



Q&A's

\$1M International Quantum U Tech Accelerator

Q: What is the deadline to submit my white paper/proposal?

A: Please submit your 2-page proposal by 11:59 pm, on Tuesday, August 4, 2020.

Q: Where do I send my white paper/proposal?

A: Please send your 2-page proposal to this email address: AFRL.QU.Accelerator@us.af.mil

Q: Where do I find the 'Request for White Papers'?

A: The 'Request for White Papers' PDF document can be found [here](#).

Q: Where do I find 'Attachment A' as stated in Section IV of the 'Request for White Papers'?

A: The 'Attachment A' PDF document can be found [here](#).

Q: Can the white paper be submitted as a PDF file by following the required format?

A: Yes. Actually, PDF files are the preferred method for proposal delivery.

Q: Are any/all universities eligible to apply?

A: Yes, any university is eligible to apply.

Q: What are the educational requirements to apply and participate?

A: You must hold an academic position at a university. This position almost always requires a PhD.



Q: Is it a requirement to have an international collaborator on a team?

A: No, teams do not need to contain members from international universities in order to submit a white paper.

Q: Will there be any requirement to perform the research physically at the Rome, NY campus?

A: No, there is no requirement that the research be performed physically in Rome, NY.

Q: Is this competition only open to the university community or can scientists from Federal Research Labs submit white papers also?

A: This competition is only open to the university community.

Q: What are the Terms and Conditions for applying?

A: Proposers from the United States and international universities are eligible to submit to this challenge competition. Proposers may team with small businesses if so desired. Proposers who have not previously received a grant from the United States Air Force (USAF) or Office of Naval Research (ONR) are also strongly encouraged to apply.

Q: Is the limit one submission per faculty member, or one submission per university?

A: The limit is one proposal per proposer. Universities may submit multiple papers. Multiple proposers from a single academic department may apply. Multiple submissions for one individual at a university will not be accepted.

Q: Is there a limit for co-Principal Investigators (PIs)?

A: No, there is no limit to the number of co-PIs. In addition, the lead PI on one proposal can also be a co-PI on other proposals.



Q: Are co-PIs allowed on white paper submissions or are these sole-PI proposals only?

A: Yes, co-PIs are allowed on white paper submissions. The lead proposer can only submit one proposal, as the lead. The lead PI on one proposal may be a co-PI on other proposals. Universities may submit multiple papers. Multiple submissions for one individual at a university will not be accepted.

Q: Is a non-tenure track university researcher, such as a postdoc, eligible to be a PI and submit a white paper for consideration?

A: Post-doctoral students are eligible to apply assuming that they are tied to a specific university and research group at that university.

Q: Can a theory and experimental proposal be submitted jointly?

A: The limit is one topic per proposer, and these cannot be combined together for additional funds.

**Q: (1) Can the \$75,000 grant be used towards equipment, or is it restricted to personnel?
(2) If selected, what is the start date of the grant?**

A: The grant is subject to the normal constraints of an Air Force Office of Scientific Research (AFOSR) award. As this is a seedling, we anticipate that most of the funding will be applied towards personnel cost. Submission of the formal proposal to the Broad Agency Announcement (BAA) is required no later than 30 days following the conclusion of the event on September 1-3, 2020.

We anticipate the start date to be no later than January 1, 2021.

**Q: (1) How many teams are invited to pitch?
(2) How many of those teams will receive the \$75,000?**

A: We expect to invite 36 teams to pitch their ideas at the event on September 1-3, 2020.

Eighteen (18) teams will be selected and then eligible to submit to the AFOSR BAA for an award of \$75,000.



Q: Will the \$75,000 grants be in accordance to regular AFOSR regulations?

A: Yes, the grant is subject to the normal constraints of an AFOSR award.

Q: What type of quantum activities are meant to be funded by the \$75,000 grant?

A: The purpose of the award is for a one-year seedling in one of four quantum themes; communications, computing, sensing and timing. We would like to see one major deliverable at the completion of the grant which can include items such as demonstrations and final reports. Successful seedling projects will have the opportunity to compete for funding for a larger multi-year program.

Q: Will proposals from international universities have the same potential for winning as United States-based universities?

A: Yes. All participants from both, international and United States universities, are encouraged to apply. White papers will be reviewed by members of the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) selection committee using the following evaluation and selection criteria:

- A. The technical merits and innovative aspects of the proposed research and development; and,
- B. Relationship of the proposed research and development to Department of Defense missions.

Q: Are there options for follow-on projects?

A: There may be a possibility for follow-on funds based on the results achieved.

Q: Will awardees be granted access to Department of Defense High Performance Computing Modernization Program (DoD HPCMP) computational resources and/or other computational facilities?

A: We cannot guarantee that anyone will have access to any government computational resources.