

DARPA-PA-26-01 DSO Pitch Day Solicitation
Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)
as of 10/9/25

4Q: I currently hold an H-1B visa (not a U.S. citizen or permanent resident). I would like to confirm whether I am eligible to apply for this grant and submit an abstract under these circumstances.

4A: 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. DSO Pitch Day may result in the award of Other Transaction (OT) for Research agreements under the authority of 10 U.S.C. § 4021, not grants.

3Q: The Funding Scope section of the PA suggests that the agreements will not pay for indirect/overhead costs: “Proposals must be for one phase of 9 months at a cost not to exceed \$400,000. Government funding will only cover the proposed labor, required materials, equipment, and Other Direct Costs. No travel or publication costs are permitted. No subawardees or profit are permitted.” Is it your intention to not pay those rates, and thus disable bidding by all DCAA-approved rate contractors? Or will you pay DCAA approved bid rates on these OTAs?

3A: “Proposed labor” is meant to include DCAA or DHHS-approved rates. This makes the labor fully-burdened as it is inclusive of the indirect rates.

2Q: Will a team of two investigators from different institutions be eligible to submit an abstract for the DSO Pitch-Day?

2A: No. DARPA will award up to a single award per Pitch. Subawardees are not permitted.

1Q: The solicitation states proposers may only submit one abstract. Is that one abstract per submission package, or one abstract total. In other words, are proposers permitted to submit more than one abstract package consisting of the four required elements?

1A: Proposers may only submit one (1) Abstract Package, with only one (1) abstract and one (1) Draft PDP total.

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