

DARPA-SN-17-71 FUNDESIGN
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
as of 9/5/17

19Q: We're proposing to the FUN DESIGN program and wanted to confirm whether the Budget limits (\$150K for Phase 1 and \$850K for Phase 2) given on the final page of the HR001117S0040 BAA regarding Disruption Opportunities apply to the FUN DESIGN program? There seem to be at least some discrepancies, such as that the FUN DESIGN specifies a 3-month Phase 1 while the BAA specifies a 6-month Phase 1.

19A: All references to Disruption Opportunities in BAA HR001117S0040 (as amended) apply to Fun Design. Please see Amendment 1 to BAA HR001117S0040 at <https://www.fbo.gov/spg/ODA/DARPA/CMO/HR001117S0040/listing.html>.

18Q: Does the proposed SOW have to have detailed information for Phase 2? It is difficult to determine from the SN if the specifics of what will be done is to be defined during Phase 1 for implementation in Phase 2 or if we are to include specifics in this proposal that define a SOW for Phase 1 and 2? It seems specifying a SOW for Phase 2 based on definitions from Phase 1 is asking us to plan what we don't know yet.

18A: Proposers should propose technical approaches for both Phase 1 and Phase 2. It is understood that the Phase 2 Statements of Work might be less detailed since the results of Phase 1 may not be known.

17Q: Are there required documents to be completed by DARPA such as budget forms, etc.? If so, where can I find those?

17A: Per Section IV of the SN and Section IV.B.3 of BAA HR001117S0040, all proposals must use the templates provided as Attachments 1, 5, 6, 7, 8 to the BAA at <https://www.fbo.gov/spg/ODA/DARPA/CMO/HR001117S0040/listing.html>.

16Q: Where do we submit our final proposal?

16A: Submission instructions are outlined in Section IV.E of BAA HR001117S0040.

15Q: Are there any limitations for National Guard soldiers' ability to work with DARPA?

15A: Current Government employees (to include military personnel) proposing as individuals, i.e., outside the scope of their employment, are not eligible to receive awards under the BAA, in accordance with the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Subpart 3.6. This also applies to a group of individual Government employees proposing as a team unaffiliated with a Government entity.

▲▲▲ New Q/A ▲▲▲

14Q: Can a university be the lead on a proposal for this effort?

14A: Yes.

13Q: Where can we provide our list of references (papers we cite) in the 8 page limit for the Technical Proposal? Will DARPA accept the list of references within section 7 of the provided template (Attachment 5) or is this location reserved for resumes and relevant papers?

13A: Per Section 7 of Attachment 5, proposers may "provide a brief (no more than 2 pages) bibliography with links to relevant papers, references, reports, resumes of key team

members, etc.” NOTE: per the Attachment 5 instructions, the bibliography counts toward the page limit of *five* pages set for Sections 3, 4, 5 and the optional bibliography (Section 7); the 8-page limit includes 3 pages for the Statement of Work (Section 6).

12Q: Can you please provide clarity as to the inclusion of Volume 3 in the submission to DARPA-SN-17-71. Please advise if it is required.

12A: Yes. Per Section IV.B and IV.B.3 of BAA HR001117S0040, Volume 3 is a required part of a complete proposal package.

11Q: The SN says, "Specifically excluded from consideration are ... predefined building blocks ...". This directive appears to exclude the discrete design representations used in molecular biology, for example. If the proposed approach meets all of the program goals, but can demonstrate the benefit of aligning the design building blocks with modularity in the construction of their realization, is it admissible?

11A: Solutions which align design building blocks with modularity will be admissible as long as they are not modular arrangements of pre-defined geometries.

10Q: Is this program 6.1 or 6.2?

10A: This is a 6.1 program, which means it's considered fundamental research.

9Q: Would proposals on integrated computational materials engineering (ICME) to enable design of new materials be considered?

9A: This is not a program to develop new materials nor new manufacturing hardware or techniques; such submissions may be considered non-conforming.

8Q: Would it be advisable to team with an industry partner?

8A: Teaming is encouraged if necessary to the proposed work.

7Q: Is this a fabrication tool development program?

7A: See Q/A #9.

6Q: Is this a computer graphics program?

6A: No, unless a very compelling case can be made that it enables a critical aspect of conceptual design.

5Q: Is this a composite materials program?

5A: See Q/A #9.

4Q: Is this an Additive Manufacturing (3D printing) program?

4A: See Q/A #9.

3Q: I have a really cool idea for a new helicopter/submarine/tank/etc. Will you fund me to help design it?

3A: No, the focus of this effort is on discovering/creating new fundamental building blocks for conceptual design; generality is the goal.

2Q: Is there a white paper phase?

2A: No, full proposals are due by 4:00 PM EDT on September 11, 2017.

1Q: Is there a dollar amount that we should stay within for proposals submitted in response to DARPA-SN-17-72?

1A: Yes. See Section IX.C of the DSO Office-wide BAA (HR001117S0040) and Amendment 1 to the BAA for award information:

<https://www.fbo.gov/spg/ODA/DARPA/CMO/HR001117S0040/listing.html>