Navigating DARPA with DARPAConnect

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DARPA

MTO SPARK TANK

DARPA
CONNECT

DISCOVER · COLLABORATE · CONTRIBUTE

DARPAConnect is designed to broaden DARPA's reach and stimulate **growth and collaboration** between DARPA, businesses, and academia.

WHY WE DO IT

Since 1958, the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has made pivotal investments in breakthrough technologies for national security. To both create and prevent strategic surprise within an ever-changing national security landscape, DARPA seeks to engage the brightest minds and most robust ideas across different specialties, communities, and perspectives. The agency launched DARPAConnect in late 2022 to broaden DARPA's reach with small businesses and educational institutions. DARPAConnect breaks down barriers of entry for performers new to DARPA and the national security space.

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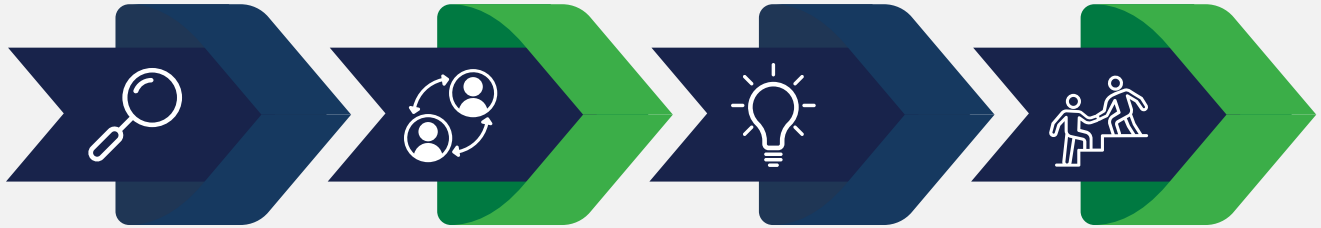
Supporting Untapped Innovators: Breaking Down Barriers to Entry

The Connect Journey

We transform potential into impact by guiding individuals through a comprehensive framework designed to foster a vibrant community of contributors.



Key Offerings

REGIONAL AND VIRTUAL EVENTS

- Full-Day Pop-Up Events
- Monthly Webinars and Trainings
- Support for Regional Partner Engagements
- Workshops and Conferences

CURATED CURRICULUM

- Continuously Expanding Topics
- Navigates DARPA's Unique Needs and Intricacies
- Filled with Succinct and Actionable Guidance and Best Practices

COACHING AND SUPPORT

- One-on-One Office Hours and Coaching Sessions
- Tailored Recommendations and Action Planning

ROBUST NETWORKING

- Program Manager Engagement
- Outreach Guidance
- Teaming Opportunities
- Regional and Strategic Partnerships

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Regional Pop-Up Events

Deep Dive into DARPA

These full-day events cover a breadth of topics key to working with DARPA. Hear directly from a speaker list packed with DARPA PMs, leadership, and staff on hand to give you insider insights.

Sessions Include

- Engaging DARPA Program Managers
- Heilmeier Catechism: Understanding Effective DARPA Communication
- Understanding DARPA Announcements and Contract Vehicles
- Reviewing and Analyzing a DARPA Opportunity
- DARPA SBIR and STTR Program
- Understanding DARPA Security Resources
- Preparing Your DARPA Proposal
- Tying It All Together: Strategies for Success
- Opportunities for Networking

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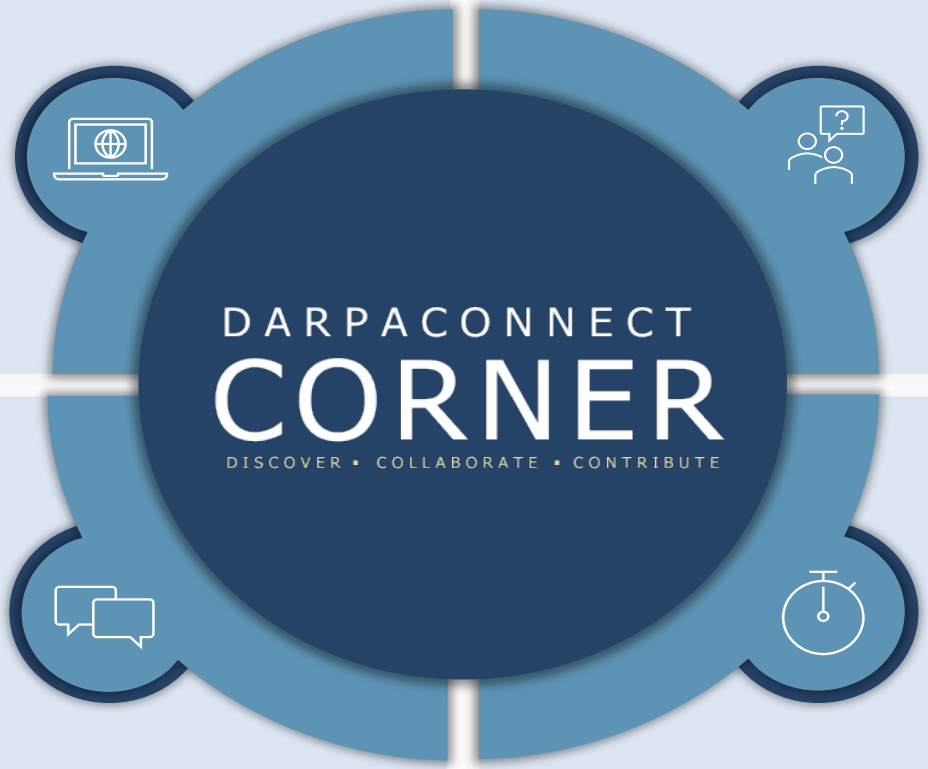
The Connect Corner Live Event Series

Webinars

Online sessions that offer a unique opportunity to learn about the mechanics of working with DARPA directly from DARPA presenters.

Ask Me Anything

An open forum where participants send in their questions and DARPA presenters answer them in a group setting



One-on-One Coaching

30-minute private session where participants introduce their research interests and explore how they may fit at DARPA

Office Hours

10-minute sessions during which participants ask specific questions about working with DARPA in a private setting

open mic WITH DARPA

DARPA's new monthly 30-minute quick-hit session that brings you the latest from DARPA's tech offices— key announcements, funding opportunities, upcoming events, and more.

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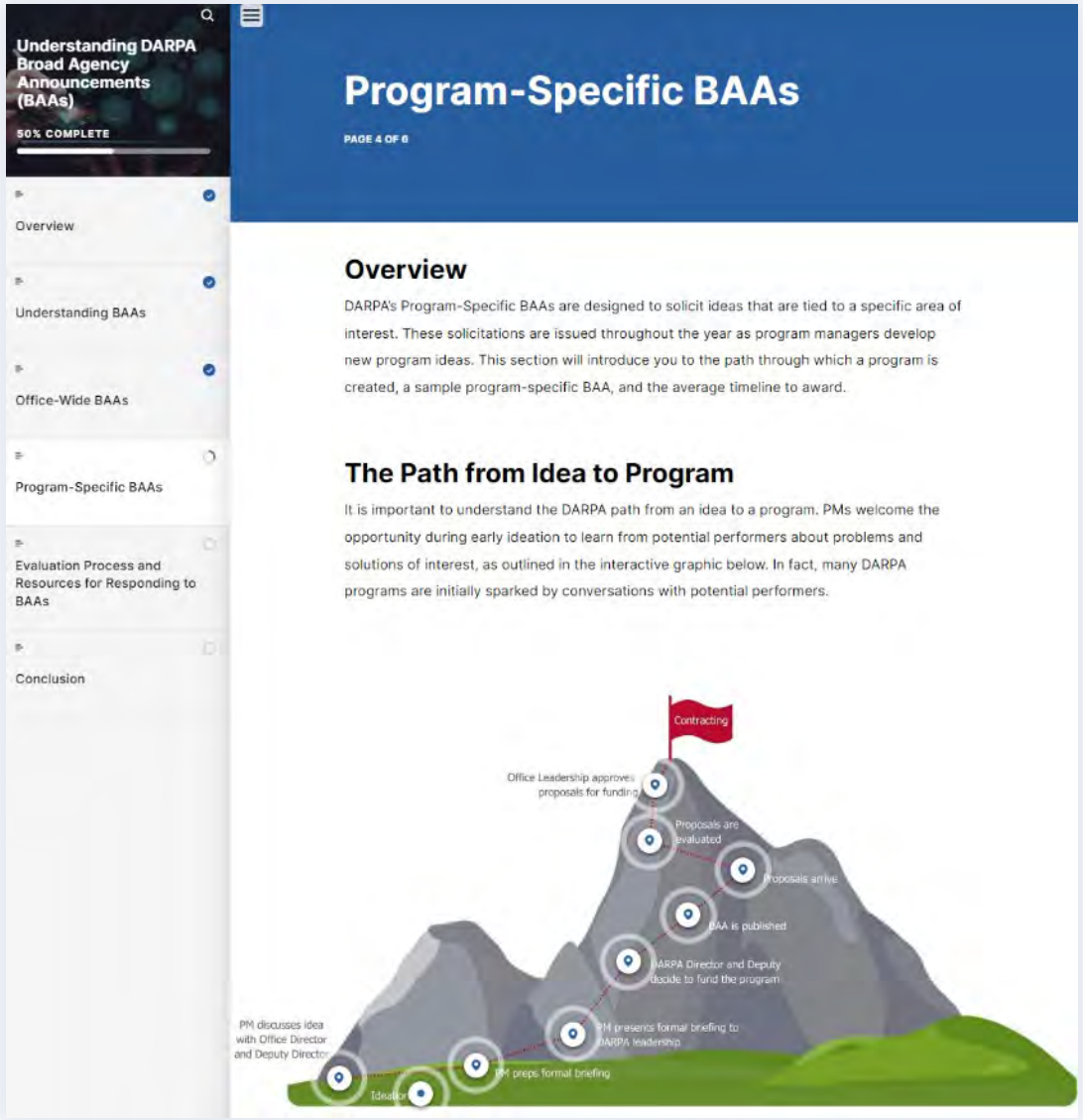
Customized Curriculum

Available On-Demand at DARPAConnect.us

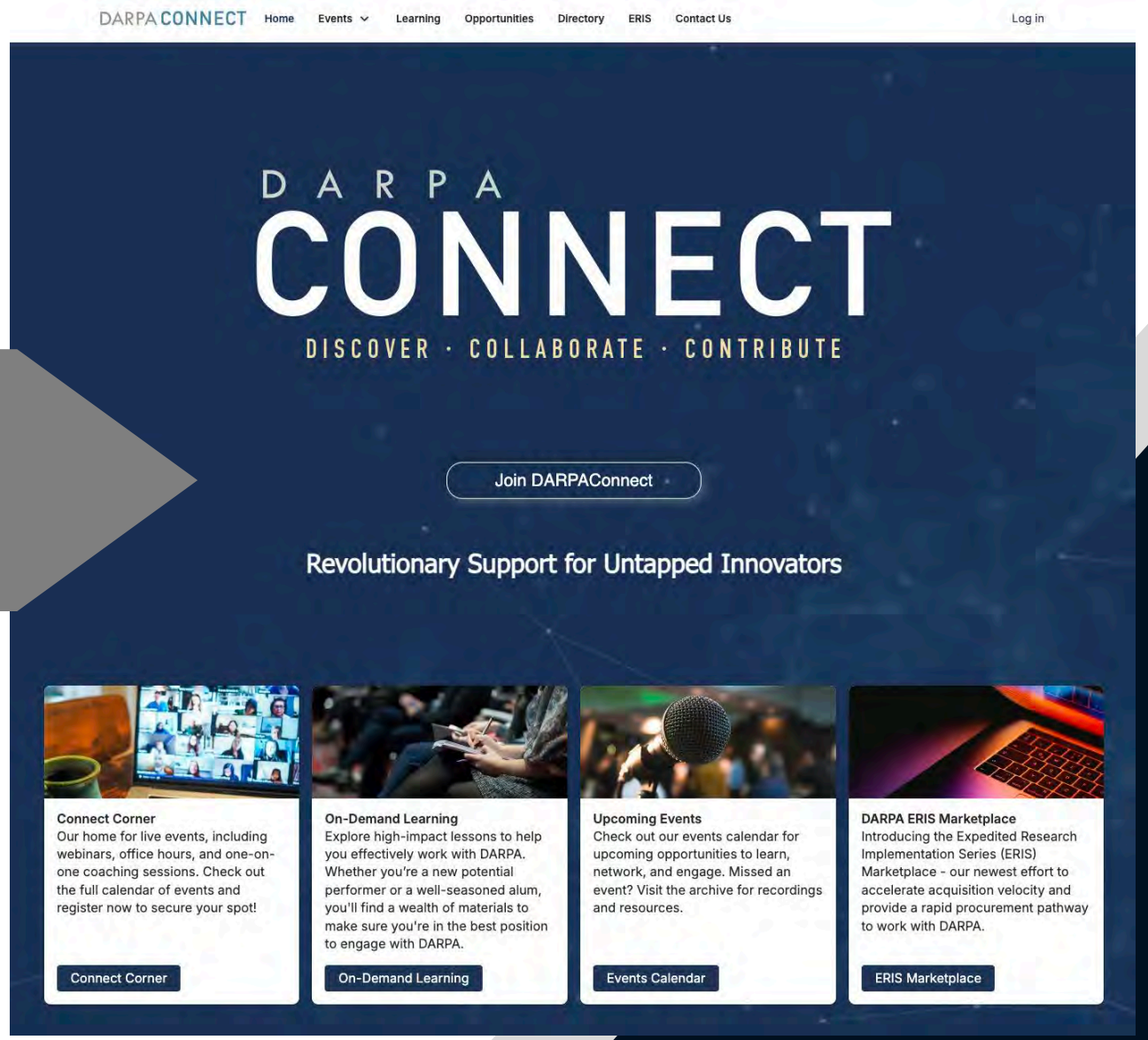
Current Lessons Include:

- DARPA101: Introduction to DARPA
- The Heilmeier Catechism
- DARPA Award Vehicles and Solicitations
- Understanding DARPA Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs)
- Making the Most of a DARPA Proposers Day
- Introduction to DARPA Security
- DARPA SBIR/STTR Small Business Programs
- Tips for DARPA Proposal Success
- Opportunities to Work with DARPA
- Working with DARPA: Global Participation and Engagements
- Understanding DARPA Other Transactions



DARPAConnect Online Portal

The Central Hub for All Things DARPAConnect
www.DARPAConnect.us



12,000+
Members to Date

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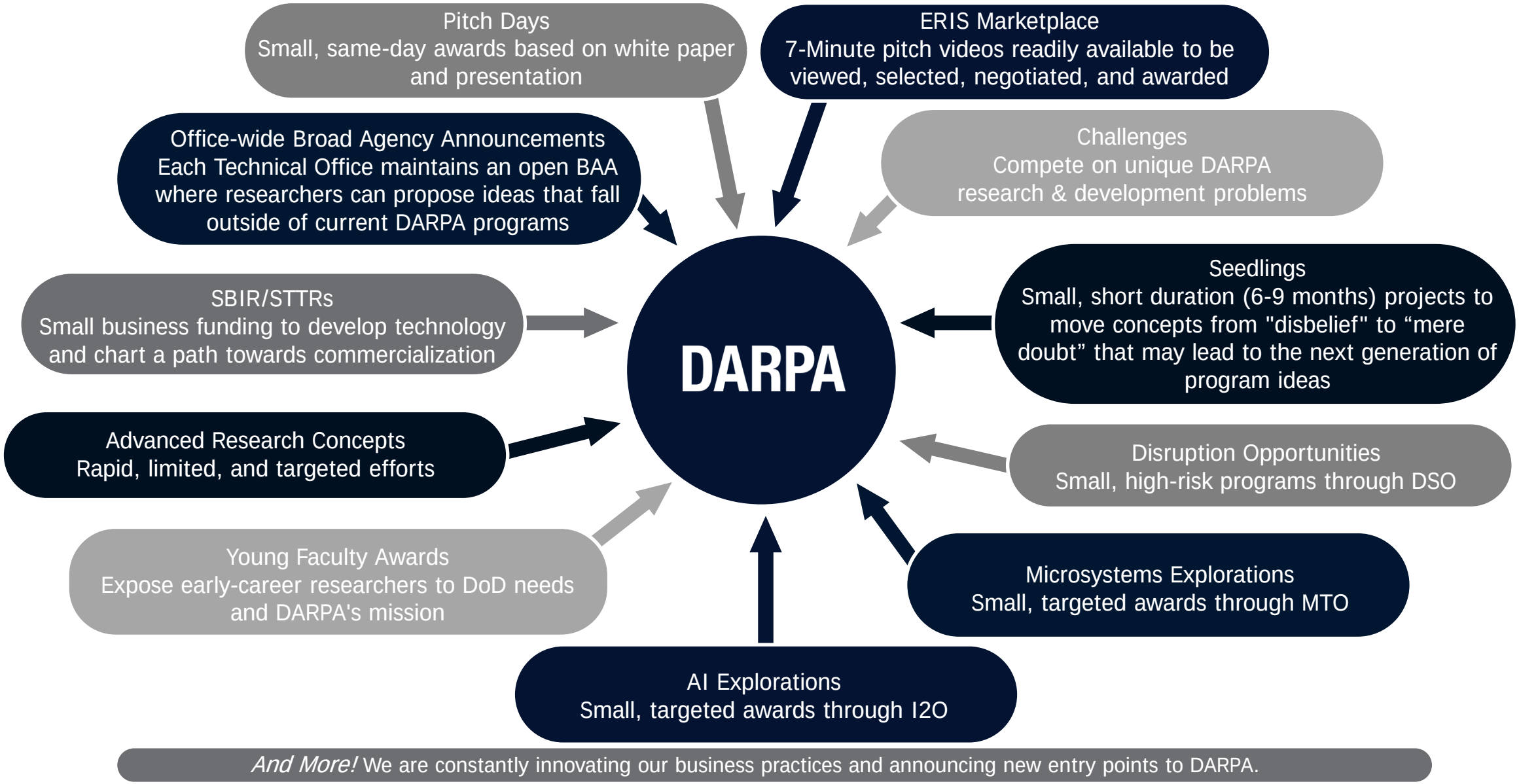
DARPA Entry Points



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Our Newest Entry Point: ERIS

Expedited Research Implementation Series (ERIS)

The ERIS Marketplace streamlines the process of identifying and implementing cutting-edge solutions to address critical defense challenges, accelerating the adoption of revolutionary technologies and enhancing DARPA's ability to ingest new ideas.

ERIS Topic Areas:

Topic Area 1

Detecting and tracking elusive targets across air, land, and space domains.

Topic Area 2

Overcoming limitations of current sensing systems (SWaP-C, performance).

Topic Area 3

Developing advanced antenna technologies for improved performance and reduced size.

Topic Area 4

Developing advanced technologies for improved resilience, efficiency, and effectiveness of strategic systems.

www.DARPAConnect.us/ERIS

Special Topic Area

AG BTO

DARPA's Biological Technologies Office (BTO) wishes to catalyze future efforts to defend agriculture against threats both naturally occurring and manmade. Submissions accepted through August 31, 2025.

Areas of interest include:

1. Advances to early warning systems for chemical and biological threat surveillance and detection
2. Rapid-response agricultural countermeasures to defend against threats
3. Massively accelerated and expanded crop engineering for long-term threat defeat
4. Integrated and comprehensive threat prediction and modeling for our agricultural systems
5. Novel methods to assess the occurrence of human intervention and to attribute provenance

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How Does the ERIS Marketplace Work?

PM REVIEWS FEEDBACK & DETERMINES
Acceptance into the Marketplace
Fast decisions and robust feedback

VIDEO ASSESSMENT
by Expert Panel
Rapid 2-week assessments

VIDEO AVAILABLE TO DARPA PMs
and Other .mil Users
User-friendly video marketplace

CREATE & UPLOAD A VIDEO
Single entry point

PM UTILIZATION
Post-competition, readily awardable

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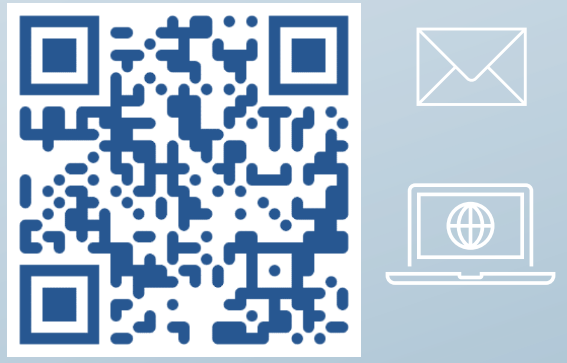

Program Email Address
darpaconnect@darpa.mil

Join DARPAConnect at
https://www.darpaconnect.us/

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