

**DARPA-PA-24-04-07**  
**The Right Space**  
**Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**  
**as of April 23, 2025**

25Q: Can government entities propose to TRS?

25A: While the TRS Disruption Opportunity does not preclude submission of proposals from any source, Government Civilian Employees, FFRDCs and Government labs are not eligible to receive awards of Other Transaction for Prototypes as either a Prime or Subcontractor under TRS, regardless of whether they are included in proposals. Prime proposers wishing to include these entities as part of their proposal should clearly indicate the aspects of their proposals that are dependent on the support of these entities and include specific details on the entities providing that support, to include POCs from the organization along with their contact information. DARPA may contact those POCs separately regarding the work cited in your proposal. Prime proposals may include rough order of magnitude costs for these activities for planning purposes but should not include these costs in their price proposals. DARPA will fund these entities separately if deemed necessary.

24Q: In reference to: "....and how they plan to understand and mitigate possible resulting singularities/discontinuities" Can you please clarify what you mean by "singularity/discontinuity" in the case of class (i): "(discrete interactions (e.g., agent-based models, atomistic models, complex networks),"? In particular when there is no intended "continuum limit" for this class?

24A: Parameter or input configurations for which the transformation is demonstrably unbounded, undefined, intractable, or otherwise invalid relative to the instance being examined. Additionally, the proposer must describe how their approach, which includes understanding and mitigation techniques, will generalize, first within their chosen system class, as well as across the above system classes.

23Q: For class (i) discrete interactions - do you expect the transformation to address time dependent data, as in the case of dynamics on networks or war games?

23A: Per page 2 of DARPA-PA-24-04-07, the proposer will “specify the state-of-the-art (SotA) baseline for their selected target application (over a range of instances, defined by initial conditions, parameters, and geometries).”

22Q: How important is the performance on "war games" for class (i) transformations? If it is deemed important, are there particular aspects of war games that are of highest interest or priority?

22A: “War Games” is an example of a Department of Defense (DoD)-relevant problem provided on page 1 of DARPA-PA-24-04-07. Per page 2 of DARPA-PA-24-04-07, it is up to proposers to identify a notional target application in their selected complex system class and describe the application’s relevance to the DoD (via technological impact, transition opportunities, etc.).

-----↑↑↑↑New Q/A↑↑↑↑-----

21Q: Can the administrative PoC submit the full proposal even though the technical PoC submitted the abstract?

21A: Yes.

20Q: Do I need to submit both the streamline cost buildup workbook and the standard cost proposal worksheet?

20A: All proposals must use the templates provided as Attachments to DARPA-PA-24-04 Amendment 1 and the DARPA Streamlined Cost Buildup Workbook Excel Attachment provided with this DO and follow the instructions therein.

DARPA-PA-24-04-Amendment-01 Attachments:

- PROPOSAL TEMPLATE – SUMMARY SLIDE – Amendment 1
- PROPOSAL TEMPLATE – VOLUME 1: TECHNICAL & MANAGEMENT PROPOSAL
- TEMPLATE – VOLUME 2: PRICE – Amendment 1
- PROPOSAL TEMPLATE – VOLUME 3: ADMINISTRATIVE & NATIONAL POLICY REQUIREMENTS
- MODEL OTHER TRANSACTION (OT) FOR PROTOTYPE – Amendment 1
- TASK DESCRIPTION DOCUMENT TEMPLATE

19Q: Where can I find the solicitation?

19Q: See, <https://sam.gov/opp/104a7ef9ccef4fa1b47aa9eaf4c89d0a/view>

18Q: Can you review my idea before I submit a full proposal?

18Q: No.

17Q: I missed the abstract window; can you send me feedback if I submit one now?

17A: No.

16Q: Should the cover page or technical abstract include identifying information about the complete team of proposers, or are we meant to avoid revealing such information?

16A: This may be included at the discretion of the proposer. Proposers are not committed to the team described in the abstract and may add or remove team members should they elect to submit a full proposal.

15Q: Are there any restrictions on FFRDC/UARC participation?

15A:

1) Per Section 7.1.1 of the Program Announcement for Disruptioneering (DARPA-PA-24-04): “Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs), University Affiliated Research Centers (UARCs), and Government entities that are

interested in participating in a Disruption Opportunity due to specific expertise or core competencies should contact the Agency Point of Contact (POC) listed in the specific DO prior to submitting an Abstract (if applicable) or Proposal to discuss related opportunities.”

2) Entities interested in receiving awards under Disruptioneering must also be able to accept an Other Transaction for Prototype award issued under the authority of 10 U.S.C. § 4022.

3) Finally, per section 7.2 of DARPA PA-24-04, Organizational Conflicts of Interest: Without prior approval or a waiver from the DARPA Deputy Director, a contractor cannot simultaneously provide scientific, engineering, technical assistance (SETA), advisory and assistance services (A&AS), or similar support and also be a technical performer. As part of the proposal submission, all members of the proposed team (including any potential subcontractors or consultants) must affirm whether they (their organizations and individual team members) are providing SETA or similar support to any DARPA office(s) through an active award or subaward. All facts relevant to the existence or potential existence of organizational conflicts of interest (OCI) must be disclosed in Volume 3: Administrative & National Policy Requirements.

DARPA currently considers entities conducting Independent Verification and Validation and/or Test and Evaluation activities on any DARPA programs to be engaged in support similar to SETA or A&AS. If you are engaged in these activities, then you are deemed to have a conflict of interest (COI) if applying to be a performer, either as a Prime awardee or subcontractor. In that case, receiving an award as a Prime or sub under DARPA-PA-24-04 would require submission of an Organizational Conflict of Interest (COI) Mitigation Plan with the proposal for DARPA’s approval, and subsequent waiver signed by the DARPA Deputy Director.

14Q: I have an idea that may be relevant to the topic. What is the simplest way I can receive feedback before drafting an entire proposal?

14A: Submit your idea as an Abstract, using the Abstract template. See question 6 for a link.

13Q: Can I submit the abstract without submitting the proposer profile?

13A: Yes. The proposer profile is optional and is intended for proposers interested in discovering collaboration opportunities for this announcement. Specific content, communications, networking, and team formation are the sole responsibility of the participants. Neither DARPA nor the Department of Defense (DoD) endorse the information and organizations contained in the consolidated Proposer Profile document,

nor does DARPA or DoD exercise any responsibility for improper dissemination of the Proposer Profile.

12Q: When can I expect the proposers profile list?

12A: If you submitted a profile before the March 13 deadline and have not received an email with the combined profile list, please email [TRS@darpa.mil](mailto:TRS@darpa.mil).

11Q: Should the 1000X acceleration be demonstrated on real computing hardware in a full scale within the POP? In the case of quantum computing, could the acceleration advantage be demonstrated on reasonable quantum hardware (subject to the best available resources) by the end of POP and then be extrapolated or justified to a large scale by theoretical analysis or model prediction where the acceleration could be more than 3 orders of magnitude (e.g., 4 to 10)?

11A: We expect the 1000X to be demonstrated as compared to a state-of-the-art method using actual hardware or simulated hardware. It is up to the proposer to identify 1) how they will demonstrate their results and 2) how the IV&V team will independently validate their results.

10Q: Will there be any specific considerations or requirements about data generation / collection for SciML model training and validation in this program?

10A: Milestones may be found on SAM.gov (see DARPA\_Streamlined\_Cost\_Buildup\_Workbook\_-\_TRS). Proposers will be required to work with an independent verification and validation team. This partnership includes providing transformations, documentation, and necessary data to the government evaluation team.

9Q. Will the Hilbert Space be a right space, or does probabilistic representation of belief fall within the scope of the TRS Program?

9Q: DARPA will not comment on specific approaches. It is up to the proposer to determine how their approach addresses the TRS program goals – this includes the expectation of novelty in the transformations proposed (discovered).

8Q. What type of evidence are you looking for to support our proposed approach?

8A: It is up to the proposer to determine what constitutes evidence; however, if possible, evidence should be quantifiable, e.g. method has demonstrated a 20x reduction in compute – or an argument credibly estimating a 20x reduction expectation, with some scientific argument underlying the estimate.

7Q: Do the abstract questions count against my 2-page limit?

7A: Yes, you can respond to the questions in the order provided by the abstract, e.g. Discrete Interactions. Wargaming., is a reasonable response for the first two sub questions under the first bullet.

6Q: Where can I find the abstract template and how do I submit it?

6A: The template is linked on the SAM.gov page:

<https://sam.gov/api/prod/opps/v3/opportunities/resources/files/e342e96ed58646b0b3e5d62604328433/download?&token=>

See section IV.C of DARPA-PA-24-04-07 for submission instructions.

5Q: Is any other documentation (e.g., slides, prime or subcontractor budget) required to accompany the abstract submission on March 24?

5A: No.

4Q: Can a PI or organization submit multiple abstracts/proposals?

4A: Yes, however, they should make clear the unique aspects of each approach and discuss how potential conflicts of interest would be handled, should multiple proposals be selected for award.

3Q: The information session held on March 12 primarily brought up neural networks as SciML models. Are other SciML models (e.g., kernel methods) of interest as well?

3A: All approaches that meet the requirements outlined in the Disruption Opportunity are encouraged.

2Q: Could you clarify whether US citizenship or permanent residency is necessary for this opportunity?

2A: See Section 7 of DARPA-PA-24-04 Amendment 1 for information on who may be eligible to respond to this announcement. 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.

1Q: Where can I find the slides and recording of the information session?

1A: The Information Session materials have been posted to

<https://www.darpa.mil/research/programs/trs-the-right-space>.