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Open Topic Phase II and D2P2: Completing the Customer Memorandum

28 March 2024

Rules of Engagement

- 1. Call is recorded
- 2. No Classified/Proprietary Information
- 3. Post Questions in Q&A portion

All information is subject to change.
The final, authoritative source of information & requirements is the solicitation instructions.



Branch Org Inboxes

- Open Topic Phase I: pl@afwerx.af.mil
- Open Topic Phase II: p2@afwerx.af.mil
- Specific Topic: usaf.team@afsbirsttr.us
- STRATFI/TACFI: stratfi.tacfi@afwerx.af.mil



Visit our website at AFWERX.com and social media channels:















Strategy: Capital as a Capability

Customer Memorandum? You are HERE

Open Topic, Specific Topic & STRATFI/TACFI programs fall under AFVentures

management.

Open Topic:

- Technologyagnostic solicitation
- Encourages commercial industry to submit dual-use technology solutions without having a known end-user
- Used to capture the best capabilities and emerging technologies that can impact our Airmen and Guardians

Specific Topic:

- Seeks innovative solutions for a particular problem set defined by a DAF end user or customer
- Many times, the topics and requirements are not a dual-use capability and are specific to the DoD
- These topics have clearly-defined requirements and a known DAF customer built in to the topic solicitation

STRATFI/TACFI:

- STRATFI (Strategic Funding Increase) Program
- TACFI (Tactical Funding Increase)
- Awards help scale Phase II efforts to the level needed to achieve better technology transitions
- De-risks development through syndication with multiple transition-focused partners and leveraging outside investment



AFVentures - HOW THE PROGRAM WORKS



PHASE I

Feasibility Study Open & Specific Topics

OPEN TOPIC

- Up to \$75K per award (\$110K for STTR)
- 3 month period of performance
- ~700 awalds per year

and HERE! for innovation"

SPECIFIC TOPIC

- Up to \$180K per award
- 6 month period of performance
- ~300 awards per year
- Built in Air Force Customer



PHASE II

Prototype

Open, Specific & Direct to Phase II (D2P2) Topics

OPEN TOPIC

- Up to \$1.25M per award (\$1.8M for STTR)
- Up to 21 month period of performance
- ~350 awards per year
- Customer Memorandum required
- · Matched funding encouraged
- D2P2 opportunity if customer is already known and Customer Memorandum is signed

SPECIFIC TOPIC

- Up to \$1.8M per initial award
- Up to 24 month period of performance
- ~200 awards per year
- · Built in Air Force Customer
- D2P2 opportunities



STRATFI/TACFI

Strategic Funding Increase (STRATFI) and Tactical Funding Increase (TACFI) Program

- Notice of Opportunity
- TACFI \$375K \$1.9M SBIR/STTR funds
- STRATFI \$3M \$15M SBIR/STTR funds
- Defense only or dual use matching options
- Private Investor Opportunities



- Continuation, derivation, or extension of SBIR/STTR Phase I, II or STRATFI/TACFI work
- · Contract with partnering US Government customer
- Utilizes non-SBIR funds



\(\text{FVENTURES} \)



PHASE II

Prototype

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Phase II/D2P2: Purpose

- The principal Research or Research and Development (R/R&D) effort
 - "Traditional Follow-On Phase II": Aims to continue effort from the completed Phase I effort
 - Direct to Phase II (D2P2) Topic (SBIR ONLY): Aims to continue R&D from prior non-SBIR/STTR research
 - NOTE: D2P2 Phase I feasibility documentation cannot be based upon or logically extend from any prior or ongoing federally funded SBIR or STTR work.
- Expected to produce a well-defined deliverable prototype





PHASE II

Prototype

Open, Specific & Direct to Phase II (D2P2) Topics

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Phase II/D2P2: Proposal Standard

Proposal should provide sufficient information to persuade the DAF the proposed effort represents an innovative solution worthy of support under the stated evaluation criteria.



SBIR/STTR Phase II & D2P2 Proposal Structure

- Vol 1: Proposal Cover Sheet (SAM, UEI, CAGE, Abstract, etc)
- Vol 2: Technical Volume
 - Mandatory White Paper
 - 15 page maximum, excluding Table of Contents and Glossary (pages in excess NOT reviewed)
- Vol 3: Cost Volume
 - System formatted inputs
- Vol 4: Company Commercialization Report (CCR)
 - Follow solicitation instructions for Volume 4
 - CCR information is maintained and report is generated via sbir.gov
 - CCR is uploaded to DSIP as part of the proposal submission process, as applicable



SBIR/STTR Phase II & D2P2 Proposal Structure, Cont'd

Vol 5: Supporting Documents



MANDATORY Customer Memorandum (CM) on Required Template**

- Attachment 8: Disclosures of Foreign Affiliations or Relationship to Foreign Countries
- Attachment 12: Regulatory Compliance Information for Phase II
- *IP Agreement with RI (SBA template available) (STTR ONLY)
- Additional Required Attachments (le: DoD Funding Agreement Certification,
 Work Plan (Non-proprietary), Lifecycle Certification, ESOH Questionnaire)
- Vol 6: Fraud, Waste, and Abuse Training

IMPORTANT:

Proposals that do not include properly prepared
Attachments 8 and 12 will also be deemed
noncompliant and will not receive an
evaluation.





Purpose

Document interest from
DAF/Joint organization(s) to
work w/AFWERX and an Open
Topic SBIR/STTR Phase II
awardee on a proposed
Phase II effort





X DOES NOT:

Qualify as a support agreement or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) as defined by DoDI 4000.19

- Involve binding resource sharing
- Require additional review by other legal teams/HQ
- Require lengthy approval



Simply validation of DAF and/or Joint interest in a proposed solution





*Images are for educational purpose only.

Always reference solicitation(s) for current memorandum language and requirements.

c. 5 C.F.R. §2635.702(c), Exception (1)

Open Topic Phase II: Common Disqualifier

- All elements MUST be present & complete
- Fill in <u>all</u> fields (if question not applicable to solution, use "N/A")
- Ensure all digital signatures properly included on a <u>single</u> memorandum



IMPORTANT:

A completed and signed customer memorandum is required to be considered for award.



Template

Subject to frequent (generally minor) updates or changes.

It is important that you submit only the most recent version with your proposal.

The most recent version will be made available on afwerx.com.



CUSTOMER MEMORANDUM For 23.7 Phase II, 23.E Phase II, and 24.6 D2P2



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE

NOTE: As DAF priorities, programming, and requirements evolve – and as government and industry partner feedback received – the Open Topic tools and forms needed to support those efforts continue to be refined. As such, this docum is subject to updates each solicitation cycle. It is important that you use the most recent version of the Customer Memorandum when you submit your proposal. Make sure the solicitation number in the header above corresponds the solicitation to which you are responding. This will ensure you have the latest (and only acceptable) version.

While it is acceptable to share older versions of the Customer Memorandum for reference and understanding, wait for the solicitation-specific version to be released before acquiring signatures from your customer, end-user, and Technical Point of Contact (TPOC). The Proposal is limited to one completed Customer Memorandum with three digital, CAC-enabled signatures. Multiple Memorandums with individual signatures are not accepted and will result in disqualification.

Note that scans, photos, and image reproductions of this form are also not accepted, as they do not allow for digital signature verification. Avoid using Adobe Distiller to complete or modify this form – use Adobe Acrobat to mitigate data corruption issues. Failure to comply with these requirements may be grounds for disqualification.

OPEN TOPIC CUSTOMER MEMORANDUM

▶ See page 19 for Form Instructions

References:

- a. 15 U.S.C. §638
- Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program Policy Directive (Oct 2020)
- c. 5 C.F.R. §2635.702(c), Exception (1)



Ensure solicitation #

on template

matches the solicitation to which

you are responding.

Customer Memorandum

Open Topic Phase II: Criteria A*



The potential for Government or private sector commercialization and benefits expected to accrue from commercialization.

The SBC's record of commercializing SBIR or other research, as indicated by pre-sales, pilots, sales, revenue, active users, subscriptions, downloads, and/or other forms of traction/adoption.

The size of the market & potential for revenue, and the clarity of the SBC's business plan.

The existence of Phase II follow-on commitments for the subject research, and funding commitments related to the subject effort, whether from Government sources, as documented in the Air Force Customer Memorandum, or private sources, as documented through a letter of commitment, are evidence of commercialization potential.

A sound transition strategy in the Air Force Customer Memorandum is also evidence of commercialization potential.



Open Topic Phase II: Criteria B*



The appropriateness, relevance, and specificity of an identified Defense Need.

A complete and compelling Customer Memorandum using the mandatory template, signed by an appropriate end-user, customer, and TPOC indicates the appropriateness, relevance, and specificity of an identified Defense Need.

While not required, signed letters of support from other Government personnel may be indicators of the appropriateness, relevance, and specificity of an identified Defense Need.

Adequacy of the proposed effort and its relationship to fulfilling the identified Defense Need.

The level of defense mission impact and urgency of the Defense Need.

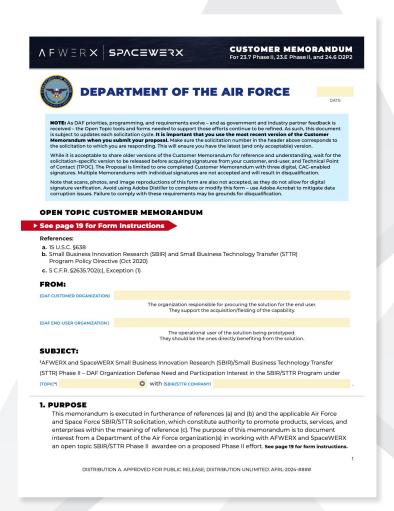
The breadth of applicability of the solution.





Sections

- 1. CM Purpose Statement
- 2. Defense Mission Need
- 3. Project Timeline
- 4. Phase II Funding Commitment
- 5. Additional Agreement
- Phase III Interest
- 7. Milestones





Sections, Cont'd.

- 8. Stakeholders
 - a. Primary Customer Organization
 - b. Primary End-User Organization
 - c. Technical Point of Contact (TPOC)
 - d. TPOC Designation
 - e. Staff Functions
- 9. Phase III Transition Strategy
- 10. Security Requirements
- 11. Cybersecurity
- 12. Flight Testing/Utilization of UAS
- 13. Human Subject Research
- 14. Signatories



CUSTOMER MEMORANDUM

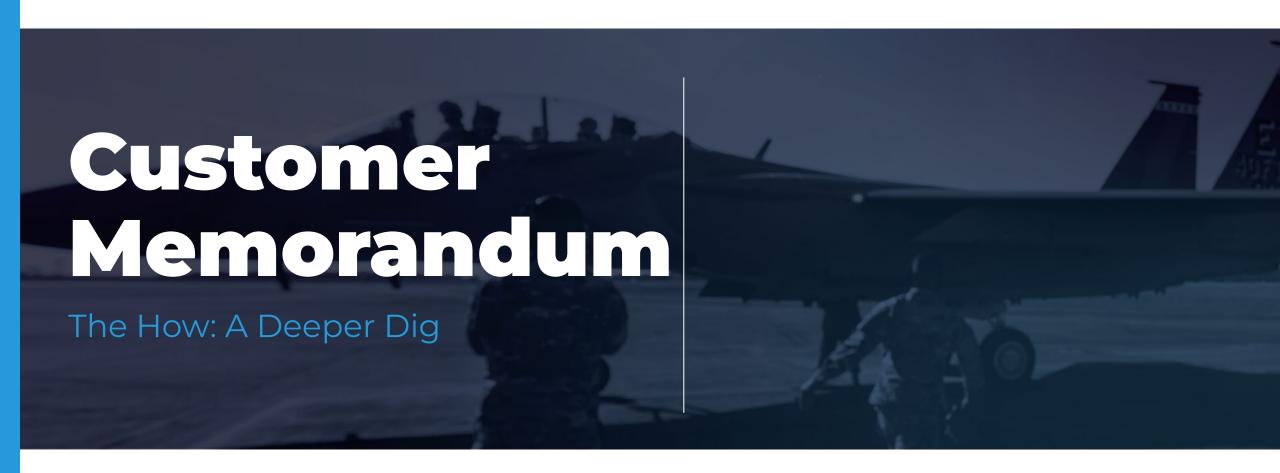
FWERX SPACEWERX



Attachments

- 1.1 Non-Proprietary Schedule of Milestones (REQUIRED)
- 1.2 Non-Proprietary Work Plan (REQUIRED)
- 1.3 SBIR/STTR Definitions & Suitability Resources
 1.3 only: Do not include w/signed memo





2. Defense Mission Need

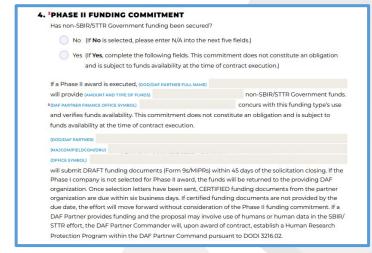
- Details and describes the customer's national
 Defense-related mission need
- Identifies solution alignment with <u>Operational</u>
 <u>Imperatives</u>
- Describes how technology developed under the effort could contribute to future mission-need fulfillment and describes the mission impact on the DAF (Air or Space Forces) and DoD
- Identifies and describes main, measurable goals of your involvement in the project





4. Phase II Funding Commitment

- Documents non-SBIR/STTR Government
 Matching Funds
 - aka Supplemental Funding Requirements
 - Non-AFWERX Gov't Org adds funding to Phase II contract prior to award
- Funding documents (Form 9s/MIPRs) must be provided to AFRL/RGF w/in 45 calendar days after corresponding solicitation closing date
- Once selection letters sent, CERTIFIED funding documents are due five business days later.



Matching funds (Government or Commercial) are NOT required to participate in Phase II.

However, DAF Customers may choose to provide their own funds to supplement SBIR/STTR funds to increase project scope.



4. Phase II Funding Commitment

- Documents Matching F
 - aka Sur
 - Non-AFPhase I

NOTE:

If CERTIFIED funding documents are not provided by [solicitation close date + 45 days], the effort will move forward without the second phase funding commitment considered.

- Funding documents (roint asymmets) must be provided to AFRL/RGF w/in 45 calendar days after corresponding solicitation closing date
- Once selection letters sent, CERTIFIED funding documents are due five business days later.

ng fields. This commitment does not constitute an obligation ability at the time of contract execution.)

ARTHER FULL NAME)

non-SBIR/STTR Government funds.
concurs with this funding type's use itment does not constitute an obligation and is subject to execution.

Form 9s/MIPRs) within 45 days of the solicitation closing. If the se II award, the funds will be returned to the providing DAF been sent, CERTIFIED funding documents from the partner days. If certified funding documents are not provided by the ithout consideration of the Phase II funding commitment. If a roposal may involve use of humans or human data in the SBIR/ er will, upon award of contract, establish a Human Research

Matching funds (Government or Commercial) are NOT required to participate in Phase II.

4. PHASE II FUNDING COMMITMENT

However, DAF Customers may choose to provide their own funds to supplement SBIR/STTR funds to increase project scope.



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Always reference solicitation(s) for current memorandum language and requirements.

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Matching Funds - Do They Help?

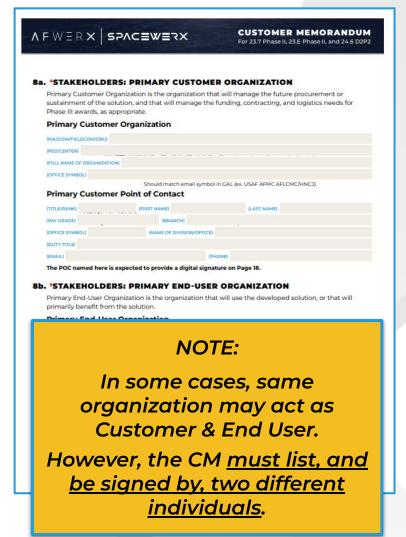
- Proposals with matching funds (Gov't or Commercial) are not automatically scored better during evaluation and selection
- However, matching funds can help indicate higher Commercialization Potential and Defense Need
- See solicitation and CM instructions for more information





8. Stakeholders

- Primary Customer Organization
 - Will manage future procurement/sustainment of solution
 - Will manage funding, contracting, & logistics needs for Phase III awards, as appropriate
- Primary End-User Organization
 - Will use or benefit from developed solution
 - Provides input, requirements, & feedback throughout development process
 - Ensure solution aligns w/operational needs





*Images are for educational purpose only.

8. Stakeholders

- Technical Points of Contact (TPOCs)
 - Designated primary Gov't Representative
 - Liaison between SBC, Customer, End-User,
 & AFVentures Open Topic PM Team
 - Must be notified of duties prior to Memo signature
 - Must be DAF
 - Maintain Format of Name; Rank/Grade;
 Organization; Email; Phone



Responsible for day-to-day management of project

- Monitors project performance
- Provides input on/acceptance of contract deliverables
- Resolves tactical barriers
 - approvals and waivers
 - base access
 - software accreditation, etc.



8. Stakeholders

- Staff Functions Providing Concurrence
 - Optional but <u>encouraged!</u>
 - Requirements based on program needs
 - Security Office if base access, CAC's or classified access required
 - Information Assurance (IA) if solution is software/IT
 - Finance if Gov't Funds are to be added
- Remaining Stakeholder Fields
 - Not required, but will aid future transition
 - Use "N/A" for fields that do not apply



Note:

Identifying and engaging
stakeholders early, and as the
program progresses,
will significantly increase
likelihood of transition at the
end of a successful Phase II!



Your proposal is

limited to ONE

completed

memorandum

Signatures



3 CAC-enabled, digital signatures <u>required</u>
 (Customer, End-User, & TPOC) on a <u>single</u>
 memorandum

 Must be Government (either Military or Civilian)

FFRDC/Support Contractors
 MAY NOT SIGN

- Customer or End-User <u>may</u> be non-DAF member from a DoD Joint Org
- TPOC MUST be a DAF (USAF or USSF)
 member in all cases

Customer/End-User may be from same organization, but must not be the same person.

20 Customer (FIRST MI LAST, RANK/GRADE, USAF)

John Smith, GS-14, USAF

NOTE: A CAC-enabled, digital signature is required here AND in the field to the right.

Smith.Joh

Digitally signed by John.Smith.111111 Date: 2023.08.08 12:18:25 -04'00' End-User (FIRST MI LAST, RANK/GRADE, USAF)

Jane Doe, Maj, USAF

NOTE: A CAC-enabled, digital signature is required here AND in the field to the left.

Doe.Jane

Digitally signed by Jane.Doe.222222 Date: 2023-06-10 14:27:13 -04'00'

22 Primary TPOC Signature (FIRST MI LAST, RANK/GRADE, USAF)

Good, Michael, SSgt, USAF

NOTE: A CAC-enabled, digital signature is required here.

Good.Mich ael.333333 Digitally signed by Michael Good 444444 Date: 2023.08.12 08:55:49 -04'00' By signing this memorandum, you acknowledge you understand, accept, and will abide by the full terms and conditions outlined in the TPOC Designation Section.

If you are actively planning to change jobs, PCS, or retire within the next 6 months, please ther TPOC to support this effort.

Must be a DAF member in all cases.



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Always reference solicitation(s) for current memorandum language and requirements.

IMPORTANT INFORMATION



Your proposal is limited to a <u>single</u> Customer Memorandum with <u>three digital</u>, CAC-enabled signatures

- Multiple memorandums with individual signatures are <u>NOT</u> accepted and will result in disqualification
- Scans, photos, and image reproductions of the form are <u>NOT</u> accepted as they do not allow for digital signature verification
- Avoid using Adobe Distiller to complete or modify the form we suggest using Adobe Acrobat to mitigate data corruption issues

Failure to comply with these requirements may be grounds for disqualification.



What are the Customer and End-User Agreeing To?

In the context of an Open Topic Phase II program, typically a few things, including:

- Providing Phase II awardee w/access to necessary support & information
- Participating in tech demonstrations (test & evaluations) to provide feedback
- Investigating transition of the tech solution into operational use
- Providing ongoing support & feedback to the Phase II awardee as the tech solution is refined & improved over time



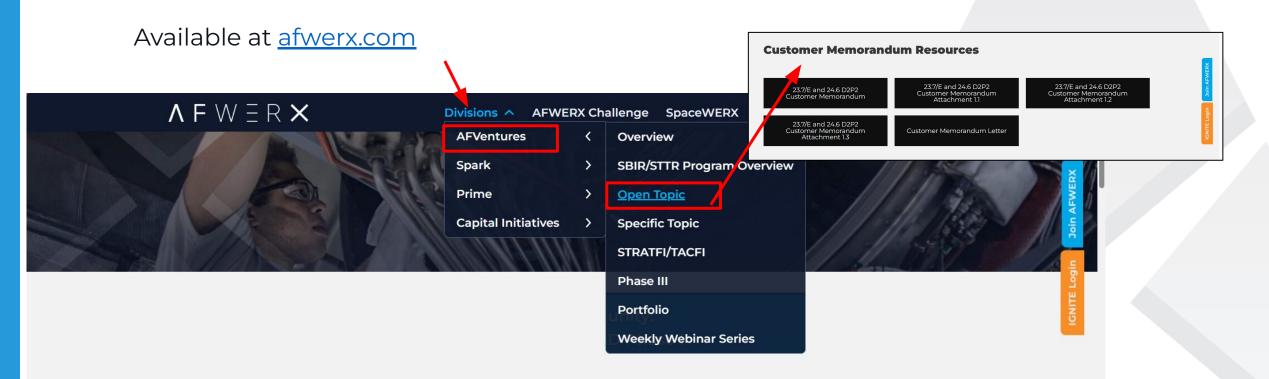
Exact commitments/expectations will vary depending on program & circumstances.

In general, the CM serves as understanding that the customer, end-user, & SBIR Phase II awardee will work together towards the successful development of the tech solution.



Where do I find the most current version?



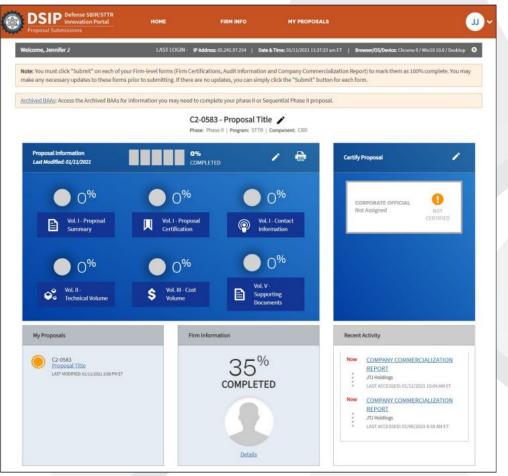


How do I submit the Customer Memorandum?

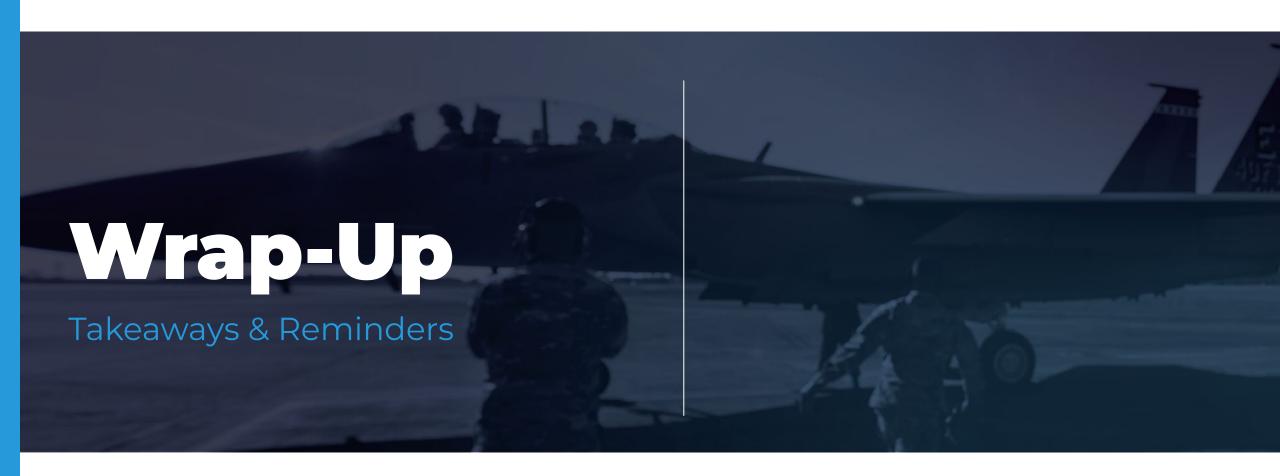


Via the Defense SBIR/STTR Innovation Portal (DSIP), as part of your overall Proposal Package

https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil







\(\text{FVENTURES} \)

Customer Memorandum

Takeaways

- Ensure you have the correct template version
- Read instructions carefully
- Remember the "Why"
- Check for completeness
- Enter "N/A" if a field is not applicable
- Check your stakeholder signatures!



OPEN TOPIC CUSTOMER MEMORANDUM

► See page 19 for Form Instructions

- b. Small Business Innovation Research (SBIR) and Small Business Technology Transfer (STTR) Program Policy Directive (Oct 2020)
- c. 5 C.F.R. §2635.702(c), Exception (1)

What's Next

- Open Topic 24.6 D2P2
 - Opens at Noon ET on Wednesday, 24 April
 - Proposals due at Noon ET on Thursday, 23 May
 - Do not wait until end of submission period to submit proposal materials
 - All proposals must be submitted via DSIP (https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/)
- Be familiar with Method of Selection and Evaluation Criteria (Solicitation Section 4)
 - Commercialization Potential
 - Defense Need
 - Technical Merit
- Questions must be answered via DSIP Q&A or AMA webinars
 - Solicitation instructions provide the best source of information
 - Upcoming Open Topic D2P2 AMAs
 - April 25
- ∧FW∃R**×** May 16

Solicitation Resources

Contracting Officer: Mr. Daniel Brewer

Program Manager: Ms. Emily Primeaux

For questions, utilize DSIP Q&A section

https://www.dodsbirsttr.mil/submissions/baa-schedule/active-baa-announcements

Additional resources, including the most up-to-date CM Template, can be found at AFWERX.com.







AFWERX AFVENTURES



Specific Topic: usaf.team@afsbirsttr.us

Open Topic Phase I: pl@afwerx.af.mil

Open Topic Phase II: p2@afwerx.af.mil

STRATFI/TACFI: stratfi.tacfi@afwerx.af.mil



Let us know how we are doing. Please complete the survey as you leave today's meeting.