

Questions and Answers Round 2

Is there a dataset that is provided for this project? If so, what does that data look like?

There is no dataset currently available. As the solicitation states, to accomplish the objective, the offeror will “Collect data from Soldiers to inform this expansion of the current technological fluency model.” When a full report detailing the effort to model technological fluency knowledge, skills, and abilities is releasable, it will be made available.

I have not had an opportunity to interview soldiers. Does that adversely affect my ability to receive the grant?

The intent of the Government is to award a contract. The offeror should include information that describes their skills to be able to carry out the tasks needed to accomplish the objectives. Prior experience interviewing or otherwise collecting data from Soldiers is beneficial but is not the only factor we will consider.

I see that the grant asks to consider the existing ARI tech fluency model and then on page 9 a model is provided. Is this the model that we are improving? If so, what are its current limitations?

Correct, the model provided on page 9 of the Notice is the model we would like to expand to include organizational and contextual factors. When a full report detailing the effort to model technological fluency knowledge, skills, and abilities is releasable, it will be made available.

Is the goal of this effort to develop a computational model or platform?

The goal of this effort is to expand the current model or framework provided on page 9 to include organizational and contextual factors. Thus, this effort is considered *Applied Research* rather than *Advanced Technology Development* as defined on page 3 of the Notice.

Is this a qualitative study?

Offerors should propose the research design and methods they believe will best accomplish the goals of this project.

What are you looking for in a team? Does the team need to have an AI/ML expert?

The team should be able to accomplish the goals of the project. Ideally, the team will provide evidence of prior experience with the same or similar population, processes, and methods that will be used to carry out this effort. Note we also take into consideration institutional resources and facilities (e.g., administrative support)—see page 6 of the Notice.

No, the team does not necessarily need an AI/ML expert.

If the proposed study is human-subjects research, will IRB approval be required?

Human subjects research must undergo review and approval prior to execution. The review is typically conducted by ARI’s Human Research Protection Program or Institutional Review Board.

In addition, Human Research Protection Official (HRPO) review is required for all human subjects research supported by the DoD that is conducted by non-DoD institutions. ARI will provide HRPO review.

Do we need to submit a letter of intent?

No, but an interested Applicant must submit a White Paper electronically to be eligible to submit a formal proposal under this Notice.