



**BROAD AGENCY ANNOUNCEMENT (BAA)
FOR THE ACQUISITION RESEARCH PROGRAM AT THE
NAVAL POSTGRADUATE SCHOOL**

INTRODUCTION:

This publication constitutes a Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) as contemplated in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.102(d)(2) and the Department of Defense Grants and Agreements (DoDGARS) Subpart 22.315(a). A formal Request for Proposals (RFP), solicitation, and/or additional information regarding this announcement will not be issued.

Interested parties are responsible to check GRANTS.GOV website (www.grants.gov) for possible amendments to this BAA.

The Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) nor the Contracting Office, Fleet and Industrial Supply Center-San Diego (FISC-SD) will issue paper copies of this announcement. The NPS reserves the right to select for award all some or none of the proposals in response to this announcement. The NPS reserves the right to fund all, some or none of the proposals received under this BAA. NPS provides no funding for direct reimbursement of proposal development costs. Technical and cost proposals (or any other material) submitted in response to this BAA will not be returned. It is the policy of NPS and FISC-SD to treat all proposals as sensitive competitive information and to disclose their contents only for the purposes of evaluation.

I. GENERAL INFORMATION:

- 1. Requiring Agency:** Naval Postgraduate School
- 2. Opportunity Title:** Acquisition Research at the Naval Postgraduate School
- 3. Program Name:** N/A
- 4. Funding Opportunity Number:** NPSBAA10-002
- 5. Response Date:** This announcement will remain open until 5:00 P.M. (PDST), 18 June 2010. Proposals received after this time will not be considered for award.

6. Description:

This BAA's primary objective is to attract outstanding researchers and scholars to investigate topics of interest to the defense acquisition community. The program solicits innovative proposals for defense acquisition management and policy research to be conducted during fiscal year (FY) 2011 (1 OCT 10 - 30 SEP 11).

In this BAA, the phrase "defense acquisition management and policy research" refers to investigations in all disciplines, fields, and domains that (1) are involved in the acquisition of products and/or services for national defense, or (2) could potentially be brought to bear to improve defense acquisition. It includes but is not limited to economics, finance, financial management, information systems, organization theory, operations management, human resources management, and marketing, as well as the "traditional" acquisition areas such as contracting, program/project management, logistics, and systems engineering management. These topics are listed for guidance only.

Evidence of Progress:

- Awardees must demonstrate evidence of progress via quarterly progress reports.
- Awardees must agree to deliver completed sponsored research technical reports (as a Word file or PDF attachment) to the Technical Point of Contact listed below no later than 30 days after completion of the period of performance. Samples of completed reports can be found under publications at <http://www.acquisitionresearch.net>.
- Awardees must agree to present their research findings at the Naval Postgraduate School's Annual Acquisition Research Symposium (www.researchsymposium.org) held in May of each year in Monterey, CA. FY 2011 awardees may elect to present their findings at either the May 2011 or May 2012 symposia (dates to be announced), depending on the anticipated progress of their research efforts. (If awardees elect to present at the 2012 symposium, the grant period of performance should be adjusted beyond 12 months to extend through May 2012.)

7. Point(s) of Contact:

Questions of a *technical* nature shall be submitted in writing by electronic mail to:

Keith F. Snider, PhD
Associate Professor of Public Administration and Management
Acquisition Area Chair
Graduate School of Business & Public Policy
Naval Postgraduate School, Monterey, CA 93943
Office: (831) 656-3621
Fax: 831-656-2253
E-mail: ksnider@nps.edu

Questions of a *business* nature shall be directed to the cognizant Contract Specialist at FISC-San Diego or to Contracts and Grants Support at the Naval Postgraduate School in writing by electronic mail. Questions presented by telephone call or other means will not be responded to.

Janet Norton
Contract and Grant Officer
FISC San Diego
Seal Beach Detachment
Code: 230
800 Seal Beach Blvd., B-239
Seal Beach, CA 90740-5000
E-mail: janet.norton@navy.mil

Or

Dottie Smith
Contract and Grant Support
Research and Sponsored Program Office
Naval Postgraduate School
Code 91
Halligan Hall, Bldg. 234
Monterey, CA 93943-5138
E-mail: baa@nps.edu

Questions or assistance *regarding Grants.gov* registration process, system requirements or submittal process shall be directed to Grants.gov by phone at 1-800-518-4726 or email to support@grants.gov.

8. Instrument Type(s):

Awards may take the form of Grants or Cooperative Agreements, as appropriate.

Grant – A legal instrument which, consistent with 31 U.S.C. 6304, is used to enter into a relationship: (1) The principal purpose of which is to transfer a thing of value to the recipient to carry out a public purpose of support or stimulation authorized by a law of the United States, rather than to acquire property or services for the Department of Defense’s direct benefit or use. (2) In which substantial involvement is not expected between the Department of Defense and the recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated by the grant.

Cooperative Agreement – A legal instrument which, consistent with 31 U.S.C. 6305, is used to enter into the same kind of relationship as a grant, except that substantial involvement is expected between the Department of Defense and the recipient when carrying out the activity contemplated by the cooperative agreement. The term does not include “cooperative research and development agreements” as defined in 15 U.S.C. 3710a.

9. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Numbers: 12.300

10. Catalog of Federal Domestic Assistance (CFDA) Titles:

Department of Defense (DoD) Basic and Applied Scientific Research

11. Other Information:

This program is targeted in particular to U.S. universities or other research institutions outside the Department of Defense.

Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 35 restricts the use of Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs), such as this, to the acquisition of the basic and applied research and that portion of advanced technology development of a specific system or hardware procurement. Grants and other assistance agreements made under BAAs are for scientific study and experimentation directed towards advancing the state of the art and increasing knowledge or understanding.

Release of Government documentation, to include award documents, can only be released to third parties pursuant to the Freedom of Information Act and can be released pursuant to that statute (5 USC 552). Please forward your request for award information to:

Information & Privacy Coordinator
ATTN: Staff Judge Advocate
Naval Postgraduate School
1 University Circle
Bldg 220, Room 131
Monterey, CA. 93943-5001

THIS ANNOUNCEMENT IS NOT FOR THE ACQUISITION OF TECHNICAL ENGINEERING AND OTHER TYPES OF SUPPORT SERVICES.

II. AWARD INFORMATION:

The Government anticipates making multiple awards up to \$120,000 each for a basic research period of twelve months (except as noted in I.6. above). The awards will take the form of grants or cooperative agreements. NPS plans to complete proposal evaluations and notify awardees in September 2010.

The budget and period of performance of each selected proposal will vary depending upon the technical approach to be pursued by the selected Offeror(s).

For the past two years Congress has placed limits on the percentage of indirect costs that can be paid by the government using basic research (6.1) funds. Currently indirect costs paid under assistance awards for the performance of basic research may not exceed 35 percent. It is unknown at present whether a similar indirect cost restriction will apply to 6.1 funds in FY 2010 or thereafter.

III. ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION:

All responsible sources from academia and industry may submit proposals under this BAA. Historically Black Colleges and Universities (HBCUs) and Minority Institutions (MIs) are encouraged to submit proposals and join others in submitting proposals. However, no portion of this BAA will be set aside for HBCU and MI participation.

U. S. government schools of higher education, Navy laboratories as well as other Department of Defense agencies are not eligible to receive awards under this BAA and should not directly submit white papers or full proposals in response to this BAA. If any such organization is interested in the program described herein, the organization should contact the NPS Technical POC to discuss its area of interest.

Some topics may cover export controlled technologies. Research in these areas is limited to "U.S. persons" as defined in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR) 22 CFR § 120.1 et seq.

IV. APPLICATION AND SUBMISSION INFORMATION:

1. Application and Submission Process:

An individual at a qualified institution wishing to apply for an award must submit a research proposal as described in Section II, 'Award Information.' The submission must also include a supporting letter through the appropriate institutional official (i.e. the applicant's Department Chairperson, Dean, or other official who speaks for the institution regarding support for and commitment to acquisition research). This supporting letter should state whether or not the applicant holds a tenure track position or a permanent position with the institution. If the institution does not designate any appointments as tenure track, the letter should state whether or not, and if so when, the applicant will be considered for a permanent appointment.

Awards are made to institutions, not to individuals. The research proposal shall follow the format described under the "Proposal Preparation" section below.

The Proposals submitted under this BAA are expected to be unclassified. However, confidential/classified proposals are permitted. If a classified proposal is submitted, the resultant award will be unclassified.

All Proposal submissions will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 15.207, applicable law, and DoD/DoN regulations. Offerors are expected to appropriately mark each page of their submission that contains proprietary information. The proposal shall include a severable, self-standing Statement of Work which contains only unclassified information and does not include any proprietary restrictions.

2. Content and Format of Research Proposals:

Full proposals shall contain both a technical and cost proposal as described below along with biographical information or curriculum vita of each applicant.

The following general information applies:

- **Paper Size – 8.5 x 11 inch paper**
- **Margins – 1 inch**
- **Spacing – single-spaced**
- **Font – Times New Roman, 12 point**
- **Number of Pages:**
 - The technical proposal, including all information, appendices, and attachments, shall not exceed twelve (12) pages (single-spaced). Pages in excess of this limitation will not be considered by the government.
 - Cost proposals have no limitations; however, Offerors are requested to keep this section under five (5) pages (single-spaced).
 - Biographical/vita sections shall not exceed three (3) pages (single-spaced) for each member of the research team.

Volume 1: Technical Proposal: The technical proposal must include the following:

- **Cover Page:** This should include the words “Technical Proposal” and the following:
 - BAA Number
 - Title of Proposal
 - Identity of the Prime Offeror
 - Technical Contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address)
 - Administrative/business contact (name, address, phone/fax, electronic mail address).
 - Duration of effort

- **Statement of Research Issue/Results:** Concise (shall not exceed 50 words) statement of the problem the proposed research will address and anticipated results. This statement is an important part of the evaluation/award process.

- **Executive Summary:** Concise (approximately 200 words) abstract of the proposed research effort. The abstract must specifically describe how the principal purpose of the research effort support or stimulates a public purpose and, if applicable, the substantial involvement by the government.

A **grant** can only be awarded if the principal purpose is to support or stimulate a public purpose.

A **cooperative agreement** can only be awarded if the principal purpose is to support or stimulate a public purpose and there is also substantial involvement by the government.

- **Statement of Work:** The statement of work should include a description of the proposed work in sufficient detail for evaluation, including the scientific background, objective, and technical approach for each proposed task. The statement of work should also include:

- Appropriate references to the scientific literature should be cited.
- Identification of the symposium at which the research results will be presented: either May 2011 or May 2012 Acquisition Research Symposium (see para. I.6. above).
- Indication of how the proposed research may be coordinated with other research efforts and;
- Indication of how the proposed research may serve as a catalyst for a longer-term program of acquisition-related research.

- **Statement of Research Status:** Concise statement which:

- Identifies whether the proposed work is a follow-on effort from a prior award, and if so, describe how the proposed work extends or enhances the prior effort.

- Identifies whether applicants have received prior awards through the Acquisition Research Program at the Naval Postgraduate School, and if so, give the status of all deliverables for those awards.
- **Biographical Information/Curriculum Vita:** Biographical information or curriculum vita of each applicant should address the following:
 - List of publications, professional activities, patents, honors, awards and other accomplishments.
 - Information describing any specific acquisition-related research and/or experience of investigator(s).
 - Description of involvement in other research projects currently undertaken by the applicant, whether or not acting as a principal investigator.
 - Description of other pending research proposals (title, amount, where pending), including other agencies receiving this proposal.

Volume 2: Cost Proposal: The cost proposal must include all required forms from the application package template associated with the BAA on www.grants.gov.

Elements of the budget should include:

- **Direct Labor** – Individual labor categories or persons, with associated labor hours and unburdened direct labor rates. Provide escalation rates for out years. Administrative and clerical labors – Salaries of administrative and clerical staff are normally indirect costs (and included in an indirect cost rate). Direct charging of these costs may be appropriate when a major project requires an extensive amount of administrative or clerical support significantly greater than normal and routine levels of support. Budgets proposing direct charging of administrative or clerical salaries must be supported with a budget justification which adequately describes the major project and the administrative and/or clerical work to be performed.
- **Fringe Benefits and Indirect Costs** (i.e., F&A, Overhead, G&A, etc) – The proposal should show the rates and calculation of the costs for each rate category. If the rates have been approved/negotiated by a Government agency, provide a copy of the memorandum/agreement. If the rates have not been approved/negotiated, provide sufficient detail to enable a determination of allowability, allocability and reasonableness of the allocation bases, and how the rates are calculated. Additional information may be requested, if needed. If composite rates are used, provide the calculations used in deriving the composite rates.
- **Travel** – The proposed travel cost should include the following for each trip: the purpose of the trip, origin and destination if known, approximate duration, the number of travelers, and the estimated cost per trip must be justified based on the organizations historical average cost per trip or other reasonable basis for estimation. Such estimates and the resultant costs claimed must conform to the applicable Federal cost principals.
- **Subawards** – Provide a description of the work to be performed by the subrecipients. For each subaward, a detailed cost proposal is required to be submitted by the subrecipient. The proposal and data in support of cost or price analyses performed by the prime Offeror must be included in the prime Offeror’s proposal submission and will be reviewed as a part of the Government’s cost analysis of the overall proposal. Fee/profit is

unallowable on subawards.

Note: A contract for procurement of goods or services is excluded from the definition of subaward (see Contracts below).

- Contracts- Provide a description of the goods or services that is required for the conduct of research program to be performed by the proposed contractor or vendor. For each contract, a detailed cost proposal is required to be submitted by the contractor or vendor. The proposal (includes fee/profit, if applicable) and data in support of cost or price analyses performed by the prime Offeror must be included in the prime Offeror's proposal submission and will be reviewed as a part of the Government's cost analysis of the overall proposal.
- Consultants – Provide a breakdown of the consultant's hours, the hourly rate proposed, any other proposed consultant costs, a copy of the signed Consulting Agreement or other documentation supporting the proposed consultant rate/cost, and a copy of the consultant's proposed statement of work if it is not already separately identified in the prime Offeror's proposal.
- Materials & Supplies – Provide an itemized list of all proposed materials and supplies including quantities, unit prices, proposed vendors (if known), and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists).
- Recipient Acquired Equipment or Facilities – Equipment and/or facilities are normally furnished by the Recipient. If acquisition of equipment and/or facilities is proposed, a justification for the purchase of the items must be provided. Provide an itemized list of all equipment and/or facilities costs and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists). Allowable items normally would be limited to research equipment not already available for the project. General purpose equipment (i.e., equipment not used exclusively for research, scientific or other technical activities, such as personal computers, office equipment and furnishings, etc.) should not be requested unless they will be used primarily or exclusively for the project. For computer/laptop purchases and other general purpose equipment, if proposed, include a statement indicating how each item of equipment will be integrated into the program or used as an integral part of the research effort.
- Other Direct Costs – Provide an itemized list of all other proposed other direct costs such as Graduate Assistant tuition, laboratory fees, report and publication costs, and the basis for the estimate (e.g., quotes, prior purchases, catalog price lists).
- Fee/Profit – Fee/profit is unallowable.

3. Significant Dates and Times: This announcement will remain open until 5:00 pm PDST 18 June 2010. Proposals received after this time will not be considered for award.

4. Submission of Late Proposals: N/A

5. Submission of Proposals via grants.gov website (www.grants.gov):

Proposals in response to NPSBAA10-002 (Funding Opportunity Number) must be submitted via the Grants.gov website (<http://www.grants.gov>). Application forms and instructions are available on the grants.gov website. Offeror shall complete the mandatory forms in the application package template associated with this BAA.

Registration Requirements for Grants.gov: There are several one-time actions that must be completed in order to submit an application through Grants.gov (e.g., obtain a Dun and Bradstreet Data Universal Numbering System (DUNS) number, register with the Central Contract Registry (CCR), register with the credential provider, and register with Grants.gov). Please visit http://www07.grants.gov/applicants/get_registered.jsp for complete registration instructions. Applicants who are not registered with CCR and Grants.gov, should allow at least 21 days to complete these requirements. Additional Instructions and guidance are available on the grants.gov website at <http://www.grants.gov/applicants/resources.jsp>.

Questions relating to the registration process, system requirements, how an application form works, or the submittal process must be directed to Grants.gov at 1-800-518-4726 or e-mail: support@grants.gov.

Special Notice regarding a Waiver of Grants.gov proposal submission requirement:

If an Offeror is unable to comply with the requirement to use Grants.gov, for submission of a grant application under this BAA or finds it would be an excessive burden to comply with this requirement, a waiver request may be submitted. Such request should be submitted by the Electronic Business Point of Contact listed in the CCR for the organization and should contain the Organization/Individual's name, address, telephone number, and email address. The request should state the reason for the request in sufficient detail so a decision can be made. The Waiver Request should be submitted to the cognizant Contract Specialist at FISC-San Diego and the Contracts and Grants Support at the Naval Postgraduate School, point of contact listed in Section I (General Information), Item 7 above. Such request can be sent by email or registered mail. A decision and response will be issued within 14 calendar days of receipt of the request by cognizant Contract Specialist. Foreign Grantees who are not registered in CCR may request a waiver on that basis since CCR registration is integral to the Grants.gov application process. If the waiver is approved, NPS will provide a packet of all required documents and submission instructions via email or in hard copy via registered mail.

6. Content and Form of Application:

Applicants must submit the mandatory forms for this announcement [includes the SF-424 (R&R) (Application for Federal assistance), R&R Other Project Information and other forms] in accordance with the application instructions on Grants.gov. Use the optional "Attachments" form to include any other document(s) not specifically identified elsewhere in this funding opportunity. If submitting any information that is deemed proprietary, please denote the beginning and ending of such information with asterisks (***)

All applications must be self-contained within specified page limitations, Internet website addresses (URLs) may not be used to provide information necessary to the review because reviewers are under no obligation to view the Internet sites.

7. Certifications/Assurances:

A. Applicants must submit the SF 424B – Assurances – Non-Construction Programs form, which is separate from in the application package.

- B. By signing and submitting an application for federal assistance, SF 424 (R&R) under this Broad Agency Announcement, the applicant is providing Certification Regarding Lobbying Activities. If paragraph two of the certification applies then complete and submit the SF-LLL Disclosure of Lobbying which is provided as an optional form in the application package.

V. EVALUATION INFORMATION:

1. Evaluation Criteria:

Award decisions will be based on competitive selection of proposals through a peer and/or technical and scientific review and business decision process with technical and scientific considerations being most important. Criteria A and B are of equal importance and more important than criterion C. The sub-criteria listed under each particular criterion are of equal importance.

A. Overall scientific and technical merits of the proposal

- i. Knowledge and familiarity with DoD acquisition
- ii. Compatibility of research questions with acquisition topics of interest
- iii. Thoroughness, clarity and parsimony of the proposal
- iv. Feasibility of research design/technical concept
- v. Potential impact of research results
- vi. Publication potential of research results

B. Offeror's capabilities, related experience, and past performance, including the qualifications, capabilities and experience of the proposed principal investigator and assistant personnel.

- i. The quality of technical personnel proposed;
- ii. The Offeror's experience in relevant efforts with similar resources
- iii. The ability to manage the proposed effort.

C. The realism of the proposed cost.

2. Evaluation Panel:

Technical and cost proposals submitted under this BAA will be protected from unauthorized disclosure in accordance with FAR 3.104-5 and 15.207. The cognizant NPS Principal Investigator and other technical experts drawn from Government, industry or academe will perform the evaluation of technical proposals. Cost proposals will be evaluated by Government business professionals. Restrictive notices notwithstanding, one or more support contractors may be utilized as subject-matter-expert technical consultants. Similarly, support contractors may be utilized to evaluate cost proposals. However, proposal selection and award decisions are solely the responsibility of Government personnel. Each support contractor's employee having access to technical and cost proposals submitted in response to this BAA will be required to sign a non-disclosure statement prior to receipt of any proposal submissions.

VI. AWARD ADMINISTRATION INFORMATION:

1. Administrative Requirements:

- **The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code:** The North American Industry Classification System (NAICS) code for this announcement is 541720 with a small business size standard of \$7.0M.
- **Central Contractor Registry (CCR)** - Successful Offerors not already registered in the CCR will be required to register in CCR prior to award of any grant or cooperative agreement, or other transaction agreement. Information on CCR registration is available at <http://www.ccr.gov>

2. Administrative and National Policy Requirements:

Any award issued as a result of this announcement is subject to the following administrative, cost and national policy requirements contained therein.

- A. OMB Circular A-110, relocated to 2 CFR Part 215. “Uniform Administrative Requirements for Grants and Agreements with Institutions of Higher Education, Hospitals, and Other Non-profit Organizations.”
- B. Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (DoDGARS 3210.6-R)
- C. OMB Circular A-21, relocated to 2 CFR Part 220. “Cost Principles for Educational Institutions.”
- D. OMB Circular A-122, relocated to 2 CFR Part 230. “Cost Principles for Non-profit Organizations.”
- E. Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) Part 31.2, Contracts with Commercial Organizations.
- F. OMB Circular A-133. “Audits of States, Local Governments, and Non-Profit Organizations.”

VII. OTHER INFORMATION:

1. Government Property/Government Furnished Equipment (GFE) and Facilities:

Each applicant must provide a very specific description of any equipment/hardware that it needs to acquire to perform the work. This description should indicate whether or not each particular piece of equipment/hardware will be included as part of a deliverable item under the resulting award. Also, this description should identify the component, nomenclature, and configuration of the equipment/hardware that it proposes to purchase for this effort. The purchase on a direct reimbursement basis of special test equipment or other equipment that is not included in a deliverable item will be evaluated for allowability on a case-by-case basis. Maximum use of Government integration, test, and experiment facilities is encouraged in each of the Offeror’s proposals.

Government research facilities and operational military units are available and should be considered as potential government furnished equipment/facilities. These facilities and resources are of high value and some are in constant demand by multiple programs. It is unlikely that all facilities would be used for the NPS Acquisition Research Program. The use of these facilities and resources will be negotiated as the program unfolds. Offerors should explain as parts of their proposals which of these facilities are critical for the project’s success.

2. Security Classification:

In order to facilitate intra-program collaboration and technology transfer, the Government will attempt to enable technology developers to work at the unclassified level to the maximum extent possible. If access to classified material will be required at any point during performance, the Offeror must clearly identify such need prominently in its proposal.

3. Use of Animals and Human Subjects in Research:

Proposals for research involving human subjects the Offeror must submit prior to award: documentation of approval from an Institutional Review Board (IRB); IRB-approved informed consent form; IRB-approved research protocol; an executive summary of planned research (one-half to one page in length); proof of completed human research training (e.g., training certificate, institutional verification of training, etc.); an application for a DoD Navy Addendum to the Offeror's DHHS-issued Federal Wide Assurance (FWA) or the Offeror's DoD Navy Addendum number. The forms for assurance applications can be found at [http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/assurances/assurances_index.html/](http://www.hhs.gov/ohrp/assurances/assurances_index.html) If the research is determined by the IRB to be greater than minimal risk, the Offeror also must provide the name and contact information for the independent medical monitor. Note: for research involving human subjects that is greater than minimal risk, administrative procedures to protect human subjects from medical expenses (not otherwise provided or reimbursed) that are the direct result of participation in a research project must be addressed.

4. Recombinant DNA:

Proposal which call for experiments using recombinant DNA must include documentation of compliance with Department of Human and Health Services (DHHS) recombinant DNA regulations, approval of the Institutional Biosafety Committee (IBC), and copies of the DHHS Approval of the IBC letter.

5. Department of Defense High Performance Computing Program:

The DoD High Performance Computing Program (HPCMP) furnishes the DoD S & T and DT & E communities with use-access to very powerful high performance computing systems. Awardees of FISC assistance instruments may be eligible to use HPCMP assets in support of their funded activities if Technical Program Officer approval is obtained and if security/screening requirements are favorably completed. Additional information and an application may be found at <http://www.hpcmo.hpc.mil/>.

6. Organizational Conflict of Interest:

All Offerors and proposed subcontractors must affirm whether they are providing scientific, engineering, and technical assistance (SETA) or similar support to any NPS through an active contract or subcontract. All affirmations must state which office(s) the Offeror supports and identify the prime contract numbers. Affirmations shall be furnished at the time of proposal submission. All facts relevant to the existence or potential existence of organizational conflicts of interest (FAR 9.5) must be disclosed. The disclosure shall include a description of the action the Offeror has taken or proposes to take to avoid, neutralize, or mitigate such conflict. In accordance with FAR 9.503 and without prior approval, a contractor cannot simultaneously be a SETA and a research and development performer. Proposals that fail to fully

disclose potential conflicts of interests or do not have acceptable plans to mitigate identified conflicts will be rejected without technical evaluation and withdrawn from further consideration for award. If a prospective Offeror believes that any conflict of interest exists or may exist (whether organizational or otherwise), the Offeror should promptly raise the issue with NPS by sending his/her contact information and a summary of the potential conflict by e-mail to the Business Point of Contact in Section I, item 7 above, before time and effort are expended in preparing a proposal and mitigation plan. If, in the sole opinion of the Government after full consideration of the circumstances, any conflict situation cannot be effectively avoided or mitigated, the proposal may be rejected without technical evaluation and withdrawn from further consideration for award under this BAA.

7. Protection of Proprietary and Sensitive Information:

The parties acknowledge that, during performance of the award agreement resulting from this BAA, the recipient may require access to certain proprietary and confidential information (whether in its original or derived form) submitted to or produced by the Government. Such information includes but is not limited to, business practices, proposals, designs, mission or operation concepts, sketches, management policies, cost and operating expense, technical data and trade secrets, proposed Defense policies, cost and operating expense, technical data and trade secrets, proposed Defense budgetary information, and acquisition planning or acquisition actions, obtained either directly or indirectly as a result of the effort performed on behalf of DoD. The recipient shall take appropriate steps not only to safeguard such information, but also to prevent disclosure of such information to any party other than the Government. The recipient agrees to indoctrinate personnel who will have access to or custody of the information concerning the nature of the confidential terms under which the Government received such information and shall stress that the information shall not be disclosed to any other party or to recipient personnel who do not need to know the contents thereof for the performance of the agreement. Recipient personnel shall also be informed that they shall not engage in any other action, venture, or employment wherein this information will be used for any purpose by any other party.

8. Acknowledgement of Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) Support:

NPS's full or partial support must be acknowledged in journal articles, oral or poster presentations, news releases, interviews with reporters and other communications. Any documents developed under an award agreement resulting from this BAA that are intended for distribution to the public or inclusion in a scientific, technical, or other journal shall include the following statement:

This publication [article] was developed under work supported by the Naval Postgraduate School Acquisition Research Program Assistance Agreement No. _____ awarded by the U.S. Fleet Industrial Supply Center, San Diego (FISC-SD). It has not been formally reviewed by NPS. The views and conclusions contained in this document are those of the authors and should not be interpreted as necessarily representing the official policies, either expressed or implied, of the U.S. FISC-SD and NPS. The FISC-SD and NPS do not endorse any products or commercial services mentioned in this publication.