

QUESTIONS AND ANSWERS

PLEASE REFER TO THE GENERAL FAQS SECTION OF ARPA-E'S WEBSITE ([HTTP://ARPA-E.ENERGY.GOV/?Q=FAQ/GENERAL-QUESTIONS](http://arpa-e.energy.gov/?q=faq/general-questions)) FOR ANSWERS TO MANY GENERAL QUESTIONS ABOUT ARPA-E AND ARPA-E'S FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS. ADDITIONAL QUESTIONS SPECIFIC TO THIS FOA ONLY ARE INCLUDED BELOW. PLEASE REVIEW ALL EXISTING GENERAL FAQS AND FOA-SPECIFIC QUESTIONS BEFORE SUBMITTING NEW QUESTIONS TO ARPA-E.

I. Full Application Questions:

Q1. IF PRIME RECIPIENTS IS AWARDED A CONTRACT UNDER THE EXPLORATORY FOA, WOULD THEY BE REQUIRED TO ATTEND THE ARPA-E SUMMIT?

ANSWER: Please see the DE-FOA-0002784 Funding Opportunity Announcement Table 1: Exploratory Topics schedule of notifications.

Q2. I WANT TO UNDERSTAND HOW THE FUNDING ARRANGEMENT DIFFERS WHEN IT IS A GRANT. PER THE FAQS, "ARPA-E EXECUTES A FUNDING AGREEMENT DIRECTLY WITH THE FFRDC OR GOGO AND A SINGLE, SEPARATE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT WITH THE REST OF THE PROJECT TEAM." HOW DOES THIS DIFFER IN A GRANT SITUATION? IS A GRANT ISSUED TO FFRDC AND A SEPARATE GRANT TO REST OF PROJECT TEAM?

ANSWER: ARPA-E would still execute a funding agreement directly with the FFRDC/DOE Lab and then a single, separate grant with the project team.

Q3. WE ARE A SMALL BUSINESS PLANNING TO PARTICIPATE AS A SUBCONTRACTOR TO A LARGE BUSINESS. DOES OUR SMALL BUSINESS QUALIFY FOR THE "COST SHARE GRACE PERIOD"?

ANSWER: Cost share is based off the total project cost of the prime recipient, not subcontractors.

Q4. -REDACTED-. I AM REACHING OUT TO VERIFY SOME INFORMATION:

1. WILL THIS FOA BE RESPONSIVE TO THE TOPIC OF INERTIAL FUSION ENERGY TARGET MANUFACTURING?
2. I HAVE READ THAT ARPA-E INTENDS TO MAKE 6-8 AWARDS WITH THIS FUNDING ROUND; IS THAT CORRECT?
3. WILL THERE BE ANY INFORMATION SESSIONS ON THIS FOA THAT WE CAN ATTEND?
4. SBIRS REQUIRE A LETTER OF INTENT TO BE SUBMITTED BY A CERTAIN DATE AND EARLY IN THE PROCESS, I REVIEWED THIS SOLICITATION AND DID NOT SEE ANY REQUIRED LOIS; IS THIS CORRECT?
5. THE MAXIMUM AWARD IS 500K, CORRECT?
6. I LOOKED THROUGH THE MATERIALS AND DID NOT SEE RESTRICTIONS ON THE KINDS OF TEAM MAKING THE PROPOSAL; I.E. UNIVERSITY, SMALL BUSINESS OR SOME COMBINATION, IS THAT CORRECT?
7. THE DEADLINE LISTED IN THE PROPOSAL IS MARCH 21ST, BUT THE FOA WEBSITE LISTED THE DEADLINE AS APRIL 25TH. WHICH IS CORRECT?
8. CAN APPLICANTS SUBMIT LETTERS OF SUPPORT WITH THIS PROPOSALS?

ANSWER: 1. ARPA-E will not pre-assess an applicant's proposal. Prospective applicants must review the technical requirements of the FOA and independently determine whether their proposed concept warrants a submission. Kindly refer to Section I.A of the FOA for submissions specifically for areas of interest.

2. ARPA-E may issue one, multiple, or no awards under this FOA.

3. No.

4. That is correct; no LOI is required.

5. Awards may vary between approximately \$200,000 and \$500,000.

6. Review Section III.A Eligible Applicants of the FOA.

7. March 21st.

8. Yes but they are not required and will not be evaluated.

Q5. “ARPA-E ANTICIPATES AWARDING COST-REIMBURSABLE GRANTS RESULTING FROM THIS EXPLORATORY TOPIC. THIS FOA AND ANY SUCH GRANTS MADE UNDER THIS FOA ARE SUBJECT TO 2 C.F.R. PART 200 AS SUPPLEMENTED BY 2 C.F.R. PART 910.”

PLEASE CLARIFY IF CREATE AWARDS WILL ONLY BE GRANTS, OR WHETHER SUCH AWARDS MAY ALSO TAKE THE FORM OF ARPA-E FUNDING AGREEMENTS REFERENCED AT PAGES 12-13 OF THE FOA, INCLUDING COOPERATIVE AGREEMENTS AND TECHNOLOGY INVESTMENT AGREEMENTS UNDER ARPA-E’S “OTHER TRANSACTIONS” AUTHORITY.

ANSWER: The intention at this time is that ARPA-E will award grants. However, ARPA-E reserves the right to award grants, cooperative agreements, and/or Other Transaction agreements.

Q6. A PI OF OURS HAS A QUESTION REGARDING BULLET FOUR IN TOPIC C OF EXPLORATORY TOPICS (DE-FOA-0002784). THE BULLET IN THE FOA STATES “IMPROVING MANAGEMENT, CLEAN-UP AND DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE AND SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL.”

CAN YOU PLEASE PROVIDE MORE DETAILS?

CAN YOU PLEASE CONFIRM THAT THERE’S AN INTEREST IN MANAGING EXISTING SPENT FUEL?

ANSWER: ARPA-E cannot provide more details.

Q7. WOULD A PROJECT TARGETING QUANTUM COMPUTING SOLUTIONS TO MONITORING AND OPTIMIZATION PROBLEMS IN ELECTRIC POWER TRANSMISSION SYSTEMS BE RESPONSIVE TO THIS SOLICITATION? THE GOAL WOULD NOT BE TO DEVELOP NEW QUANTUM COMPUTING ALGORITHMS OR METHODS, BUT RATHER TO INTERFACE AND NUMERICALLY EVALUATE EXISTING QUANTUM COMPUTING PLATFORMS.

ANSWER: ARPA-E will not pre-assess an applicant’s proposal. Prospective applicants must review the technical requirements of the FOA and independently determine whether their proposed concept warrants a submission. Kindly refer to Section I.A of the FOA for submissions specifically for areas of interest.

Q8. WE ARE A START UP COMPANY BASED OUT OF A UNIVERSITY, WE ARE PLANNING TO APPLY FOR DE-FOA-0002785 CREATING REVOLUTIONARY ENERGY AND TECHNOLOGY ENDEAVORS.

WE PLAN TO USE THE UNIVERSITY AS A SUBCONTRACTOR. I WOULD LIKE TO CONFIRM THE WORK CAN BE SUBCONTRACTED TO THE UNIVERSITY IS <1/3.

ANSWER: Review Section III.A Eligible Applicants of the FOA.

Q9. I HAVE A QUICK QUESTION. FOR THIS CREATE EXPLORATORY TOPIC (ARPA-E, 2784), IS THE INDUSTRIAL PARTNER MANDATORY?

ANSWER: No.

Q10. FOR THE DE-FOA-0002784 – TOPIC C CREATE FOA, I WANTED TO CONFIRM YOU ONLY NEED THE TOPIC C: SF-424A (FIXED AMOUNT GRANT). WE WANTED TO VERIFY IT REPLACES THE NEED FOR THE SF-424A / BUDGET WORKBOOK SINCE THE UPLOAD SECTION HAS THE TITLE OF SF-424 / BUDGET WORKBOOK, NOT THE TOPIC C: SF-424A (FIXED AMOUNT GRANT). ALSO, LIKE THE OTHER FORM, DO YOU NEED EACH PARTNER TO COMPLETE THE TOPIC C: TECHNICAL VOLUME (COST- REIMBURSABLE GRANT) FORM?

ANSWER: Yes, only SF-424A (Fixed Amount Grant) needs to be completed. Yes, each partner needs to complete the Technical Volume Form.

Q11. FOR THE GRANT SITUATION, IS COST SHARE HANDLED ANY DIFFERENTLY THAN AS IT IS WITH THE COOPERATIVE AGREEMENT?

ANSWER: No.

Q12. WE ARE WORKING TOWARDS A PROTOTYPE TO HELP WITH SOLAR ENERGY GENERATION, STORAGE, PLANNING, AND DELIVERY.

DOES THIS KIND OF TECHNOLOGY DEVELOPMENT FIT FOR THIS CALL?

ANSWER: ARPA-E will not pre-assess an applicant's proposal. Prospective applicants must review the technical requirements of the FOA and independently determine whether their proposed concept warrants a submission. Kindly refer to Section I.A of the FOA for submissions specifically for areas of interest.

Q13. WE ARE PLANNING TO SUBMIT A PROPOSAL UNDER MISSION AREA

"IMPROVING MANAGEMENT, CLEAN-UP AND DISPOSAL OF RADIOACTIVE WASTE AND SPENT NUCLEAR FUEL".

QUESTION 1: PLEASE CLARIFY IF REMEDIATION OF SOIL AND GROUND WATER CONTAMINATED WITH RADIONUCLIDES SUCH AS AT DOE'S HANFORD AND SAVANNAH RIVER SITES PERTINENT TO THIS MISSION AREA.

QUESTION 2: IS A SUBMISSION PERTAINING TO TESTING NOVEL NANOPARTICLES FOR CLEAN-UP OF TANK WASTE (DFLAW) DEFINED AS A PRIORITY UNDER 2022-2032 HANFORD STRATEGIC VISION APPLICABLE TO THIS CALL.

ANSWER: ARPA-E will not pre-assess an applicant's proposal. Prospective applicants must review the technical requirements of the FOA and independently determine whether their proposed concept warrants a submission. Kindly refer to Section I.A of the FOA for submissions specifically for areas of interest.

Q14. CAN A SITUATION WORK WHERE YOU HAVE AN FFRDC AS LEAD WITH A SINGLE PROJECT PARTNER WHERE ALL OF THE CONTRIBUTION FROM THE PROJECT PARTNER IS IN-KIND AND SUBMITTED AS COST SHARE?

ANSWER: ARPA-E will not pre-assess project teams.

Q15. FOR A TYPICAL LARGE BUSINESS, HOW IS COST SHARE ACCOUNTED FOR OVER TIME IN A GRANT SITUATION? IS THE GRANT AMOUNT UPFRONT PROVIDED WITH THE COST SHARE AMOUNT REMOVED OFF THE TOP? OR IS THE FULL AMOUNT THAT BUSINESS PROPOSED, FEDERAL SHARE + COST SHARE PROVIDED THROUGH THEIR GRANT, AND THEN THEY ACCOUNT FOR IT, PROVIDING IT BACK OVER TIME?

ANSWER: The large business is responsible for providing their cost share portion in accordance with the SF-424 and subsequently negotiated award.

Q16. WITH THE REQUIREMENT TO SUBMIT A SINGLE "TOPIC_C_SF-424A_(COST_REIMBURSABLE_GRANT).XLS" TO REPRESENT THE PROJECT AS A WHOLE, CAN THE LEAD ENTITY JUST PRESENT THE SUB-ENTITIES AS PART OF THE SUBCONTRACT LINE ITEM, WITH THE REST OF THE BREAKDOWN OF LABOR AND SUCH JUST BEING THE LEAD ENTITY'S INFO? HOW WOULD THIS WORK WITH AN FFRDC, SINCE THEY ARE FUNDED SEPARATELY FROM THE REMAINDER OF THE PROJECT TEAM? SHOULD THE FFRDC AS THE LEAD SUBMIT A SINGLE DOCUMENT, BUT WITH THE OTHER ENTITIES AS OTHER TABS?

ANSWER: The lead entity must follow the instructions and guidance provided with the SF-424A.

Q17. OUR COMPANY, -REDACT-, IS CONSIDERING APPLYING TO ARPA-E CREATE (DE-FOA-0002784). ONE OF THE REASONS WE'RE ATTRACTED TO ARPA-E WAS OUR UNDERSTANDING THAT YOUR TEAM IS WILLING TO REVIEW A CONCEPT PAPER IN ADVANCE OF A COMPANY SUBMITTING A FULL APPLICATION. HOWEVER, WE DIDN'T SEE THAT OPTION FOR THE CREATE PROGRAM.

WE WERE WONDERING IF WE MISSED THE NOTICE ABOUT THE CONCEPT PAPER SUBMISSION. WE ALSO UNDERSTAND THAT TODAY IS THE FINAL WINDOW FOR ASKING QUESTIONS, SO IN CASE WE CAN'T FOLLOW UP WITH MORE INFORMATION, WE ATTACHED A DOCUMENT TO PROVIDE MORE CONTEXT ON OUR CONCEPT.

GIVEN WHAT WE'RE BUILDING, WOULD YOU ENCOURAGE US TO APPLY TO THE FULL APPLICATION?

ANSWER: ARPA-E does have FOAs with concept paper phases in advance of full applications, but CREATE has no concept paper phase, only full applications.



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