Pre-Announcement, October 2024



PRE-ANNOUNCEMENT

"Fiscal Year 2025 Multi-Topic Request for Proposals"

The Medical Technology Enterprise Consortium (MTEC) is excited to post this pre-announcement for an upcoming Request for Project Proposals (RPP) soliciting a broad range of medical prototype technological and knowledge solutions related to the Focus Areas of Interest (also called "Focus Area(s)") listed below. Proposed solutions may include medical techniques, knowledge products, and materiel (e.g., medical devices, drugs, and biologics). Military relevance is a key feature of the upcoming RPP.

BACKGROUND:

Current wartime operations assume that the United States and our allies will maintain air, land, maritime, space and cyber superiority. Future conflicts against peer and near-peer adversaries are expected to be layered stand-offs and fought across multiple domains. Mission success will be determined by our ability to compete to expand the competitive space, penetrate both strategically and operationally, disintegrate enemy's defenses, exploit enemy weaknesses, and re-compete to consolidate gains. Medical capabilities play a critical role in each aspect of the future battlespace and must modernize rapidly to maintain Force readiness and increase soldier lethality.

FOCUS AREAS:

To meet the intent of this RPP, each proposal <u>SHALL</u> specifically address <u>ONLY ONE</u> Focus Area described below. Offerors are **not** limited to a single proposal submission. Projects that fail to align with only one of these Focus Areas may not be considered for funding. The following general Focus Areas of Interest are not listed in order of importance. The detailed requirements for each area will be described in the upcoming Request for Project Proposals. The anticipated focus areas include, but are not limited to the listing below:

- Traumatic Brain Injury
- Burn Care
- Prophylactic to Prevent Infection in Battlefield Wounds from Complex Traumatic Penetrating Injuries in a Far-Forward, Austere Environment
- Pathogen Agnostic Countermeasures for the Treatment of Sepsis Caused by Wound Infection
- Antivirals for the Prevention and/or Treatment of Endemic and Emerging Infectious Diseases (Non-biothreat Pathogens)
- Prevention of Endemic Diarrheal Diseases
- Knowledge Product Solutions for the Prevention of Infection in Traumatic Penetrating Wounds
- Pharmacogenetics
- Nutrition
- Musculoskeletal injury
- Computer Simulation

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POTENTIAL FUNDING AVAILABILITY AND PERIOD OF PERFORMANCE:

Due to the wide variety and inherent diversity of focus areas being solicited for in the upcoming RPP, the funding amount, expected Period of Performance, number of anticipated awards, and timing of funding availability for each focus area is contingent upon the availability of federal funds for each program and will be described in the upcoming Request for Project Proposals. Selection of prototype projects will be a highly competitive process and is based on the evaluation of the proposal's technical merit, programmatic considerations (to include program portfolio composition), and the availability of funds. The quantity of meaningful submissions received normally exceeds the number of awards that the available funding can support. For informational purposes, the average size of MTEC awards for the initial PoP is approximately \$2.0 - 3.5M over a 2-3-year PoP.

MINIMUM REQUIREMENTS FOR PROPOSAL SUBMISSION:

Proposals submitted in response to the RPP shall meet the following minimum requirements:

- 1. <u>Fit the Prototype Definition</u>: Proposed prototype projects should not be exploratory in nature and do require a foundation of preliminary data. The definition of a "prototype" is as follows: a prototype project addresses a proof of concept, model, reverse engineering to address obsolescence, pilot, novel application of commercial technologies for defense purposes, agile development activity, creation, design, development, demonstration of technical or operational utility, or combinations of the foregoing. A process, including a business process, may be the subject of a prototype project.
- Meet the Minimum Knowledge/Technology Readiness Level (KRL/TRL): Each of the topics solicited
 for within this upcoming RPP may have their own minimum TRL/KRL requirements. Offerors
 should note that a minimum KRL/TRL of 3 at the time of proposal submission will be required to
 meet the prototype definition. Please refer to the individual topic areas in the upcoming RPP for
 more information.
 - *NOTE: Full definitions of TRLs can be found <u>here</u>. More information regarding KRLs can be found <u>here</u>.
- 3. Represent New Submissions to MTEC: Proposed solutions should not have been submitted to MTEC under previous RPPs within the past 2 years, including the 24-01-MPAI and 23-06-USAMRDC-MultiTopic. The Government is already aware of concepts submitted in response to previous MTEC solicitations; therefore, such projects are not allowed to be resubmitted here.

POTENTIAL FOLLOW-ON TASKS:

There is potential for award of one or more follow-on tasks based on the success of any resultant Research Project Award(s) (subject to change depending on Government review of work completed and successful progression of milestones). Note that any potential follow-on work is expected to be awarded non-competitively to the resultant project awardee(s).

ACQUISITION APPROACH:

The upcoming RPP will be conducted using the Enhanced White Paper approach. In Stage 1, current MTEC members are invited to submit Enhanced White Papers using the mandatory format contained in the upcoming RPP. The Government will evaluate Enhanced White Papers submitted and will select those that

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best meet their current technology priorities using the criteria in the upcoming RPP. Offerors whose proposed solution is selected for further consideration based on the Enhanced White Paper evaluation will be invited to submit a full cost proposal in Stage 2 (and may be required to submit additional documentation or supplemental information). Notification letters will contain specific Stage 2 proposal submission requirements.

MTEC MEMBER TEAMING:

While teaming is not required for this effort, Offerors are encouraged to consider teaming during the proposal preparation period (prior to Proposal submission) if they cannot address the full scope of technical requirements of the RPP or otherwise believe a team may be beneficial to the Government. The following resources may help prime selected performer(s)s provide a more complete team for this requested scope of work:

- MTEC M-Corps is a network of subject matter experts and service providers to help MTEC
 members address the business, technical, and regulatory challenges associated with medical
 product development. Please visit https://www.mtec-sc.org/m-corps/ for details on current
 partners
- MTEC Database Collaboration Tool to help identify potential teaming partners among other MTEC members. It can be accessed via the "MTEC Profiles Site" tab on the MTEC members-only website (https://private.mtec-sc.org/).
- **Teaming Connect** is a dedicated live, virtual teaming session to facilitate teaming specific to the upcoming RPP. Registration information and date/time will be sent to the MTEC membership via email.

MTEC:

The MTEC mission is to assist the U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command (USAMRDC) and the Defense Health Agency (DHA) by providing cutting-edge technologies and supporting life cycle management to transition medical solutions to industry that protect, treat, and optimize Warfighters' health and performance across the full spectrum of military operations. MTEC is a biomedical technology consortium collaborating with multiple government agencies under a 10-year renewable Other Transaction Agreement (OTA), Agreement No. W81XWH-15-9-0001, with the U.S. Army Medical Research Acquisition Activity (USAMRAA). MTEC is currently recruiting a broad and diverse membership that includes representatives from large businesses, small businesses, "nontraditional" defense contractors, academic research institutions and not-for-profit organizations.

POINT OF CONTACT:

For inquiries regarding this pre-announcement, please direct your correspondence to Dr. Chuck Hutti, MTEC Biomedical Research Associate, chuck.hutti@ati.org.

Sincerely,

MTEC Team

