



Rapid Innovation Fund (RIF) – Program Overview

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Background

- Established as the Rapid Innovation Program (RIP) in Section 1073 of the Fiscal Year 2011 National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA)
 - A competitive, merit-based program
 - Accelerates fielding of innovative technologies into military systems
- Reauthorized in the FY 2017 NDAA as a permanent program
- Re-designated as the Rapid Innovation Fund (RIF) within the Department of Defense (DoD)

Bottom Line Goal: Transition Innovative Technologies into Fielded Operational Capability or Defense Acquisition Programs

Key Requirements

Projects objectives:

- Satisfy an operational or national security need
 - Accelerate or enhance military capability
 - In support of major defense acquisition program
- Stimulate innovative technologies
- Reduce acquisition / lifecycle costs
- Address technical risk
- Improve timeliness & thoroughness of test & evaluation outcomes

Projects cost and schedule:

- Limited to two years of funding
- Cost no more than \$3 million

Appropriate Technology Readiness Level (TRL)

RIF Funded with Budget Activity 4 RDT&E Funds

Maturity Goal TRL 6-9

6 System/subsystem model or prototype demonstration in a relevant environment

7 System prototype demonstration in an operational environment

8 Actual system completed and qualified through test and demonstration

9 Actual system proven through successful mission operations

Required for Majority of Awards: Facilitates Transition

Low TRL accepted

ONLY if:

- Breakthrough capability or operational game-changer
- Cost neutral to the acquisition program
- Accommodated within program schedule

4 Component and/or breadboard validation in a laboratory environment

5 Component and/or breadboard validation in a relevant environment

Award By Exception

Technology Readiness Assessment Guidance - -
<http://www.acq.osd.mil/ddre/publications/docs/TRA2011.pdf>

RIF Eligibility

Commitment to Small Business

- Selection preference shall be given to small business
- Awards to other than small business are allowed, but ONLY after the approval authority deems the offer is superior to an offer received from a small business
- Small Business Standard defined by North American Industry Classification System
 - 541715: Research and Development in Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences
 - 541714: Research and Development in Biotechnology
- Participation by minorities and disadvantaged persons is encouraged

Foreign Participants

- Foreign participants and/or individuals may participate
- Some requirements may cover export-controlled technologies
- Research is limited to U.S. persons as defined in the International Traffic in Arms Regulations (ITAR), 22 CFR §1201.1

RIF Management Roles and Responsibilities

OSD-Level (R&E)

- Issue / Publish:
 - Annual Implementation Guidelines
 - Acquisition Plan
 - Source Selection Milestones
 - Detailed Review Process w/ Defense Agencies / CCMDs
 - BAA
 - Communication Guidelines
 - White Paper (WP) Notifications to Offerors
- Track Project Results
 - Annual IPRs
- Issue Funds & Monitor Financial Execution

Component-Level

- Execute Allocated Funds
 - Supplement OSD Guidelines (as needed)
- Provide BAA Requirements
 - Address Offeror Technical Questions
- Establish Source Selection Teams
 - Evaluate WPs & Proposals
 - Make Contract Awards
 - Monitor & Report Technical Progress
- Request Funds & Report Status –
 - Financial Execution
 - Report Results of Project IPRs / End of Project Results

RIF Implementation

■ Competitive, Merit-Based Two-Step Process

○ *Step 1:*

- Issue Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) with DoD component requirements
- Industry Response: 3-page White Paper + Quad Chart
- Evaluations are “Go” or “No Go”

○ *Step 2:*

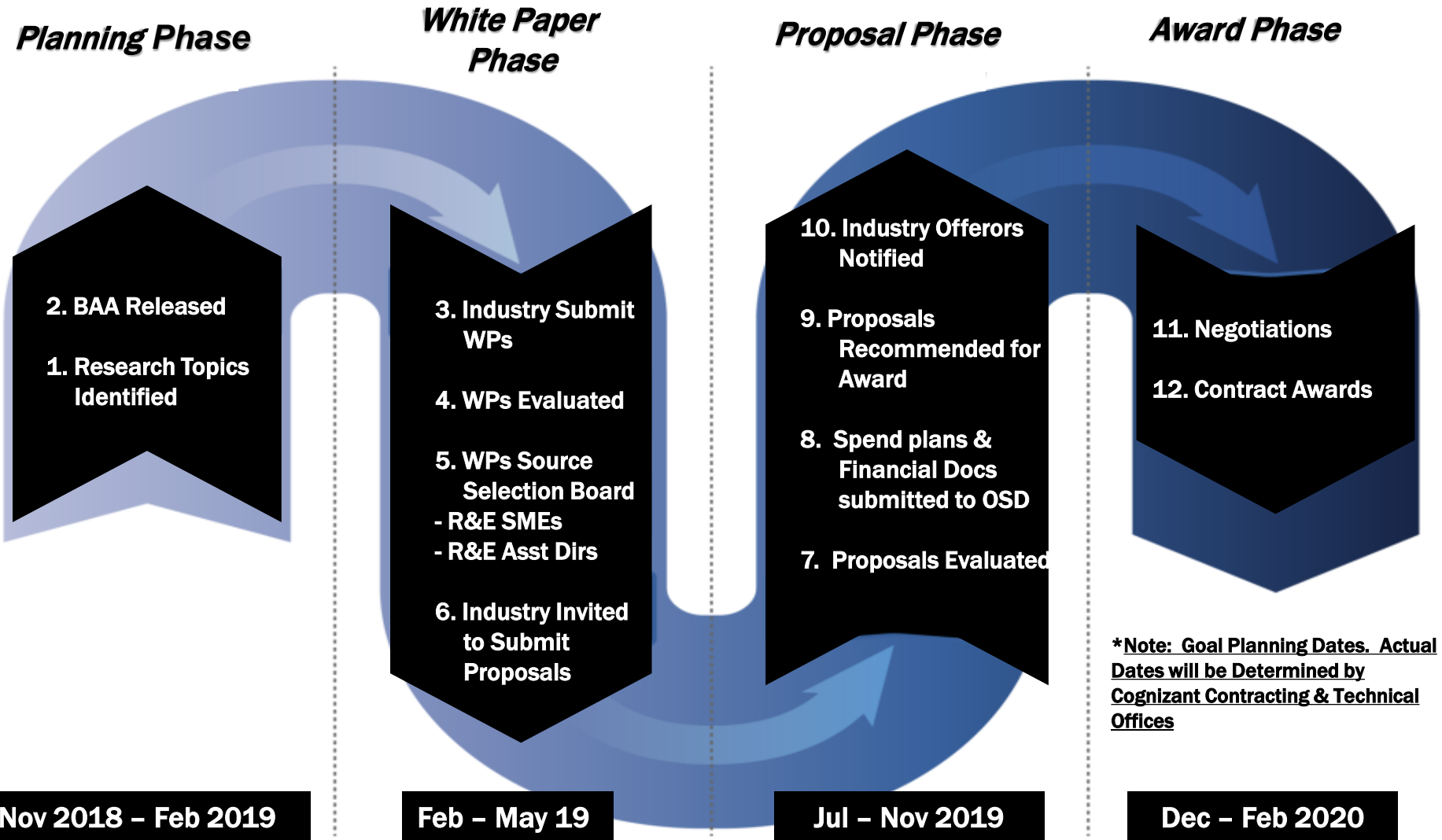
- Highest rated “Go” offerors invited to submit full proposals
 - Further competition – invite for proposal DOES NOT guarantee an award
- Highest-rated proposals lead to award

■ Public Notice:

- Federal Business Opportunities: www.FedBizOpps.gov
- Research & Engineering Defense Innovation Marketplace:
<https://defenseinnovationmarketplace.dtic.mil/business-opportunities/rapid-innovation-fund/>

FY19 Source Selection Process

Key Steps & Timeline



***Note: Goal Planning Dates. Actual Dates will be Determined by Cognizant Contracting & Technical Offices**

Source: GAO analysis of DOD data. | GAO-15-421

FY 2019 Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)

- Issued on Federal Business Opportunities (FedBizOpps)
 - **Research & Engineering Defense Innovation Marketplace:**
<https://defenseinnovationmarketplace.dtic.mil/business-opportunities/rapid-innovation-fund/>
 - **Solicitation Number:**
 - HQ0034-19-BAA-RIF-0001A - - NAICS Codes 541714 – R&D in Biotechnology
 - HQ0034-19-BAA-RIF-0001B - - NAICS Code 541715 – R&D in the Physical, Engineering & Life Sciences
- **Opened January 14, 2019 / Closes March 8, 2019**
- **Contains:**
 - **Key dates / milestones for submission**
 - **Instructions for submission**
 - **Notification of 2-step process: White Papers & Full Proposals**
 - **Source Selection Criteria: Selection for Full Proposal**
 - **Requirements for industry / offeror responses**
 - 289 Requirements from Army, Navy, Air Force, & Defense Agencies
 - Each requirement provides DoD Technical Point of Contact (TPoC)

Good Source Document / Reference for Industry Review

Execution of FY19 Funds: \$250M

Milestones (Update: Mar 2019)

	Target Date	Event / Action	Status	
2019	January 14, 2019	BAA Released in FedBizOpps - Hot Link Posted at: - https://www.dodrif.us/ - http://www.defenseinnovationmarketplace.mil/rif.html	Complete	Step 1
	March 8, 2019	BAA Closes: White Papers (WPs) due from offerors		
	NLT May 1, 2019*	Components complete WP evaluations Initial priorities and ranking by Components		Step 2
	NLT May 31, 2019 *	WP notifications, invite full proposals		
	NLT July 1, 2019 *	Full proposals due from offerors Components start full proposal evaluations		
	NLT Aug 2, 2019 *	Components complete full proposal evaluations		
2020	NLT Dec 3, 2020 *	Negotiations, start contract awards		
	NLT Feb 1, 2020 *	FY19-funded RIF contract awards complete		

* DoD-Wide RIF Goals: Actual Dates will be Determined by Cognizant DoD Component Contracting & Technical Offices

White Paper Submission

White Submission Portal:

<https://www.dodrif.us>

White Paper Structure

- Four Pages – pages submitted in excess of limits will not be read
- Section 1 Cover sheet – does not count in page limit
- Section 2 Technical description
 - Contribution to the requirement
 - Technical Approach
 - Schedule
 - Costs
- Section 3 Quad Chart

Elements of a Good White Paper

WHAT TO INCLUDE:

- Your technology solution
 - How it addresses the RIF requirement
 - Clear, concise synopsis of approach
 - What's innovative – what sets your technology apart from competition
 - Enough technical specification to demonstrate technology expertise
 - Key data:
 - Pictures & diagrams
 - Government contacts that currently relate to this effort
 - Summary of teaming arrangements
 - Any prior testing & summary results

WHAT NOT TO INCLUDE:

- Technology looking for a solution (e.g., un-related to the requirement)
- Generic company overview (org chart)
- History of the problem
- Testimonials from other industry or lab researchers
- Detailed diatribe of charts and formulas stating why your technology is the best

When BAA opens, read it, ask questions & prepare a DRAFT WP soonest

- *If missing data, update later. DO NOT WAIT UNTIL LAST MINUTE!*
- *Follow directions / template as provided in the submission portal(s)*

RIF Key Points of Contact

OSD – Defense Agencies



OSD Program Director

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Military Services



Army

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Navy (ONR)

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Air Force

Neville Thompson

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571-256-0319

Defense Innovation Market Place -

<https://defenseinnovationmarketplace.dtic.mil/business-opportunities/rapid-innovation-fund/>

Federal Business Opportunities -

www.FBO.gov

Questions? Contact us!

Questions@dodrif.us



Additional Info / Resources

<https://defenseinnovationmarketplace.dtic.mil/>

Defense Innovation Marketplace

CONNECTING INDUSTRY AND THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

HOME ▾ PORTALS ▾ COMMUNITIES OF INTEREST ▾ TECH. INTERCHANGE MEETINGS ▾ BUSINESS ▾ INNOVATION ▾ NEWS & EVENTS ▾ SEARCH

INDEPENDENT RESEARCH & DEVELOPMENT

Technology Interchange Meeting

DoD's Weapons, Sensors, and Autonomy Communities of Interest (COIs) have joined together to sponsor the crosscutting 2019 Weapons – Sensors – Autonomy Communities of Interest (COIs) Independent Research & Development (IR&D) Technology Interchange Meetings (TIMs) being held in parallel with the National Defense Industrial Association's (NDIA) 20th annual Science & Engineering Technology (S&ET) Symposium in San Diego, CA.

1-5 April 2019
San Diego, CA

Air Force Resources

Army Resources

Basic Research

Combatant Commands

DoD Agencies

DoD Laboratories

FFRDCs & UARCs

ManTech Program >

Marine (USMC) Resources

Navy Resources

Rapid Innovation Fund

Small Business

Strategic Documents

Warfighting Lab Incentive Fund

Weapons

The invitation is open to all industry IR&D participants, including large and small businesses, as well as academia.

Autonomy

[Click for More Information](#)

DoD R&E Enterprise

Solving Problems Today – Designing Solutions for Tomorrow



DoD Research Enterprise
<https://www.acq.osd.mil/rd/>

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