

**Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA)
DARPA Information Innovation Office (I2O)**

Special Notice (SN): DARPA-SN-25-01	
Opportunity	Information Innovation Office (I2O) Office-Wide Special Notice for Proposers Day
Event	Hybrid Proposers Day
Event Date/Time	November 7, 2024 Registration 10:00 – 11:00 AM (ET) Event: 11:00 AM – 4:00 PM (ET)
Event Physical Location	DARPA Conference Center 675 N Randolph St Arlington, VA 22203
Fee to Attend	There is <u>NO</u> fee to attend
Who can Attend	This event is open to potential proposers only; not open to the public.
Registration Website	https://creative.gryphontechnologies.com/darpa/i2o/ow-baa-pd-24/
Registration Deadline	October 24, 2024 at 5:00 PM (ET)
Non-U.S. Registration forms Deadline	October 24, 2024 at 5:00 PM (ET)
Administrative POC	HR001125S0002@darpa.mil
DARPA Program Manager	Courtney Tomlinson

PROPOSERS DAY

DARPA I2O is sponsoring an unclassified hybrid Proposers Day in support of the anticipated I2O Office-Wide Broad Agency Announcement (BAA). The purpose of this event is to provide information on I2O’s technical goals and challenges, address questions from potential proposers, and provide an opportunity for potential proposers to consider how their research may align with the I2O Office-Wide BAA objectives. Attendance is voluntary and is not required to propose to the I2O Office-Wide BAA.

I2O Office-Wide BACKGROUND AND OBJECTIVES

The mission of the Information Innovation Office (I2O) is to create groundbreaking science and develop transformational capabilities in the informational and computational spheres to surprise adversaries and maintain enduring advantage for national security. I2O programs focus on overcoming technical challenges in bringing these technologies to the mission more rapidly than others think is possible. I2O programs are organized into four thrust areas:

- **Proficient artificial intelligence (AI):** seeks to (1) advance the state of the art of AI, (2) apply state-of-the-art AI to create new capabilities for national security, and (3) develop techniques to mitigate the threats posed by state-of-the-art AI systems. The predominant research challenge on the path to proficient AI is defining and creating trustworthy AI systems, including in the face of attacks by skilled, high-resource adversaries. In these efforts, I2O will leverage the [AI Forward initiative](#) to explore new directions for AI research that will result in safe, secure, and trustworthy systems for national security missions.
- **Resilient, adaptable, and secure systems:** aims to dramatically enhance the security and resilience of both new and legacy software, with a focus on practical and scalable approaches. The portfolio emphasizes formal methods development while leveraging AI and machine learning. Techniques and tools are provided to both the broad community (for example, as open-source software), the defense industrial base, and the Department of Defense (DOD).
- **Advantage in cyber operations:** leverages and advances state-of-the-art AI and secure resilient system technologies to produce trustworthy cyber tools and capabilities that operate beyond the capacity or speed of humans. Efforts in this thrust anticipate adversary countermeasures to create enduring capabilities for cyber defenders or warfighters.
- **Confidence in the information domain:** focuses on protecting, detecting attacks on, and measuring the health of the information domain, broadly construed. This domain spans the cognitive level of beliefs and attitudes; the knowledge level of scientific discourse, the financial system, supply chains, etc.; the tracking level, which records the digital dust we all leave behind when interacting with the myriad digital devices required by modern life; and finally, the transport level, which delivers electronic messages in many forms and with various gradations of observability.

I2O may also consider submissions outside these thrust areas if the proposal involves the development of novel capabilities having a promise to provide decisive information advantage for the United States and its allies. I2O seeks unconventional software-based approaches that are outside the mainstream, challenge accepted assumptions, and have the potential to radically change established practices. Proposed research should investigate innovative approaches that enable revolutionary advances in software science, technology, or systems. Specifically excluded is research that primarily results in evolutionary improvements to the existing state of the art.

REGISTRATION INFORMATION

The I2O Office-Wide Proposers Day will be held on November 7, 2024, from 11:00 AM to 4:00 PM (ET) physically at the DARPA Conference Center, located at 675 N Randolph St., Arlington, VA 22203 and virtually via Zoom for Government. No more than two representatives per organization unit, and four people per overall organization, may attend this Proposers Day. Registrants are strongly encouraged to coordinate attendance internally within their organizations prior to registration.

IN-PERSON REGISTRATION

In-person registration must be completed no later than October 24, 2024, 5:00 PM ET. Registration is on a first come first serve basis with a limit of 136 in-person participants. Any United States (U.S.) citizen seeking to attend the Proposers Day in-person will be required to present a valid, Government-issued photo identification at the registration table prior to admittance into the event.

Late in-person registrations may be admitted after all pre-registered attendees are admitted, and only if room capacity allows. Please note, in-person check-in begins at 10:00 AM ET; late in-person registration requires significant coordination and may not be complete in time to gain physical entrance into the Proposers Day event.

VIRTUAL REGISTRATION

Virtual registration must be completed no later than October 24, 2024, 5:00 PM ET. All virtual attendees are required to log in using their first and last name. Participants calling in must call from the number provided during registration.

Any **non-U.S.** citizen must complete and submit one of the following for either in-person or virtual attendance:

- DARPA Form 60; or
- Foreign government personnel must submit an Official Visit Request completed by their respective Embassy based in Washington, DC.

All **non-U.S.** forms must be submitted no later than October 24, 2024, 5:00 PM ET. Form 60 submission instructions are provided on the registration website and in the registration confirmation email. Foreign government personnel should contact their respective Embassy staff for assistance in submitting the Official Visit Request. **NOTE:** All non-U.S. personnel must present a valid passport or Permanent Resident Card.

NOTE: This Special Notice does not constitute a formal solicitation for proposals. This notice is issued solely for information and program planning purposes and is not a Request for Information (RFI). Since this is not an RFI, no submissions against this notice will be accepted by DARPA. DARPA will not provide reimbursement for costs incurred to participate in this Proposers Day. Interested parties to this notice are cautioned that nothing herein obligates DARPA to issue a solicitation.

EVENT FORMAT

The I2O Office-Wide Proposers Day will include overview presentations by personnel. The event will conclude with an opportunity to have sidebars with program managers, which requires advance sign-up at the time of registration. Sidebars are limited to in-person attendees only.

Following the Proposers Day, DARPA anticipates posting additional information regarding the I2O Office-Wide program (e.g., DARPA materials presented at the Proposers Day and a Q&A document) to <http://www.darpa.mil/work-with-us/opportunities>.

ATTENDEE TEAMING

To assist those wanting to establish collaborative teaming efforts and business relationships, potential proposers may indicate on the registration website that they authorize their contact information to be shared among meeting participants. For organizations new to DARPA, this may be of use in connecting with potential partners. Team formation, communications, and networking are the sole responsibility of the participants. As noted above, the Proposers Day agenda has time for informal teaming discussions.