Broad Agency Announcement for the Defense Health Agency

Military Burn Research Program Technology/Therapeutic Development Award

Funding Opportunity Number: HT942526MBRPTTDA

Preapplication/Preproposal Due: July 7, 2026

Application/Proposal Due: October 21, 2026

This broad agency announcement must be read in conjunction with the General Submission Instructions, version CD26_01.

Content

Before You Begin

- **Active SAM.gov, eBRAP.org and Grants.gov registrations are required for application/proposal submission.** User registration for each of these websites can take several weeks or longer. Each applicant/offeror must ensure their registrations are active and up to date prior to application/proposal preparation.
- **Read this funding opportunity announcement in the order it is written before beginning to prepare application/proposal materials.** It is the responsibility of the applicant/offeror to determine whether the proposed research meets the intent of this funding opportunity and that all parties meet eligibility requirements.
- **To support application preparation, additional resources are available** including an application process FAQ, a Guide for Intragovernmental & Intramural Applicants and a CDMRP Video Series detailing the application/proposal process.

Who to Contact for Support

eBRAP Help Desk

301-682-5507
help@eBRAP.org

Questions regarding funding opportunity submission requirements, as well as technical assistance related to preapplication/proposal or intramural full application/proposal submission.

Grants.gov Support Center

800-518-4726
International: 1-606-545-5035
support@grants.gov

Questions regarding Grants.gov registration and Workspace.

This document uses internal links; you can go back to where you were by pressing the Alt + left arrow keys (Windows) or command + left arrow keys (Macintosh) on your keyboard.

1. Basic Information About the Funding Opportunity

Summary: The fiscal year 2026 (FY26) Military Burn Research Program (MBRP) Technology/Therapeutic Development Award (TTDA) is a burn-focused, product-driven award mechanism intended to provide support for the translation of promising preclinical findings into burn products for clinical application in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment.

Distinctive Features: The technology or therapeutic product(s) to be developed must be product-oriented (e.g., medical device, drug, or clinical practice guidelines involving a therapeutic or technology). The product(s) to be developed may be tangible or knowledge supporting the development of a tangible product and must address one or more of the FY26 MBRP TTDA focus areas. Knowledge products are allowable, provided that the knowledge is applicable to a technology or therapeutic under development. (A "knowledge product" is a non-tangible, non-materiel product that results from research with the potential to improve individual or public health.)

- ***New for FY26:*** The FY26 MBRP TTDA offers a Mentorship Option at a higher funding level to support a synergistic relationship between an experienced researcher (Mentor) and one to two junior researchers (Mentees). The dual purpose of this award is to fund a primary research study addressing a critical gap in combat burn care while simultaneously fostering the development of the next generation of military burn research leaders.

Funding Details: The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) expects to allot roughly $5M to fund approximately three TTDA applications/proposals with total cost caps of $1.6M for the Single PI or $1.8M for the TTDA Mentorship Option. The maximum period of performance is 3 years. It is anticipated that awards made from this FY26 funding opportunity will be funded with FY26 funds, which will expire for use on September 30, 2032. Awards supported with FY26 funds will be made no later than September 30, 2027.

Submission and Review Dates and Times

- **Preapplication/Preproposal (Preproposal) Submission Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET), July 7, 2026
- **Invitation to Submit an Application/Proposal:** August 26, 2026
- **Application/Proposal Submission Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. ET, October 21, 2026
- **End of Application/Proposal Verification Period:** 5:00 p.m. ET, October 28, 2026
- **Peer Review:** January 2027
- **Programmatic Review:** March 2027

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: HT942526MBRPTTDA

Assistance Listing Number: 12.420

2. Eligibility Information

2.1. Eligible Applicants/Offerors

2.1.1. Organization

Extramural and intramural U.S. Department of War (DOW) organizations are eligible to apply, ***including foreign and domestic organizations, for-profit and nonprofit organizations, and public or private entities*.**

Extramural Organization: A foreign or domestic non-DOW organization. Examples of extramural organizations include, but are not limited to, academic institutions, biotechnology companies, foundations, federal government organizations other than the DOW (i.e., intragovernmental organizations) and research institutes.

Intramural DOW Organization: A subset of intragovernmental organizations; refers specifically to DOW organizations, including DOW laboratories, DOW military treatment facilities and/or DOW activities embedded within a civilian medical center.

In accordance with Department of Defense Instruction (DoDI) 5000.77 and FAR 35.4, Federally Funded Research and Development Centers (FFRDCs) are not eligible to directly receive awards under this Broad Agency Announcement (BAA). However, teaming arrangements between FFRDCs and eligible organizations are allowed as long as they are permitted under the sponsoring agreement between the federal government and the specific FFRDC.

2.1.2. Principal Investigator

Independent investigators affiliated with an eligible organization are eligible to be named Principal Investigator (PI) on the application/proposal, regardless of ethnicity, nationality or citizenship status.

There are no limitations on the number of applications/proposals for which an investigator may be named as a PI.

Mentorship Option: Applications naming clinical or post-doctoral fellows as Mentees are encouraged. A Mentorship Plan (Attachment 9) is required for all applicants selecting the Mentorship Option at the full application stage.

- Principal Investigator (Mentor): Independent investigators affiliated with an eligible organization who demonstrate a record of research success in a burn-relevant field are eligible to be named PI.
- Mentee(s): Must be a clinical fellow or post-doctoral fellow (or junior researcher as determined by their organization) within five years of terminal degree completion. The Mentee(s) must commit a significant level of effort (e.g., at least 50%) to the proposed research project. The application must include a signed Letter of Support from the institution for the Mentor/Mentee relationship.

2.2. Cost Sharing

Cost sharing is not an eligibility requirement for contracts or assistance agreements but may exist if Research Other Transaction (OT) or prototype OT is the selected funding instrument. Cost-sharing requirements for OTs are stated in 10 USC 4021 for Research OTs and 10 USC 4022 for Prototype OTs.

2.3. Other

Awards are made to eligible ***organizations***, not to individuals. Refer to the General Submission Instructions (GSI), Appendix 1, for additional awardee qualification requirements.

3. Program Description

The Defense Health Agency Contracting Activity (DHACA) is soliciting applications/proposals to this funding opportunity using delegated authority provided by United States Code, Title 10, Section 4001 (10 USC 4001). The CDMRP is the program office managing this FY26 funding opportunity as part of the Military Burn Research Program (MBRP). The CDMRP is located within the Defense Health Agency Research and Development (DHA R&D), which is a part of the Department of Defense, DOD, herein referred to using the secondary title Department of War, DOW. Congress initiated the MBRP in 2011 to address the medical needs of traumatically burn-injured military Service Members. Appropriations for the MBRP from FY11 through FY25 totaled $130M. The FY26 appropriation is $10M.

Burn injuries sustained by military Service Members while in the line of duty, whether in the military operational battlespace or in a military training environment, represent a continuous health burden on both the injured Service Member and the DOW health care systems in which they receive care. Historically, burn injuries afflicted between 5% to 20% of casualties during post-World War II conflicts.[1] In more recent conflicts, burn injury affected 9% to 10% of combat casualties,[2,3,4] and 20% of those burn injuries are characterized as severe.[4] While thermal burns represent the most common mechanism of burn injury, other mechanisms such as frostbite, high-voltage electrical, chemical, directed energy, and radiation/nuclear exposure represent additional formidable threats to the health and well-being of Service Members. Regardless of mechanism, combat-associated burn injuries are often devastating due, in part, to the high incidence of concomitant severe traumatic injuries. In addition, compared to burns sustained in a non-combat setting, combat burn injuries are more likely to progress to deep partial- or full-thickness burns, become infected, and lead to additional complications. The majority of combat burn injuries incurred during modern conflicts resulted from explosive device detonation, leading to a greater Injury Severity Score, an increase in inhalation injuries, and deeper, larger burns.[3] Military planners anticipate that future conflicts will include more powerful weaponry than that seen in the past,[5] likely resulting in a higher number of casualties with significant traumatic injuries and larger, more severe burns. Furthermore, compromised evacuation capabilities and interruptions to the medical supply chain could extend battlespace burn care from days to weeks, thereby increasing the risk of negative clinical outcomes. Accurate burn wound assessment and proper treatment of burn wounds and associated complications in a prolonged distributed operational care environment remain difficult. Burn researchers are challenged to innovate, develop, refine, and test novel burn therapies, technologies, and/or clinical guidelines that facilitate delivery of high-quality burn care in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment for the improvement of both short- and long-term outcomes.

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[1]David S. Kauvar et al, “Burn Hazards of the Deployed Environment in Wartime: Epidemiology of Noncombat Burns From Ongoing United States Military Operations,” *Journal of the American College of Surgeons* 209, no. 4 (2009): 453-60, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jamcollsurg.2009.06.367.

[2]Sandra M. Escolas et al, “Postdischarge Cause-of-Death Analysis of Combat-Related Burn Patients,” *Journal of Burn Care and Research: Official Publication of the American Burn Care Association* 38, no. 1 (2015): e158-64, https://doi.org/10.1097/BCR.0000000000000319.

[3]David S. Kauver et al, “Comparison of Combat and Non-Combat Burns From Ongoing U.S. Military Operations,” *The Journal of Surgical Research* 132, no. 2 (2006): 195-200, https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jss.2006.02.043.

[4]Kevin K. Chung et al., “Evolution of Burn Resuscitation in Operation Iraqi Freedom,” *Journal of Burn Care & Research* 27, no. 5 (2006): 606-11, https://doi.org/10.1097/01.BCR.0000235466.57137.f2.

[5]“Global Trends 2040: The Future of the Battlefield,” Office of the Director of National Intelligence, National Intelligence Council, last modified March 2021, https://www.dni.gov/index.php/gt2040-home/gt2040-deeper-looks/future-of-the-battlefield.

The MBRP seeks to fund research that enhances the ability of non-burn specialists to accurately assess burn severity, adequately treat burns, mitigate, and/or treat burn-associated complications, and prevent progression of burn depth in an austere, resource-limited, combat environment. Enhancing the ability to provide high-quality burn care within a resource-limited, distributed operational battle space is expected to shorten the time to recovery and improve the long-term physical and psychological health and well-being of burn-injured Service Members, with the potential for benefit among Veterans, military beneficiaries, and the American public. Within this context, the MBRP is interested in research proposals that address specific gaps in the ability to care for combat burn casualties at or close to the point of injury, and in the early acute phase of care where evacuation delays are likely and medical resources are limited.

3.1. Award History

The MBRP first offered the Technology/Therapeutic Development Award (TTDA) mechanism in FY22. Since then, the MBRP has received 139 applications/proposals, and recommended 12 for funding.

3.2. Intent of the Technology/Therapeutic Development Award

The MBRP TTDA is a product-driven award mechanism intended to provide support for the translation of promising preclinical findings into burn products for clinical application in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment, particularly within the pre-hospital, and/or early, acute phase of care.

The technology or therapeutic to be developed must be product-oriented (e.g., medical device, drug, or clinical practice guidelines involving a therapeutic or technology). The deliverable resulting from this research may be a tangible item, such as a medical device or pharmacologic agent (including, but not limited to, drugs or biologics), or it may be knowledge applicable to a technology or therapeutic under development. A “knowledge product” is a non-tangible, non-materiel product that results from research with the potential to improve individual or public health. A knowledge product is based on current evidence, aims to transition clinical practice standards, training, or tools into clinical practice, or supports materiel solutions [systems to develop, acquire, provide, and/or sustain medical solutions and capabilities], and educates or impacts behavior throughout the continuum of care, including primary prevention of negative outcomes. Tangible or knowledge products developed under the MBRP TTDA must address an identified need in one or more of the FY26 MBRP TTDA Focus Areas.

TTDA-Mentorship Option: The TTDA with Mentorship Option requires a single PI who will serve as the Mentor for one to two designated Mentees. The full application must name the Mentee(s) and detail a comprehensive Mentorship Plan. The proposed research should be of sufficient scope to support the progressive development of the Mentee’s knowledge, skills, and abilities in burn research.

The application/proposal must include a primary study and at least one pilot project, sub-study, or major task tailored to the development of the Mentee. The pilot project/sub-study/major task must complement the primary research aims and be completed by the Mentee(s) under the supervision of the Mentor.

3.2.1. Focus Areas for the TTDA

The proposed study, including the pilot/sub-study if selecting the Mentorship Option, must address at least one of the following focus areas:

- Development and/or validation of methods to triage, treat, and/or prevent complications of cold injury.
- Research to innovate best practices in the acute burn care continuum in a combat setting.
- Development and/or validation of methods for use in a combat setting to prevent, assess, and/or treat burn injury-related complications, including:
    - Over/under fluid resuscitation
    - Endotheliopathy
    - Sepsis
    - Inhalation injuries
    - Fungal infections
    - Hypermetabolism
- Interventions applied during the early, acute phase of burn injury that prevent or mitigate later development of chronic pain, neuropathy, pruritus and temperature dysregulation.

3.2.2. Key Elements for the TTDA

The following are important aspects of the FY26 MBRP TTDA:

Impact: The overall impact of the proposed research is a key component of this award mechanism. The application must clearly demonstrate the project's potential to impact the care provided to burn casualties in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment. High-impact research will, if successful, lead to the development and translation of therapeutic or technologic advances such as detection, diagnosis, treatment, or burn complication prevention for clinical application in the care of combat burn-injured casualties at or close to the point of injury, or in the early acute phase of care within a prolonged field care combat environment.

Relevance to Military Health: Relevance to the care of burn-injured military Service Members in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational battle space is a key feature of this award.

Preliminary Data: Proof-of-concept (in vivo or other well-established testing) AND a prototype/ preliminary version of the proposed product demonstrating its stated utility must be well-established at the time of preapplication/preproposal submission. ***Full applications/proposals must include relevant data that support the rationale for the proposed study.*** These data may be from published and/or unpublished literature.

Technology Readiness: At the time of preapplication/preproposal submission, the proposed product must have achieved a minimum technology readiness level (TRL) or knowledge readiness level (KRL) of 4 (Appendix 3).

This award mechanism is intended to facilitate progression of a technology or therapeutic product beyond TRL 4. The proposed research must be supported by significant preliminary data. Examples of tasks that may be supported include, but are not limited to:

- Validation testing of new therapeutic or technologic modalities (e.g., agents, delivery systems, chemical modification of lead compounds, device testing and/or validation) using established preclinical systems/models.
- Designing pilot or full-scale Good Manufacturing Practice (GMP) production of therapeutics and/or technologies for use in advanced preclinical studies.
- Developing pharmacologic agents through absorption, distribution, metabolism, excretion and toxicity studies.
- Investigational New Drug-enabling or Investigational Device Exemption-enabling studies.
- Initiate scalable and reproducible manufacturing processes.
- Product design validation and verification testing to support regulatory submission at design freeze.
- Shelf Life/Product Stability studies.

Mentorship Option: Supports a synergistic relationship between an experienced researcher (Mentor) and one to two junior researchers (Mentees). The dual purpose of this award is to fund a primary research study addressing a critical gap in combat burn care while simultaneously fostering the development of the next generation of military burn research leaders.

Clinical trials and clinical research studies ARE NOT PERMITTED under this award mechanism. Enrollment of human subjects is NOT PERMITTED under this award mechanism. Projects involving limited use of de-identified and/or commercially available human cells or anatomical specimens are permitted, provided that the use of such specimens is necessary for device or product development and human subject consent is not required. Applicants/Offerors interested in proposing clinical research should consider submitting to the FY26 MBRP Patient-Centered Research Award mechanism (HT942526MBRPPCRA).

3.2.3. Other Important Considerations for the TTDA

This BAA is issued under the provisions of the Competition in Contracting Act (CICA) of 1984 (Public Law 98-369), as implemented in Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR) 6.101(b)(3) and 35.102 and in Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (DoDGARs) 22.315. In accordance with FAR 35.102, projects funded under this BAA must be for *basic or applied research,* as well as that part of development not related to developing a specific system or hardware procurement.

In accordance with the National Defense Authorization Act for Fiscal Year 2026, Section 732, CDMRP does not support the conduct of painful research (U.S. Department of Agriculture pain category D or E) involving domestic cats or dogs, except for studies relating to military or service animals.

Clinical research (including clinical trials) is not allowed within this funding opportunity.

A clinical trial is defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 32, Part 219.102 (32 CFR 219.102) as a research study in which one or more human subjects are prospectively assigned to one or more interventions (which may include a placebo or another control) to evaluate the effects of the interventions on biomedical or behavioral health-related outcomes. An

intervention includes both physical procedures by which information or biospecimens are gathered and manipulations of the subject or the subject's environment that are performed for research purposes.

Studies that do not seek to measure safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy outcome(s) of an intervention are not considered clinical trials.

For the purposes of this funding opportunity, research that meets the definition of a clinical trial is distinct from clinical research. Clinical research encompasses research with human data, human specimens, and/or interaction with human subjects. Clinical research is observational in nature and includes:

- Research conducted with human subjects and/or material of human origin such as data, specimens, and cognitive phenomena for which an investigator (or co-investigator) does ***not*** seek to assess the safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy outcomes of an intervention. Research meeting this definition may include but is not limited to: (a) mechanisms of human disease; (b) diagnostic or detection studies (e.g., biomarker or imaging); (c) health disparity studies; and (d) development of new technologies.
- Epidemiologic and behavioral studies that do ***not*** seek to assess the safety, effectiveness, and/or efficacy outcomes of an intervention.
- Outcomes research and health services research that do not fit under the definition of clinical trial.

Excluded from the definition of clinical research are in vitro studies that utilize human data or specimens that cannot be linked to a living individual and meet the requirements for exemption under §46.104(d)(4) of the Common Rule.

All projects should adhere to a core set of standards for rigorous study design and reporting to maximize the reproducibility and translational potential of preclinical research. The standards are described in ARRIVE 2.0 guidelines and in SC Landis et al., “A call for transparent reporting to optimize the predictive value of preclinical research,” *Nature* 490 (2012): 187-191, https://doi.org/10.1038/nature11556.

Applications (Proposals) from investigators within the DOW and applications/proposals involving multidisciplinary collaborations among academia, industry, the DOW, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other federal government agencies are encouraged but not required. These relationships can leverage knowledge, infrastructure and access to unique research resources, ultimately advancing research that is of significance to Service Members, Veterans, their Families and the American Public. If the proposed research relies on access to unique resources or databases, the application/proposal must describe the access at the time of submission and include a plan for maintaining access as needed throughout the proposed research.

3.3. Funding Instrument

The funding instrument for awards made under this BAA will be assistance agreements, contracts, or OTs. The type of instrument used to reflect the business relationship between the organization and the government is at the discretion of the government, in accordance with the Federal Grant and Cooperative Agreement Act of 1977, as amended, 31 USC 6301-6308, which provides the legal criteria to select a procurement contract or an assistance agreement. The DHACA will also consider the use of OTs as a vehicle for award, in accordance with the conditions in 10 USC 4021 and 10 USC 4022.

An **assistance agreement** can take the form of a **grant** or **cooperative agreement**. The level of involvement on the part of CDMRP during the project's period of performance is the key factor in determining whether to award a grant or cooperative agreement. If "no substantial involvement" on the part of CDMRP is anticipated, a grant will be made (31 USC 6304). Conversely, if "substantial involvement" on the part of CDMRP is anticipated, a cooperative agreement will be made (31 USC 6305). Substantial involvement means that, after award, CDMRP staff will assist, guide, coordinate, or participate in project activities.

A **contract** is required when the principal purpose of the instrument is to acquire property or services for the direct benefit or use of the U.S. government (31 USC 6303).

An **"OT"** is utilized for certain awards when the government determines execution of the project requires flexibility (10 USC 4021 and 10 USC 4022). Such flexibility may allow for incorporation of dynamic commercial industry standards and best practices or adjustment of project scope to evolving requirements of government use cases.

The award type, along with the start date, will be determined during the negotiation process.

3.4. Funding Details

Period of Performance**:** The maximum period of performance is **3** years.

Cost Cap**:** The application/proposal's total costs budgeted for the entire period of performance should not exceed **$1.6M** for the Single PI or **$1.8M** for the TTDA Mentorship Option. If indirect cost rates have been negotiated, indirect costs are to be budgeted in accordance with the organization's negotiated rate. Collaborating organizations should budget associated indirect costs in accordance with each organization's negotiated rate.

All direct and indirect costs of any subaward or contract must be included in the direct costs of the primary award.

The applicant/offeror may request the entire maximum funding amount for a project that may have a period of performance less than the maximum **3** years.

The appropriateness of the budget for the proposed research will be assessed during peer review.

Mentees will be considered key personnel for purposes of prior approval.

Direct Cost Restrictions: For this award mechanism, direct costs:

Must be requested for:

- Travel Costs for the PI to present project information or disseminate project results at one DOW-sponsored meeting (e.g., Military Health System Research Symposium) in Year 2 or 3 of the period of performance.
- Mentorship Option Applicants Only: Travel costs for mentee(s) to attend one annual burn-relevant research meeting or DOW-sponsored meeting (e.g., Military Health System Research Symposium)

May be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Travel in support of multi-institutional collaborations.
- Travel costs for one investigator to travel to one scientific/technical meeting per year. The intent of travel to scientific/technical meetings should be to present project information or disseminate project results from the FY26 MBRP TTDA. These travel costs are in addition to those allowed for a DOW-sponsored meeting.

Must not be requested for:

- Clinical trial or clinical research costs.
- Costs for travel to scientific/technical meeting(s) beyond the limits stated above.
- Tuition.

4. Application/Proposal Contents and Format

4.1. Application/Proposal Overview

Application/proposal submission is a two-step process requiring both a ***preapplication/preproposal*** submitted via the Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal (eBRAP) and a ***full application/proposal*** submitted through eBRAP or Grants.gov. Depending on the submission portal, certain aspects of the application/proposal will differ.

Intramural DOW organizations submitting a full application/proposal should follow instructions for submission through eBRAP.

Extramural organizations submitting a full application/proposal must follow instructions for submission through Grants.gov.

4.2. Preapplication/Preproposal Components

Preapplication/preproposal submissions must include the following components.

Upload documents as individual PDF files unless otherwise noted. Files must comply with the formatting guidelines listed in the GSI, Appendix 2.

- **Preproposal Narrative (three-page limit):** The Preproposal Narrative page limit applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs that provide additional information to expand the Preproposal Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the preapplication/ preproposal.

  The Preproposal Narrative should include the following:

  - **Research Idea:** State the ideas and reasoning on which the proposed work is based. State how the research addresses an important problem relevant to combat burn care in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment. Describe the proposed product that will address an unmet need, and briefly elucidate how the product will advance combat burn care. Provide a description of the current TRL including product optimization information and initial demonstration of safety and efficacy in a relevant preclinical model (if applicable). Applicants are not required to provide general burn statistics or broad military burn epidemiologic information unless specifically relevant to the research proposed.
  - **Research Strategy:** State the hypothesis to be tested and/or the objective(s) to be reached. Briefly describe the preliminary findings that support the proposed study. Provide a description of how proof-of-concept has been established.
  - **Focus Area:** Describe how the proposed project addresses at least one of the FY26 MBRP Focus Areas.
  - **Impact:** Describe the potential impact of the research, both short term and long term. Describe how the proposed research will lead to the development and translation of a therapeutic or technologic advancement for clinical application in the care of combat burn-injured casualties at the point of injury or in the early acute phase of care within a prolonged combat care environment. Describe how the proposed project, if successful,

will represent an improvement over currently available diagnostics, treatments, interventions and/or standards of burn care.

- **Relevance to Military Health:** Describe how the proposed product is expected to be relevant to combat burn care in an austere, resource-limited environment.
- **Mentorship Option:** Indicate your intent to mentor up to two Mentees by including a brief description of your plan to foster a new generation of burn researchers. A full Mentorship Plan is not required at the preapplication/preproposal stage.

- **Preapplication/Preproposal Supporting Documentation:** The items to be included as supporting documentation for the preapplication/preproposal ***must be uploaded as individual files*** and are limited to the following:
  - **References Cited (one-page limit):** List the references cited (including URLs if available) in the Preproposal Narrative using a standard reference format that includes the full citation (i.e., author[s], year published, reference title, and reference source, including volume, chapter, page numbers, and publisher, as appropriate).
  - **List of Abbreviations, Acronyms and Symbols:** Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms, and symbols used in the Preproposal Narrative.
  - **Key Personnel Biographical Sketches:** ***All biographical sketches should be uploaded as a single combined file.*** Biographical sketches should be used to demonstrate background and expertise through education, positions, publications and previous work accomplished. Refer to the GSI, Section IV.C. (i) for detailed information. For Mentorship Option Applicants, Mentees are considered key personnel.

4.3. Full Application/Proposal Components

Applicants/Offerors must receive an invitation to submit a full application/proposal. Uninvited full application/proposal submissions will be rejected.

Each application/proposal submission must include the completed full application/proposal package for this BAA. See Appendix 1 for a checklist of the full application/proposal components.

(a) SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form *(Grants.gov submissions only)*: Refer to the GSI, Section IV.B.(a), for detailed information.

IMPORTANT: *When completing the SF424 R&R, enter the* ***eBRAP log number*** *assigned during preapplication/preproposal submission into* ***Block 4a – Federal Identifier****.*

(b) Attachments:

Each attachment of the full application/proposal components must be uploaded as an individual file in the format specified and in accordance with the formatting listed in the GSI, Appendix 2.

- **Attachment 1: Project Narrative (15-page limit): Upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf".** The Project Narrative is the main body of the application/proposal. The page limit applies to text and non-text elements (e.g., figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures, drawings) used to describe the project. Inclusion of URLs (uniform resource locators) that provide additional information that expands the Project Narrative and could confer an unfair competitive advantage is prohibited and may result in administrative withdrawal of the application/proposal.

Describe the proposed project in detail using the outline below.

- **Background:** Describe how the proposed research project addresses at least one of the FY26 MBRP Focus Areas. Describe the proposed product and how the product will advance combat burn care. Concisely state the scientific rationale for the primary study, and if applicable, for pilot projects/sub-studies/major tasks assigned to a Mentee (Mentorship Option only). Cite relevant literature. Describe previous experience most pertinent to the project. Include relevant preliminary data and/or promising preclinical findings that demonstrate proof of concept of the product or prototype/preliminary version of the product; these data may be from published or unpublished literature. Provide a description of the current TRL including product optimization information and initial demonstration of safety and efficacy in a relevant preclinical model (if applicable). State how the research addresses an important problem relevant to combat burn care in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment. The background section should clearly support the choice of study variables and should explain the basis for the study questions and/or study hypotheses. This section should establish the relevance of the study and explain the applicability of the proposed research outcomes to the relevant populations.
- **Hypothesis/Objectives:** Clearly state the hypothesis to be tested (if applicable), a purpose statement and the objective(s) to be reached for the primary study.
- **Specific Aims:** Concisely explain the project's specific aims. These aims should agree with the primary aims and associated tasks described in the Statement of Work (SOW). If the proposed work is part of a larger study, present only aims that this DOW award would fund.
- **Research Strategy and Feasibility:** Describe the proposed research strategy and feasibility of the approach, addressing the following:
  - Describe the study design, methods, and analyses, including appropriate controls.
  - Briefly describe the preliminary findings that support the proposed study.
  - Define the specific study outcomes and how they will be measured.
  - Explain how the study is designed to achieve reproducible and rigorous results, including (if applicable) controls, sample size estimation, power analysis, blinding, randomization and data handling.
  - Address potential problems and present alternative methods and approaches.
  - Describe data collection and handling, including rules for stopping data collection, criteria for inclusion and exclusion of data, how outliers will be defined and handled, and the identification of primary endpoints/outcomes.
  - Describe the statistical plan and the rationale for the statistical methodology, if applicable.
  - If animal studies are proposed, briefly describe the key elements of the study/ studies as they relate to the overall project. Explain how and why the animal species, strain, and model(s) being used can address the scientific objectives, and how it is optimal for addressing the study aims and facilitates rapid development and translation of solutions for the Warfighter. Describe how animal research will be conducted in accordance with the ARRIVE guidelines 2.0 (Animal Research: Reporting *In Vivo* Experiments). Further details of research

involving animals will be required in Attachment 8, Animal Research Plan, as applicable.

- Describe the availability of and access to the necessary study resources. If human-derived biological specimens will be used, describe the sourcing and/or acquisition of samples. If human-derived specimens will be obtained from military Service Members, military Families and/or Veteran population(s) or dataset(s), describe the feasibility of accessing the samples/dataset(s). Clinical research (including Clinical Trials) is not allowed under the Technology/Therapeutic Development Award.
- If the proposed research involves access to military and/or VA patient populations and/or DOW or VA resources or databases, describe the access at the time of submission and include a plan for maintaining access as needed throughout the proposed research. Also include a plan for obtaining any required data sharing, memorandum of understanding or other agreements required to access and publish data. Refer to the GSI, Appendix 4, for additional considerations.
- Describe how the research project will be completed within the proposed period of performance.

- **Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation: Combine and upload as a single file named "Support.pdf".** Begin each document on a new page. The Supporting Documentation attachment should not include additional information such as figures, tables, graphs, photographs, diagrams, chemical structures or drawings. These items should be included in the Project Narrative. Submitting material that is not requested may be viewed as an attempt to gain an unfair competitive advantage; such material will be removed, or the application/proposal may be administratively withdrawn. ***Letters of support not requested in the broad agency announcement, such as those from members of Congress, will be removed from the application/proposal package.***
  - **References Cited:** List the references cited in the Project Narrative using a standard reference format (include URLs, if available).
  - **List of Abbreviations, Acronyms and Symbols:** Provide a list of abbreviations, acronyms and symbols.
  - **Facilities, Existing Equipment and Other Resources:** Describe the facilities and equipment available for performance of the proposed project; include any additional facilities or equipment proposed for acquisition at no cost to the award. Indicate whether government-furnished facilities or equipment are proposed for use. If so, reference the original or present government award under which the facilities or equipment items are now accountable. There is not a standardized form for this information.
  - **Publications and/or Patents:** Include a list of relevant publication URLs and/or patent abstracts. If articles are not publicly available, then copies of up to five published manuscripts may be included in Attachment 2. Extra items will not be reviewed.
  - **Letters of Support (one-page limit per letter is recommended):** Provide individual letters signed by collaborating individuals and/or organizational officials demonstrating that the PI has the support and resources necessary for the proposed work, including support for engaging in a Mentor/Mentee relationship if selecting the

Mentorship Option. Letters from the PI's Department Chair, or appropriate organization official, should also confirm that the PI(s) meet eligibility criteria, including an attestation that the PI possesses a record of research success in a burn-relevant field if selecting the Mentorship Option. If applicable, provide a letter of support, signed by the lowest-ranking person with approval authority, confirming participation of intramural DOW collaborator(s) and/or access to military populations, databases or DOW resources. If applicable, provide a letter of support signed by the VA Facility Director(s), or an individual designated by the VA Facility Director(s), confirming access to VA patients, resources and/or VA research space.

- **Letters of Collaboration *(if applicable)* (one-page limit per letter is recommended):** Provide a signed letter from each collaborating individual and/or organization demonstrating that the PI has the support and resources necessary for the proposed work. If an investigator at an intramural DOW organization is named as a collaborator on a full application/proposal submitted through an extramural organization, the application/proposal must include a letter from the collaborator's Commander or Commanding Officer at the intramural DOW organization authorizing the collaborator's involvement. If selecting the Mentorship Option, provide a signed letter from the Mentee(s) stating the intent to engage in a Mentor/Mentee relationship for the proposed research.
- **Sex as a Biological Variable Strategy (two-page limit is recommended):** Describe the strategy for how sex will be considered as a biological variable. This strategy should include a brief discussion of what is currently known regarding sex differences in the applicable research area. Clearly articulate how sex as a biological variable will be factored into the data analysis plan and how data will be collected and disaggregated by sex. If needed, provide a strong rationale for proposing a single-sex study, based on justification from scientific literature, preliminary data or other relevant considerations. Refer to the CDMRP Directive on Sex as a Biological Variable in Research for additional information.
- **Background and Proprietary Information:** Provide a list of all background intellectual property to be used in the project or provide a statement that none will be used. All software and data first produced under this BAA are subject to a federal purpose license. Therefore, it is important to disclose/list any intellectual property (software, data, patents, etc.) that will be used in performance of the project. If applicable, all proprietary information to be provided to the government should be stated and identified; the applicant/offeror should indicate whether a waiver of the federal purpose license will be required. Additional information can be found in the 2 CFR 200.315, "Intangible Property."
- **Research Sharing Plan:** Describe the type of data or research resources (e.g., bio-specimen, analysis tool/software, training material) to be made publicly available as a result of the proposed work. Describe the mechanism (e.g., direct sharing, repository, mixed mode) by which data and resources generated during the period of performance will be shared with the research community and other affected communities, including clinical research participants. Include the name of the repository(ies) where scientific data and resources arising from the proposed study will be archived, if applicable. Identify and provide the rationale for any data or resources that will not be shared (e.g., for intellectual property, feasibility, cost, or other considerations). The plan should also protect participant privacy, confidential and proprietary data, and performer/third-party intellectual property. Provide a milestone plan for disseminating data/results including when data and resources will

be made available to other users. In cases where the study participant could potentially derive medical or other benefit from the information, explain whether the results of screening and/or study participation will be shared with the participant or their primary care provider, including results from any screening or diagnostic tests performed as part of the study.

Do not submit a copy of the National Institutes of Health Data Management and Sharing Plan or duplicate the Data Management Plan which will be requested only after a recommendation for funding is made.

Refer to the CDMRP Directive on Sharing Data and Research Resources for more information about the CDMRP's expectations for making data and research resources publicly available.

- **Attachment 3: Technical Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "TechAbs.pdf".** The technical abstract is used by all reviewers. ***Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly.*** Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard; spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed.

  Write the technical abstract using the outline below. Clarity and completeness within the space limits are highly important.

  - **Background:** Present the ideas and scientific rationale behind the proposed research project, including how it addresses one or more FY26 MBRP Focus Areas. Mentorship Option applicants should include a brief description of the Mentorship Plan.
  - **Hypothesis/Objective(s):** State the hypothesis to be tested and/or objective(s) to be reached.
  - **Specific Aims:** State the specific aims of the study.
  - **Study Design:** Describe the study design, including appropriate controls.
  - **Impact and Military Relevance:** Describe how the study is relevant to military health. State briefly how the proposed project, if successful, will have an impact on the burn research field and/or the care of burn-injured combat casualties and how the research will ultimately improve the lives of combat burn casualties. Describe how the results of the proposed project will benefit burn-injured Service Members in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment. Note any substantial collaborations. Mentorship Option applicants should include a description of the potential impact the Mentor/Mentee plan will have on the burn research field.

- **Attachment 4: Lay Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "LayAbs.pdf".** The lay abstract is used by all reviewers and addresses issues of particular interest to the affected community. ***Abstracts of all funded research projects will be posted publicly.*** Use only characters available on a standard QWERTY keyboard; spell out all Greek letters, other non-English letters, and symbols. Graphics are not allowed. ***Do not duplicate the technical abstract.***

  The lay abstract should address the points outlined below ***in a manner that is readily understood by readers without a background in science or medicine.*** Avoid overuse of scientific jargon, acronyms and abbreviations.

  - Summarize the objectives and rationale for the proposed research.

- Clearly describe the critical problem or question to be addressed and the ultimate applicability and impact of the research. Consider the following:
  - How will the proposed research address one or more of the FY26 MBRP focus areas?
  - Describe how the results of the proposed project will ultimately benefit burn-injured Service Members.

- **Attachment 5: Statement of Work (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf".** Refer to eBRAP for the Suggested SOW Format.

  For guidance on preparing the SOW, refer to the Example: Assembling a Generic Statement of Work. Include milestones for data or research resource(s) sharing.

  - Mentorship Option Applicants: include tasks specific to the Mentorship Plan.

- **Attachment 6: Impact and Military Relevance Statement (three-page limit): Upload as "Impact.pdf".** The impact statement should address the points outlined below written ***in a manner that is readily understood by readers without a background in science or medicine.***

  - Describe the expected short- or long-term impact of the proposed research on the care of combat burn casualties in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment.
  - Describe how the proposed project addresses at least one of the FY26 MBRP Focus Areas.
  - Describe how the proposed product will lead to the development and eventual translation of therapeutic or technologic advances in the care of burn-injured casualties at the point of injury or in the early acute phase of care within an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment.
  - Indicate whether the proposed burn care product will require minimal, moderate or substantial training for use.
  - Describe how the proposed product will represent an improvement over currently available burn diagnostics, treatments, interventions and/or standards of care.
  - Describe how the therapy, technology or knowledge gained from the proposed research is usable in a combat health care environment.
  - If applicable, describe how the anticipated outcomes of the proposed study will make an impact in understanding health differences between sexes.

- **Attachment 7: Transition Plan and Regulatory Strategy (three-page limit): Upload as "Transition.pdf".**

  Discuss the anticipated methods and strategies necessary to move the anticipated research outcome to the next phase of development (e.g., clinical trials, commercialization and/or delivery to the civilian or military market). Investigators are encouraged to work with their organization's Technology Transfer Office (or equivalent) to develop the transition plan. Applicants are encouraged to explore developing relationships with industry and/or other funding agencies or investors to facilitate moving the product into the next phase of development when preparing the transition plan. Include the following components:

- The planned indication for the product label, if appropriate, and an outline of the development plan required to support that indication (e.g., Target Product Profile). Describe in detail the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) regulatory strategy, including the projected number and types of studies needed to reach approval, licensure, or clearance, the types of FDA meetings that have been held and/or will be held, the submission filing strategy, and considerations for compliance with GMP, Good Laboratory Practice (GLP), and Good Clinical Practice (GCP) guidelines, if appropriate.
- Details of the funding strategy to transition the product(s) to the next level of development and/or commercialization (e.g., specific potential industry partners, specific funding opportunities to be applied for). Include a description of collaborations and other resources that will be used to provide continuity of development.
- For knowledge products, a description of collaborations and other resources that will be used to provide continuity of development, including proposed development or: modification of clinical practice guidelines and recommendations, provider training materials, patient brochures, and other clinical support tools, scientific journal publications, models, simulations, and applications.
- A brief schedule and milestones for transitioning the product to the next phase of development (e.g., next-phase clinical trials, transition to industry, delivery to the civilian and/or military market, incorporation into clinical practice and/or approval by the FDA or international regulatory agency, if applicable).
- Ownership rights/access to the intellectual property necessary for the development and/or commercialization of products or technologies supported with this award and the government's ability to access such products or technologies in the future.
- Intellectual Property: Information can be found in 2 CFR 200.315, "Intangible Property."
    - Intellectual and Material Property Plan (if applicable): Provide a plan for resolving intellectual and material property issues among participating organizations.
- A risk analysis for cost, schedule, manufacturability and sustainability.

The regulatory strategy should include the following components:

- Describe the methods and strategies proposed to move the product or knowledge outcomes to the next phase of development (e.g., clinical trials, partnership with DOW advanced developers, commercialization and/or delivery to the civilian or military market) after successful completion of the award.
- Demonstrate how the proposed product is currently at or above TRL 4 and estimate the target TRL level expected upon completion of the proposed research (Appendix 3).
- Outline the regulatory strategy, including regulatory pathway (e.g., 510(k), 513(g), De Novo, etc.).
- Describe the organization's quality management system and manufacturing processes (if applicable to the proposed research).
- PIs are encouraged to explore developing relationships with industry, DOW advanced developers and/or other funding agencies to facilitate moving the product into the next phase of development.

- **Attachment 8: Animal Research Plan: Upload as "AnimalResPlan.pdf". (Attachment 8 is only applicable and required for applications proposing animal studies.)**

  If the proposed study involves animals, a summary describing the animal research that will be conducted must be included in the application. Consult the ARRIVE guidelines 2.0 (Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments) to ensure relevant aspects of rigorous animal research are adequately planned for and, ultimately, reported. The Animal Research Plan may not be an exact replica of the protocol(s) submitted to the IACUC. The Animal Research Plan should address the following points to achieve reproducible and rigorous results for each proposed animal study:

  - Briefly describe the research objective(s) of the animal study. Explain how and why the animal species, strain and model(s) being used can address the scientific objectives and, where appropriate, the study's relevance to human biology.
  - Summarize the procedures to be conducted. Describe how the study will be controlled.
  - Describe the randomization and blinding procedures for the study, and any other measures to be taken to minimize the effects of subjective bias during animal treatment and assessment of results. If randomization and/or blinding will not be utilized, provide justification.
  - Provide a sample size estimate for each study arm and the method by which it was derived, including power analysis calculations.
  - Describe how data will be handled, including rules for stopping data collection, criteria for inclusion and exclusion of data, how outliers will be defined and handled, statistical methods for data analysis, and identification of the primary endpoint(s).

- **Attachment 9: Mentorship Plan (if applicable, two-page limit): Upload as "MentorPlan.pdf".** Mentorship Option applicants must describe how the Mentor expects to facilitate a new generation of burn researchers.
  - Describe the pilot study, sub-study, or specific tasks to be completed by the Mentee(s) and expected outcomes.
  - Describe the objectives of the mentorship with specific, measurable, attainable, relevant and time-bound (SMART) goals.
  - Indicate the amount of time anticipated to be dedicated to Mentor/Mentee interactions across the proposed project timeline, including the format (e.g., one-on-one, group mentoring, peer-to-peer, etc.).
  - Clearly define expectations of both Mentors and Mentees.
  - Describe how mentorship activities will be documented.
  - Discuss how you will measure the success of the mentorship, describe any metrics or surveys that will be used to obtain quantitative and qualitative feedback, and how feedback from the Mentor and Mentee will be obtained.
  - Describe a plan for collaboration with a burn-focused professional society, burn care center of excellence, and/or burn community organization to ensure a well-rounded understanding of the burn field of research.
  - Describe how the mentorship comprehensively guides the Mentee(s) toward an independent career in military burn research.

- **Attachment 10: Representations *(Grants.gov submissions only)*: Upload as "RequiredReps.pdf".** All extramural applicants/offerors must complete and submit the Required Representations document available on eBRAP. For more information, see the GSI, Appendix 8, Section B.
- **Attachment 11: Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form *(if applicable)*: Upload as "IGBudget.pdf".** If an intramural DOW organization will be a collaborator in the performance of the project, complete a separate budget for that organization using the Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget form available on eBRAP. Refer to the GSI, Section V.B.(c), for instructions and considerations.

(c) Additional Application/Proposal Materials:

The following are additional forms for application/proposal submission. For detailed instructions for Grants.gov submissions, refer to the GSI, Section IV.C.; and for eBRAP submissions, refer to the GSI, Section V.B.

i. Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)

- **Biographical Sketch**
- **Current/Pending Support**

  Intragovernmental applicants/offerors must include their internally supported research and development programs.

ii. Research & Related Budget

iii. Project/Performance Site Location(s)

iv. Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) *(if applicable, Grants.gov submissions only)*

4.4. Other Application/Proposal Elements

If recommended for funding, a data management plan compliant with Section 3.c, Enclosure 3, DoD Instructions 3200.12 will be requested.

The government reserves the right to request a revised budget, budget justification and/or additional information for applications/proposals recommended for funding.

If the resultant award is a contract that exceeds $900,000 and the offeror is other than a small business, the contractor will be required to submit a subcontracting plan for small business concerns, in accordance with FAR 19.109. A mutually agreeable plan will be developed during the award negotiation process and incorporated as part of the resultant contract.

5. Submission Requirements

5.1. Location of Application/Proposal Package

Download the application/proposal package components for HT942526MBRPTTDA from Grants.gov or eBRAP, depending on which submission portal will be used.

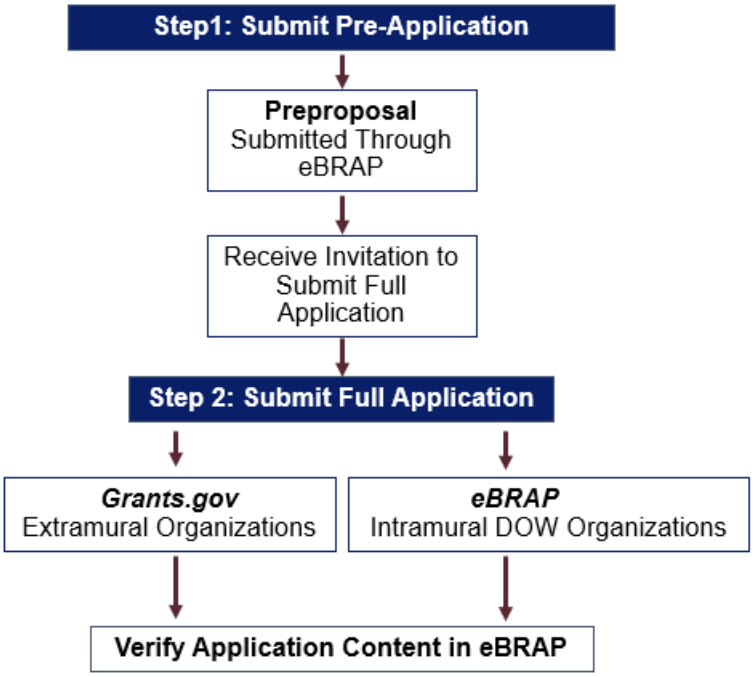
5.2. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management

The applicant/offeror organization must be registered as an entity in the System for Award Management (SAM), SAM.gov, and receive confirmation of an "Active" status before submitting an application/proposal through Grants.gov. Organizations must include the unique entity identifier (UEI) generated by the SAM in applications/proposals to this funding opportunity and maintain an active registration in the SAM at all times during which it has an active Federal award or an application/proposal under consideration. More information regarding SAM registration can be found in the GSI, Section IV.A.

5.3. Submission Instructions

The CDMRP uses two portal systems to accept pre- and full application/proposal submissions. The workflow below shows which portal system to use for pre- and full application/proposal submissions, respectively.

Application/Proposal Submission Workflow



5.3.1. Preapplication/Preproposal Submission

All preapplication/preproposal components must be submitted by the PI through eBRAP. Refer to the GSI, Section III, for considerations and detailed instructions regarding preapplication/preproposal submission.

During the preapplication/preproposal process, eBRAP assigns each submission a unique log number. This unique log number is required during the full application/proposal submission process. The eBRAP log number, application/proposal title and all information for the PI, Business Official(s), performing organization, and contracting organization must be consistent throughout the entire application/proposal submission process. Inconsistencies may delay application/proposal processing and limit or negate the ability to view, modify and verify the application/proposal in eBRAP. Contact the eBRAP Help Desk if any changes need to be made.

When starting the preapplication/preproposal, PIs should select a Mechanism Option appropriate to their preapplication/preproposal:

Application/Proposal Includes:	Select Mechanism Option:
Single PI	Technology/Therapeutic Development Award
Single PI and Mentorship Option	Technology/Therapeutic Development Award – Mentorship Option

5.3.2. Full Application/Proposal Submission

Grants.gov Submissions: Full applications/proposals from extramural organizations *must* be submitted through the Grants.gov Workspace. Refer to the GSI, Section IV, for considerations and detailed instructions regarding Grants.gov submissions.

eBRAP Submissions: Only intramural DOW organizations may submit full applications/proposals through eBRAP. Refer to the GSI, Section V, for considerations and detailed instructions regarding eBRAP submissions.

5.3.3. Applicant/Offeror Verification of Full Application/Proposal Submission in eBRAP

Independent of the submission portal, once the full application/proposal is submitted, it is transmitted to and processed in eBRAP; the transmission to eBRAP may take up to 48 hours. At this stage, the PI and organizational representatives will receive an email from eBRAP instructing them to log in to eBRAP to review, modify and verify the full application/proposal submission. ***The Project Narrative and Research & Related Budget Form cannot be changed after the application/proposal submission deadline.*** Other application/proposal components, including subaward budget(s) and subaward budget justification(s), may be changed until the application/proposal verification period ends. The full application/proposal cannot be modified once the verification period ends.

5.4. Submission Dates and Times

The preapplication/preproposal and full application/proposal submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. Regardless of submission portal used, all pre- and full application/proposal components must be submitted by the deadlines stipulated in this BAA. There are no grace periods for deadlines; failure to meet submission deadlines will result in

application/proposal rejection. ***The DHACA cannot make allowances/exceptions for submission problems encountered by the applicant/offeror.***

Submission dates and times are specified in Section 1, Basic Information.

5.5. Intergovernmental Review

Not applicable for this funding opportunity.

6. Review Information

6.1. Application/Proposal Compliance Review

Submitting applications/proposals that propose essentially the same research project to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year is prohibited and will result in administrative withdrawal of the duplicative application(s)/proposal(s).

While it is allowable to propose similar research projects to different programs within the CDMRP or to other organizations, duplication of funding or accepting funding from more than one source for the same research is prohibited. See the CDMRP's Directive on Research Duplication.

Including classified research data within the application/proposal and/or proposing research that may produce classified outcomes or outcomes deemed sensitive to national security concerns, may result in application/proposal withdrawal. Refer to the GSI, Appendix 7, Section C.

Members of the FY26 MBRP Programmatic Panel must not be involved in any preapplication/preproposal or full application/proposal including, but not limited to, concept design, application/proposal development, budget preparation and the development of any supporting documentation, including personal letters of support/recommendation for the research and/or PI. Programmatic panel members ***may*** provide letters to confirm PI eligibility and access to laboratory space, equipment and other resources necessary for the project if that is part of their regular roles and responsibilities (e.g., as Department Chair). ***A list of the FY26 MBRP Programmatic Panel members can be found on the CDMRP website.***

Additional restrictions and associated administrative responses are outlined in Section 9.2, Administrative Actions.

6.2. Review Criteria

6.2.1. Preapplication/Preproposal Screening Criteria

To determine the merits of the preapplication/preproposal and the relevance to the mission of the MBRP, preapplications/preproposals will be screened based on the following criteria:

- **Technology/Therapeutic Product**: Whether the preapplication/preproposal defines a product that will address an unmet need in burn care. Whether the proposed research is based on promising preclinical findings, sound scientific rationale, and demonstrated proof of concept. Whether the preapplication/preproposal describes a product that is usable in an austere, resource-limited setting.
- **Impact:** Whether the proposed research will lead to the development and translation of a therapeutic or technologic advancement for combat-relevant burn injuries at the point of injury, or in the early, acute phase of combat care in an austere, resource-limited setting. Whether the potential short-term and long-term outcomes of the proposed research, if successful, will impact a critical problem or question in the field of military-relevant burn research and/or combat burn care as related to one or more of the FY26 MBRP Focus Areas. The degree to which the proposed product represents an improvement over currently available diagnostics, treatments, interventions, and/or standards of care.

- **Relevance to Military Health:** How well the research addresses combat-relevant burn care; how well the therapy, technology, or knowledge gained from the proposed research could be implemented to address a burn-relevant combat health care need.

6.2.2. Peer Review Criteria

To determine technical merit, all applications/proposals will be evaluated individually according to the following **scored criteria**, which are of equal importance***:***

- **Research Strategy and Feasibility**
  - How well the scientific rationale supports the project, as demonstrated within the cited literature, preliminary data, and promising preclinical findings.
  - Whether proof of concept of the product or prototype/preliminary version of the product has been adequately demonstrated.
  - How well the hypotheses, purpose statement, study design, and methods have been developed and how well they are supported by the study aims.
  - To what degree the expected outcomes are specific and measurable.
  - How well the power analysis demonstrates that the sample size is appropriate to test the hypothesis and supports a meaningful outcome, if applicable.
  - To what degree the research is appropriate and feasible.
  - Whether the application provides evidence of availability of and access to necessary study resources, including access to DOW and/or VA databases, if applicable
  - How well potential problems are identified, and alternative approaches are addressed.
  - Whether the research can be completed within the proposed period of performance.
  - How well studies are designed to achieve reproducible and rigorous results, including the choice of model, controls, sample size estimation, blinding, randomization, data handling, and the endpoints/outcomes to be measured.
  - Whether the strategy for considering sex as a biological variable (if applicable) is appropriate to the objectives of the study or whether the justification for a single-sex study is sufficiently strong.
- **Impact and Military Relevance**
  - To what degree the proposed product promotes positive short-term and long-term outcomes related to the care of combat burn casualties in an austere, resource-limited, distributed operational environment.
  - How well the project addresses one or more of the FY26 MBRP Focus Areas.
  - How likely is the proposed product to lead to the translation of therapeutic or technologic advances in the care of burn-injured casualties at the point of injury or in the early acute phase of care within a combat care environment.
  - To what degree the proposed product requires training for use.
  - How well the proposed product represents an improvement over currently available burn diagnostics, treatments, interventions, and/or standards of care.
  - To what degree the therapy, technology, or knowledge gained from the proposed research is usable in a combat health care environment.

- If applicable, to what extent the anticipated outcomes of the proposed study will make an impact in understanding health differences between sexes.

- **Transition Plan and Regulatory Strategy**
  - How well the application describes the methods and strategies necessary to move the anticipated research outcome to the next phase of development (e.g., clinical trials, commercialization and/or delivery to the civilian or military market)
  - If applicable, how well the application describes the planned indication for the product label and the development plan required to support that indication.
  - Whether the proposed product or knowledge outcome is currently at a minimum TRL of 4 with evidence of product optimization, identification of lead drug/biologic candidate (if applicable), initial demonstration of safety and efficacy in relevant preclinical models (if applicable), and completion of non-GLP pharmacokinetic and toxicity studies (if applicable).
  - If applicable, whether data will be appropriately reported and documented to support a regulatory filing with the FDA or international regulatory agency. Whether the identified next level of development and/or plans for commercialization is realistic.
  - Whether the funding strategy described to bring the product to the next level of development (e.g., specific potential industry partners, specific funding opportunities to be applied for) is reasonable and realistic.
  - Whether the organization's quality management system and manufacturing processes are adequately described and appropriate for the proposed research.
  - If applicable, whether the proposed collaborations and other resources for providing continuity of development of knowledge products, including proposed development or modification of clinical practice guidelines and recommendations, provider training materials, patient brochures, and other clinical support tools, scientific journal publications, models, simulations, and applications are established and/or achievable.
  - Whether the schedule and milestones for bringing the anticipated product to the next level of development (clinical trials, transition to industry, delivery to the military or civilian market, incorporation into clinical practice, or approval by the FDA, or international regulatory agency, if applicable) are achievable. Whether the potential risk analysis for cost, schedule, manufacturability, and sustainability is realistic and reasonable.
  - If applicable, to what degree the intellectual and material property plan is appropriate.

- **Mentorship Plan (if applicable)**
  - Whether the plan clearly defines a pilot study, sub-study, or specific task to be completed by the Mentee, and whether the expected outcomes are appropriate, measurable, and aligned with both the Mentee's development and the overall research aims.
  - Whether the mentorship objectives and milestones are specific, measurable, attainable, relevant, and time bound (SMART) and demonstrate a logical progression of the Mentee's skills, responsibilities, and contributions. Whether the amount of time anticipated to be dedicated to Mentor/Mentee interactions across the proposed project timeline, including the format of interactions, is adequately described.
  - The degree to which the plan articulates a clear and achievable trajectory toward the Mentee's independence in military burn research, including skill acquisition, leadership

of research components, and preparation for future PI roles. How well the Mentorship Plan describes expectations and mentorship activities.

- To what degree the Mentorship Plan promotes development of future burn researchers and the Mentee's interaction with the broader burn research community.

In addition, the following criteria will also contribute to the overall evaluation of the application/proposal, but will not be individually scored and are therefore termed **unscored criteria**:

- **Research Sharing Plan**
  - To what extent the plan for sharing of project data and research resources is appropriate and reasonable and includes dissemination to affected communities, study participants, and/or the scientific community. If applicable, whether specific repository(ies) are named where data and research resources arising from the project will be stored.
- **Personnel**
  - How appropriate the expertise and levels of effort are for successful conduct of the proposed work.
  - Mentorship Option Applicants Only: Whether the Mentor demonstrates a record of research success in a burn-relevant field.
- **Budget**
  - Whether the budget is appropriate for the proposed research.
- **Environment**
  - To what extent the scientific environment and level of institutional support is appropriate for the proposed research project.
  - How well the research requirements are supported by the availability of and accessibility to facilities and resources.
- **Application/Proposal Presentation**
  - To what extent the writing, clarity and presentation of the submission components influence the review.

6.2.3. Programmatic Review

To make funding recommendations and select the application(s)/proposal(s) that, individually or collectively, will best achieve the program objectives, the following criteria are used by programmatic reviewers:

- Ratings and evaluations of peer reviewers
- Relevance to the priorities of the FY26 MBRP, as evidenced by the following:
  - Adherence to the intent of the funding opportunity, including alignment to at least one FY26 MBRP Focus Area
  - Program portfolio composition
  - Relative impact and military relevance

6.3. Application/Proposal Review and Selection Process

6.3.1. Preapplication/Preproposal

Following the preapplication/preproposal screening, Initiating PIs will be notified as to whether they are invited to submit full applications/proposals. The estimated date when PIs can expect to receive notification of an invitation to submit a full application/proposal is indicated in Section 1, Basic Information About the Funding Opportunity. No feedback (e.g., a critique of the preapplication/preproposal's strengths and weaknesses) is provided at this stage. Because the invitation to submit a full application/proposal is based on the contents of the preapplication/preproposal, investigators should not change the title or research objectives after the preapplication/preproposal is submitted.

6.3.2. Full Application/Proposal

All applications/proposals are evaluated by scientists, clinicians and consumers in a two-tier review process. The first tier is **peer review**, the evaluation of applications/proposals against established criteria to determine technical merit, where each application/proposal is assessed for its own merit, independent of other applications/proposals. The second tier is **programmatic review**, a comparison-based process in which applications/proposals with high scientific and technical merit are further evaluated for programmatic relevance. Final recommendations for funding are subject to review and approval by a designated official. ***The highest-scoring applications/proposals from the first tier of review are not automatically recommended for funding. Funding recommendations depend on various factors as described in Section 6.2.3, Programmatic Review.*** Additional information about the two-tier process used by the CDMRP can be found on the CDMRP website.

Funding of applications/proposals received is contingent upon the availability of federal funds for this program, the number of applications/proposals received, the quality and merit of the applications/proposals as evaluated by peer and programmatic review, and the requirements of the government. Funds to be obligated on any award resulting from this funding opportunity will be available for use for a limited time period based on the fiscal year of the funds.

6.4. Risk, Integrity and Performance Information

The risk posed by an applicant/offeror will be assessed prior to award, including but not limited to financial stability and history of performance.

An award may not be made if it is determined by the DHACA Warranted Official that COIs cannot be adequately mitigated.

Prior to making an award where the federal share is expected to exceed the simplified acquisition threshold, as defined in the Code of Federal Regulations, Title 2, Part 200.1 (2 CFR 200.1), over the period of performance, the federal awarding agency is required to review and consider any information about the applicant/offeror that is available in the SAM.

An applicant/offeror organization may review the SAM and submit comments on any information currently available about the organization that a federal awarding agency previously entered. The federal awarding agency will consider any comments by the applicant/offeror, in addition to other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant/offeror's integrity, business ethics and record of performance under federal awards when determining an awardee's qualification prior to award, according to the

qualification standards of the Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations (DoDGARs), Section 22.415.

In accordance with National Security Presidential Memorandum-33 and all associated laws, all fundamental research funded by the DOW must be evaluated for affiliations with foreign entities. All applicant/offeror organizations must disclose foreign affiliations of all key personnel named on applications/proposals. Failure to disclose foreign affiliations of key personnel shall lead to withdrawal of recommendations to fund applications/proposals. Applicant/offeror organizations may be presented with an opportunity to mitigate identified risks, particularly those pertaining to influence from foreign entities specified in law. Implementation of mitigation discussions and utilization of the DOD Component Decision Matrix must decrease risk of foreign influence in accordance with the above-mentioned laws and guidance prior to award.

7. Federal Award Notices

For each compliant full application/proposal received, the organizational representative(s) and PI will receive email notification when the funding recommendations are posted to eBRAP, typically within 6 weeks after programmatic review. At this time, each PI will receive a peer review summary statement on the strengths and weaknesses of the application/proposal and an information paper describing the application/proposal receipt and review process for the MBRP award mechanisms. The information papers and a list of organizations and PIs recommended for funding are also posted on the program's page within the CDMRP website. After all awards are made, the CDMRP includes individual award information in a searchable database.

If an application/proposal is recommended for funding, after the email notification is posted to eBRAP, a government representative will contact the person authorized to negotiate on behalf of the awardee organization.

Only an appointed DHACA Warranted Official may obligate the government to the expenditure of funds to an extramural organization. No commitment on the part of the government should be inferred from discussions with any other individual. ***The award document signed by the DHACA Warranted Official is the official authorizing document (i.e., assistance agreement).***

Intragovernmental obligations of funding will be made according to the terms of a negotiated Inter-Agency Agreement and managed by a CDMRP Science Officer.

Funding obligated to ***intragovernmental and intramural DOW organizations*** will be sent through the Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request (MIPR), Funding Authorization Document (FAD) or Direct Charge Work Breakdown Structure processes. Transfer of funds is contingent upon appropriate safety and administrative approvals. Intragovernmental and intramural DOW investigators and collaborators must coordinate receipt and commitment of funds through their respective Resource Manager/Task Area Manager/Comptroller or equivalent Business Official.

For assistance agreement awards, an organization may, at its own risk and without the government's prior approval, incur obligations and expenditures to cover costs up to 90 days before the beginning date of the initial budget period of a new award.

For contract awards and OTs, an organization may request and negotiate pre-contract/pre-agreement costs prior to award.

Refer to the GSI, Section I.D, Pre-Award Costs section, for additional information about pre-award costs.

8. Post-Award Requirements

8.1. Administrative and National Policy Requirements

Applicable requirements in the DoDGARs found in 32 CFR, Chapter I, Subchapter C, and 2 CFR, Chapter XI, apply to grants and cooperative agreements resulting from this BAA.

Applicable requirements in the FAR, found in 48 CFR, Chapter 1; and DFARS, found in 48 CFR, Chapter 2, apply to contracts resulting from this BAA.

Refer to the GSI, Appendix 7, for general information regarding administrative requirements.

Refer to the GSI, Appendix 8, for general information regarding national policy requirements.

Refer to full text of the latest DoD R&D Terms and Conditions and the DHACA Terms and Conditions for further information.

If there are delinquencies in technical reporting requirements for any existing DHA or U.S. Army Medical Research and Development Command awards at the applicant/offeror organization, DHACA will not issue any new awards to the applicant/offeror organization until all delinquent reports have been submitted.

Applications/proposals recommended for funding that involve animals, human data, human specimens, human subjects or human cadavers must be reviewed for compliance with federal animal and/or human subjects protection requirements and must be approved by the DHA R&D Office of Research and Regulatory Compliance (ORRC), prior to implementation. This administrative review requirement is in addition to the local Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee (IACUC), Institutional Review Board (IRB) or Ethics Committee (EC) review. Refer to the GSI, Appendix 6, for additional information.

8.2. Reporting

Annual technical reports and quad charts, as well as a final technical report and quad chart, will be required. Annual and final technical progress reports must be prepared in accordance with the Research Performance Progress Report (RPPR).

If the award made under this funding opportunity is a contract or OT, additional reporting requirements may apply.

The Award Terms and Conditions will specify whether additional and/or more frequent reporting is required.

Award Expiration Transition Plan: An Award Expiration Transition Plan, using the template available on eBRAP, must be submitted with the final progress report.

Awards resulting from this broad agency announcement may entail additional reporting requirements related to awardee integrity and performance matters. Awardee organizations that have federal contract, grant and cooperative agreement awards with a cumulative total value greater than $10M are required to provide information to the SAM about certain civil, criminal and administrative proceedings that reached final disposition within the most recent 5-year period and that were connected with their performance of a federal award. These awardees are required to disclose, semiannually, information about criminal, civil and administrative proceedings as specified in the applicable Representations within GSI, Appendix 8, Section B.

8.3. Additional Requirements

Unless otherwise restricted, changes in the PI or organization will be allowed on a case-by-case basis, provided the intent of the award mechanism is met.

Mentees will be considered key personnel for purposes of prior approval.

An organizational transfer of an award will not be allowed in the last year of the original period of performance or any extension thereof.

Refer to the GSI, Appendix 7, Section G, for general information on organization or PI changes.

In-Progress Review (IPR): The MBRP may conduct periodic In-Progress Review meetings in a virtual setting as a forum for award performers to present progress updates. The IPR will be attended by members of the MBRP Programmatic Panel, CDMRP Staff, the DHACA Grants Officer, and other DOW stakeholders. Award recipients may receive an invitation to present their project at one of these meetings during the period of performance of their award.

Mentorship Option Applicants Only: Mentors and Mentees are expected to participate in at least one IPR for the funded project. For planning purposes, Mentors and Mentees can expect that the IPR will last no longer than one half day and will be hosted virtually by the MBRP. The invitation and format for the IPR will be provided by the Grants Officer's Representative at least 90 days prior to the scheduled IPR date.

9. Other Information

9.1. Broad Agency Announcement Version

Questions related to this broad agency announcement should refer to the program name, the broad agency announcement name and the broad agency announcement version code CD26_01Bd.

9.2. Administrative Actions

After receipt of preapplications/preproposals or full applications/proposals, the following administrative actions may occur.

9.2.1. Rejection

The following will result in administrative rejection of the preapplication/preproposal:

- Preproposal Narrative is missing.

The following will result in administrative rejection of the full application/proposal:

- The Project Narrative is missing.
- The Budget is missing.
- Submission of an application/proposal for which a letter of invitation was not issued.

9.2.2. Modification

- Pages exceeding the specified limits will be removed prior to reviewing all documents.
- Documents not requested will be removed.

9.2.3. Withdrawal

The following may result in administrative withdrawal of the full application/proposal:

- A member of the FY26 MBRP Programmatic Panel is named as being involved in the development or execution of the research proposed or is found to have assisted in the preapplication/preproposal or full application/proposal processes.
- The application/proposal includes the name(s) of personnel from either of the CDMRP peer or programmatic review companies for which conflicts cannot be adequately mitigated. For FY26, the identities of the peer review contractor and the programmatic review contractor may be found on the CDMRP website.
- Personnel from applicant/offeror or collaborating organizations are found to have contacted persons involved in the review or approval process to gain protected evaluation information or to influence the evaluation process.
- The application/proposal from an extramural organization, including non-DOW federal agencies, is received through eBRAP.
- The federal government applicant/offeror organization (including an intramural DOW organization): (a) cannot accept and execute the entirety of the requested budget in FY26

funds; and/or (b) cannot coordinate the use of contractual, assistance or other appropriate agreements to provide funds to collaborators.

- The application/proposal fails to conform to this broad agency announcement description.
- The application/proposal includes URLs, with the exception of links in the References Cited and Publication and/or Patent sections.
- The application/proposal includes research data that are classified and/or proposes research that may produce classified outcomes, or outcomes deemed sensitive to national security concerns.
- The same research project is submitted to different funding opportunities within the same program and fiscal year.
- The PI does not meet the eligibility criteria.
- A clinical trial or clinical research is proposed.
- The invited application proposes a different research project than that described in the preapplication/preproposal.

9.2.4. Withhold

Applications/proposals that appear to involve research misconduct will be administratively withheld from further consideration pending organizational investigation. The organization will be required to provide the findings of the investigation to the DHACA Warranted Official for a determination of the final disposition of the application/proposal.

Appendix 1. Full Application/Proposal Submission Checklist

Full Application/Proposal Components	Uploaded
SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance ***(Grants.gov submissions only)***	☐
Summary (Tab 1) and Application Contacts (Tab 2) ***(eBRAP submissions only)***	☐
Attachments	
Project Narrative – Attachment 1, upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf"	☐
Supporting Documentation – Attachment 2, upload as "Support.pdf"	☐
Technical Abstract – Attachment 3, upload as "TechAbs.pdf"	☐
Lay Abstract – Attachment 4, upload as "LayAbs.pdf"	☐
Statement of Work – Attachment 5, upload as "SOW.pdf"	☐
Impact and Military Relevance Statement – Attachment 6, upload as "Impact.pdf"	☐
Transition Plan and Regulatory Strategy – Attachment 7, upload as "Transition.pdf"	
Animal Research Plan ***(if applicable)*** **– Attachment 8, upload as "AnimalResPlan.pdf"**	
Mentorship Plan ***(if applicable)*** **– Attachment 9, upload as "MentorPlan.pdf"**	
Representations ***(Grants.gov submissions only)*** **– Attachment 10, upload as "RequiredReps.pdf"**	☐
Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form ***(if applicable)*** **– Attachment 11, upload as "IGBudget.pdf"**	☐
Additional Application/Proposal Materials	
Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded)	☐
Attach Biographical Sketch for Senior/Key Persons (Biosketch_LastName.pdf)	☐
Attach Current/Pending Support for Senior/Key Persons (Support_LastName.pdf)	☐
Research & Related Budget	☐
Project/Performance Site Location(s)	☐
Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) ***(if applicable)***	☐

Appendix 2. Acronym List

ACURO	Animal Care and Use Review Office
ARRIVE	Animal Research: Reporting In Vivo Experiments
BAA	Broad Agency Announcement
CDMRP	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
CICA	Competition in Contracting Act
COI	Conflict of Interest
DFARS	Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement
DHA	Defense Health Agency
DHA R&D	Defense Health Agency Research and Development
DHACA	Defense Health Agency Contracting Activity
DOD	U.S. Department of Defense
DoDI	Department of Defense Instruction
DoDGARs	Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations
DOW	U.S. Department of War
eBRAP	Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal
EC	Ethics Committee
ET	Eastern Time
FAD	Funding Authorization Document
FAR	Federal Acquisition Regulation
FFRDC	Federally Funded Research and Development Centers
FY	Fiscal Year
GCP	Good Clinical Practice
GLP	Good Laboratory Practice
GMP	Good Manufacturing Practice
GSI	General Submission Instructions
IACUC	Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
IPR	In-Progress Review
IRB	Institutional Review Board
M	Million
MBRP	Military Burn Research Program
MIPR	Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request
NSF	U.S. National Science Foundation
ORRC	Office of Research and Regulatory Compliance

OT	Other Transaction
PDF	Portable Document Format
PHS	Public Health Service
PI	Principal Investigator
R&D	Research and Development
RPPR	Research Performance Progress Report
SAM	System for Award Management
SF424 R&R	Standard Form 424 (Application for Federal Assistance, Research & Related)
SOW	Statement of Work
TTDA	Technology/Therapeutic Development Award
UEI	Unique Entity Identifier
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
USC	United States Code
VA	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs

Appendix 3. Technology Readiness Levels and Knowledge Readiness Levels

TRLs: TRLs are used to categorize the product maturity of materiel solutions. The DOW's Technology Readiness Assessment (TRA) Deskbook is a reference for systematic assessment of technical maturity of relevant materiel solutions. For biomedical applications, Biomedical TRL definitions and descriptions have been developed that account for regulatory context for technology maturity and *intended context of use*. Information on Biomedical Technology Readiness Levels can be found at https://www.research.va.gov/programs/tech_transfer/Biomedical-TRL-Guideline-Sheets.pdf. General TRL information can be found in the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Research and Engineering Technology Readiness Assessment Guidebook (https://www.cto.mil/wp-content/uploads/2025/03/TRA-Guide-Feb2025-Cleared.pdf).

KRLs: The scientific maturity of knowledge products resulting from biomedical research is not assessed in the same manner as that of materiel solutions. At the request of the DHA R&D MRDC, the Rand Corporation developed and released a framework to assess the relative scientific maturity of knowledge products. This process is described in a 2019 Rand Corporation report (https://www.rand.org/pubs/research_reports/RR2127.html).