Microsystems Exploration
Frequently Asked Questions
Updated 8/20/2019

**Q1.** Can I submit a proposal to DARPA-PA-19-04?
**A1.** No, DARPA-PA-19-04 is not open for proposals. Proposals must be submitted in response to an active Microsystems Exploration Topic (μE), following the instructions provided in DARPA-PA-19-04.

**Q2.** Who should we contact regarding questions about the upcoming μE topics detailed in the Microsystems Exploration Research Area Announcement Special Notice (DARPA-SN-19-69) prior to full topics being released?
**A2.** As of this FAQ posting, the Safeguards against Hidden Effects and Anomalous Trojans in Hardware (SHEATH) DARPA-PA-19-04-01 μE topic has been published with Mr. Keith Rebello as technical POC. The following PMs are interested in future topics (as published in the Special Notice):

- Mr. Andreas Olofsson: Massively Parallel Heterogeneous Computing
- Dr. Ronald Polcawich: Ferroelectric Nitride Materials and Non-Volatile Memory

Additional clarification about potential future topics or inquiries about the relevance of a technical approach cannot be provided at this time. Clarifications on specific topics may be directed to the POC listed in each individual μE topic announcement.

**Q3.** Can private companies propose in response to μE topics?
**A3.** Yes, private companies may propose to μE topics. As stated in DARPA-PA-19-04, “All reasonable sources capable of satisfying the Government’s needs may submit a proposal that will be considered by DARPA.”

**Q4.** Are foreign individuals/organizations eligible to propose to μE topics?
**A4.** Yes, foreign entities are eligible to propose to μE topics. As stated in DARPA-PA-19-04, “Non-U.S. organizations and/or individuals may participate to the extent that such participants comply with any necessary nondisclosure agreements, security regulations, export control laws, and other governing statutes applicable under the circumstances.”

**Q5.** Will there be a Proposers Day for the program solicitation, and if so, when/where will it be held?
**A5.** No, DARPA will not hold a Proposers Day.

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**Q6.** There is a TDD template as a separate attachment (with no page limit) as well as a section in the technical volume for the TDD (which counts against page limit). Do we need to send a duplicate of the attachment in the technical volume?
**A6.** No. DARPA-PA-19-04 amendment 1 dated August 5, 2019 clarifies that the TDD does not count against the page limit for Volume 1. You may refer to the separate TDD attachment within your Volume 1 proposal narrative.
Q7. Is it possible to attach a paper to the proposal?
A7. Per the Volume 1: Technical and Management Volume Template, if desired, proposers may provide a brief (no more than 2 pages) bibliography with links to relevant papers, references, reports, resumes of key members, etc.

Q8. The solicitation contains an Organizational Conflict of Interest clause that requires proposal teams to affirm whether they are providing SETA or similar support to any DARPA offices through an active award or subaward.
   a. Can you please confirm if we need to check against just active or both active and completed? If we’re to check against completed contracts, how many years back is required?
   b. Are we only required to provide contracts that have SETA, A&AS, IV&V or similar support in the same subject area as the solicitation we’re responding to? Or is it meant to be for any DARPA support, regardless of the connection?
A8. a. A proposer must affirm whether the proposer or any proposed team member (subawardee, consultant) is providing SETA, A&AS, or similar support to any DARPA office(s) under: (a) a current award or subaward; or (b) a past award or subaward that ended within one calendar year prior to the proposal’s submission date.
   b. Any and all DARPA support contracts.

Q9. Can other Government or DoD organizations submit proposals?
A9. Yes, all eligibility requirements for Government entities are detailed in the program announcement section 4.1.1.2.