**DARPA-PA-19-03-09**
**Reverse Engineering of Deceptions (RED) AIE PA**
**Frequently Asked Questions**

**As of July 21, 2020**

**Q12:** The Length of Phase 1 will be specified in the AIE Opportunity but will not exceed 9 months"; however, Phase 1 is 10 months in the solicitation. Does DARPA recommend modification of the cost proposal spreadsheet to accommodate the adjusted phase 1 duration?
**A12:** The solicitation states: " The periods of performance for these phases are 10 months for the Phase 1 effort and 8 months for the Phase 2 effort. The Phase 1 (base) award value is limited to $556K. The Phase 2 (option) award value is limited to $444K to include performer cost share if required or if proposed. The Combined, Phase 1 and Phase 2 efforts for this AIE opportunity should not exceed 18 months. The total value for the award is limited to $1,000,000 to include performer cost share if required or if proposed."
The excel template for the price volume has 9 months. Please expand the sheet to 10 months for Phase 1 and propose no more than the specified amount in the solicitation for each phase.

**Q11:** What are prime CAGE and subawardee CAGE codes? How do I get one?
**A11:** Commercial and Government Entity (CAGE) Code is a five-character ID number used extensively within the federal government, assigned by the Department of Defense's Defense Logistics Agency (DLA).You may obtain CAGE codes for free on SAM.gov.

**As of July 15, 2020**

**Q10:** What documents are excluded from the 8-page proposal limit?
**A10:** Cover Sheet, Table of Contents, Summary Slide, Bibliography and Task Description Document (TDD) do not count towards the 8-page limit. Although TDD is part of the proposal template, it is not counted within the page limit. Please complete the TDD in the separate template provided.

**Q9:** Can a single team submit as prime and simultaneously submit as a subcontractor under another team?
**A9:** Yes, given the scope of work in separate contracts is not duplicative.

**Q8:** Can government entities submit as primes to the PA and will the funding mechanism be different from industry/academic entities?
**A8:** Government Entities (e.g., Government/National laboratories, military educational institutions, etc.) may propose to the PA as primes, or perform as a member of a team. Funds will be directly sent from DARPA to government entities.

**Q7:** What are the mandatory attachments for the submission package besides the technical proposal?
**A7:** Use of DARPA-provided templates are mandatory for the technical volume. In addition, administrative and cost volumes must be submitted with the package. A total of seven documents listed below can be found on the 'attachments' section of the PA.

- DARPA-PA-19-03_PROPOSAL_TEMPLATE_____VOLUME_1_SUMMARY_SLIDE
- MODEL_OTHER_TRANSACTION_(OT)_FOR_PROTOTYPE
- PROPOSAL_TEMPLATE_____VOLUME_1_TECHNICAL_&_MANAGEMENT_VOLUME
- PROPOSAL_TEMPLATE_____VOLUME_2_PRICE_SUMMARY_SPREADSHEET
- PROPOSAL_TEMPLATE_____VOLUME_2_PRICE_VOLUME
- PROPOSAL_TEMPLATE_____VOLUME_3_ADMINISTRATIVE_&_NATIONAL_POLICY_REQUIREMENTS
- TASK_DESCRIPTION_DOCUMENT_TEMPLATE

The proposer must also submit the Schedule of Milestones and Payment that is attached to the REDS notice.
Please submit all Spreadsheets in Microsoft Excel format. Please submit the Task Description Document and any requested changes to the Model OT for Prototype in Microsoft Word format.

**As of July 10, 2020**

**Q06**: Do toolchain signatures need to be interpretable or just indexable?
**A06**: Toolchain signatures need to be indexable and directly relatable to the toolchain used by an attacker. If proposed signatures have other attributes, such as interpretability, proposers should describe the advantages of those attributes and if there are any tradeoffs that result.

**Q05**: Is it within scope to intentionally feed data through a compromised channel to observe an attacker's response? For example, can a method use feedback from an unknown attacker, perhaps with a honey pot?
**A05**: Proposers should clearly describe the relative strengths and weaknesses of their approach, particularly with respect to outside dependencies such as needing access to compromised channels. Proposers should describe how such dependencies impact the generalizability and scalability of the proposed approach.

**Q04**: What degree of specificity is expected for toolchain identification? Should optimizer, architecture, etc. by identified by algorithm or implementation/library?
**A04**: Proposers are expected to define how they plan to organize toolchain databases and to argue persuasively for why their organizing principles support the uses of RED described in the PA.

**Q03:** What is RED's Notice ID? Where do I find documents associated with the PA?
**A03:** The notice ID for RED is DARPA-PA-19-03-09. Please use the site below for associated documents.
https://beta.sam.gov/opp/5a5b919dcc337814fe57eb70c147bd72/view#general

**As of July 9, 2020**

**Q02:** Would reverse engineering adversarial attacks on "models of code" be of interest to you in this effort?
**A02:** Performers should chose domains that will allow them to demonstrate that their approach is effective for the general challenge of reverse engineering tool chains used in information deceptions. DARPA is interested in reverse engineering the toolchains used in broad categories of attacks, particularly those beyond mainstream adversarial ML and media falsification. Approaches that generalize beyond a single category of deception are of most interest.

**Q01:** Please tell me the page limits for the Technical Volume.
**A01:** As stated in the announcement, "Proposals submitted to DARPA-PA-19-03-01 in response to this AIE opportunity must be UNCLASSIFIED and have an 8-page limit." (pg 4 of RED PA) The Task Description Document is not included in the page count.