control practices.

### **D. Availability of Funds:**

- iii) **Financial and Schedule Feasibility:** Evaluates whether the proposed investment cost, schedule, and milestones are reasonable, realistic, and appropriate for the scope of work described. The justification for the budget and the distribution of labor hours across milestones will be assessed against the project's complexity, proposed timeline, and potential return on investment.

Criteria A, B, C, and D are equally important.

In addition, ONR highly encourages partnering among industry and academia and industry and Government with a view toward speeding the incorporation of new science and technology into fielded systems. Proposals that utilize industry-academic or industry-Government partnering which enhances the development of novel S&T advances and increases transition potential, although not mandatory, are desired and will receive favorable consideration.

## **2. Review and Selection Process**

### **a. Evaluation**

Proposals will not be evaluated against each other since they are not submitted in accordance with a common work statement. ONR's intent is to review all proposals received as soon as possible after they arrive; however, proposals may be reviewed periodically for administrative reasons.

The ultimate recommendation for award of proposals is made by ONR's scientific/technical community. Recommended proposals will then be forwarded to the ONR Contracts Management office. Any notification received from ONR

that indicates that the Offeror's full proposal has been recommended does not ultimately guarantee an award will be made. This notice indicates that the proposal has been selected in accordance with the evaluation criteria stated above and has been sent to the Contracting Department to conduct cost analysis, determine the offeror's responsibility, to confirm whether funds are available, and to take other relevant steps necessary prior to making an award. When applicable, certain offerors may be required to demonstrate compliance/the ability to comply with enhanced cybersecurity requirements prior to award. Refer to Appendix 1, Section I, Post-Award Requirements and Administration, Part 1, Administrative and National Policy Requirements of this sBAA for information.

**b. Commitment to Small Business**

The Office of Naval Research is strongly committed to providing meaningful prime and subcontracting opportunities for small businesses, small disadvantaged businesses (SDBs), woman-owned small businesses (WOSBs), historically underutilized business zone (HUB Zone) small businesses, veteran-owned small business (VOSBs), service disabled veteran-owned small businesses (SDVOSBs), historically black colleges and universities, and minority institutions, and other concerns subject to socioeconomic considerations through its awards.

Businesses unfamiliar with doing business with the government and that require assistance may contact the state-specific Department of War (DOW) APES Accelerator (formally known as Procurement Technical Assistance Center (PTAC). APEX Accelerators serve as a resource for businesses pursuing and performing under contracts with DOW, other federal agencies, state and local governments and with government prime contractors. Assistance provided by the APEX Accelerators is free of charge. APEX Accelerators support includes registration in systems such as SAM, identification of contract opportunities, understanding requirements, and preparing and submitting proposals. The Accelerators are located across the United States and its territories.

To locate a local APES Accelerator visit: <https://www.apexaccelerators.us/#/>

**i. Subcontracting Plan:**

For proposed contract awards exceeding \$900,000, large businesses and non-profits (including educational institutions) shall provide a Subcontracting Plan (hereafter known as 'the Plan') that contains all elements required by FAR 19.109, FAR 52.219-9, and as supplemented by DFARS 252.219-7996 (Deviation 2026-O0037) or DFARS 252.219-7997 (Deviation 2026-O0037).

NOTE: Small businesses are exempt from this requirement to submit a subcontracting plan.

The Plan must be submitted as an attachment to the “Proposal Checklist” and will not be included in the page count. If a company has a Master or Individual Subcontracting Plan, as described in FAR 19.001 or a Comprehensive Subcontracting Plan, as described in DFARS 219.109 (Deviation 2026-O0037), a copy of the Plan shall also be submitted as an attachment to the “Proposal Checklist.”

Plans will be reviewed for adequacy, ensuring that the required information, goals, and assurances are included. FAR 19.109 requires an apparent successful offeror to submit an acceptable Plan. If the apparent successful offeror fails to negotiate a Plan acceptable to the contracting officer within the time limit prescribed by the contracting officer, the offeror will be ineligible for award.

Offerors shall propose a plan that ensures small businesses (inclusive of SDBs, WOSBs, HUBZone, VOSBs and SDVOSBs) will have the maximum practicable opportunity to participate in contract performance consistent with efficient performance.

Offerors shall, to the best extent possible, propose realistic goals to ensure opportunities for small business participation to the maximum extent possible. If proposed goals do not contain positive goals, or the Small Disadvantaged Business (SDB) goal is below 5%, then the offeror shall include in the Plan a viable written explanation as to why small businesses are unable to be utilized and what attempts were taken to ensure that small business were given the opportunity to participate in the effort to the maximum extent practicable.

ii. Subcontracting Resources:

Subcontracting to a prime contractor can be a good way to participate in the contracting process. The following is a list of potential resources that may assist in locating potential subcontracting partners/opportunities/resources:

- U.S. Small Business Administration (SBA) Small Business Search - <https://search.certifications.sba.gov>
- SAM Contracting Opportunities - <https://www.sam.gov/opportunities>
- Navy SBIR/STTR Search – <https://www.navysbir.com> -
- SBA Network (Subnet) - <https://www.sba.gov/federal-contracting/contracting-guide/prime->

- [subcontracting/subcontracting-opportunities](#)
- Directory of federal government prime contractors with subcontracting plans - <https://www.sba.gov/document/support-directory-federal-government-prime-contractors-subcontracting-plans>
- USAspending.gov - <https://www.usaspending.gov/>
- DAU Small Business - <https://www.dau.edu/knowledge-area/small-business>
- Department of War Link  $\geq$  \$9.0 M Award Notices - <https://www.war.gov/News/Contracts/>

In accordance with FAR 5.303, the following entities may transmit a notice to the Government wide Point of Entry (GPE) at <https://sam.gov/opportunities> to seek competition for subcontracts, to increase participation by qualified small businesses, VOSBs, SDVOSBs, HUBZones, SDBs, and WOSBs, and to meet established subcontracting plan goal as follows:

- 1) A contractor awarded a contract exceeding the simplified acquisition threshold that will likely result in subcontract awards;
- 2) A subcontractor or supplier, at any tier, under a contract greater than the simplified acquisition threshold with subcontracting opportunity greater than \$20,000.

The notices must include:

- a) The business opportunity information described at FAR 5.101(c)(4)(i), (iv), and (v); and
- b) The due date for receipt of offers.

### iii. Facilitating Subcontracting Arrangements -

While large businesses and non-profits are responsible for making these subcontracting arrangements, ONR will help facilitate prime contractor/small business contracting connections by posting to the ONR external website contact information of small businesses that have indicated their subcontracting interests and technological niche for prime contractor consideration for this program. This is not an endorsement, but an effort by ONR to help bring these parties together to provide superior solutions.

If you are a small business, and your company is interested in

subcontracting activities with large businesses and/or non-profits considering your technology for this program, please provide the following information by email, to the Small Business Director at [nrl\\_smallbusinessoffice@us.navy.mil](mailto:nrl_smallbusinessoffice@us.navy.mil) with the subject line, “N0001426SB002.” Provide the following information:

- 1) Company Name and Website
- 2) Individual (POC) name and POC email address
- 3) Business Size and socio-economic category
- 4) Brief Technology Description (no more than three sentences without marketing information)
- 5) Technology Key Words (no more than 10 words)

Note: Do not include ANY proprietary information. This information will be posted on the ONR website under this sBAA call and will be available to the public.

#### **c. Options**

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. The Government reserves the right to exercise options at time of award and to incrementally fund the option.

#### **d. Evaluation Panel**

White Papers and technical and cost proposals submitted under this sBAA will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 3.104-4 and 15.108. The cognizant Program Officer and other Government scientific experts will perform the evaluation of white papers and technical proposals. Restrictive notices notwithstanding, one or more support contractors may be utilized for administrative purposes or as subject-matter-expert technical consultants. Additionally, DOW-approved AI platforms may be used in supporting data collection and evaluations proposals submitted under this sBAA. However, selection and award decisions are solely the responsibility of Government personnel. Each support contractor's employee having access to white papers and technical and cost proposals submitted in response to this sBAA will be required to sign the ONR Non-Disclosure Agreement (NDA) for Contractor Support prior to receipt of any submissions. This NDA includes third-party beneficiary language giving the submitter of proprietary information a right of direct action against the contractor employee and/or his/her employer in the event that the NDA is violated.

All non-Government advisors are bound by Federal law (e.g., 18 U.S.C. § 1905, the Trade Secrets Act) to protect all proprietary and competition-sensitive information from unauthorized disclosure. Furthermore, all advisors must affirm they have no financial interests or other conflicts of interest with respect to the proposals they are reviewing.

### **3. Risk Review**

- i. Contracts shall be awarded to responsible prospective contractors only. See FAR 9.104-1 for a listing of the general standards against which an applicant will be assessed to determine responsibility. Applicants are requested to provide information with proposal submission to assist the Contracting Officer's evaluation of responsibility.
- ii. The Responsibility/Qualification section of SAM.gov at <https://sam.gov> will be checked prior to making an award. The prospective awardee must have the corresponding NAICS code listed in their SAM profile. The applicant representing the entity may comment in this system on any information about the entity that a federal government official entered. The information in SAM.gov will be used in making a judgment about the entity's integrity, business ethics, and record of performance under Federal awards that may affect the official's determination that the applicant is qualified to receive an award.

## **H. AWARD NOTICES**

All applicants will receive a notification email advising if their proposal has been selected or not selected for recommendation for award.

Applicants whose proposals are recommended for award may be contacted by a Contract specialist to discuss additional information required for award. This may include representations and certifications, revised budgets or budget explanations, certificate of current cost or pricing data, subcontracting plan for small businesses, and/or other information as applicable to the proposed award.

The notification e-mail must not be regarded as an authorization to commit or expend funds. The Government is not obligated to provide any funding until a Government Contracting Officer executes the award document.

If pre-award costs are allowed, beginning performance is at the applicant's own risk.

Only an award document signed by the Contracting Officer is the official authorization to commence the research project.

Office of Naval Research (ONR) award/modification documents are only available via the Department of War (DOW) Electronic Document Access System (EDA) within the Procurement Integrated Enterprise Environment (PIEE) (<https://piee.eb.mil/>) system.

## **I. POST-AWARD REQUIREMENTS AND ADMINISTRATION**

### **1. Administrative and National Policy Requirements**

#### *i. Export Control:*

Offerors are responsible for ensuring compliance with all U.S. export control laws and regulations, including the International Traffic in Arms Regulation (ITAR)(22 CFR Parts 120 - 130) and Export Administration Regulation (EAR) (15 CFR Parts 730 – 774), as applicable. In some cases, developmental items funded by the Department of War are now included on the United States Munition List (USML) (22 CFR Part 121) and are therefore subject to ITAR jurisdiction. In other cases, items that were previously included on the USML have been moved to the EAR Commerce Control List (CCL). Offerors should address in their proposals whether ITAR or EAR restrictions apply to the work they are proposing to perform for ONR. The ITAR and EAR are available online at <http://www.ecfr.gov/>.

Offerors must comply with all U.S. export control laws and regulations, including the ITAR and EAR, in the performance of any award or agreement resulting from this sBAA. Offerors shall be responsible for obtaining any required licenses or other approvals, or license exemptions or exceptions if applicable, for exports of hardware, technical data, and software (including deemed exports), or for the provision of technical assistance.

#### *ii. 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 in Section II, Block 11 of the Proposal Checklist. The Proposal Checklist can be found at the following link: <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/how-to-apply/submit-contract-proposal>

If it is determined that access to classified information will be required during the performance of an award, a Department of Defense (DD) Form 254 will be attached to the award, and FAR 52.204-2 - Security Requirements will be incorporated into the contract.

#### *iii. Requirements Concerning Live Organisms:*

##### **(1) Use of Animals:**

The DOW policies and requirements for the use of animals in DOW-supported research are described in the current version of DoD Instruction 3216.01, Use of Animals in DoD Conducted and Supported Research and Training and its implementing instruction, DHA-MSR 6025.02, “The Care And Use Of Animals In DoD Research, Development, Test, And Evaluation (RDT&E) Or Training Programs,” the version of which is current at the time of award. If animals are to be utilized in the research effort proposed, the Offeror must submit a Full Appendix or Abbreviated Appendix (see Guidance link below) with supporting

documentation (such as copies of Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC) Approval, IACUC Approved Protocol, and most recent United States Department of Agriculture (USDA) Inspection Report) prior to award. For assistance with submission of animal research related documentation, contact the ONR Animal Use Administrator at (948) 215-2947 or [suzanne.b.may.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:suzanne.b.may.civ@us.navy.mil). Guidance: <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/how-to-apply/compliance-and-protections/research-protections/animal-use>

(2) Use of Human Subjects in Research:

(a) Offerors must protect the rights and welfare of individuals who participate as human subjects in research awarded pursuant to this sBAA and must comply with the requirements of the Common Rule at 32 CFR part 219 (the DOW implementation of 45 CFR part 46) and applicable provisions of DoD Instruction 3216.02, Protection of Human Subjects and Adherence to Ethical Standards in DoD-Conducted and -Supported Research (Change 1, (June 29, 2022), the DON implementation of the human research protection program contained in SECNAVINST 3900.39E Change 1, (or its replacement), 10 USC 980 “Limitation on Use of Humans as Experimental Subjects,” and when applicable, Food and Drug Administration (FDA) and other federal and state law and regulations.

(b) For proposals containing activities that include or may include “research involving human subjects” as defined in DoDI 3216.02, prior to award, the Offeror must submit the following documentation:

(i) Approval from an Institutional Review Board (IRB) (IRB-approved research protocol, IRB- approved informed consent document, documentation showing the IRB considered the scientific merit of the research and other material considered by the IRB and the IRB registration number); proof of completed human research training (e.g., training certificate for the principal investigator, and institutional verification that the principal investigator, co-investigators and research support personnel have received appropriate training to be considered qualified to execute the research); and the Offeror’s Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS)-issued Federal Wide Assurance (FWA#), including notifications of any FWA suspensions or terminations.

(ii) Any claimed exemption under 32 CFR 219.104), including the category of exemption, supporting documentation considered by the Offeror’s institution in making the determination (e.g., protocol, data collection tools, advertisements, etc.). The documentation shall include a short rationale supporting the exemption determination. This documentation should be signed by the IRB Chair or IRB vice Chair, designated IRB administrator or official of the Offeror’s human research protection program.

(iii) Any determinations that the proposal does not contain activities that constitute research involving human subjects or contains only activities that are deemed not to be research under 32 CFR 219.102(1)(1)-(4), including supporting documentation considered by the Offeror’s institution in making the determination. This documentation should be issued by the IRB Chair or IRB vice Chair, designated IRB administrator or official of the Offeror’s human research protection program.

(c) Documentation must be submitted to the ONR Human Research Protection Official (HRPO), by way of the ONR Program Officer. The HRPO retains final judgment on whether the documentation satisfies the use of human subjects in research requirements. For assistance with submission of human subject research related documentation, contact the ONR (HRPO) at (948) 215-2947 or [suzanne.b.may.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:suzanne.b.may.civ@us.navy.mil).

(d) Contracts, orders, and any subawards or modifications will include a statement indicating successful completion of the HRPO review. Research involving human subjects must not be commenced under any contract award or modification or any subcontract or modification until awardee receives notification from the Contracting Officer that the HRPO has approved the assurance as appropriate for the research under the award or modification and that the HRPO has reviewed the protocol and accepted the IRB approval or determination for compliance with Federal, DoW and DON research protection requirements. The Government will not reimburse or otherwise pay for work performed in violation of this requirement. See, DFARS 252.235-7004. Guidance: <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/how-to-apply/compliance-and-protections/research-protections/human-subject-research>

*iv. Biosafety and Biosecurity Requirements:*

Offerors must comply with applicable provisions of the current version of DODM 6055.18, Safety Standards for Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories, including ensuring compliance with standards meeting at least the minimum applicable requirements of the current edition of Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, “Biosafety in Microbiological and Biomedical Laboratories (BMBL),” and National Institutes of Health, “The NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules (NIH Guidelines)” and any applicable FDA requirements.

*v. Research Involving Recombinant (rDNA) or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules.*

Offerors must not begin performance of research within the scope of “The NIH Guidelines for Research Involving Recombinant or Synthetic Nucleic Acid Molecules (NIH Guidelines)” until receiving notice from the Contracting Officer that ONR has reviewed and accepted the Offeror’s documentation. In order for ONR to accomplish that review, an offeror must provide the Contracting Officer, generally as part of an original proposal prior to award, sufficient documentation to enable the review, including:

(a) A written statement that the Offeror is in compliance with NIH Guidelines or applicable FDA requirements. This statement should be made by an official of the institution other than the Principal Investigator and should be on university or company letterhead.

(b) Evidence demonstrating that the proposed research protocol has been approved (or determined exempt from the NIH Guidelines) by an Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC); and a copy of the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) Letter of Approval of the IBC, or the most recent letter from DHHS stating the IBC is in compliance with the NIH Guidelines. For assistance with requirements involving countries outside the United States,

please contact the ONR HRPO at (948) 215-2947 or [suzanne.b.may.civ@us.navy.mil](mailto:suzanne.b.may.civ@us.navy.mil).

*vi. Institutional Dual Use Research of Concern:*

As of September 24, 2015, all institutions and United States Government (USG) funding agencies subject to the United States Government Policy for Institutional Oversight of Life Sciences Dual Use Research of Concern must comply with all the requirements listed therein. In 2024 a new U.S. Government Policy for Oversight of Dual Use Research of Concern and Pathogens with Enhanced Pandemic Potential (DURC/PEPP) was developed. In compliance with the Executive Order on [“Improving the Safety and Security of Biological Research,”](#) federal departments and agencies will revise or replace the 2024 DURC/PEPP policy. The revised policy will be located at <https://aspr.hhs.gov/S3/Pages/Dual-Use-Research-of-Concern-Oversight-Policy-Framework.aspx>.

*vii. Department of Defense High Performance Modernization Computing Program:*

The DoD High Performance Computing Modernization Program (HPCMP) furnishes the DoD S&T and RDT&E communities with use-access to very powerful high performance computing systems. Awardees of ONR contracts 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 may be found at <https://www.hpc.mil/>.

*viii. Project Review Meetings and Program Review Meetings:*

Individual Project Review Meetings between the ONR sponsor and the performer may be held as necessary. Project Review Meetings typically last approximately one day. Typically, there are two in-person Project Review Meetings each year. Additional Project Review Meetings are likely, but these will be accomplished by video telephone conferences, telephone conferences, or web-based collaboration tools.

In addition to Project Review Meetings, Program Review Meetings may be held to provide a forum for reviews of the latest results from individual project experiments and any other incremental project progress towards major demonstrations. Program Review Meetings are generally held once per year and last two to three days.

For cost estimating purposes, offerors should assume that 40% of the review meetings will be at or near ONR, Arlington VA, and 60% would be held at other government or non-government facilities within the continental United States.

The Government sometimes finds it advantageous to hold Program Review Meetings at a performer's facility. Offerors interested in hosting such meetings should include an estimated cost and the following language in their proposals, which become part of any award (note: if a contract is awarded, use of the facility will be included as an option):

[Name of entity] offers the use of its facilities for an ONR Program Review Meeting to discuss the status of programs related to the subject of this proposal. Such meetings may include attendees representing multiple research efforts. The meetings will discuss only “contracted fundamental research” as provided in the Under Secretary of Defense (Acquisition, Technology and Logistics) Memorandum of 24 May 2010, the results of which are open to the public. No fee will be charged for attendees at Program Review Meetings. [Name of entity] understands it will not be asked to host a Performance Review Meeting more than once per year, if at all.

Offerors are not required to include the foregoing term in their proposals, and whether they do or not, will not affect their selection for award.

The foregoing does not apply to international offerors submitting proposals to ONRG. International offerors should contact the cognizant ONR Global Science Director specializing in your field or located in your region for guidance prior to submitting a proposal.

*ix. Requirements for Operation and Procurement of Commercial Off the Shelf Unmanned Aircraft Systems*

(a) Commercial Off-The-Shelf Unmanned Aircraft Systems (COTS UAS) may not be purchased pursuant to this contract until a Cyber Exception to Policy (ETP) is obtained by the cognizant ONR Program Officer.

(b) RESERVED

(c) Notwithstanding (b) above, a Cyber ETP is required for all efforts (regardless of award or funding type) that involve interactions with military personnel, DoW property, or DoW facilities; work conducted by US Government laboratories, UARCs, or FFRDCs; or are Public Aircraft Operation (PAO), classified, or explore specific military utility. For these efforts and depending on the UAS platform and Cyber Operating Environment, a Cyber ETP, FAA issued Certificate of Airworthiness or a NAVAIR Airworks Authority to Operate (ATO) must be obtained.

(d) Prospective or current performers are required to notify the cognizant ONR Program Officer of any anticipated COTS UAS purchase that may be subject to exception at time of white paper, proposal submission or award changes. Performers shall provide documentation specifying the details including the type of drone, effort, location, etc.

(e) Performers will agree to cooperate and provide additional information as requested to support the cyber vulnerability assessment and other requirements identified above in c.

(f) Notwithstanding, procedures and requirements identified above, restrictions identified in Section 848 of the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year

2023, Pub. L. No. 116-92, 10 U.S.C 4871 note, as amended, continue to apply. Performers are notified that effective October 1, 2024 additional restrictions will apply to new awards, extensions or renewals of existing contracts. See 10 U.S.C. 4871 Note for additional information on restrictions.

*x. Research Integrity and Misconduct*

Offerors and Performers must foster an atmosphere conducive to research integrity and comply with requirements concerning research misconduct that apply to federally funded research and to proposals submitted to ONR for funding. The government wide policy published by the Office of Science and Technology Policy in the Federal Register (65 FR 76260, December 6, 2000) is implemented by DOW at DODI 3210.7 “Research Integrity and Misconduct” and by ONR at ONRINST 5041.2A “Policy for Handling Allegations of Scientific Research Misconduct”.

*xi. Government Property/Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and Facilities*

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 indicate in the Proposal Checklist, Section II, Block 9a, which of these facilities/test sites are critical for the project’s success. In the Proposal Checklist, Section II, Block 9b, Offerors need to specify whether they will be requiring GFE, GFM and GFI.

*xii. Use of Arms, Ammunition, and Explosives*

Safety

The Offeror is required to be in compliance with DoD manual 4145.26-M, *DoD Contractor’s Safety Manual for Ammunition and Explosives* if ammunitions and/or explosives are to be utilized under the proposed research effort. (See DFARS 223.370-5 and DFARS 252.223-7002, 252.223-7003 and 252.223-7007) If ammunitions or explosives (A&E) are to be utilized under the proposed research effort, the Government requires a preaward safety survey in accordance with DFARS PGI 223.370-4(C)(iv) entitled *Preaward Survey* and the Contracting Officer shall prepare a Standard Form (SF) 1403 Pre-Award Survey of Prospective Contractor (General) in order to initiate the survey.

If the Offeror proposes that the Government provide Government-furnished A&E containing any nitrocellulose-based propellants and/or nitrate ester-based materials (such as nitroglycerin) or other similar A&E with a tendency to become chemically unstable over time, then NMCARS 5252.223-9000 will also apply to a resulting contract award. (See NMCARS 5223.370-5)

Security

If sensitive (Security Risk Category I, II, III, IV) arms, ammunition or explosives (AA&E) are to be utilized under the proposed research effort, the Government requires a preaward security survey. The Contracting Officer shall prepare a Standard Form (SF) 1403 Pre-Award Survey of Prospective Contractor (General) in order to initiate the survey. (See DoD manual DoDM 5100.76, Change 2, dated October 5, 2020, *Physical Security of Sensitive Conventional Arms, Ammunition and Explosives (AA&E)*, Enclosure 2, paragraph 2.a. and DFARS 252.223-7007)

If AA&E are to be utilized under the proposed research effort, the Government may require the Contractor to have perimeter fencing around the place of performance in accordance with DoDM 5100.76, Change 2, dated October 5, 2020, Enclosure 5, paragraph 2.a.

If AA&E are to be utilized under the proposed research effort, the Offeror is required to provide a written copy of the Offeror's AA&E accountability procedures in accordance with DoDM 5100.76. If the Offeror is required to provide written AA&E accountability procedures, the Offeror should provide the respective procedures with its proposal submission. See DoDM 5100.76, Change 2, dated October 5, 2020, Enclosure 9, paragraph 9.

#### *xii. System for Award Management (SAM)*

FAR 52.204-7 System for Award Management - Registration and FAR 52.204-13 System for Award Management - Maintenance are incorporated into this sBAA, and FAR 52.204-13 will be incorporated in all awards.

#### *xiv. Employment Eligibility Verification (E-verify)*

As per FAR 22.1802, recipients of FAR-based procurement contracts must enroll as Federal Contractors in E-verify and use E-verify to verify employment eligibility of all employees assigned to the award. All resultant contracts from this solicitation will include FAR 52.222-54, "Employment Eligibility Verification."

#### *xv. Conflicts of Interest*

(a) Disclosure. An offeror shall state in its proposal whether it is aware of any information bearing on the existence of any actual or potential organizational conflict of interest (OCI) as defined in FAR 2.101 and as further discussed in FAR Subpart 9.5 as to itself and any proposed subcontractors, partners, consultants or other affiliates. Offerors performing systems engineering and technical assistance (SETA) for ONR are considered to have an OCI that may not be susceptible to mitigation. See ONR's Statement of Policy on OCIs, which can be found at the following address: <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/how-to-apply/compliance-and-protections/organizational-conflicts-interest>.

The nondisclosure or misrepresentation of an interest creating an OCI may result in the disqualification of an offeror for award, or if such nondisclosure or misrepresentation is

discovered after award, the Government may terminate the contract for default, recommend that the contractor be disqualified from subsequent related contracts, or be subject to such other remedial actions as may be permitted or provided by law (see 18 U.S.C. § 1001 and 31 U.S.C. § 3802(a)(2)). Therefore, offerors should interpret the requirements of this section broadly.

An offeror who does not provide support services to ONR or concludes no actual or potential OCI exists shall include the following statement in its proposal: “I [NAME] as an authorized negotiator on behalf of [NAME OF OFFEROR] certify that **NO** actual or potential organizational conflict of interest (OCI) exists under [BAA NUMBER]. I understand that the failure to disclose the existence of actual or potential OCI shall result in the offeror not being considered for award.”

An offeror who does provide support services to ONR or is aware circumstances exist that may result in the appearance that it may have an unfair competitive advantage shall submit the following with its proposal:

- (i) The name of the entity the offeror, its subcontractors, partners, consultants or affiliates supports.
- (ii) The number of the contract, subcontract, or agreement that creates the actual or potential OCI. If ONR did not award the contract or agreement, provide a copy of the document. If ONR awarded the contract, provide the name of the technical point of contact.
- (iii) A description of the actual or potential OCI. The statement must describe in a concise manner all relevant facts concerning any past, present or currently planned interest (financial, contractual, organizational, or otherwise) relating to the work to be performed hereunder and bearing on whether the offeror has a possible organizational conflict of interest with respect to (1) impartial, technically sound, and unbiased assessments, recommendations, or evaluations, or (2) being given an unfair competitive advantage. If relevant, offerors shall address the personal conflicts of their employees.
- (iv) A Mitigation Plan. Offerors should refer to FAR Subpart 9.5 for policies and procedures for avoiding, neutralizing, or mitigating organizational conflicts of interest.
- (v) A concluding statement as follows: “I [NAME] as an authorized negotiator on behalf of [NAME OF OFFEROR] certify that I have, to the best of my knowledge and belief, disclosed all actual or potential organizational conflicts of interest (OCI) under [BAA NUMBER]. I understand that the failure to disclose the existence of an actual or potential OCI shall result in the offeror not being considered for award.”

(b) OCI Mitigation Plan Contents. At a minimum, a Mitigation Plan shall:

- (i) Provide organizational charts showing the offeror’s (and, as appropriate, those of its subcontractors, partners, consultants, and affiliates) structure as it relates to performance

under the contract awarded under this sBAA and all contracts and agreements relevant to the OCI, highlighting those elements that create the actual or apparent OCI.

(ii) Demonstrate how the elements that create the actual or apparent OCI will be isolated from the resources that will perform work under the contract awarded under this sBAA.

(iii) Provide information showing whether the organizational elements that will perform work under the contract awarded under this sBAA will be geographically or physically separated from the elements that create the actual or apparent OCI.

(iv) For each contract or agreement relevant to the OCI, describe the process for reassigning personnel, including those belonging to subcontractors, partners, consultants, and affiliates, from one organization to another. Include restrictions that apply.

(v) For each contract or agreement relevant to the OCI, describe any controls, including nondisclosure agreements, that are exercised over the future employment of departing employees as it relates to the OCI.

(vi) For each contract or agreement relevant to the OCI, describe any OCI training the employees are offered or required to attend, along with the timing (before or after starting work on a government contract), frequency, length, and content of such training.

(vii) Provide evidence of facts and circumstances that the offeror asserts mitigate or address the concerns related to the actual or potential OCI.

(c) Review. The Contracting Officer will review an offeror's certifications, statements, and OCI Mitigation Plan (if applicable) submitted and may require additional relevant information from an offeror. All such information and any other relevant information will be used by the Contracting Officer to determine whether an award to the offeror may create an OCI. If found to exist, the Government may: (1) impose appropriate conditions which avoid such conflict, (2) disqualify the offeror, (3) determine that it is otherwise in the best interest of the Government to award a contract to the offeror and include appropriate conditions mitigating such conflict in the award, or (4) seek a waiver. If the Contracting Officer determines that an actual or significant potential conflict of interest exists that cannot reasonably be avoided, neutralized or mitigated, the offeror will be ineligible for award. If accepted, the Mitigation Plan shall become part of the contract.

An offeror who has refused to disclose the information or make the certification required by this sBAA concerning an actual or potential OCI shall be disqualified from consideration for award.

*xvi. FAR / DFARS Provisions/Clauses:*

For purposes of illustration, the following provisions and clauses may be applicable to ONR contracts. ONR reserves the right to include any relevant and current FAR, DFARS or NMCARS clauses or deviations necessary and required in the final award based on the dollar value of the

award. All FAR and DFAR references may be accessed from <https://acquisition.gov>.

| #            | Provision/Clause                                                                                   |
|--------------|----------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 52.202-1     | Definitions                                                                                        |
| 52.203-3     | Gratuities                                                                                         |
| 52.203-5     | Covenant Against Contingent Fees                                                                   |
| 52.203-6     | Restrictions on Subcontractor Sales to the Government                                              |
| 52.203-7     | Anti-Kickback Procedures                                                                           |
| 52.203-8     | Cancellation, Rescission, and Recovery of Funds for Illegal or Improper Activity                   |
| 52.203-10    | Price or Fee Adjustment for Illegal or Improper Activity                                           |
| 52.203-12    | Limitation on Payments to Influence Certain Federal Transactions                                   |
| 52.203-19    | Prohibition on Requiring Certain Internal Confidentiality Agreements or Statements                 |
| 52.204-7     | System for Award Management - Registration                                                         |
| 52.204-13    | System for Award Management - Maintenance                                                          |
| 52.209-9     | Updates of Publicly Available Information Regarding Responsibility Matters                         |
| 52.215-16    | Facilities Capital Cost of Money                                                                   |
| 52.215-20    | Requirements for Certified Cost or Pricing Data and Data Other Than Certified Cost or Pricing Data |
| 52.215-22    | Limitations on Pass Through Charges - Identification of Subcontract Effort                         |
| 52.217-4     | Evaluation of Options Exercised at time of Contract Award                                          |
| 52.217-5     | Evaluation of Options                                                                              |
| 52.217-9     | Option to Extend the term of the Contract                                                          |
| 52.219-1     | Small Business Program Representation                                                              |
| 52.222-50    | Combating Trafficking in Persons                                                                   |
| 52.222-56    | Certification Regarding Trafficking in Persons Compliance Plan                                     |
| 52.226-2     | Historically Black College or University and Minority Institution Representation                   |
| 52.230-7     | Proposal Disclosure - Cost Accounting Practice Changes                                             |
| 52.233-2     | Service of Protest                                                                                 |
| 52.240-90    | Security Prohibitions and Exclusions Representations and Certifications                            |
| 52.204-91    | Security Prohibitions and Exclusions                                                               |
| 52.252-1     | Solicitation Provisions Incorporated by Reference                                                  |
| 52.252-3     | Alterations in Solicitation                                                                        |
| 52.252-5     | Authorized Deviations in Provisions                                                                |
| 252.203-7000 | Requirements Relating to Compensation of Former DoD Officials                                      |
| 252.203-7005 | Representation Relating to Compensation of Former DoD Officials                                    |
| 252.204-7998 | Alternate A, Annual Representations and Certifications (DEVIATION 2026-                            |

|              |                                                                                                                                                                  |
|--------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|              | O0043)(FEB 2026)                                                                                                                                                 |
| 252.204-7008 | Compliance with Safeguarding Covered Defense Information Controls                                                                                                |
| 252.204-7012 | Safeguarding Covered Defense Information and Cyber Incident Reporting (DEVIATION 2024-O0013, Revision 1)                                                         |
| 252.204-7018 | Prohibition on the Acquisition of Covered Defense Telecommunications Equipment or Services                                                                       |
| 252.204-7021 | Compliance with the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification Level Requirements                                                                                |
| 252.204-7024 | Notice on the Use of the Supplier Performance Risk System                                                                                                        |
| 252.240-7997 | NIST SP 800-171 DoD Assessment Requirements (DEVIATION 2026-O0025)(FEB 2026)                                                                                     |
| 252.215-7003 | Requirements for Submission of Data Other than Certified Cost or Pricing Data - Canadian Commercial Corporation                                                  |
| 252.219-7000 | Advancing Small Business Growth                                                                                                                                  |
| 252.223-7002 | Safety Precautions for Ammunition and Explosives                                                                                                                 |
| 252.223-7003 | Change in Place of Performance-Ammunition and Explosives                                                                                                         |
| 252.223-7007 | Safeguarding Sensitive Conventional Arms, Ammunition, and Explosive                                                                                              |
| 252.225-7013 | Duty-Free Entry                                                                                                                                                  |
| 252.225-7055 | Representation Regarding Business Operations with the Maduro Regime (MAY 2022)                                                                                   |
| 252.225-7057 | Preaward Disclosure of Employment of Individuals Who Work in the People's Republic of China                                                                      |
| 252.225-7058 | Postaward Disclosure of Employment of Individuals Who Work in the People's Republic of China                                                                     |
| 252.225-7059 | Prohibition on Certain Procurements from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region—Representation.                                                                   |
| 252.225-7060 | Prohibition on Certain Procurements from the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region.                                                                                  |
| 252.225-7972 | Prohibition on the Procurement of Foreign-Made Unmanned Aircraft Systems (DEVIATION 2024-O0014)                                                                  |
| 252.225-7973 | Prohibition on the Procurement of Foreign-Made Unmanned Aircraft Systems – Representation (DEVIATION 2024-O0014)                                                 |
| 252.225-7966 | Prohibition Regarding Russian Fossil Fuel Business Operations—Representation (DEVIATION 2024-O0006)                                                              |
| 252.225-7967 | Prohibition Regarding Russian Fossil Fuel Business Operations (DEVIATION 2024-O0006)                                                                             |
| 252.227-7989 | Rights in Technical Data, Computer Software, and Computer Software Documentation – Other Than Commercial Products and Commercial Services (Deviation 2026-O0036) |
| 252.227-7991 | Rights in Bid or Proposal Information (Deviation 2026-O0036)                                                                                                     |
| 252.227-7994 | Limitations on the Use or Disclosure of Government-Furnished Information Marked with Restrictive Legends (Deviation 2026-O0036)                                  |

|              |                                                                                 |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
| 252.227-7995 | Deferred Ordering of Technical Data or Computer Software (Deviation 2026-O0036) |
| 252.227-7996 | Technical Data - Withholding of Payment (Deviation 2026-O0036)                  |
| 252.227-7997 | Validation of Asserted Restrictions (Deviation 2026-O0036)                      |
| 252.227-7039 | Patents - Reporting of Subject Inventions                                       |

## **DFARS 252.204-7025 - Notice of Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification Level Requirements (Nov 2025)**

(a) *Definitions.* As used in this provision, *controlled unclassified information (CUI)*, *current, Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) status*, *Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification unique identifier (CMMC UID)*, *Federal contract information (FCI)*, and *Plan of action and milestones* have the meaning given in the Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement 252.204-7021, Contractor Compliance With the Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification Level Requirements, clause of this solicitation.

(b)(1) *Cybersecurity Maturity Model Certification (CMMC) level.* The CMMC level required by this solicitation is **CMMC Level 2 (Self)**. This CMMC level, or higher (see [32 CFR part 170](#)), is required prior to award for each contractor information system that will process, store, or transmit Federal contract information (FCI) or controlled unclassified information (CUI) during performance of the contract.

(2) The Offeror will not be eligible for award of a contract, task order, or delivery order resulting from this solicitation if the Offeror does not have, for each of the contractor information systems that will process, store, or transmit FCI or CUI and that will be used in performance of a contract resulting from this solicitation—

(i) The current CMMC status entered in the Supplier Performance Risk System (SPRS) ( <https://piee.eb.mil>) at the CMMC level required by paragraph (b)(1) of this provision; and

(ii) A current affirmation of continuous compliance with the security requirements identified at [32 CFR part 170](#) in SPRS.

(c) *Plan of action and milestones.* If the Offeror has a CMMC Status of Conditional, the Offeror shall successfully close out a valid plan of action and milestones ([32 CFR 170.21](#)) to achieve a CMMC Status of Final.

(d) *CMMC unique identifiers.* The Offeror shall provide, in the proposal, the CMMC unique identifier(s) (CMMC UIDs) issued by SPRS for each contractor information system that will process, store, or transmit FCI or CUI during performance of a contract, task order, or delivery order resulting from this solicitation. The Offeror also shall update the list when new CMMC UIDs are generated in SPRS. The CMMC UIDs are provided

in SPRS after the Offeror enters the results of self-assessment(s) for each such information system.

*xvii. Certificate of Current Cost or Pricing Data Requirement*

Even though the sBAA is a competitive procedure, all proposals submitted under this sBAA that meet the TINA threshold are subject to certified cost and pricing data.

In accordance with OUSD Memorandum, Subject: "Reducing Acquisition Lead Time by Eliminating Inefficiencies Associated with Cost or Pricing Data Submissions After Price Agreement ('Sweep Data)," dated 07 June 2018, if an action is subject to the Truth in Negotiations Act, offerors are required to execute the Certificate of Current Cost or Pricing Data as soon as practicable, but no later than five business days after the date of price agreement. Any cost or pricing data submitted after price agreement shall be reviewed and dispositioned after award of the contract action, pursuant to FAR 15.407-1, to establish whether it is rendered that the certified cost or pricing data submitted up to the point of price agreement was defective, and to determine whether the Government is entitled to a price adjustment in accordance with FAR 52.215-10 or FAR 52.215-11.

*xviii. Contract Authority for Development and Demonstration of Initial or Additional Prototypes*

In accordance with 10 USC 4004 (Section 861 of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) for Fiscal Year 2018 as amended by Section 831 of the NDAA for Fiscal Year 2021) a contract issued under this sBAA, may be awarded with or later modified to contain a contract line item or contract option for the development and demonstration or initial production of technology developed under the contract or for the delivery of initial or additional items if the item or prototype thereof is created as the result of work performed under the contract.

*xix. Enhanced Security Controls on Select Defense Industrial Base Partner Networks*

In accordance with NMCARs 52.240.370 entitled "Safeguarding Covered Defense Information and Cyber Incident Reporting" certain performers may be required to implement enhanced cyber security controls to unclassified networks housing controlled unclassified information (CUI).

Such controls are in addition to the requirements of DFARS clause 252.204-7012 and may be required if the Chief of Naval Research (CNR) determines that enhanced controls are warranted by the risk to a critical program or technology. Offerors are strongly encouraged to consult with the cognizant Program Officer to determine whether these requirements will apply to a particular effort. Prior to award, affected offerors may be asked to provide their System Security Plan (SSP) or other documentation demonstrating compliance/ the ability to comply with these DFARS and NMCARs requirements. ONR will not formally approve SSPs prior to award. If the government determines that an offeror may be unable to adequately protect CUI in accordance with these requirements during contract or agreement

performance, the government may decline to make an award to that offeror. All affected performers will be required to provide an SSP for government review and approval within thirty (30) days of contract award.

(End of provision)

## **2. Reporting**

If the Federal share of any Federal award may include more than \$500,000 over the period of performance, the post award reporting requirements, Award Term and Condition for Recipient Integrity and Performance Matters (2 CFR Part 200 Appendix XII), is applicable as follows:

### **A. Reporting of Matters Related to Recipient Integrity and Performance**

1. General Reporting Requirement. If the total value of your currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts from all Federal awarding agencies exceeds \$10,000,000 for any period of time during the period of performance of this Federal award, then you as the recipient during that period of time must maintain the currency of information reported to the System for Award Management (SAM) that is made available in the designated integrity and performance system about civil, criminal, or administrative proceedings described in paragraph 2 of this award term and condition. This is a statutory requirement under 41 U.S.C. 2313. All information posted in the designated integrity and performance system on or after April 15, 2011, except past performance reviews required for Federal procurement contracts, will be publicly available.

2. Proceedings About Which You Must Report. Submit the information required about each proceeding that:

a. Is in connection with the award or performance of a grant, cooperative agreement, or procurement contract from the Federal Government;

b. Reached its final disposition during the most recent five-year period; and

c. Is one of the following:

(i) A criminal proceeding that resulted in a conviction, as defined in paragraph 5 of this award term and condition;

(ii) A civil proceeding that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and payment of a monetary fine, penalty, reimbursement, restitution, or damages of \$5,000 or more;

(iii) An administrative proceeding, as defined in paragraph 5. of this award term and condition, that resulted in a finding of fault and liability and your payment of either a monetary fine or penalty of \$5,000 or more or reimbursement, restitution, or damages in

excess of \$100,000; or

(iv) Any other criminal, civil, or administrative proceeding if:

(i) It could have led to an outcome described in paragraph 2.c. (1), (2), or (3) of this award term and condition;

(ii) It had a different disposition arrived at by consent or compromise with an acknowledgment of fault on your part; and

(iii) The requirement in this award term and condition to disclose information about the proceeding does not conflict with applicable laws and regulations.

3. Reporting Procedures. Enter in the SAM Entity Management area the information that SAM requires about each proceeding described in paragraph 2 of this award term and condition. You do not need to submit the information a second time under assistance awards that you received if you already provided the information through SAM because you were required to do so under Federal procurement contracts that you were awarded.

4. Reporting Frequency. During any period of time when you are subject to the requirement in paragraph 1 of this award term and condition, you must report proceedings information through SAM for the most recent five-year period, either to report new information about any proceeding(s) that you have not reported previously or affirm that there is no new information to report. Recipients that have Federal contract, grant, and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than \$10,000,000 must disclose semiannually any information about the criminal, civil, and administrative proceedings.

5. Definitions. For purposes of this award term and condition:

a. Administrative proceeding means a non-judicial process that is adjudicatory in nature in order to make a determination of fault or liability (e.g., Securities and Exchange Commission Administrative proceedings, Civilian Board of Contract Appeals proceedings, and Armed Services Board of Contract Appeals proceedings). This includes proceedings at the Federal and State level but only in connection with performance of a Federal contract or grant. It does not include audits, site visits, corrective plans, or inspection of deliverables.

b. Conviction, for purposes of this award term and condition, means a judgment or conviction of a criminal offense by any court of competent jurisdiction, whether entered upon a verdict or a plea, and includes a conviction entered upon a plea of nolo contendere.

c. Total value of currently active grants, cooperative agreements, and procurement contracts includes—

- (i) Only the Federal share of the funding under any Federal award with a recipient cost share or match; and
- (ii) The value of all expected funding increments under a Federal award and options, even if not yet exercised.

The post award reporting requirements can be found under the relevant ONR Addendum to the DoD R&D General Terms and Conditions and ONR Programmatic Requirements located at the following link: <https://www.onr.navy.mil/work-with-us/manage-your-award/manage-grant-award/grants-terms-conditions>.