Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR)
FY19 Webinar
2:00 – 3:00 PM EDT

Basic Research Office (BRO)

Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for

Research & Engineering (OUSD(R&E))

Webinar | August 15, 2019

Agenda & Webinar Etiquette

2:00 p.m. **Overview**

2:05 p.m. **Introductions from the DEPSCoR Team**

2:10 p.m. **Program Overview**

2:30 p.m. **Program Philosophy**

2:50 p.m. – 3:00 p.m. **Q&A**

Note: This Webinar will be recorded and uploaded to the DoD site on a later date.

- **Please mute your microphones during the webinar**

- **Hold questions till the Q&A session**

- **For technical difficulties during the meeting please contact:**
  - **(703) 610-2040 or cshelp@noblis.org**

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Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) Team

Dr. Bindu Nair
Deputy Director for the Basic Research Office (BRO)

Dr. Rushyannah Killens-Cade
BRO | AAAS Science and Technology Policy Fellow

Drs. Mike Finnin and Allison King
Scientific Advisors
Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA)

Dr. David A. Stout
Program Scientist
BRO| Strategic Analysis, Inc.

Ms. Lisa Pizarro
Grants Officer for Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR)

FY19 DEPSCoR
Program Announcement

The FY19 DEPSCoR Funding Opportunity Announcement (FOA, call for proposals) can be found at:

1. www.grants.gov:
   (FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2019-0004)
2. the registration website:
   https://acqupass.noblis.org/ApplyDEPSCoR

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Program Overview

- Defense Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) was created by Congress in FY91 DoD appropriation, and legislatively authorized in 1994

- Appropriations ($12M): FY19 Defense Appropriations Congressional supplement to the Basic Research Initiatives program line dedicated to DEPSCoR

- Currently sponsored by Dr. Bindu Nair, Deputy Director for Basic Research Office (BRO), OUSD(R&E)

- Grants are awarded by Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR)

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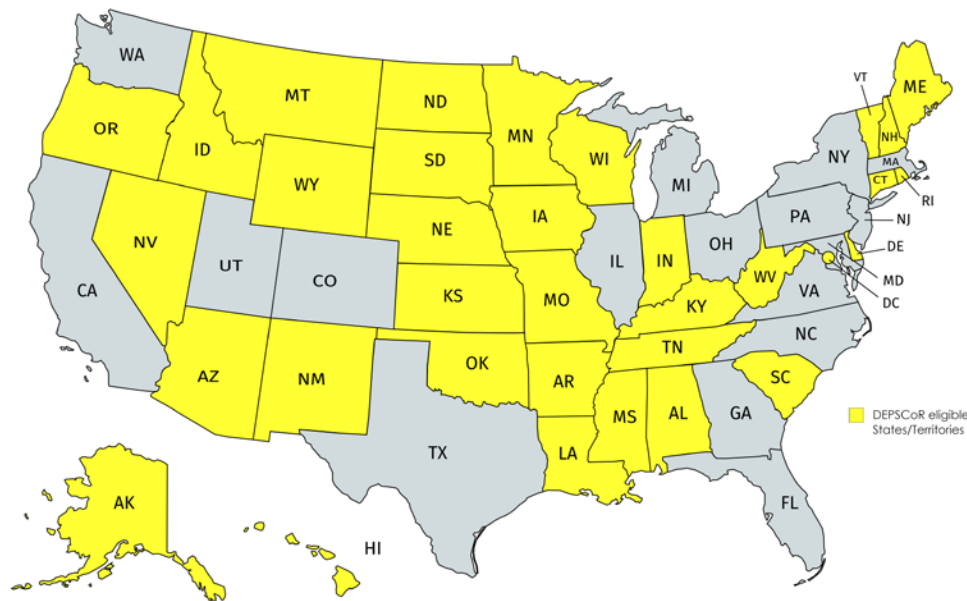
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Program Goals

DEPSCoR Objectives as mandated by Congress:

1. **Enhance the capabilities** of institutions of higher education (IHE) in eligible State/Territories to develop, plan, and execute science and engineering (S&E) research that is relevant to the mission of the DoD and competitive under the peer-review systems used for awarding Federal research assistance
2. **Increase the number of university researchers** in eligible States/ Territories capable of performing S&E research responsive to the needs of the DoD
3. **Increase the probability of long-term growth** in the **competitively awarded** financial assistance that IHE in eligible States/Territories receive from the Federal Government for S&E research

Program Eligibility

- Congressionally-directed eligibility criteria: "States or territories that received less than 60% of $1/50^{th}$ of the total DoD S&E research obligations to U.S. IHE are eligible if a commitment to developing S&E research is demonstrated."

*Eligible territories include Guam, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands

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Grant Information

- Collaborative research grants

- Tenured and tenured-track faculty members at IHE in DEPSCoR-eligible jurisdictions are eligible to apply.

- One white paper submission per Applicant/Principal Investigator

- One collaboration per Collaborator/co-Principal Investigator

- Strongly encouraged to flesh out proposal idea with a Program Officer in the TriService

- Security clearance is not required to receive award.

- U.S. citizenship is not required.

- Approximately six proposals will be selected for funding.

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Competition Process Overview

- AcquTrak - **_Applicants_** submit three page program description narrative (white paper) and supporting documentation.

  - ❖ *CV – two (2) page limit, single-sided/team member*

- White papers are reviewed online by general technical experts in the DoD and other government agencies.

- Panels discuss their papers and put forward names for consideration as semi-finalists.

- Grants.gov – **_IHE_** of invited semi-finalists (~20) submit full proposals, CV, budget

- Proposals are reviewed online by specific subject matter experts in academia and government. The white paper panelists review all proposals from their panel.

- Panels meet to recommend awards.

- Basic Research leadership selects Fellows.

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Categories for White Paper Submission

- Chemistry
- Biology and Engineering Biology
- Physics, Electronics, and Sensors
- Engineering
- Materials
- Earth and Space Sciences
- Mathematical, Computer, and Information Sciences
- Social and Behavioral Sciences and Human Systems
- Other

Important Dates for FY20 Competition

Event	Date	Time
AcquTrak website open for registration and submission: https://acqupass.noblis.org/ApplyDEPSCoR	12 July 2019	
Questions Regarding White Paper and Supporting Documentation (submitted by)	31 July 2019	
AcquTrak Registration (required by)	18 October 2019	11:59 PM EDT
White Paper and Supporting Documentation (required by)	25 October 2019	11:59 PM EDT
Notification of White Paper Selection	16 December 2019*	
Proposal (by invitation only)	14 February 2020	11:59 PM EST

* Estimated date

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Program Philosophy

Q: **When determining whether someone is DOD-funded or non-previously DOD-funded, should we include funding through a sub-award? Also, does it matter if the person served as the PI, Co-PI, key personnel, or other?**

A: <u>Collaborator/co-Principal Investigator</u> = served as the Principal Investigator on a previously DoD-funded grant (within the last seven years)
* Seven-year timeframe = FY12 - FY19

<u>Applicant/Principal Investigator</u> = not served as the Principal Investigator on a previously DoD-funded grant

A person who previously received DoD-funding through a sub-award or served as a co-PI/key personnel/other on a previously DoD-funded award must apply as the Applicant/Principal Investigator.
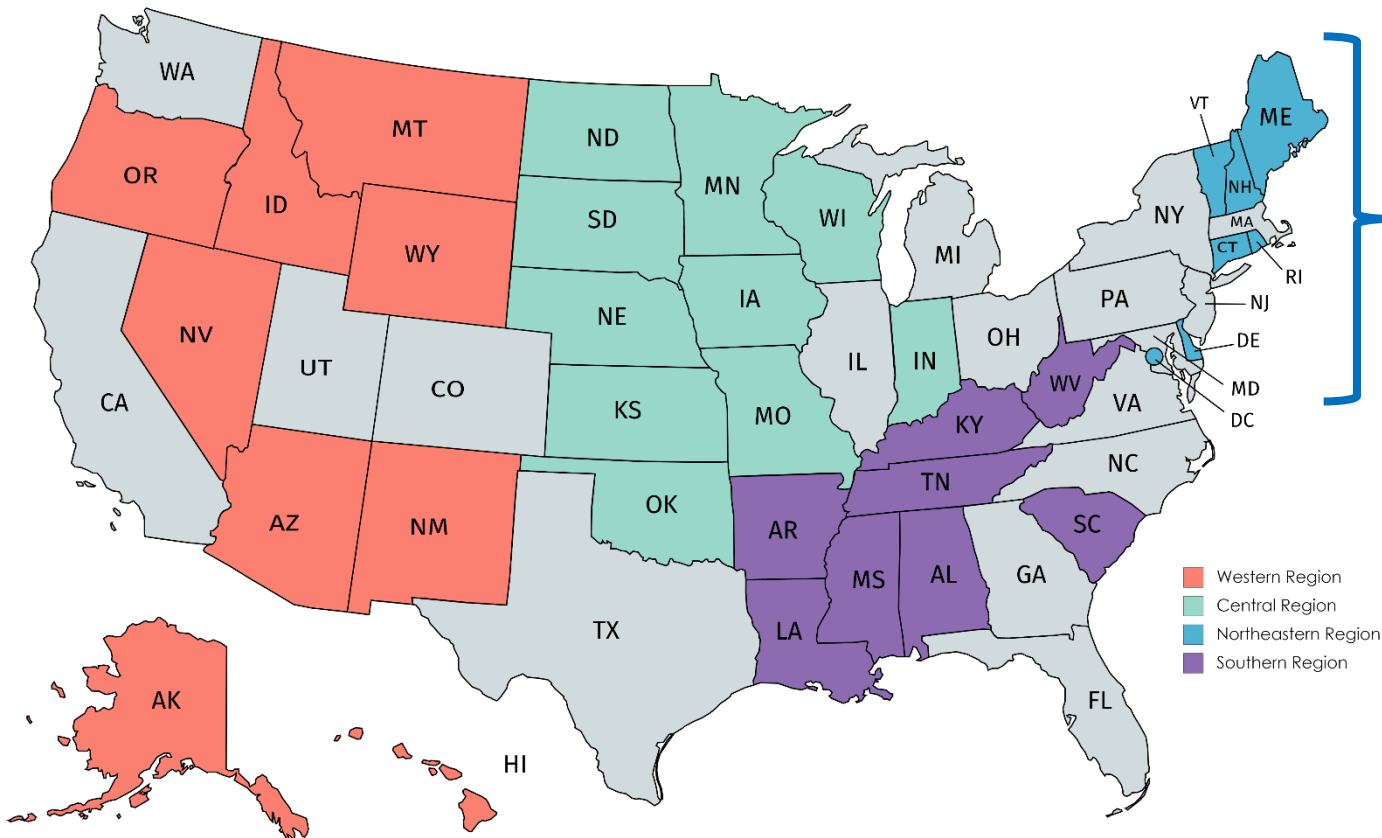
Q: Does DEPSCoR have state committees?

A: No. DEPSCoR is unique due to the DoD research enterprise structure and eligibility criteria.

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Another DEPSCoR Opportunity: Regional Outreach Meetings

DEPSCoR DoD Day – Northeastern Region
Location: University of Rhode Island
Date: 26 Sept 2019

https://web.uri.edu/research-admin/depscor-dod-day-northeast-regional-meeting/

Western Region
Central Region
Northeastern Region
Southern Region

*Eligible territories include Guam, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands

In Summary

DEPSCoR is about...

Challenge

Capacity Building

Collaboration

You

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