

PROJECT CALL Q&A: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) ORGANIC INDUSTRIAL BASE (OIB) MODERNIZATION CHALLENGE

The following questions were submitted regarding this Project Call.

- Q:** How do we team with/involve depots, arsenals, and shipyards? Can they get funding through this opportunity or would they just write letters of interest/support with respect to testing and subject matter expert input?
- A:** A letter of support is not required. Teaming with an OIB site may be advantageous to someone trying to have "an insider" coach them along.
- Q:** A follow up question regarding the OIB letter of support - do the OIB's need to be part of America Makes?
- A:** No, as federal entities they are already members of the DoD Manufacturing Innovation Institutes.
- Q:** Is the project call informational presentation available?
- A:** The full presentation, including the entire OIB Modernization Workshop slides, were sent out to all OIB Modernization Workshop attendees and is available to send to the ecosystems if desired. The America Makes OIB Modernization informational webinar, project call informational slide deck, and all project call support resources can be found [HERE](#).
- Q:** Will there be a required verbal presentation for proposers or just slides submitted?
- A:** If a team is chosen to move on to Phase II, which is the presentation phase and not guaranteed, there will be a live presentation required.
- Q:** Can we submit more than one proposal?
- A:** Yes, proposers can submit more than one proposal.
- Q:** Can the National Institute of Standards and Technology (NIST) receive money from this project call?
- A:** No, as a federal entity NIST can not be funded through this opportunity.
- Q:** Do you have membership fee rates for startups and small businesses?
- A:** Our tier 3 membership is silver and costs \$15,000 annually. The fee may be paid by cash, cost share, or a combination of the two. Please see our FAQ [HERE](#).
- Q:** Does the \$50K that goes to America Makes for project management come out of the \$450K, leaving \$400K for the project team?
- A:** No, proposers are able to submit for up to \$450K. The \$50K for America Makes project management is added to that for a project total of \$500K.

PROJECT CALL Q&A: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) ORGANIC INDUSTRIAL BASE (OIB) MODERNIZATION CHALLENGE

Q: Are we able to propose for multiple topics?

A: Companies may submit multiple proposals to cover different topics, as well as single proposals that span multiple topics. From the Request for Proposal (RFP): "A successful solution conveys an approach or methodology that demonstrates an advanced manufacturing technology that could address one or more of the focus areas below. Each focus area is based upon an identified DoD need in the Organic Industrial Base."

Q: Do the industry partners have to be an America Makes Partner?

A: Yes, industry partners need to be members of America Makes in good standing by November 29, 2023.

Q: With respect to the 10 topic areas, are proposers expected to respond to one area or multiple areas?

A: Proposers are able to respond to one or multiple topic areas.

Q: Is this RFP being offered through all of the institutes?

A: The OIB Modernization Challenge is being offered through all of the DoD Manufacturing Innovation Institutes.

Q: If we were to separately fund an OIB with IR&D funding can we apply that to cost share?

A: Cost share is not a requirement. For accounting purposes, the reason cost share is viewed favorably is simply because you can traditionally do more with more money. If the question is referencing money previously expended or not directly tied to this project then it would not be advantageous to the proposer. However, if it does increase the amount of money attributable to this specific project then it would be viewed favorably.

Q: We intend to submit a proposal. Do we have to do anything specific with America Makes for the Program Management Line Item?

A: Please send an email to cole.miller@ncdmm.org and inform us of your intent to submit. Additionally, add a line item in your cost proposal for America Makes Project Management totaling \$50K. Nothing else specific is needed.



PROJECT CALL Q&A: DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE (DOD) ORGANIC INDUSTRIAL BASE (OIB) MODERNIZATION CHALLENGE

Q: If we are working with a government OIB through a CRADA and pay said OIB through company IR&D funds specific to advancing the goals of this effort, can these funds be included as cost share?

A: *Cost share is not a requirement. For accounting purposes, the reason cost share is viewed favorably is simply because you can traditionally do more with more money. If the question is referencing money previously expended or not directly tied to this project then it would not be advantageous to the proposer. However, if it does increase the amount of money attributable to this specific project then it would be viewed favorably.*

Q: Do the OIBs who write letters of support need to be government entities or can they be contractors who directly support the government entities?

A: *Letters of support are not required. However, if looking to include that in the submission it would only be relevant for those who operate a government owned OIB site. There are two types of OIB sites - government owned-government operated (GOGO) and government owned-contractor operated (GOCO). A letter from a contractor that runs a GOCO would be equivalent to a government entity, but a letter from a vendor or other contractor that "supports" an OIB site would not be relevant.*