



# Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR)

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Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research &  
Engineering (OUSD(R&E))

Northeastern Regional Meeting | September 26, 2019





# ***Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) Team***

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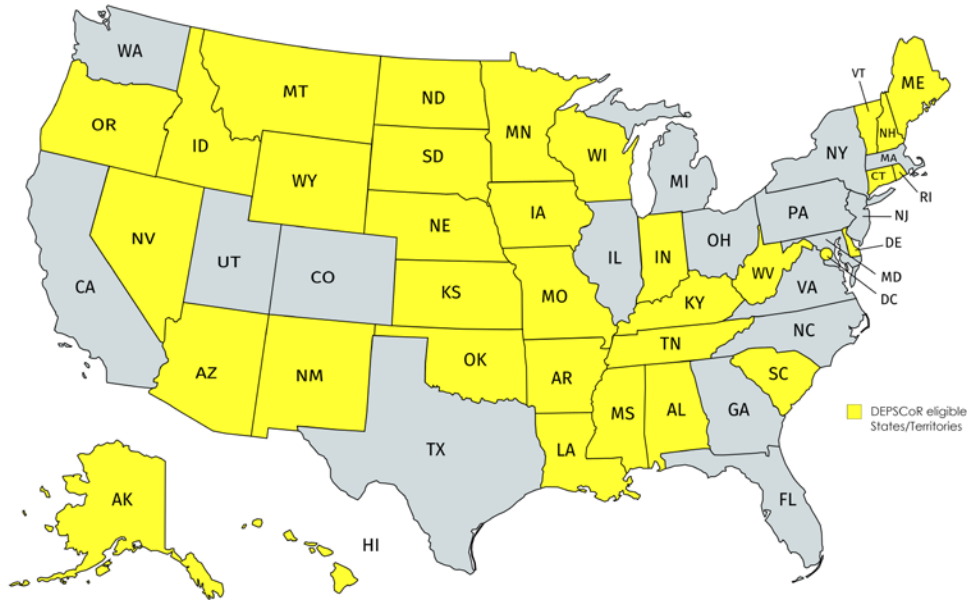
# ***Program Overview***

- **Defense Experimental Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR) was created by Congress in FY91 DoD appropriation, and legislatively authorized in 1994**
- **Appropriations (\$12M): FY19 Defense Appropriations Congressional supplement to the Basic Research Initiatives program line dedicated to DEPSCoR**
- **Currently sponsored by Dr. Bindu Nair, Deputy Director for Basic Research Office (BRO), OUSD(R&E)**



## ***Program Eligibility***

**Congressionally-directed eligibility criteria: “States or territories that received less than 60% of 1/50<sup>th</sup> of the total DoD S&E research obligations to U.S. IHE are eligible if a commitment to developing S&E research is demonstrated.”**



**\*Eligible territories include Guam, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands**

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**The Department determined commitment by a State/Territory having at least one S&E graduate program**



# ***Program Goals***



## DEPSCoR Objectives as mandated by Congress:

1. **Enhance the capabilities** of institutions of higher education (IHE) in eligible State/Territories to develop, plan, and execute science and engineering (S&E) research that is relevant to the mission of the DoD and competitive under the peer-review systems used for awarding Federal research assistance
2. **Increase the number of university researchers** in eligible States/Territories capable of performing S&E research responsive to the needs of the DoD
3. **Increase the probability of long-term growth in the competitively awarded** financial assistance that IHE in eligible States/Territories receive from the Federal Government for S&E research



# ***Execution Approach***



**Supplement Funding to  
Existing Service Programs**



**Collaborative  
DEPSCoR  
Competition**



**Outreach &  
Education**



# ***Supplement Funding to Service Programs***

## **DoD-selected 6.1 programs with greatest capacity to meet DEPSCoR Objectives**

### **1. Building faculty capacity via Young Investigator Programs:**

- Three Young Investigator Program (YIP) awards in each of the three services, each at the \$150,000 per year over three years
  - **ARO = Rolling Application Process**

### **2. Building institutional capacity via Defense University Research Instrumentation Programs:**

- One Defense University Research Instrumentation Program (DURIP) award in each of the three services, each at the \$300,000

**DoD will award an additional 9 YIPs and 3 DURIPs to DEPSCoR-eligible researchers compared to the yearly average of the previous 5 years.**







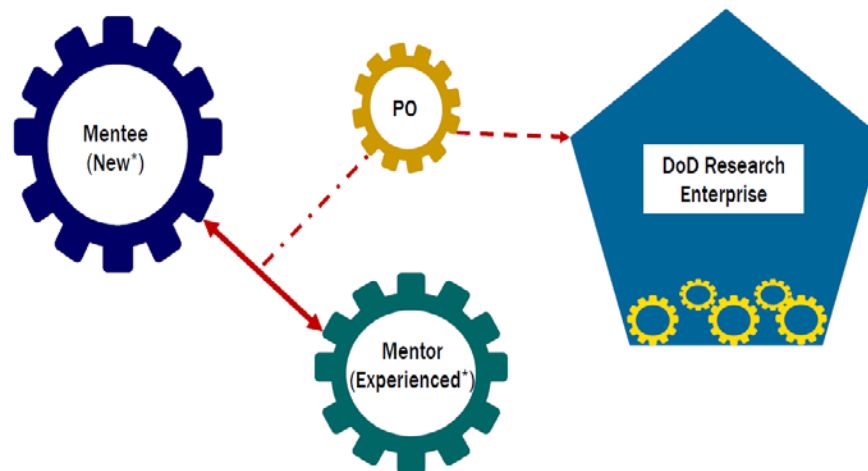
# ***DEPSCoR Competition***



## **Integrate new researchers from DEPSCoR-eligible States/Territories into the DoD Research Enterprise through mentoring**

### **Identified Perceived Barriers:**

- DoD proposals are different in style and content to other federal agencies
- Building relationships with Program Officers (PO) are critical for program success
- Awareness of DoD opportunities



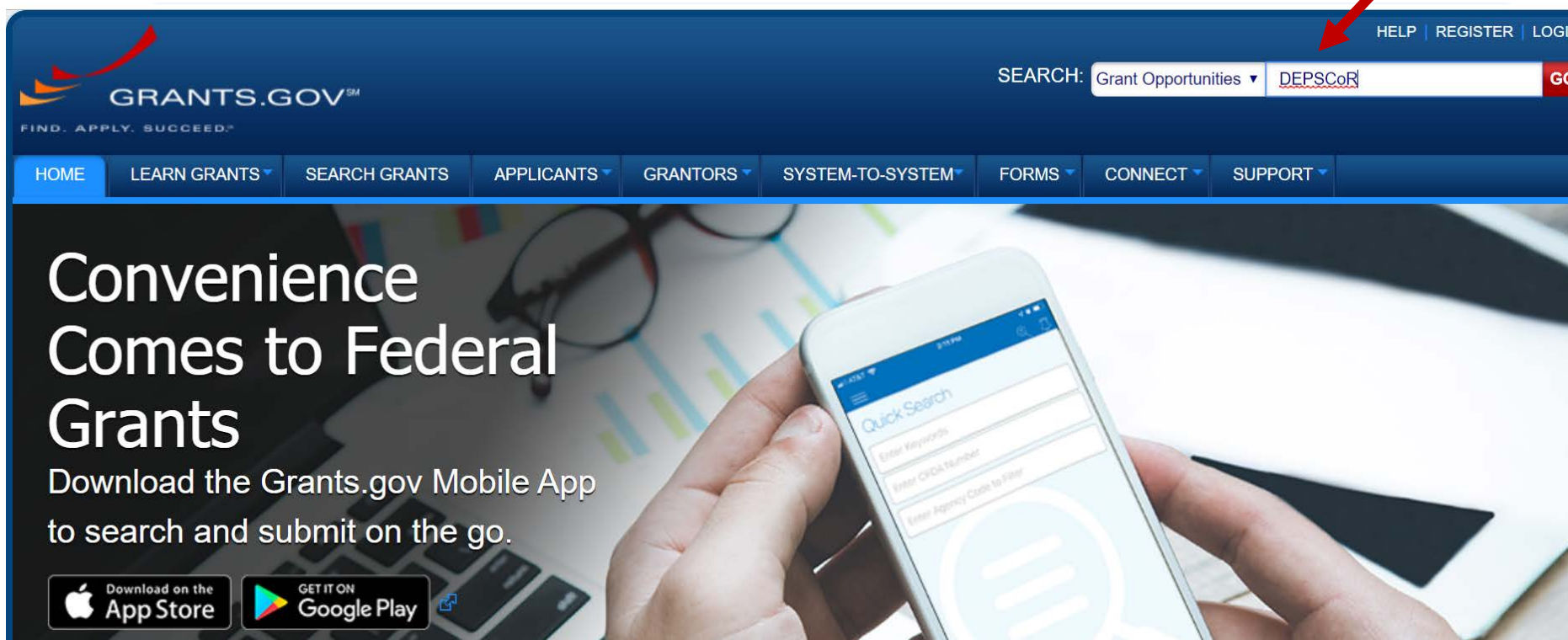
\*denotes to DoD Research Enterprise

2-person team from DEPSCoR-eligible States/Territories can apply  
Expected: 6 awards with \$200K/year (total cost) for three years





# ***DEPSCoR Competition: grants.gov***



The screenshot shows the grants.gov website interface. At the top, there is a dark blue header with the Grants.gov logo on the left and navigation links (HELP, REGISTER, LOGIN) on the right. A red arrow points to the search bar, which contains the text "DEPSCoR". Below the header is a horizontal menu with various categories: HOME, LEARN GRANTS, SEARCH GRANTS, APPLICANTS, GRANTORS, SYSTEM-TO-SYSTEM, FORMS, CONNECT, and SUPPORT. The main content area features a large image of a hand holding a smartphone displaying the Grants.gov mobile app interface. Overlaid on the left side of this image is the text "Convenience Comes to Federal Grants" and "Download the Grants.gov Mobile App to search and submit on the go." At the bottom left of the image are buttons for "Download on the App Store" and "GET IT ON Google Play".

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SEARCH: Grant Opportunities ▾ DEPSCoR GO

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# DEPSCoR Competition: *grants.gov*

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GRANTS.GOV > Search Grants

## SEARCH GRANTS ?

**BASIC SEARCH CRITERIA:**  
Keyword(s):    
Opportunity Number:    
CFDA:

[Search Tips](#) | [Export Detailed Data](#) |

**SORT BY:**

**DATE RANGE:**

**1 - 3 OF 3 MATCHING RESULTS:**

Opportunity Number	Opportunity Title	Agency	Opportunity Status	Posted Date	Close Date
<a href="#">FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2019-0004</a>	Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR)	DOD-AFOSR	Posted	07/16/2019	03/20/2020
<a href="#">N00014-19-S-F010</a>	FUNDING OPPORTUNITY ANNOUNCEMENT (FOA) FY2020 VANNENAR BUSH FACULTY FELLOWSHIP	DOD-ONR	Posted	06/18/2019	01/17/2020
<a href="#">W911NF-17-S-0002</a>	Army Research Office Broad Agency Announcement for Fundamental Research	DOD-AMC	Posted	04/01/2017	03/31/2022

**OPPORTUNITY STATUS:**  
☒ Forecasted (0)  
☒ Posted (3)  
☐ Closed (0)  
☐ Archived (16)

**FUNDING INSTRUMENT TYPE:**  
☒ All Funding Instruments  
☐ Cooperative Agreement (1)



# DEPSCoR Competition: *grants.gov*

## VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY



FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2019-0004  
Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR)  
Department of Defense  
Air Force Office of Scientific Research

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### Notification History:

Type	Date	Modification Description
Related Documents	Aug 06, 2019	DEPSCoR - Amendment to Correct Proposal Due Date to 14 Feb 19 by 11:59 PM Eastern Standard Time. (By Invitation Only)
Related Documents	Aug 06, 2019	Second Set of Questions and Answers Received before deadline of 31 Jul 19.
Related Documents	Jul 26, 2019	First Set of Questions Answered - 26 Jul 19

Click on the following file link(s) to download the related document(s):

File Description	File Name	Last Updated Date/Time	File Size
Folder: Full Announcement - DEFENSE ESTABLISHED PROGRAM TO	<a href="#">FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2019-0004-Full Announcement - DEFENSE ESTABLISHED PROGRAM TO.zip</a>	Sep 03, 2019 10:04:04 AM EDT	2.1 MB
DEPSCoR_Webinar_FY 19 Final Presentation Slides_15 Aug 19	<a href="#">DEPSCoR_Webinar_FY19 (Final).pdf</a>	Sep 03, 2019 10:04:19 AM EDT	1.2 MB
DEPSCoR	<a href="#">FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2019-0004_Published 16 Jul 19.pdf</a>	Jul 16, 2019 03:07:48 PM EDT	311.6 KB
DEPSCoR - Amendment	<a href="#">FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2019-0004_Amended_Published 06 Aug 19.pdf</a>	Aug 06, 2019 03:08:40 PM EDT	315.9 KB
DEPSCoR_Webinar_FY 19 Question and Answers_5 Aug 19	<a href="#">FY19 DEPSCoR Webinar QA.pdf</a>	Sep 03, 2019 10:04:04 AM EDT	25.3 KB
FOA - Questions and Answers posted 06 Aug 19	<a href="#">FOA - Questions and Answers posted 06 Aug 19.pdf</a>	Aug 06, 2019 02:59:00 PM EDT	143.6 KB
FOA - Questions and Answers posted 26 Jul 19	<a href="#">FOA - Questions and Answers posted 26 Jul 19.pdf</a>	Jul 26, 2019 07:44:25 AM EDT	189.7 KB



# ***DEPSCoR Competition: White Paper Submission***

DEPSCoR Home FOA Contact ▾

## Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research

### Registration

**Deadline:** October 18, 2019 11:59 PM Eastern

[Registration Requirements](#)

[Register](#)

### White Paper Submission

**Deadline:** October 25, 2019 11:59 PM Eastern

[Submission Requirements](#)

[Submit Paper](#)

[Reset Password](#)

### Additional Information

No current announcements

<https://acqupass.noblis.org/ApplyDEPSCoR>

## **DEPSCoR White Paper Submission Update:**

- Via AcquTrak™
- 33 registered Applicants



# DEPSCoR Competition: Full Proposal (by invitation)

GRANTS.GOV > Search Grants

## VIEW GRANT OPPORTUNITY



FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2019-0004  
Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR)  
Department of Defense  
Air Force Office of Scientific Research

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[Print Synopsis Details](#)



### General Information

Document Type: Grants Notice

Version: Synopsis 1

Funding Opportunity Number: FOA-AFRL-AFOSR-2019-0004

Posted Date: Jul 16, 2019

Funding Opportunity Title: Defense Established Program to Stimulate Competitive Research (DEPSCoR)

Last Updated Date: Jul 16, 2019

Opportunity Category: Other

Original Closing Date for Applications: Mar 20, 2020

Opportunity Category Explanation: This is a pre-solicitation notice. No applications are requested at this time.

Current Closing Date for Applications: ~~Mar 20, 2020~~

Archive Date: Apr 19, 2020

Funding Instrument Type: Grant

Estimated Total Program Funding: \$3,600,000

Category of Funding Activity: Science and Technology and other Research and Development

Award Ceiling: \$600,000

Award Floor: \$200,000

Category Explanation:

Expected Number of Awards: 100

CFDA Number(s): 12.431 -- Basic Scientific Research

Cost Sharing or Matching Requirement: No

**Correct Date:**  
**2/14/2020**



# ***Grant Information***

- Collaborative research grants
- Tenured and tenured-track faculty members at IHE in DEPSCoR-eligible jurisdictions are eligible to apply
- One white paper submission per Applicant/Principal Investigator
- One collaboration per Collaborator/co-Principal Investigator
- Strongly encouraged to flesh out proposal idea with a Program Officer in the TriService
- Security clearance is not required to receive award
- U.S. citizenship is not required
- Approximately six proposals will be selected for funding



# ***Competition Process Overview***

- AcquTrak - ***Applicants*** submit three page program description narrative (white paper) and supporting documentation
  - ❖ *CV – two (2) page limit, single-sided/team member*
- Each Service will hold an internal white paper review process in partnership with the Basic Research Office
- Panels discuss their papers and put forward names for consideration as semi-finalists
- Grants.gov – ***IHE*** of invited semi-finalists (~20) submit full proposals, CV, budget
- Proposals are reviewed online by specific subject matter experts in academia and government. The white paper panelists review all proposals from their panel
- Panels meet to recommend awards
- Basic Research leadership selects Fellows





# ***Categories for White Paper Submission***

- **Chemistry**
- **Biology and Engineering Biology**
- **Physics, Electronics, and Sensors**
- **Engineering**
- **Materials**
- **Earth and Space Sciences**
- **Mathematical, Computer, and Information Sciences**
- **Social and Behavioral Sciences and Human Systems**
- **Other**



# ***Important Dates for FY20 Competition***

<b>Event</b>	<b>Date</b>	<b>Time</b>
<b>AcquTrak website open for registration and submission: <a href="https://acqupass.noblis.org/ApplyDEPSCoR">https://acqupass.noblis.org/ApplyDEPSCoR</a></b>	<b>12 July 2019</b>	
<b>Questions Regarding White Paper and Supporting Documentation (submitted by)</b>	<b>31 July 2019</b>	
<b>AcquTrak Registration (required by)</b>	<b>18 October 2019</b>	<b>11:59 PM EDT</b>
<b>White Paper and Supporting Documentation (required by)</b>	<b>25 October 2019</b>	<b>11:59 PM EDT</b>
<b>Notification of White Paper Selection</b>	<b>16 December 2019*</b>	
<b>Proposal (by invitation only)</b>	<b>14 February 2020</b>	<b>11:59 PM EST</b>

\* Estimated date



# Program Philosophy

**Q: When determining whether someone is DOD-funded or non-previously DOD-funded, should we include funding through a sub-award? Also, does it matter if the person served as the PI, Co-PI, key personnel, or other?**

**A: Collaborator/co-Principal Investigator = served as the Principal Investigator on a previously DoD-funded grant (within the last seven years)**

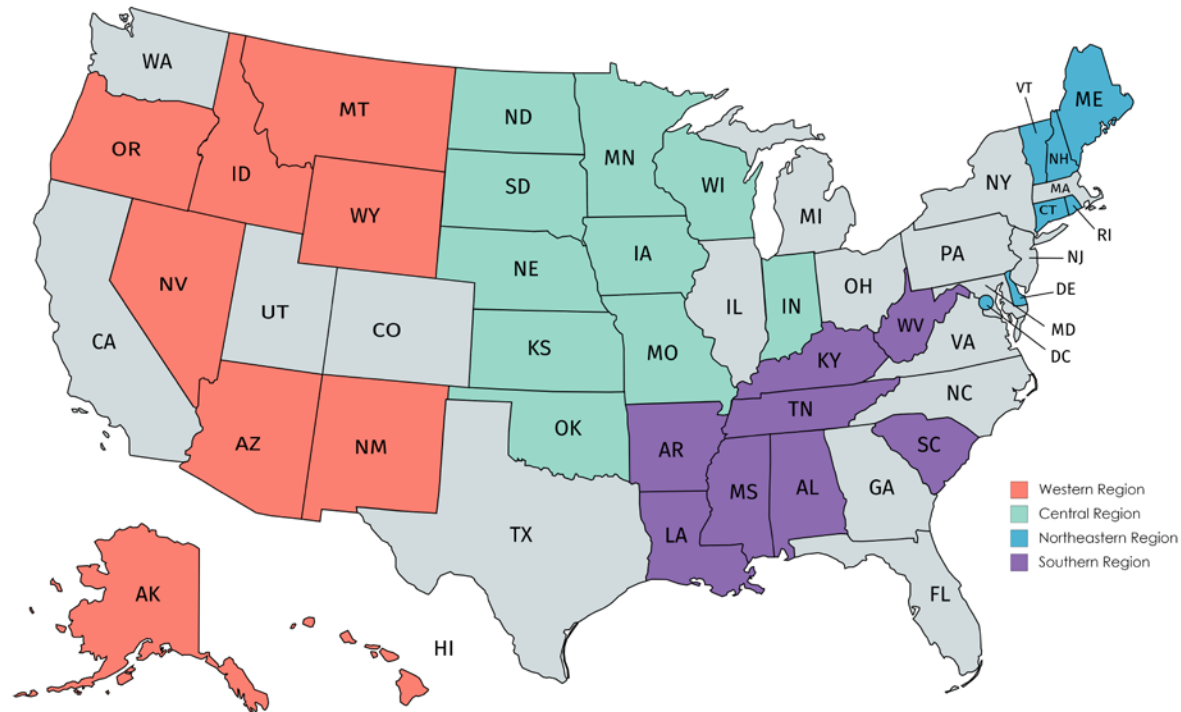
**\* *Seven-year timeframe = FY12 - FY19***

**Applicant/Principal Investigator = not served as the Principal Investigator on a previously DoD-funded grant**

**A person who previously received DoD-funding through a sub-award or served as a co-PI/key personnel/other on a previously DoD-funded award must apply as the Applicant/Principal Investigator.**



# DEPSCoR Outreach



\*Southeastern Region - Guam, Puerto Rico, and U.S. Virgin Islands

DEPSCoR is unique due to the DoD research enterprise structure and eligibility criteria.



# ***DEPSCoR DoD Day – Southern Regional Meeting***



**Louisiana State University  
February 20, 2020**

**<https://www.lsu.edu/research/depacor/index.php>**

***THANK YOU***



<https://basicresearch.defense.gov/Pilots/DEPSCoR-Defense-Established-Program-to-Stimulate-Competitive-Research/>



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