

DARPA-BAA-16-13 (MOABB) - Frequently Asked Questions

- 1) **Question:** Is DARPA-BAA-16-13 a follow-on requirement? If so, is there an incumbent contract number for this opportunity? If not, is this a new requirement?
Answer: DARPA-BAA-16-13 is a new requirement.

- 2) **Questions:** Can the 20 page limit for Volume I, Technical and Management Proposal stated in DARPA-BAA-16-13 be increased for a single proposal that addresses Technical Area 1 and Technical Area 2?
Answer: Please see Amendment 01 to DARPA-BAA-16-13.

- 3) **Question:** Can a Technical Area 2 performer interact with other Technical Area 1 and Technical Area 2 teams?
Answer: Formalized interactions between teams in the Technical Areas are allowed, as are bundled proposals; however, the Government reserves the right to rearrange teams to best achieve program metrics.

- 4) **Question:** Will DARPA provide proposers with the names of organizations to facilitate teaming to address specific Technical Areas?
Answer: DARPA encourages formalized interactions between entities, but will not formally organize collaborative efforts.

- 5) **Question:** Are there limits on foreign components in the proposed system; do they have to be U.S. components only?
Answer: There are no limits on foreign components included in the system design.

- 6) **Question:** Would a proposal that included application specific packaging be within scope if it also met the metrics stated in the proposal?
Answer: Solutions that operationalize technologies developed in Technical Area 1, and that meet all metrics outlined in DARPA-BAA-16-13, are encouraged.

- 7) **Question:** Is there an abstract period? If so, what is the deadline for submission?
Answer: There is no abstract period. Abstract submissions related to DARPA-BAA-16-13 will not be considered.

- 8) **Question:** Would proposals offering innovative and enabling technologies (but not complete solutions) to both Technical Area 1 and Technical Area 2 be considered?
Answer: Incomplete submissions will not be considered. Please refer to the guidelines for each Technical Area addressed in DARPA-BAA-16-13.

- 9) **Question:** Is the MOABB Proposers Day attendee list available for public release?
Answer: The attendee list is not available to the general public.

- 10) **Question:** Are the MOABB Proposers Day slides available to the public?

Answer: Not all of the materials presented at the MOABB Proposers Day will be made available; only materials presented by DARPA's Contracts Management Office (CMO) are publicly available via the DARPA homepage ([click here](#)).

11) **Question:** Are the cover sheet and official transmittal letter included in the proposal page count of Volume I, Technical and Management Proposal for DARPA-BAA-16-13?

Answer: The cover sheet and transmittal letter are not included in the official page count of Volume I, Technical and Management Proposal for DARPA-BAA-16-13.

12) **Question:** Have any transition partners been identified for this program?

Answer: No specific transition partners have been identified, but there are numerous interested Government parties.

13) **Question:** Is there a minimum power required for Technical Area 1, and a minimum range for technology demonstration for Technical Area 2?

Answer: The minimum power objectives for Technical Area 1, and the minimum range for technology demonstration in Technical Area 2, are outlined in DARPA-BAA-16-13.

14) **Question:** Regarding AIM Photonics, are proposers expected to use a commercial foundry or university fab?

Answer: Proposers are open to use any manufacturing capabilities at their disposal, and that are advantageous to their approaches.

15) **Question:** Are there any side lobe requirements?

Answer: The fraction of optical power in formed beam(s) metric is with regards to the fundamental beam; however, proposers must address how to mitigate the effects of side lobes as stated in DARPA-BAA-16-13.

16) **Question:** Is there a maximum runtime for use of the proposed system?

Answer: The maximum runtime is unspecified.

17) **Question:** What is the desired operation space?

Answer: The operation space is not defined; this should be user defined.

18) **Question:** What is the operational mode of the laser, and how is the point-to-point sweep metric defined?

Answer: The laser must be operated in CW mode, and the point-to-point sweep metric is defined as the time necessary for the CW beam to sweep between any two points in the field of regard as stated in Table 1 of DARPA-BAA-16-13.

19) **Question:** What wavelengths are allowed, and are solutions accepted outside of SWIR?

Answer: Wavelengths of 1.55 μm are strongly encouraged, but wavelengths between 1 and 2 μm (though discouraged) are acceptable as long as all other program metrics can be achieved; 3-5 μm wavelengths are outside the scope of DARPA-BAA-16-13.

20) **Question:** What is included in the volume metric?

Answer: The volume metric includes the photonics and all necessary electronics to control the chip; the power supply not part of the volume metric.

21) **Question:** Are the transmitter and receiver expected to be on same wafer?

Answer: The transmitter and receiver can be on separate wafers.

22) **Question:** Is there a geometry specified for the 100 m path in Technical Area 2, Phase 3?

Answer: Proposers can specify their own operational geometries and what they want to design to.

23) **Question:** Is there a velocity metric specified for Technical Area 2?

Answer: Proposers are open to provide a velocity metric.

24) **Question:** Would DARPA be open to a proposed solution that satisfies the metrics stated in Table 2, but does not exactly conform to the specifications of the solution assumed in Table 1 based on the nature of implementation?

Answer: Proposers are highly encouraged to propose solutions that meet the metrics associated with the Technical Area to which they are proposing. Yes, DARPA would be open to a proposed solution for Technical Area 2 that does not explicitly rely on the specification of solutions from Technical Area 1.

25) **Question:** Is the fill-factor defined for both the X and Y directions?

Answer: The fill factor metric illustrated in Table 1 of the BAA for Technical Area 1 is defined for the full 2D array. The aperture fill factor is defined in the first footnote associated with Table 1 of DARPA-BAA-16-13.

26) **Question:** Does the source laser need to be integrated with the array?

Answer: Co-integrated photonic devices are encouraged but not required, provided that all metrics for Technical Area 1 are met. Additionally, proposers are encouraged to illustrate solutions that show a path to meeting the metrics for Technical Area 2, specifically the volume metric in Table 2 which includes the photonics and all necessary electronics to control the chip.