



Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR)

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DEPSCoR Program Manager
OUSD(R&E)/DDRE(RT)

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Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) Team

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BRO | Army Research Office (ARO)

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Institute for Defense Analyses (IDA)

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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**
- **Defense *Established* Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) was reauthorized in 2017**
- **Appropriations (\$17M): FY21 Defense Appropriations Congressional supplement to the Basic Research Initiatives program line dedicated to DEPSCoR**



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

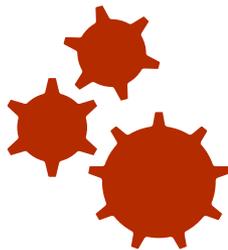


DEPSCoR: Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

Program Goal

To increase the number of university researchers and improve the capabilities of institutions of higher education in eligible jurisdictions to perform competitive basic research in science & engineering relevant to the DoD mission & reflect national security priorities.

Key Components



**Capacity Building
DEPSCoR
Competition**



**Research Collaboration
DEPSCoR
Competition**



**Outreach &
Education**

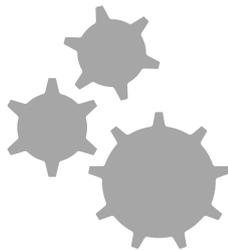


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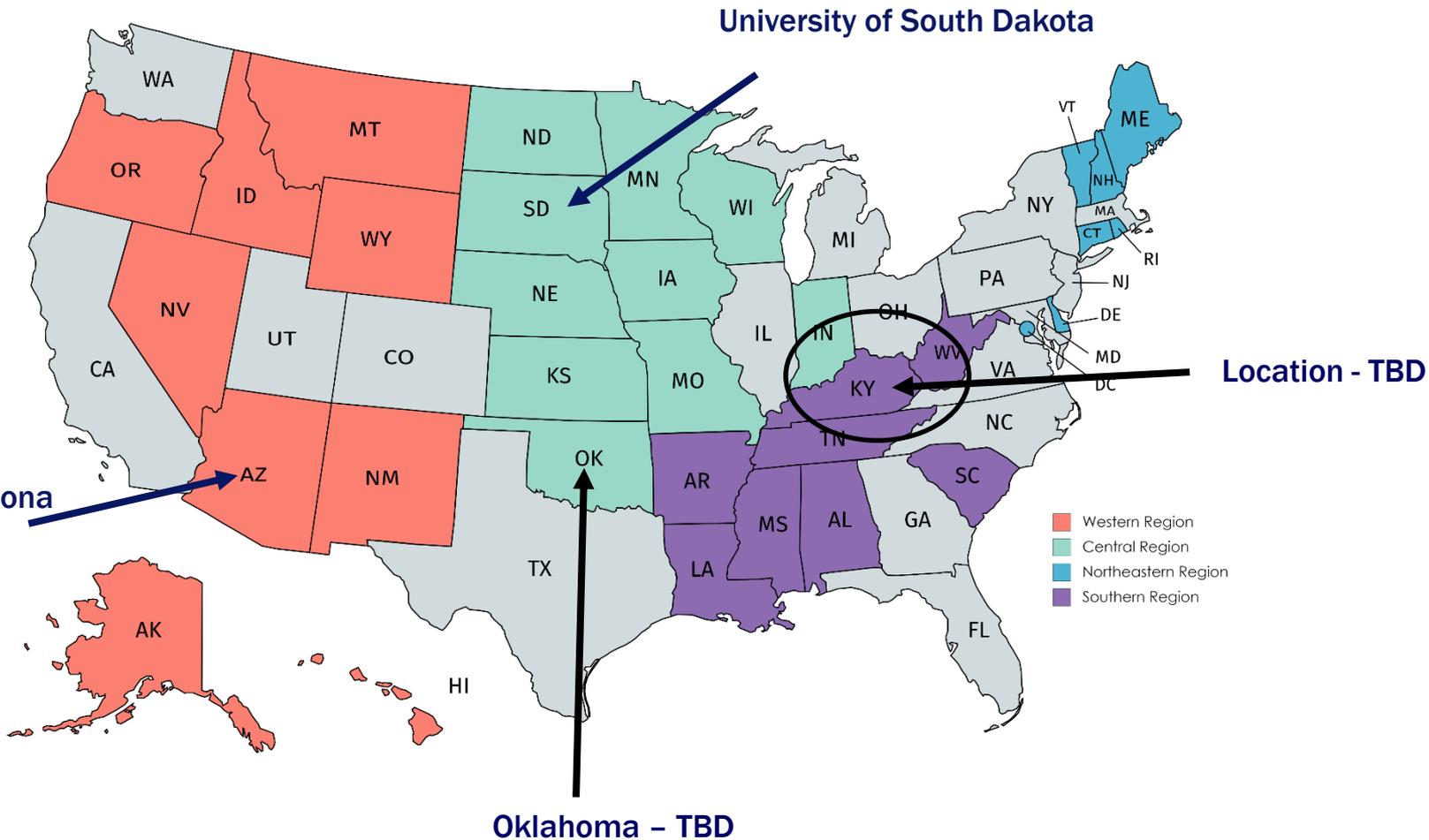
Research Collaboration
DEPSCoR
Competition



Outreach & Education



Regional Outreach Meetings



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

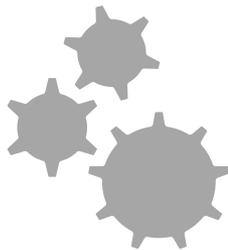


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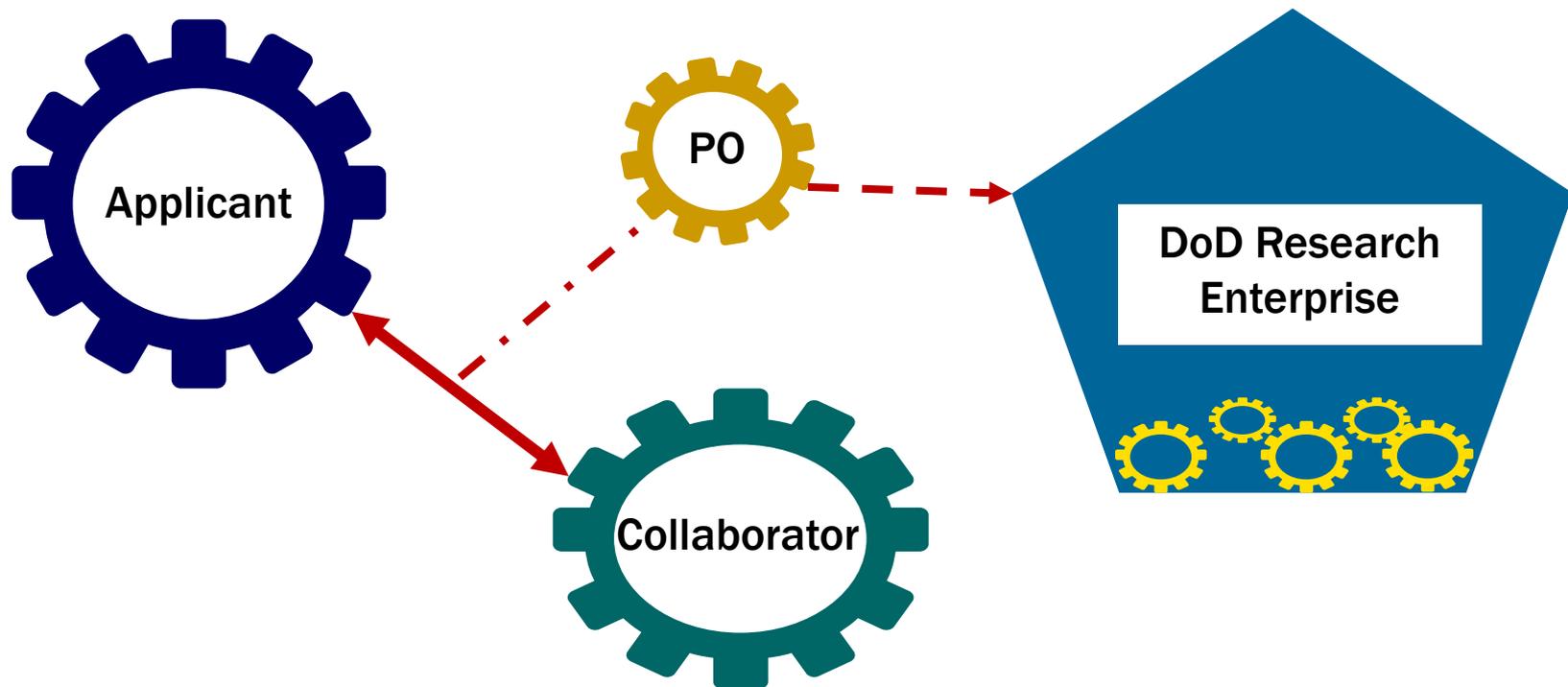


Outreach &
Education



DEPSCoR - Research Collaboration Competition

Integrate new researchers from DEPSCoR-eligible States/Territories into the DoD Research Enterprise through mentoring



Program Structure:

- 2-person team from DEPSCoR-eligible States/Territories can apply
 - \$200K/year (total cost) for three years
- **FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2021-0007**



DEPSCoR – Research Collaboration Competition

FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2021-0007

- Collaborative research grants
- Strongly encouraged to flesh out proposal idea with a tri-Service Program Officer listed in the FOA
- One white paper submission per Applicant
- Collaborator may partner with more than one applicant
- Security clearance is not required to receive award
- U.S. citizenship is not required
- Approximately 21 proposals will be selected for funding



DEPSCoR – Research Collaboration Competition

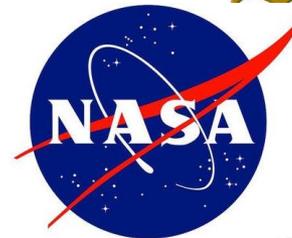
FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2021-0007

- Both Applicant and Collaborator must be **tenured or tenure-track faculty members** with appointments at an IHE in a DEPSCoR eligible State/Territory
- Applicant must be a full-time faculty member who has **never** served as a PI on a prior DoD-funded award
- Collaborator will collaborate on research AND provide *mentorship* to the Applicant. Collaboration must have **served as a PI on a DoD-funded research award actively between 1 October 2014 and 30 September 2021.**



DoD Offices & Agencies*

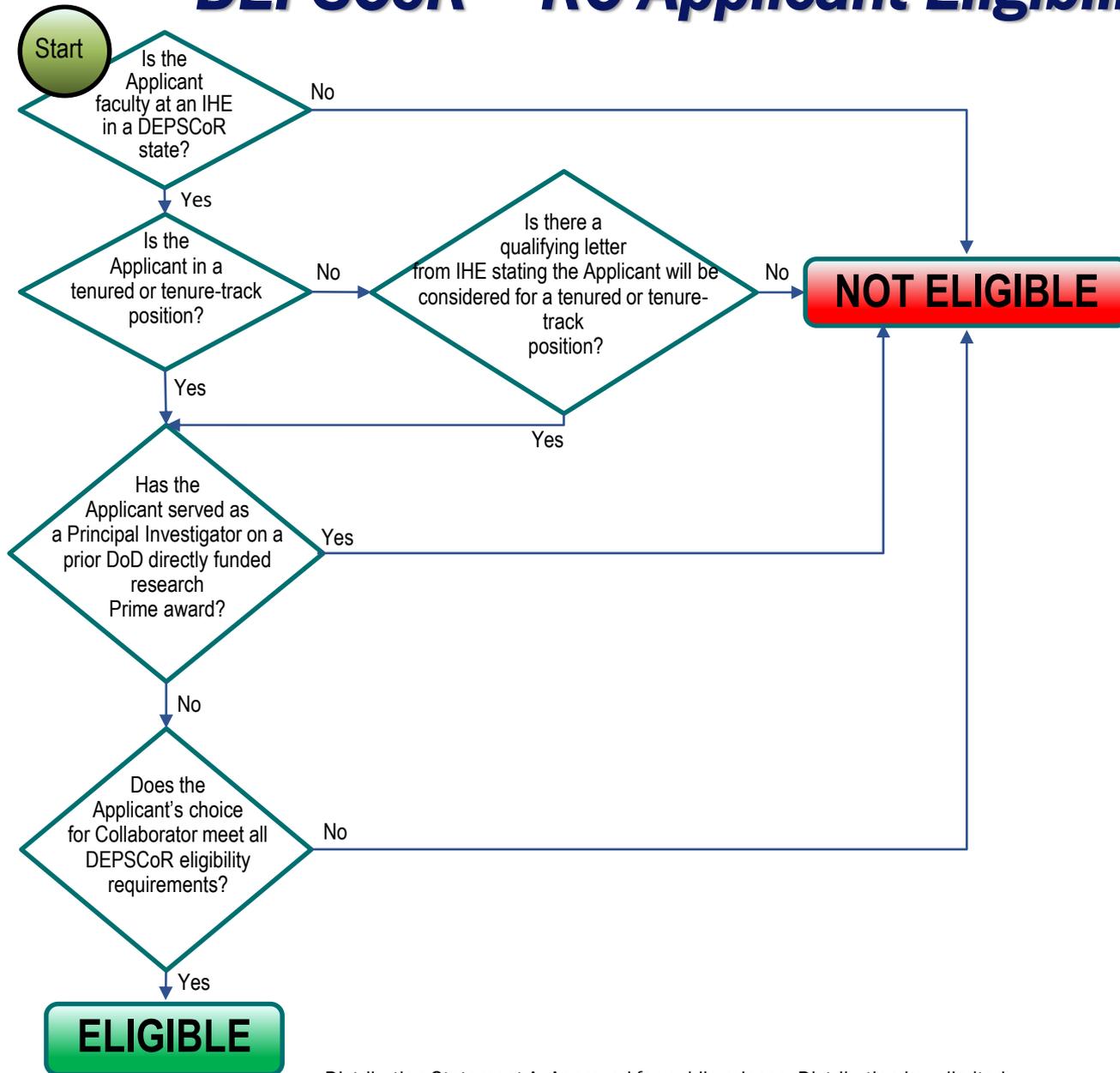
Non-DoD Government*



*These are examples and do not represent comprehensive lists

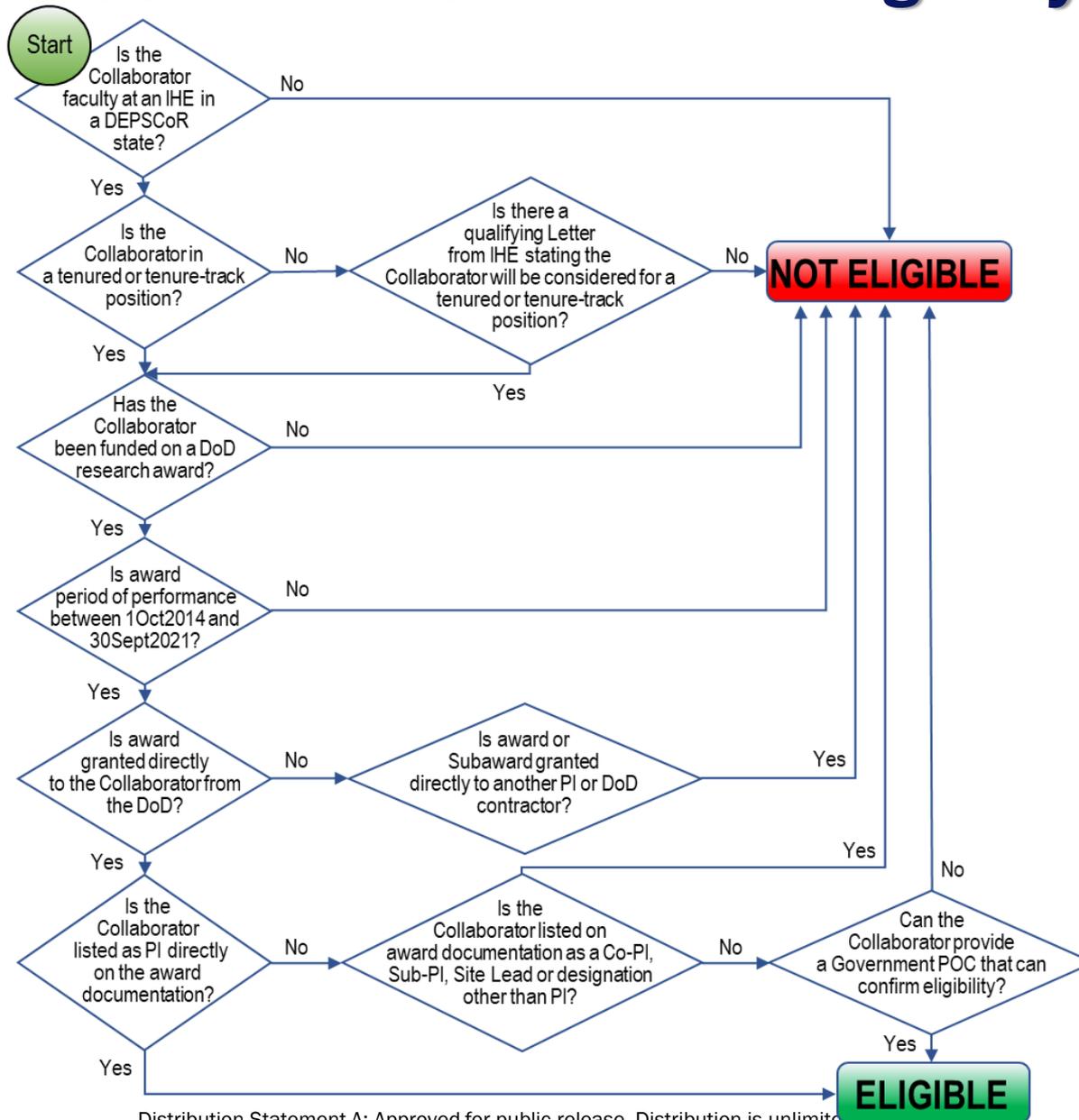


DEPSCoR – RC Applicant Eligibility





DEPSCoR – RC Collaborator Eligibility





Topics in FY21 Research Collaboration FOA



Topic Number	SERVICE	TOPIC AREA	PROGRAM OFFICER
1	<u>AFOSR</u>	Physics of Sensing	Dr. Michael Yakes
2	<u>AFOSR</u>	Space Propulsion and Power	Dr. Mitat A. Birkan
3	<u>AFOSR</u>	Complex Networks	Dr. Donald K. Wagner
4	<u>AFOSR</u>	Atomic and Molecular Physics	Dr. Boyan Tabakov
5	<u>ARO</u>	Modeling of Complex Systems	Dr. Rad Balu
6	<u>ARO</u>	Biomathematics	Dr. Virginia Pasour
7	<u>ARO</u>	Solid Mechanics	Dr. Denise C. Ford
8	<u>ARO</u>	Environmental chemistry	Dr. Elizabeth King-Doonan
9	<u>ARO</u>	Electronic Sensing	Dr. Tania Paskova
10	<u>ONR</u>	Nanoscale Computing Devices and Systems	Dr. Ian Appelbaum
11	<u>ONR</u>	Marine Mammals and Biology	Dr. Mike Weise
12	<u>ONR</u>	Additive Manufacturing	Dr. Jennifer Wolk
13	<u>ONR</u>	Social Networks and Computational Social Science	Dr. Rebecca Goolsby
14	<u>ONR</u>	Hypersonic Aerothermodynamics	Dr. Eric Marineau



Establishing a Collaboration

Defense Technical Information Center - non-comprehensive repository of government-funded scientific, technical, and engineering information for the DoD.

<https://discover.dtic.mil/products-services/>

Connect and Collaborate - site where prospective Applicants and Collaborators, seeking collaboration in this DEPSCoR opportunity can post their interest. **<https://dod-basicresearch.nvision.noblis.org/program/dep Scor>**

Discussing proposed research with the Program Officer could identify possible networking leads.



Ways To Engage with tri-Service Program Officers



Email preferred for most POs

Phone (hit or miss due to travel)

AFOSR	ARO	ONR
<p>https://www.wpafb.af.mil/afri/afosr/</p> <p>On grants.gov search using keyword(s) "Research Interests of the Air Force Office of Scientific Research" to see the latest core announcement. The current funding opportunity number for general research interests is FA9550-19-S-0003</p>	<p>https://www.aro.army.mil/</p> <p>Select "Broad Agency Announcements" in the "Business" section to see the most recent ARO Core Broad Agency Announcement for Fundamental Research for 1 April 2017 - 31 March 2022</p>	<p>https://www.onr.navy.mil/</p> <p>Select "Work With Us" then "Funding Opportunities" and then "BAAs, FOAs and Special Program Announcements" to see the Long Range Broad Agency Announcement for Navy and Marine Corps Science and Technology, N00014-21-S-B001. Navigate to https://www.onr.navy.mil/our-research/our-program-managers for a list of program officers and their specific program.</p>

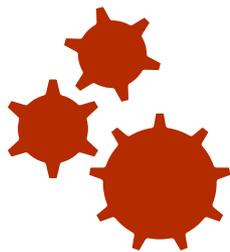


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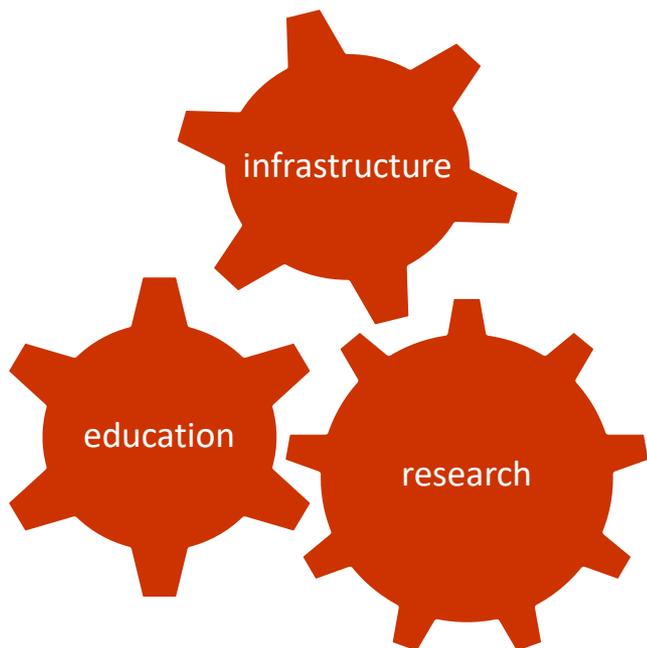
**Outreach &
Education**



DEPSCoR - Capacity Building Competition



Support the strategic objectives of IHEs to achieve basic research excellence in areas of high relevance to the DoD



- Jumpstart capability development in the State/Territory through increased human, technical, and management resources
- Achieve excellence in a DoD-relevant research area through funding to support equipment, education, research, and other relevant activities

Program Structure:

- IHE's executive office, such as Vice-President of Research, in DEPSCoR-eligible States/Territories can apply
 - \$500K/year for 2 years
- **FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2021-0008**



DEPSCoR – Capacity Building Competition

FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2021-0008

- Applications must present the opportunities for enhanced academic research and development competitiveness and, if appropriate, industrial or economic competitiveness, for the State/Territory. **A strategic plan to sustain the investment after the DEPSCoR award period of performance must be discussed.**
- Applications must exhibit a coherent focus on one DoD-related research area, and identification of the gaps in achieving full capacity. **Please see the Services Broad Agency Announcements.**
- Applications must present a management plan for coordinating multiple thrusts working on a common basic research theme. These thrusts could include, but are not limited to, purchasing new equipment, supporting new hires, and support for graduate students and post-doctoral fellows. Adequate provision for substantive commitment by the IHE's executive offices and appropriate administrative support is an important factor contributing to the success of this Capacity Building effort.



DEPSCoR – Capacity Building Competition

FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2021-0008



- Applicant institutions are limited to no more than **one** application under this FOA
- The proposal must be led by a member of the IHE's executive staff such as the Vice-President for Research who will serve as the Team Lead
- Letters of Recommendation for Commitment / Endorsement are required at the FULL PROPOSAL stage only



Important Dates for FY21 Competitions

Schedule of Events

Event	Date	Eastern Standard Time
nVision website open for registration and submission (https://dod-basicresearch.nvision.noblis.org/program/depacor)	23 June 2021	NLT 11:59PM
Questions Regarding White Paper and Supporting Documentation (submitted by)	16 September 2021	NLT 11:59PM
nVision Registration (strongly suggested by)	16 September 2021	NLT 11:59PM
White Paper and Supporting Documentation submission on nVision website (https://dod-basicresearch.nvision.noblis.org/program/depacor) (required by)	20 September 2021	NLT 11:59PM
Notification of White Paper Selection	3 December 2021	NLT 11:59PM
Request for written feedback on your white paper submission (required by) (Email request to: DEPSCoR-feedback@noblis.org)	10 December 2021	NLT 11:59PM
Full Proposal Submission (by invitation only) electronically on Grants.gov website (submitted by)	22 February 2022	NLT 11:59PM
Notification of Selection for Award	2 May 2022	NLT 11:59PM



Questions



<https://basicresearch.defense.gov/Pilots/DEPSCoR>
-Defense-Established-Program-to-Stimulate-
Competitive-Research/



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