

**HR001117S0008 Agile Teams (A-Teams) BAA**  
**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**  
**as of 12/8/2016**

21Q: Are TA1 and TA2 researchers expected to collect data to build their algorithms??

21A: As stated in the BAA, both TA1 and TA2 proposers must identify canonical and/or existing datasets (either experimentally or computationally generated) that will be used to develop and demonstrate their approaches in the first six months of the program. The TA3 testbeds will represent a variety of problem types and will provide data to the TA1 and TA2 performers for their model development. In the later parts of the program, the TA3 performers are expected to modify their testbeds so as to test the insights that the TA1 and TA2 performers will provide into team structure and problem solving. In order to ease the development of the abstractions and algorithms, the TA1 and TA2 performers may focus their effort on data provided by a single TA3 testbed in Phases 1 and 2 with the understanding that any fully developed combined TA1 and TA2 capability will be tested against all of the TA3 testbeds by the end of the program.

20Q: If we are creating models in TA2, can we include biometric predictors?

20A: Proposers may use any parameters they desire for their models with the understanding that the TA3 testbeds may or may not be able to obtain values for those parameters.

19Q: Will DARPA facilitate teaming between proposer groups on this project?

19A: Please see the answer to Question 7 in the FAQ.

18Q: The fields of social psychology, organizational behavior, industrial/organizational psychology, and group cognition have been examining team composition, processes and cognition for decades; team composition research typically links composition variables to team processes (such as team problem solving) and/or outcomes. Can you clarify and give more detail as to how TA1 and TA2 will be, or would be proposed to be, separate efforts?

18A: If proposers do not believe that TA1 and TA2 can be researched separately, they may submit a combined TA1&TA2 proposal with the understanding that they must address all of the requirements for both TA1 and TA2.

17Q: What level of detail, including technical (mathematical), is expected in the Executive Summary?

17A: The level of detail should be adequate to be able to understand the general approach being proposed, keeping in mind the page limit and other information required as specified in the BAA.

16Q: Does the project permit potential concurrent work with other DoD agencies, e.g., participation in SBIR projects?

16A: Yes, with the understanding that, per Section 6 of Attachment 4 to the BAA, DARPA expects all key personnel associated with a proposal to make substantial time commitment to the proposed activity and the proposal will be evaluated accordingly.

15Q: Does the abstract require budgetary estimates?

15A: Yes, see Section 6 of Attachment 2 to the BAA.

14Q: Where can we find guidelines for involving non-US citizens in the project?

14A: Section III.A.2 of the BAA.

13Q: Can we have links to the BAA and proposal preparation guidelines, including salary and subcontracting guidelines, if any?

13A: The BAA and its attachments may be found at:  
<https://www.fbo.gov/spg/ODA/DARPA/CMO/HR001117S0008/listing.html>.

12Q: Do FFRDC eligibility requirements and OCI considerations have to be officially addressed in the abstracts?

12A: No, only at the proposal stage.

11Q: I understood that this is a 4-year program with a budget of \$22M. Is this the entire DARPA budget for the A-teams project or the maximum possible allocation per each participating company? How many awards are possible?

11A: As stated in the BAA, \$22M is the approximate total program budget. Per Section II.A of the BAA, multiple awards are anticipated and the level of funding for individual awards will depend on the quality of the proposals received and the availability of funds.

10Q: What is the maximum expected volume of the Executive Summary (how many pages)?

10A: The executive summary in the abstract is a single PowerPoint slide (see the template in Attachment 1 to the BAA). The executive summary in the proposal is a single PowerPoint slide (see the template in Slide 1 of Attachment 3 to the BAA) plus the discussion described in Section 2.a of Attachment 4 to the BAA.

9Q: Could we get copies of the two on-screen presentations used in the webcast?

9A: Yes, the materials are posted on the DARPA/DSO Opportunities page at <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/opportunities?tFilter=&oFilter=2&sort=name>. Please monitor the website for updates.

8Q: I have been looking for the contact list and am having trouble finding it. Can you email it to me or provide a link the webinar handouts?

8A: The materials are posted on the DARPA/DSO Opportunities page at <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/opportunities?tFilter=&oFilter=2&sort=name>. Please monitor the website for updates.

7Q: Is it the Government's expectation that the Teams will develop through member contact prior to full proposal submission or will the team develop after individual award?

7A: Each proposal is expected to contain team members with the expertise for all aspects of the Technical Area (TA1, TA2, TA3, or TA1&TA2) to which it is submitted. As specified in the BAA, in the later stages of the program informal teaming will occur between performers in different Technical Area.

6Q: Are TA3 performers expected to supply actual humans who will play the roles assigned to humans in the testbed experiments?

6A: TA3 performers will provide the human subjects for their testbed experiments. As specified in the BAA, they also will need to obtain the required Institutional Review Board (IRB) approval for the use of the human subjects.

5Q: Will the addition of cyber security elements (for the purpose of role-based design and interaction) be considered cause to reject a submission, assuming several other cognitive interactive elements will also be considered?

5A: A proposal which has a cybersecurity element as a component of comprehensive TA3 testbed is acceptable as long as the testbed revolves around a hybrid team, as defined in the BAA, and meets all of the criteria mentioned in the BAA such as multiplicity of machine agent roles.

4Q: Will the Program Manager designate team leads or is that up to the team members themselves?

4A: Team leads need to be specified in the submitted proposal. DARPA will neither designate a team lead for a particular team nor reject a proposal based on the chosen team lead.

3Q: Is it the Government's intention to execute individual contracts for each team member entity or will there be a prime awardee with subsequent subcontracts being developed by the prime?

3A: It is DARPA's intention to award only to the prime on a selected proposal. The relationship between the entities needs to be specified in the submitted proposal.

2Q: The abstract template in attachment 2 includes a table of contents. Are we required to include a table of contents in the abstract and, if so, is it included in the page count?

2A: A Table of Contents should be included in the abstract and it will not count against the page limit.

1Q: What is your position regarding FFRDC participation in the program, either as a performer or government evaluator?

1A: DARPA does not anticipate a government evaluator role in the A-Teams program. With regard to participation as a performer, we recommend that interested parties from FFRDCs submit an abstract to the A-Teams BAA, as described in Section IV.B of the BAA. FFRDC proposers should also review the FFRDC eligibility requirements outlined in Section III.