

Bio-Revolution

DARPA's strategic thrust in the life sciences is a comprehensive effort to harness the insights and advances of modern biology to make U.S. warfighters and their equipment safer, more capable, and more effective.

Urban Area Operations

DARPA intends to create technology to help make U.S. operations in cities as effective as operations in non-urban areas. The goal is to make a smaller U.S. force conducting urban operations more effective while suffering fewer casualties and inflicting less collateral damage.

Core Technologies

DARPA also sponsors research in core technologies that are independent of current strategic circumstances:

- Quantum Science and Technology
- Bio-Info-Micro
- Materials
- Power and Energy
- Microsystems
- Information Technology
- Mathematics
- Manufacturing Science and Technology
- Lasers

DARPA Offices

DARPA has five technical offices. Visit the web at www.darpa.mil/body/darpaoff.html to get details on each office's research interests.

- Defense Sciences Office
- Information Processing Techniques Office
- Microsystems Technology Office
- Strategic Technology Office
- Tactical Technology Office

Vetting a Program

During reviews of both proposed and ongoing programs, DARPA's assessment is often guided by a series of questions: What is the program trying to do? How is it done now? What are the limitations? What is truly novel in the approach that will remove those limitations and improve performance? If successful, what difference will the program make? What are the interim technical milestones required to prove the hypothesis? What is the transition strategy? How much will the program cost? Are the programmatic details clear?

Working with DARPA

DARPA seeks great ideas that could revolutionize national security technology. Our solicitations are online at www.FedBizOpps.gov and on the DARPA website at www.darpa.mil.



DEFENSE ADVANCED RESEARCH PROJECTS AGENCY



The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency mission is to maintain the technological superiority of the U.S. military and prevent technological surprise from harming our national security. DARPA sponsors revolutionary, high-payoff research that leads to innovative new military capabilities.

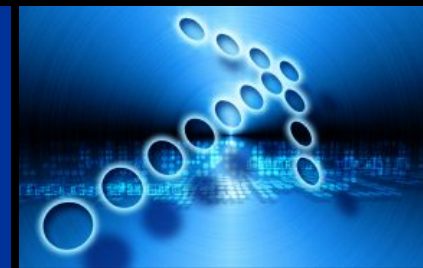
High-Risk Research

DARPA funds high-risk, high reward technical approaches for improving national security, and accelerates them toward fruition.

*DARPA is
looking for
GREAT ideas*

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Department of Defense

DARPA supplies technological options for the entire DoD and is designed to be the “technological engine” for transforming DoD. DARPA emphasizes what future commanders might want and pursues opportunities for bringing entirely new core capabilities into DoD.

DARPA Strategy

DARPA focuses its investments on a “DARPA-hard” niche - a set of technical challenges that, if solved, will be of enormous benefit to U.S. national security, even if the risk of technical failure is high. DARPA emphasizes research the Military Services are unlikely to support because it is considered risky.

DARPA hires expert, entrepreneurial program managers, empowers them, protects them from red tape, and quickly determines the projects that need to be started and the projects that should be stopped.

DARPA identifies DARPA-hard problems by talking to senior Defense and military officials, other Defense agencies, intelligence community agencies, and other Government agencies or outside organizations.

DARPA gets technical ideas from DoD advisory groups, DARPA-sponsored technical groups, industry, academia, U.S. and worldwide technical communities, and research breakthroughs. Most of all, DARPA gets ideas from people like you!

DARPA Strategic Thrusts

DARPA’s nine strategic thrust areas focus attention on important DoD challenges. These thrusts are driven by national security threats and technological opportunities.

Detection, Precision ID, Tracking, and Destruction of Elusive Targets

DARPA is assembling sensors, exploitation tools, and battle management systems to rapidly find and destroy ground targets in any terrain, in any weather, moving or stopped, at any time, with minimal accidental damage or casualties.

Detection, Characterization and Assessment of Underground Structures

DARPA’s Counter-Underground Facility program is developing and using a variety of sensor technologies and systems—seismic, acoustic, electromagnetic, optical, and chemical—to find, characterize and conduct post-strike assessments of underground facilities.

Advanced Manned and Unmanned Systems

DARPA is working with the Military Services toward a vision of a strategic and tactical battlespace filled with networked manned and unmanned air, ground and maritime systems. DARPA seeks to improve individual platform capabilities and to expand the autonomy and robustness of robotic systems.

Increasing the Tooth to Tail Ratio

DARPA is developing revolutionary new information technologies that will help the U.S. military make better decisions faster and with fewer support personnel.

Robust, Secure, Self-Forming Networks

DoD is in the middle of a conversion to network-centric operations that will transform information superiority into combat power. DARPA is developing reliable, secure and survivable communications for all combat levels, networks that can deliver the right information to the right place at the right time.

Space

DARPA sponsors an ambitious effort to ensure the U.S. military retains its preeminence in space by maintaining unhindered access to space and protecting U.S. space capabilities from attack.

