



DARPA Documentation and Decision
Support Sprint Rules
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1 Introduction

This document describes the DARPA Documentation and Decision Support Sprint (D2) Rules. This document supersedes previous versions of the D2 Sprint Rules. Significant revisions from past versions in this document are indicated by blue text. Teams are encouraged to closely review the entire document. The intent of this document is to provide participants guidance on competition design and scoring objectives to inform their development efforts in preparation for the competition event. This document is subject to change and may be superseded by later versions. The latest official versions of all documents are posted on the website darpa.mil/D2.

As the D2 Sponsor and owner of this document, DARPA reserves the right, within its sole discretion, to revise the terms at any time by posting an updated version to the D2 Website, with or without notice. These terms are intended to comply with applicable federal law, regulation, and policy.

The D2 competition guidelines will be updated throughout the competition period. Please check for updates regularly and send any questions or feedback to D2Sprint@darpa.mil 

The D2 Chief Judge has the final authority to make any decisions related to the rules or scoring. All decisions made by the Chief Judge are final.

2 Sprint Overview

The D2 is a competition run under the authority of 10 U.S.C. §3719, designed to rapidly accelerate the delivery of autonomous tactical combat casualty care (TCCC) documentation and decision support for untrained persons to deliver tactical combat casualty care using passive sensor data.. Self-funded teams will compete virtually across the two distinct lanes—Documentation and Decision Support—for a share of a \$1,000,000 total prize pool.

Participants will receive access to secure, high-fidelity datasets of simulated combat casualty care. The competition runs from September 2026 to March 2027, culminating in a single testing round evaluated on algorithm accuracy, completeness, and usability.

Table 1 summarizes the lane objectives and the high-level metrics that will be used to assess performance for each lane.

Table 1: D2 Lane Descriptions and Metrics

Lane	Problem Domain	Objective Description	Metrics
1	TCCC Documentation	Teams will develop algorithms that digitally complete a DD1380 and identify start and end times of individual treatments.	Completion, Accuracy
2	Decision Support	Teams will develop algorithms that provide running guidance to a non-medical during treatment (initial life saving interventions during the first ~20 min of care).	Completion, Accuracy, Usability

2.1 Sprint Goal

The goal of the D2 is to catalyze advancements in combat medicine through targeted prize incentives, specifically seeking autonomous solutions that enable hands-free DD Form 1380 documentation and TCCC-aligned decision support.

2.2 Lane Details

Lane 1: TCCC Documentation

The first lane focuses on TCCC documentation, including automated population of the DD1380. The DD1380 contains fields for documenting current casualty status as well as Life Saving Interventions (LSIs) applied to the casualty. Lane 1 will also require identification of start and end times of individual treatment instances. The ability to autonomously identify casualty status and treatments, and to temporally localize those treatments, is expected to provide key foundational capabilities for decision support in Lane 2. All information needed for developing the algorithms can be found in the provided datasets.

Lane 2: Decision Support

Lane 2 takes the next step after documentation to provide actionable, time-synced guidance on CPG recommended steps to medics and untrained users. This lane is expected to be more difficult, as teams must synthesize correct steps based on CPG documentation rather than relying solely on provided annotations. The lane will focus on a limited subset of interventions.

3 D2 Schedule Overview

The challenge will take place as a single 5-month development event with a 3-week evaluation at the end. Specific dates are shown below.



September 10, 2026: Public announcement of the Documentation and Decision Support Sprint
September 10, 2026 – December 1, 2026: Sprint Qualification window is open and will be evaluating proposals and accepting Sprint competitor teams on a rolling basis.
September 22, 2026: 1-hour Virtual Industry Day
December 1, 2026: Sprint Qualification window closes.
March 1, 2027: Teams submit final algorithm package for evaluation.
March 26, 2027: Hybrid awards ceremony. Prize winners will be announced at the awards ceremony.

4 Prizes and Funding

Teams are encouraged to pursue high-risk, high-reward approaches to meet and exceed the objectives of the Competition Events. Monetary prizes will be awarded to the top 3 teams for each Lane. Award amounts for each Lane are provided in Table 2.

Table 2: D2 Prize Amounts by Lane

Place	Lane 1: Documentation	Lane 2: Decision Support
1 st	\$300k	\$300k

2 nd	\$150k	\$150k
3 rd	\$50k	\$50k

5 Qualifications

There is a two-part process to qualification. First, teams must submit a Narrative Description of their technical approach to the portal <https://centralfloridatechgrove.org/darpa-d2-sprint/>. DARPA will use the description to evaluate the team's overall approach and potentially inform additional follow-up questions and/or tasks. Teams selected from Part 1 will receive a Part 2 Qualification Task involving non-HSR data.

Qualification submissions will be reviewed on a rolling basis. Teams can expect an update on their qualification status within 10 business days of completing a submission to Part 1 or Part 2 of the qualification. Teams are encouraged to submit their materials well in advance of the qualification deadlines. DARPA may request additional information or a teleconference with a team to discuss their submitted materials. Teams that successfully pass part 1 of the qualification will be given access to the training dataset necessary for part 2. At the end of the qualification period, DARPA will finalize the selection of up to a maximum of 20 qualified teams. Final selection will be determined by the technical merit of the approach from Part 1 and objective performance evaluation metrics from the Part 2 Qualification Task.

Table 3: D2 Team Qualification Windows

Milestone	Date
Qualification window opens	September 10, 2026
Part 1 submission deadline	November 5, 2026
Part 2 submission deadline	December 1, 2026
Finalized selection of up to 20 Competition teams	December 10, 2026

The latest revision of the *D2 Event Qualification Guide* will be posted on the website. Qualification submissions will be accepted on a rolling basis but must be submitted by the above deadlines to be eligible to participate.

DARPA reserves the right to disqualify any team that is found to violate either the rules or applicable laws and regulations.

6 Human Subjects Research (HSR)

For D2, teams must be included in the Independent Validation and Verification (IV&V) team's Institutional Review Board (IRB) protocol to access training data provided by the IV&V team.

Teams are prohibited from the collection or use of any other human subject data as part of their involvement in the D2 because DARPA HSR supervision is not feasible for teams not under DARPA contract. Teams should carefully consider this limitation and should take this into account in their technical approach, leveraging other strategies as appropriate (e.g., simulations, non-human subjects data).

DoD Definition of Human Subjects Research (HSR)

The term "human subject" can be applied to research efforts that meet EITHER of the following criteria: A living individual about whom an investigator (whether professional or student) conducting research:

- Obtains information or biospecimens through intervention or interaction with the individual, and uses, studies, or analyzes the information or biospecimens; or

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- Obtains, uses, studies, analyzes, or generates identifiable private information, personally identifiable information, or identifiable biospecimens.

Human Subjects Research involves:

- Activities that include both a systematic investigation designed to develop or contribute to generalizable knowledge and involve a living individual about whom an investigator conducting research obtains information or biospecimens through intervention or interaction with the individual, or identifiable private information, or biospecimens.

6.1 Handling of DARPA-provided data

To participate in this competition, performers must adhere to the following limited-use principles for the DARPA-provided dataset (classified as Non-Attributed Technical Sensor Data; contains no Personal Health Information or real casualties):

- **Permissible Use & Downloading:** You are authorized to download the DARPA-provided dataset to your own systems solely for local development and training of automated medical documentation and decision support algorithms. You must not share, copy, or distribute this data to unauthorized third parties or use it outside this research scope.
- **No Re-Identification:** Do not attempt to deduce, infer, or uncover the real-world identities of any individual persons in the DARPA-provided dataset.
- **No Facial Recognition:** Do not run the DARPA-provided dataset against any facial recognition, social media, or reverse-image search engines.
- **Algorithmic Isolation:** Use facial data strictly as an anonymous physiological sensor input. Do not train, tune, or use models for identity verification, profiling, or biometric surveillance.
- **Enforcement:** Any violation of these terms will result in immediate disqualification from the competition, forfeiture of associated funding, and potential contractual or legal action.

7 Sprint Rules

7.1 Data Types

Competitors in the Sprint will be given data specifications for the training data that will be provided ahead of sprint events and used for evaluation. DARPA-provided datasets are comprised of data from at least 2 complementary datasets generated in different programs. Each dataset was designed for a slightly different purpose and will have similar but differing annotations and camera angles. Not all datasets provided for training will be used in evaluation. Further details on the details of the training dataset and the evaluation dataset will be found in the data dictionaries provided alongside each data release and the ICD containing details on data format and proper interpretation.

7.2 Data - Scored Event Submissions

7.2.1 Evaluation Data

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The Sprint tasks will be designed to assess performance of solutions on medic-based egocentric or environmental exocentric pseudo-streaming video files of medical encounters that include a single medic assessing and treating a manikin or human actor with visual moulage for injuries of various type and urgency.

7.2.2 Ground Truth Data

The ground truth data used for scoring solutions will include data necessary to evaluate various aspects of combat casualty care documentation and decision support. This includes injury types, treatments, and other information found in the DD1380. The ground truth data will include timestamps for the beginning and conclusion of treatments to support evaluation of temporal localization and solutions' understanding of treatment state and state transitions.

7.2.3 Solutions Submissions

For scored event submissions, teams must submit their solution packaged in a Docker container ahead of the submission deadline. Submissions will be evaluated using a reserved/held-back test dataset. Teams will be provided with an opportunity to test their submissions ahead of the submission deadline to ensure their solutions are able to operate within the evaluation system. Guidelines on submission preparation and testing resources will be included in the Sprint ICD.

The solution submission window for the sprint will close on March 1, 2027 . Each qualified team must submit a single solution to be scored.

7.2.4 Submission scoring

Each qualified team must submit a single solution for each Lane. Team solutions will be evaluated for each of the lanes described below using reserved/held-back test data. Submitted solutions will be scored separately for each task. Details on scoring procedure and performance metrics are in Section 8.4 of this document.

Preliminary or partial results may be released to teams before the final ranking for review, however the final competition scores and any supporting materials will not be released until the event results are announced.

7.2.5 Human in the loop

The submitted solutions will be evaluated with no external operator interfaces such as command line inputs or user interventions. Teams are required to develop self-contained solutions.

7.2.6 Run Termination

A scored run for a given case terminates upon any of the following conditions:

- **Time Expiration:** The processing time exceeded time limits provided in §7.3.2.
- **Non-Compliant Submission:** The submission does not adhere to the ICD or otherwise fails at runtime.
- **Run Completion** The submission has completed its run through the test dataset.

7.2.7 Score Disputes

Participation constitutes each Participant's full and unconditional agreement to these Official Rules and Terms and Conditions, which are final and binding in all matters related to the competition. The final scores and determinations are final and binding on all Participants. The final scores of the Judging Panel and the final determination of all Winners may not be challenged by the Participants.

7.3 Preliminary Event Scenarios

7.3.1 Preliminary Event Scoring Environments

Team submissions will be evaluated in an isolated offline system.

JHU/APL will run each submitted container on one of the following NVIDIA GPUs:

- NVIDIA A40
- NVIDIA L40
- NVIDIA H100

The evaluation environment will use:

Component	Evaluation Configuration
NVIDIA driver	Version 580 or later
CUDA compatibility	CUDA 13 or earlier
Maximum GPUs	1
CPU architecture	x86-64
Operating system	Linux
Container runtime	Docker with NVIDIA Container Toolkit

Submissions shall be capable of executing on each listed GPU type without requiring image modification or rebuilding. Teams shall not assume that a specific GPU model will be assigned. Team containers should contain the CUDA runtime and libraries, but should not install or package an NVIDIA kernel driver.

7.3.2 Time Limits

To ensure timely evaluation and efficient solutions, DARPA will set an evaluation duration limit per task. Preliminary time limits will be provided in a future version of this document.

7.4 Scoring Criteria

Teams will be evaluated based on completion, accuracy, and usability of their systems. Submitted solutions will be evaluated using a set of held-back test data. Results for the Sprint will be announced at the prize ceremony.

In all tasks, solutions will receive medic-based egocentric or environmental exocentric pseudo-streaming video files of medical encounters that include a single medic assessing and treating a manikin or human actor with visual moulage for injuries of various type and urgency. Solutions will be evaluated on two distinct Lanes: Documentation and Decision Support. Each task will be scored separately with separate prizes available. The remainder of this section contains overall definitions and the preliminary scoring approach for each task.

7.4.1 Lane 1: Documentation

In Lane 1, solutions will be evaluated on their ability to capture information about patient health status and Distribution Statement 'A' (Approved for Public Release, Distribution Unlimited)

treatments applied over the course of a combat casualty care scenario. Solutions will be evaluated within two documentation tasks:

- **Task 1.** Accurate and complete capture of DD1380-like documentation
- **Task 2.** Accurate tracking of treatment application timing.

Details are provided below for each task within Lane 1.

Task 1: DD1380 Documentation

In Task 1, solutions process video feeds of casualty care encounters in order to capture information similar to the DD1380. Solutions will be scored based on overall accuracy and completeness of information captured. The score will be an integer between 0 and 100, where 100 indicates 100% accurate and complete assessments.

The preliminary list of DD1380 fields are evaluated within two groups:

- **Group A:** Casualty ID, Gender, Mechanism of Injury, Injury Location, AVPU
- **Group B:** Treatments applied

The precise scoring mechanism and list of fields and values will be provided in a future version of this document.

Task 2: Intervention Segmentation

In Task 2, algorithm solutions process video feeds of casualty care encounters in order to detect the timing of intervention. Solutions are expected to provide the type of intervention and the start and end times for each intervention by the end of the encounter. Task 2 will be scored based on the intervention classification and the temporal overlap between the inferred intervention intervals and the actual intervention intervals within the encounter. The score will be an integer between 0 and 100, where 100 indicates 100% accurate and complete intervention detection across encounters.

The specific intervention event types, the scoring mechanism, and the temporal tolerance will be specified in a future version of this document.

7.4.2 Lane 2: Decision Support

In Lane 2, solutions will be evaluated on their ability to guide a novice user through the correct order and application of intervention according to TCCC Clinical Practice Guidelines. Solutions will be evaluated within two tasks:

- **Task 3.** Next-step guidance
- **Task 4.** Novice Guidance

Details are provided below for each task within Lane 2.

Task 3: Next-Step Guidance

In Task 3, Algorithm solutions process video feeds of casualty care encounters in order to provide in-the-moment instruction on the next steps of care. Solutions are expected to (1) track the current state of intervention actions by the medic, differentiating between ongoing and completed interventions, and (2) identify the next intervention needed. Solutions outputs will be evaluated on the accuracy and timeliness of pseudo-real-time outputs over the course of the encounter. Intervention action state will be evaluated against

intervention timestamps and the next intervention will be evaluate based on TCCC Clinical Practice Guidelines based on the casualty injury profile.

The specific intervention event types, the scoring mechanism, and the time limit constraints will be specified in a future version of this document.

Task 4: Quality Assessment

In Task 4, Algorithm solutions process video feeds of casualty care encounters in order to provide feedback to a novice user on accuracy of care and next steps of care. In contrast to Task 3, solutions in this task are evaluated based on qualitative utility of treatment recommendations as evalauted by a panel of experts. Solutions will be evaluated on whether guidance is intuitive, detailed, and trustworthy to enable a novice user to successfully stabilize the simulated casualty within the scenario.

8 Appendix 1:

9 D2 Glossary

Chief Judge – DARPA-designated individual with the sole and final authority to make any decisions related to the rules or scoring.

Judge – DARPA-designated individual with authority to make decisions related to rules, scoring, and safety, with decision-making authority only superseded by the Chief Judge.