High Enthalpy Aperture Technology (HEAT)  
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)  
as of 6/8/2020

16Q: The cost proposal template provided for response to the subject solicitation is setup for a cost-plus-fixed-fee (CPFF) contract type. Would a cost-plus-incentive-fee (CPIF) be an acceptable contract type and way to respond to the solicitation?

16A: Proposers can request a specific type of award, but ultimately it is up to the Government Contracting Officer to determine the appropriate award instrument type for a selected project. The Government does not intend to award CPIF awards for this research and development program.

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New Q/A
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15Q: Does our submitted abstract/proposal get assigned a number that we should refer to if we need to contact DARPA for any reason?

15A: No, DARPA is not assigning identification numbers for classified abstract or proposal submissions.

14Q: How are unclassified HEAT abstracts and/or proposals submitted? The HEAT BAA only gives instructions for classified submissions.

14A: HEAT is a classified program and to ensure that we are protecting HEAT technologies in accordance with guidance laid out in the HEAT SCG, we are only accepting classified abstracts and/or proposals in response to this BAA.

13Q: Is DARPA able to provide computing software, such as COMSOL, to run classified calculations to prepare HEAT proposals?

13A: No, DARPA is not able to provide computing software or provide support in running classified calculations.

12Q: Do the abstracts and proposals need to be received by the due date or just postmarked?

12A: The Abstract and Full Proposal Due Dates that are listed in Part 1, as amended by BAA Amendment 1, of the HEAT BAA are dates that the abstracts and proposals must be received by. Submissions received after these dates may not be reviewed.

11Q: Is it OK to submit an unclassified abstract or must all abstracts for this effort be submitted through classified means?

11A: The abstracts should address how the proposed efforts are meeting the program metrics. The program metrics are part of the classified addendum. To ensure that we are protecting HEAT technologies in accordance with guidance laid out in the HEAT SCG, we expect all abstracts to be submitted through classified channels or as hard copy with accompanying CD-ROM.
10Q: I was registered to attend the HEAT Proposers Day, but due to impacts from COVID-19, I was unable to travel/attend the meeting. Is it possible to receive the HEAT Proposers Day Attendee Contact List for teaming purposes?

10A: Yes, if you were registered to attend the HEAT Proposers Day, you may request a copy of the HEAT Proposers Day Attendee Contact List by emailing HEAT@darpa.mil. This list only contains contact information for those attendees who elected to share their information.

9Q: Are there any expected impacts of COVID-19 (e.g. shutdowns, mandatory telework, etc.) or modifications to the proposal and program schedule?

9A: We are closely monitoring this rapidly evolving situation. Any schedule updates will be posted to Beta.sam.gov.

8Q: Can you elaborate on expectations from the performance model as it relates to ICME? Is model expectation more geared to mission performance or predicting material formation/structure/properties as a function of processing rout?

8A: ICME should be related to material processing and material level response to environmental conditions. System level models can be empirical or parameterized, but should be consistent with inputs required by system-level design codes.

7Q: Can you clarify milestone dates?

7A: Milestone dates are defined with respect to award dates (assumed to be Q1FY21) based on government fiscal years (Oct. to Sep.), and milestones should be demonstrated at the end of the quarter. All assumptions made by the proposer should be clearly detailed in the proposal.

6Q: Will government tests be paid for by the government?

6A: Yes, government funded tests will be paid for by the government, but performer funded intermediate tests that enable early risk reduction are encouraged.

5Q: The stated deliverables include “validated” models. Can you describe what is required on the program to declare a model “valid”?

5A: Validated model refers to models for which performance was experimentally collected and match predicted values.

4Q: What is the anticipated funding levels for each TA?

4A: The funding level is dependent on the quality of proposals received.

3Q: How many proposals per TA are expected to be awarded?

3A: Multiple awards are expected for each TA.
2Q: Are there restrictions to university participation in any/all of the TAs?
   2A: HEAT performers are restricted to U.S. persons.

1Q: With regards to teaming arrangements, can individuals/organizations be on more than one proposal?
   1A: Yes, there are no limits to the number of proposals an individual or organization can be on as a subcontractor.