Program Announcement for the Defense Health Agency

Prostate Cancer Research Program Data Science Award

Funding Opportunity Number: HT942526PCRPDSA

Pre-Application Due: August 12, 2026

Application Due: September 2, 2026

This program announcement must be read in conjunction with the General Application Instructions, version CD26_01.

Content

Before You Begin

- **Active SAM.gov, eBRAP.org and Grants.gov registrations are required for application submission.** User registration for each of these websites can take several weeks or longer. Each applicant must ensure their registrations are active and up to date prior to application preparation.
- **Read this funding opportunity announcement in the order it is written before beginning to prepare application materials.** It is the responsibility of the applicant 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 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 pre-application or intramural application 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.

Click i to be taken to additional guidance and instructions within the General Application Instructions (GAI).

1. Basic Information About the Funding Opportunity

Summary: The fiscal year 2026 (FY26) Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP) Data Science Award (DSA) supports research that develops or uses quantitative and analytical approaches, processes, and/or systems to obtain knowledge and insight from large and/or complex sets of prostate cancer data in one or more of the following research areas: analysis of clinically annotated datasets; analysis of -omics data; artificial intelligence and machine learning; bioinformatics; computational biology; digital pathology; epidemiology; and medical imaging. All applications must address one of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges.

Distinctive Features: This funding mechanism allows for multiple Principal Investigators (PIs). Only the initiating PI will submit a pre-application, but all PIs will need to submit full applications. The partnering PI application is an abbreviated package specific to their distinct portion of the research project. Be advised, all associated applications for a research project may be withdrawn if the initiating or partnering application is rejected or administratively withdrawn.

Funding Details: The Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs (CDMRP) expects to allot roughly $5.6M to fund approximately 4 Data Science Award applications with total cost caps of $1.4M per award. 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

- **Pre-Application (Letter of Intent) Submission Deadline:** 5:00 p.m. Eastern Time (ET), August 12, 2026
- **Application Submission Deadline:** 11:59 p.m. ET, September 2, 2026
- **End of Application Verification Period:** 5:00 p.m. ET, September 8, 2026
- **Peer Review:** November 2026
- **Programmatic Review:** March 2027

Announcement Type: Initial

Funding Opportunity Number: HT942526PCRPDSA

Assistance Listing Number: 12.420

2. Eligibility Information

2.1. Eligible Applicants

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***.

2.1.2. Principal Investigator

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

An investigator may be named as a PI on a single application to this program announcement. If an investigator is named multiple times as a PI, only the first application received will be accepted; additional applications will be administratively withdrawn.

2.2. Cost Sharing

Cost sharing is not an eligibility requirement.

2.3. Other

Awards are made to eligible ***organizations***, not to individuals. Refer to the GAI for additional recipient qualification requirements.

3. Program Description

The Defense Health Agency Contracting Activity (DHACA) is soliciting applications 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 Prostate Cancer Research Program (PCRP). 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 PCRP in 1997 to promote innovative research focused on eradicating prostate cancer. Appropriations for the PCRP from FY97 through FY25 totaled $2.445 billion. The FY26 appropriation is $75 million (M).

The PCRP seeks to promote highly innovative, groundbreaking research; high-impact research with near-term clinical relevance; the next generation of prostate cancer investigators through mentored research; and resources that will facilitate translational research.

3.1. Intent of the Data Science Award

The FY26 PCRP Data Science Award (DSA) supports research that develops or uses quantitative and analytical approaches, processes and/or systems to obtain knowledge and insight from large and/or complex sets of prostate cancer data. If successful, the studies will enable progress toward addressing one or more of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges. The PCRP expects that investigators will openly share any resources, tools, or computational processes generated by this award with the prostate cancer research and patient community. This award mechanism intends to fund research built upon the logic, concepts and methods of one or more of the following research areas as they pertain to prostate cancer:

- Computational biology
- Bioinformatics
- Artificial intelligence and machine learning
- Epidemiology
- Analysis of -omics data
- Medical imaging
- Digital pathology
- Analysis of other clinically annotated datasets

Applications may combine diverse data types for integrative analysis to increase knowledge about prostate cancer with respect to the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges. The PCRP particularly encourages applications that propose to develop resources or tools that allow research, clinical care, and patient community access to standardized and harmonized datasets for real-time clinical care applications; however, ***this award cannot support the development of new datasets.*** The PCRP also encourages studies utilizing data derived from large patient studies that include long-term health records or repositories with well-annotated and high-quality biospecimens.

3.1.1. Overarching Challenges for the DSA

All applications must address one of the following FY26 PCRP overarching challenges:

- **Improve overall health, wellness and survivorship for those impacted by prostate cancer**

  Applications should aim to accelerate knowledge that translates to improve overall health and survivorship for those impacted by prostate cancer, with the goal of enhancing quality of life, overall health and survival. emotional health, healthy aging, cause-specific survival, cognitive function and other aspects of survivorship. Areas of particular interest include:

  - Biological basis of prostate cancer and its treatments on quality of life
  - The mental and emotional health of patients and their families/caregivers
  - Identification of groups of patients and their families at high risk of detriments in health and well-being
  - Implementation of factors or interventions that improve access to evidence-based care, quality-of-life outcomes and overall health and wellness

- **Develop new treatments or improve upon existing therapies to improve outcomes for patients with lethal prostate cancer**

  Applications must be directly related to prostate cancer with a high risk of death, including high-risk localized disease, regional disease and/or metastatic prostate cancer.

  Treatments may address any stage in the continuum of care, including local therapies such as surgery or radiation designed to treat patients with a high risk of death from the disease. Proposed treatments are highly encouraged to consider preserving patient quality of life and not focus only on survival outcomes.

  Applications should not focus on active surveillance or low-risk to intermediate-risk prostate cancer. Refer to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network guidelines for risk assessment definitions (https://www.nccn.org/patients/guidelines/content/PDF/prostate-advanced-patient.pdf).

- **Enhance clinical care for all patients with prostate cancer**

  **Special emphasis on high-risk groups*

  Applications must be directly relevant to better understanding and/or reduction of factors that impact a person, their family or their caregiver's ability to prevent, detect, manage and survive prostate cancer.

  Factors may include physical, mental or emotional health differences experienced primarily in populations at high risk for prostate cancer, including Service Members and Veterans.

- **Define the biology of prostate cancer progression to lethal prostate cancer to reduce death**

  Applications must be directly related to high-risk, very high-risk and metastatic prostate cancer. The FY26 PCRP also strongly encourages research involving patient-derived materials or specimens related to ongoing or completed clinical trials.

  Refer to the National Comprehensive Cancer Network guidelines for risk assessment definitions (https://www.nccn.org/patients/guidelines/content/PDF/prostate-advanced-patient.pdf).

3.1.2. Key Elements for the DSA

- **Research Approach:** Applications may propose development of a new data-science-driven tool or apply an existing tool or method to gather and analyze information from large datasets with the intent of advancing prostate cancer research and patient care relative to the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges. ***The PCRP strongly encourages, but does not require, inclusion of preliminary data to support the scientific rationale and feasibility of research approaches.*** Any preliminary data provided should originate from the PI, named key personnel or formally identified collaborators listed in the application's Letters of Support. The PCRP encourages including plans for rigorous validation, benchmarking, comparisons and/or evaluations to assess the quality or utility of the tools and/or approaches used or developed under this award. Datasets must be from existing, well-documented databases with peer-reviewed publications demonstrating their validity. Applications must include power calculations or alternative justifications demonstrating that dataset size is adequate to detect meaningful effects for the proposed analyses. ***The funding opportunity cannot support prospective recruitment of human subjects and/or clinical trials.*** Applications should include documentation demonstrating access to the appropriate datasets and/or patient samples in numbers sufficient to achieve robust results.
- **Impact:** Applications must address and provide a solution to one or more of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges. The application should clearly describe the potential impact of the research, both short-term and long-term, in addressing the FY26 PCRP overarching challenge(s). High-impact research will, if successful, significantly advance prostate cancer research and/or patient care.
- **Data and Resource Sharing Plan:** The PCRP expects that investigators will openly share any resources, tools and computational processes developed under this award with the prostate cancer research and patient community. Applications must describe how the data science tools, processes and/or methods developed will be designed to accommodate integration of additional data from future studies. Describe technical capabilities for scalability and data format compatibility. 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.
- The FY26 PCRP DSA includes an option for more than one PI. One PI will be identified as the Initiating PI and will be responsible for the majority of the administrative tasks associated with application submission. The other PI will be identified as a Partnering PI. Both PIs should contribute significantly to the development and execution of the proposed research project. The PIs may have expertise in similar or disparate scientific disciplines, but each PI is expected to bring distinct contributions to the application; ***collaborations between data scientists and clinicians are highly encouraged.*** If recommended for funding, each PI will be named on separate awards to the recipient organization(s). Each award will be subject to separate reporting, regulatory and administrative requirements. For individual submission requirements for the Initiating and Partnering PI, refer to Section 5.3, Submission Instructions.

3.1.3. Other Important Considerations for the DSA

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 trials are not allowed within this funding opportunity.

All projects should adhere to a core set of standards for rigorous study design and reporting to maximize the reproducibility and translational potential of clinical and preclinical research, such as those described in the ARRIVE 2.0 guidelines. Animal studies are not supported by this award mechanism.

Applications from investigators within the DOW and applications involving multidisciplinary collaborations among academia, industry, the DOW, the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) and other federal government agencies are highly encouraged. These relationships can leverage knowledge, infrastructure and access to unique clinical populations that the collaborators bring to the research effort, 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 must describe the access at the time of submission and include a plan for maintaining access as needed throughout the proposed research.

The following encouragement is broadly applicable across many CDMRP programs, including the PCRP, A congressionally mandated Metastatic Cancer Task Force was formed with the purpose of identifying ways to help accelerate clinical and translational research aimed at extending the lives of advanced state and recurrent patients. As a member of the Metastatic Cancer Task Force, CDMRP encourages applicants to review the recommendations and submit research ideas to address these recommendations provided they are within the limitations of this funding opportunity and fit within the FY26 PCRP priorities.

3.2. Funding Instrument

The funding instrument for awards made under the program announcement will be grants (31 USC 6304).

3.3. Funding Details

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

Cost Cap: The application's total costs budgeted for the entire period of performance should not exceed **$1.4M**. 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 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.

Partnering PI Option: The combined total costs budgeted for the entire period of performance in the applications of the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI should not exceed **$1.4M**. 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.

A separate award will be made to each PI's organization.

The PIs are expected to be partners in the research, and direct cost funding should be divided accordingly unless otherwise warranted and clearly justified.

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

May be requested for (not all-inclusive):

- Travel in support of multi-institutional collaborations.
- 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 PCRP Data Science Award.
- Clinical research costs.

Must not be requested for:

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

4. Application Contents and Format

4.1. Application Overview

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

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

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

4.2. Pre-Application Components

The Initiating PI must submit the following pre-application components.

LOI (one-page limit): Provide a brief description of the research to be conducted. Include the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenge the research will address.

4.3. Full Application Components

Partnering PI Option: The CDMRP requires separate full application package submissions for the Initiating PI and each Partnering PI, even if the PIs are located within the same organization. The application submission process for the Partnering PI uses an abbreviated full application package.

4.3.1. Full Application Components for the PI or Initiating PI

Each application submission must include the completed full application package for this program announcement. See Appendix 1 for a checklist of the full application components.

(a) SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form *(Grants.gov submissions only)*:

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

(b) Attachments:

Each attachment of the full application components must be uploaded as an individual file in the format specified and in accordance with the formatting guidelines in the GAI.

- **Attachment 1: Project Narrative (15-page limit): Upload as "ProjectNarrative.pdf".**

  Describe the proposed project in detail using the outline below. The PCRP recommends, but does not require, inclusion of preliminary data to support the scientific rationale and feasibility of research approaches. Any preliminary data provided should originate from the laboratory of the PI or member of the collaborating team.

  - **Background:** Present the ideas and reasoning behind the proposed research and the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges addressed. The application must

demonstrate logical reasoning and provide a sound scientific rationale for the proposed project as established through a critical review and analysis of published literature; include relevant literature citations and preliminary and/or preclinical data, if applicable, that led to the development of the proposed study. Describe previous experience of the research team most pertinent to this application, including examples of previous successful collaborations, if applicable.

- **Hypothesis or Objective:** State the hypothesis to be tested or the objective to be reached.
- **Specific Aims:** Concisely explain the project's specific aims. If this application is part of a larger study, present only tasks that this award would fund.
- **Research Strategy and Feasibility:**
  - Describe the experimental design, methods, and analyses, including appropriate controls, in sufficient detail for analysis. Consult appropriate guidelines to ensure relevant aspects of rigorous and reproducible research are adequately planned for and, ultimately, reported.
  - Include a description of resources needed to support the project (databases, biospecimens, cohorts, etc.). Indicate whether the resources are readily available and/or provide a plan for acquiring any resources that are not readily available; explain how these resources will be sufficient to achieve robust statistical significance. For clinical research, see Attachment 8 for the required strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities appropriate to the objectives of the study. ***Prospective recruitment of human subjects and/or clinical trials is not allowed under this funding opportunity.***
  - Address potential problem areas and present alternative methods and approaches.
  - Include a description of how steps in addressing each specific aim progresses towards the specific aspect of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenge identified in the proposed short-term impact statement.
- **Statistical Plan:** Clearly describe the statistical plan and the rationale for the statistical methodology. Include sample size projections and an appropriate power analysis, if applicable. Describe the biostatistical expertise that will be available to support the analysis(es).

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 GAI, Appendix 4, for additional considerations.

- **Attachment 2: Supporting Documentation: Combine and upload as a single file named "Support.pdf".**

There are no page limits for these components unless otherwise noted. Include only components described below; inclusion of items not requested or viewed as an extension of the Project Narrative will result in the removal of those items or may result in administrative withdrawal of the application.

- **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:** 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. Letters from the PI's Department Chair, or appropriate organization official, should also confirm that the PI(s) meet eligibility criteria. 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.
- **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".**

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

  - **Background:** Present the scientific rationale behind the proposed research project.
  - **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.
  - **Military Relevance:** Describe how the study is relevant to military health.
  - **Impact:** Summarize how the proposed research will address and provide a solution to one or more of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges and ultimately provide progress toward eliminating death and suffering from prostate cancer and enhancing the well-being of Service Members and their Families, Veterans, and all the patients and caregivers experiencing the impact of the disease.

- **Attachment 4: Lay Abstract (one-page limit): Upload as "LayAbs.pdf".**

  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. ***Do not duplicate the technical abstract.***

  - Summarize the objectives and rationale for the proposed research.
  - What are the likely contributions of this study to the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges?
  - What population will the research help, and how will it help them?
  - What are the potential applications, benefits and risks of the anticipated outcomes?
  - What are the likely contributions of the proposed research project to advancing research, patient care and/or quality of life?
  - What is the potential benefit of the proposed study and the anticipated outcomes to Service Members, Veterans and/or their Families?

- **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 either the Example: Assembling a Clinical Research and/or Clinical Trial Statement of Work or Example: Assembling a Generic Statement of Work, whichever is most appropriate for the proposed effort. Include milestones for data or research resource(s) sharing. Task milestones should also align to the specific aspect of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenge(s) the proposed study aims to address and showcase iterative progression in advancing towards the proposed short-term goal.

Each PI must submit an identical copy of a jointly created SOW. The specific contributions of the Initiating PI and the Partnering PI should be clearly noted for each task.

- **Attachment 6: Impact Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Impact.pdf".**
  - **Describe the short-term impact:** Detail the anticipated outcome(s)/product(s) that will be directly attributed to the results of the proposed research, including any clinically relevant results that would impact prostate cancer patients. Summarize how the anticipated outcome(s)/product(s) are distinct from existing research efforts in this area and/or how they will significantly outperform current approaches. Summarize how the anticipated outcome(s)/product(s) will provide a foundation for future research projects that will enable progress toward a clearly define aspect or solution to one or more of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges.
  - **Describe the long-term impact:** Explain the anticipated long-term gains from the proposed research, including the anticipated advantages that the new understanding may contribute to the goal of elimination of death and suffering from prostate cancer.
  - **Describe the relevance to military health:** Briefly describe how the proposed research is relevant to Service Members, Veterans and/or their Families.
- **Attachment 7: Transition Plan (one-page limit): Upload as "Transition.pdf".** Provide information on potential methods and strategies to move the project's findings to the next phase of development, clinical trials and/or delivery to the commercial market after successful completion of the award (e.g., specific potential industry partners, specific funding opportunities to apply for). Provide a realistic timeline for near-term clinical investigation. In addition, provide a plan to distribute the findings or intervention to the prostate cancer community.
- **Attachment 8: Inclusion of Women and Minorities (four-page limit): Upload as "Inclusion.pdf".** ***(Attachment 8 is only applicable and required for applications that propose clinical research.)*** Describe the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities appropriate to the objectives of the study, including a description of the composition of the proposed study population in terms of sex, racial and ethnic group, and an accompanying rationale for the selection of subjects. Provide an anticipated enrollment table(s) for the inclusion of women and minorities using the "Public Health Service (PHS) Inclusion Enrollment Report", a three-page fillable PDF form, that can be downloaded from eBRAP. The enrollment table(s) should be appropriate to the objectives of the study with the proposed enrollment distributed on the basis of sex, race and ethnicity. Studies utilizing previously collected human biospecimens/datasets or resources that cannot be linked to a specific individual, sex, ethnicity or race are exempt from this requirement. If an application is adding an aim to an existing clinical trial to conduct biosample collection and biomarker analysis, use of the patients enrolled in that trial is expected and the study potentially may not include diverse populations. These applications are exempt from this requirement.
- **Attachment 9: Partnership Statement (one-page limit): Upload as "Partnership.pdf".** ***(Attachment 9 is only applicable and required for applications submitted under the Partnering PI Option.)*** Describe the expertise of the Initiating and Partnering PIs. Describe the contribution and the time commitment of each PI toward the proposed research project. Describe how the partners' combined experience will better address the research question and explain why the work should be done together rather than through separate efforts.

- **Attachment 10: Representations *(Grants.gov submissions only)*: Upload as "RequiredReps.pdf".** All extramural applicants must complete and submit the Required Representations document available on eBRAP.
- **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.

(c) Additional Application Materials:

The following are additional forms for application submission. Follow the instructions specific to the submission portal, as found within the GAI.

Grants.gov	eBRAP.org
i. Research & Related Senior/Key Person Profile (Expanded) ○ **Biographical Sketch** ○ **Current/Pending Support** *Intragovernmental applicants must include their internally supported research and development programs.*	
ii. Research & Related Budget *Initiating and Partnering PIs must have a separate budget and justification specific to their distinct portions of the effort that the applicant organization will submit as separate Grants.gov or eBRAP application packages. The Initiating PI should not include budget information for Partnering PI(s), or vice versa, even if they are located within the same organization. Refer to Section 3.3, Funding Details, for detailed budget information.*	
iii. Project/Performance Site Location(s)	
iv. Research & Related Subaward Budget Attachment(s) *(if applicable, Grants.gov submissions only)*	

4.3.2. Full Application Components for the Partnering PI

Refer to the equivalent attachment above for details specific to each of the following application components. See Appendix 1 for a checklist of the full application components required for the Partnering PI.

(a) SF424 Research & Related Application for Federal Assistance Form *(Grants.gov Submissions Only)*:

(b) Attachments:

- **Attachment 5: Statement of Work (three-page limit): Upload as "SOW.pdf".** Each PI must submit an identical copy of a jointly created SOW.
- **Attachment 10: Representations *(Grants.gov submissions only)*: Upload as "RequiredReps.pdf".**

- **Attachment 11: Suggested Intragovernmental/Intramural Budget Form: Upload as "IGBudget.pdf".**

(c) Additional Application Materials:

The following are additional application materials for application submission. Follow the instructions specific to the submission portal found within the GAI.


Grants.gov


eBRAP.org

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

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

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

ii. Research & Related Budget

Initiating and Partnering PIs must have a separate budget and justification specific to their distinct portions of the effort that the applicant organization will submit as separate Grants.gov or eBRAP application packages. The Partnering PI(s) should not include budget information for the Initiating PI, or vice versa, even if they are located within the same organization. Refer to Section 3.3, Funding Details, for detailed budget information.

iii. Project/Performance Site Location(s) Form

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

4.4. Other Application 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 recommended for funding.

5. Submission Requirements

5.1. Location of Application Package

Download the application package components for HT942526PCRPDSA from Grants.gov or eBRAP, depending on which submission portal will be used.

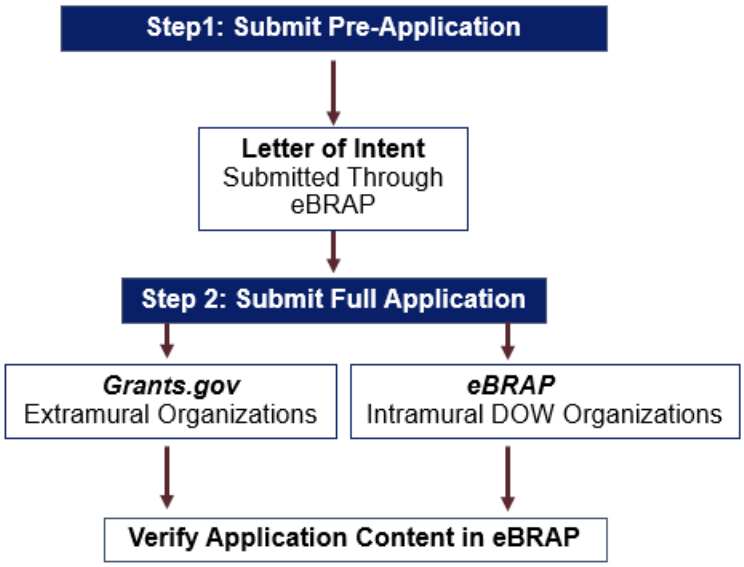
5.2. Unique Entity Identifier and System for Award Management

The applicant 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 through Grants.gov. Organizations must include the unique entity identifier (UEI) generated by the SAM in applications 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 under consideration.

5.3. Submission Instructions

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

Application Submission Workflow



5.3.1. Pre-Application Submission

All pre-application components must be submitted by the PI through eBRAP, including the submission of contact information for the Partnering PI if selecting the Partnering PI Option.

During the pre-application process, eBRAP assigns each submission a unique log number. This unique log number is required during the full application submission process. The eBRAP log

number, application title and all information for the PI, Business Official(s), performing organization and contracting organization must be consistent throughout the entire pre-application and full application submission process. Inconsistencies may delay application processing and limit or negate the ability to view, modify and verify the application in eBRAP. Contact the eBRAP Help Desk if any changes need to be made.

Partnering PI Option: After the Initiating PI confirms submission of the pre-application, the Partnering PI will be notified of the pre-application submission via an email from eBRAP. ***The Partnering PI must follow the instructions provided in the email to associate the partnering pre-application with their eBRAP account.*** If not previously registered, the Partnering PI must register in eBRAP.

Partnering PIs should not initiate a new pre-application based on the same research project submitted by the Initiating PI. Partnering PIs are urged to associate the partnering pre-application with their eBRAP account as soon as possible. If this is not completed by the full application deadline:

- Any intramural Partnering PI will not be able to submit their full application package components to eBRAP.
- The Partnering PI will not be able to view and modify their full application during the verification period in eBRAP.

When starting the pre-application, PIs should select a Mechanism Option appropriate to their pre-application:

Application Includes:	Select Mechanism Option:
Single PI	**No Option**
Partnering PI	**Partnering PI**

5.3.2. Full Application Submission

Grants.gov Submissions: Full applications from extramural organizations *must* be submitted through the Grants.gov Workspace.

eBRAP Submissions: Only intramural DOW organizations may submit full applications through eBRAP.

5.3.3. Applicant Verification of Full Application Submission in eBRAP

Independent of the submission portal, once the full application 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 submission. ***The Project Narrative and Research & Related Budget Form cannot be changed after the application submission deadline.*** Other application components, including subaward budget(s) and subaward budget justification(s), may be changed until the application verification period ends. The full application cannot be modified once the application verification period ends.

5.4. Submission Dates and Times

The pre-application and full application submission process should be started early to avoid missing deadlines. Regardless of submission portal used, all pre- and full application components must be submitted by the deadlines stipulated in this program announcement. There are no grace periods for deadlines; failure to meet submission deadlines will result in application rejection. ***The DHACA cannot make allowances/exceptions for submission problems encountered by the applicant.***

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

5.5. Intergovernmental Review

Not applicable for this funding opportunity.

6. Application Review Information

6.1. Application Compliance Review

Submitting applications 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).

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 and/or proposing research that may produce classified outcomes or outcomes deemed sensitive to national security concerns, may result in application withdrawal.

Members of the FY26 PCRP Programmatic Panel must not be involved in any pre-application or full application including, but not limited to, concept design, application 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 PCRP 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. Pre-Application Screening Criteria

Pre-applications submitted to this funding opportunity are used for program planning purposes only (e.g., reviewer recruitment) and will not be screened.

6.2.2. Peer Review Criteria

To determine technical merit, all applications 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 research and its feasibility, as demonstrated by logical reasoning, a critical review and analysis of the published literature, and the presentation of preliminary data (if applicable) to support the research hypotheses and research approaches.
    - How well the hypotheses or objectives, aims, experimental design, methods and analyses are developed and how well they progress logically towards achieving the specific aspect of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenge identified in the proposed short-term impact statement.

- How well the application describes validation of the tool or method, which may include: comparison to existing approaches (benchmarking), assessment using independent datasets, or other appropriate evaluation methods demonstrating the tool's accuracy, reliability and utility (if applicable).
- How well the application acknowledges potential problems and addresses alternative methods and approaches.
- Whether the application provides sufficient evidence to support the availability of and access to the resources, databases and/or samples required for the study and whether the plan for the acquisition of samples is sufficient for the proposed research project (if applicable).
- If applicable, whether the strategy for the inclusion of women and minorities and distribution of proposed enrollment are appropriate for the proposed research. Studies utilizing human biospecimens or datasets that cannot be linked to a specific individual, gender, ethnicity or race (typically classified as exempt from Institutional Review Board [IRB] review) are exempt from this requirement.
- 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.

- **Impact**
  - To what extent the anticipated outcomes of the proposed study will make an impact in the field and/or improve patient care/outcomes.
  - To what degree the anticipated short-term outcome(s)/product(s) of the project will be used as the foundation for future research projects that will enable progress toward providing a solution to one or more of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges.
  - To what degree the anticipated short-term outcome(s)/product(s) will significantly outperform current approaches, if applicable. For projects developing tools where no comparable approach exists, assess the potential utility and impact of the new capability.
  - To what degree the proposed research would, in the long term, make an impact on prostate cancer patient care and ultimately contribute to the goal of eliminating death from prostate cancer and enhancing the well-being of Service Members and their Families, Veterans and all the patients and caregivers who experience the impact of the disease.
- **Statistical Plan**
  - Whether the statistical plan is adequate for the study, including sample size justification and power analysis (if the study involves hypothesis testing). For exploratory or descriptive studies, whether the analytic approach is appropriate and sufficiently justified.
- **Personnel**
  - To what degree the research team’s background is appropriate with respect to its ability to perform the proposed work, including whether there is evidence of sufficient clinical and/or biostatistical expertise (if applicable).
  - How appropriate the levels of effort are for successful conduct of the proposed work.

- **Partnering PI Option:** How the partners' combined expertise will better address the research question.

In addition, the following criteria will also contribute to the overall evaluation of the application, but will not be individually scored and are therefore termed **unscored criteria**. Unscored criteria are not assigned numerical scores but are evaluated qualitatively and may be discussed during panel review. Significant strengths or weaknesses in unscored criteria may influence the overall score and funding recommendation. For example, an inadequate budget or poorly written application may reduce confidence in the application despite strong scored criteria.

- **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 Presentation**
  - To what extent the writing, clarity and presentation of the application components influence the review.

6.2.3. Programmatic Review

To make funding recommendations and select the application(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 PCRP, as evidenced by the following:
  - Adherence to the intent of the funding opportunity
  - Program portfolio composition
  - Programmatic relevance to the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges
  - Relative impact

6.3. Application Review and Selection Process

6.3.1. Pre-Application

There is no review and selection process for pre-applications submitted to this funding opportunity. ***CDMRP will NOT provide an invitation to submit a full application after pre-application submission***. Applicants are encouraged to develop pre-application and full application components concurrently and submit a full application AFTER successful submission of the pre-application.

6.3.2. Full Application

All applications are evaluated by scientists, clinicians and consumers in a two-tier review process. The first tier is **peer review**, the evaluation of applications against established criteria to determine technical merit, where each application is assessed for its own merit, independent of other applications. The second tier is **programmatic review**, a comparison-based process in which applications 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 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 received is contingent upon the availability of federal funds for this program, the number of applications received, the quality and merit of the applications 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

Prior to making an assistance agreement 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 that is available in the SAM.

An applicant 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, in addition to other information in the designated integrity and performance system, in making a judgment about the applicant's integrity, business ethics and record of performance under federal awards when determining a recipient'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 organizations must disclose foreign affiliations of all key personnel named on applications. Failure to disclose foreign affiliations of key personnel shall lead to withdrawal of recommendations to fund applications. Applicant 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 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 and an information paper describing the application receipt and review process for the PCRP 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 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 recipient organization.

Only an appointed DHACA Grants Officer 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 Grants Officer 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.

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.

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 program announcement.

The GAI contain information regarding administrative requirements and 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 organization, DHACA will not issue any new awards to the applicant organization until all delinquent reports have been submitted.

Applications 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), IRB or Ethics Committee (EC) review.

8.2. Reporting

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

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

PHS Inclusion Enrollment Reporting ***(required for applications proposing clinical research):*** Enrollment reporting on the basis of sex, race and/or ethnicity will be required with each annual and final progress report. The PHS Inclusion Enrollment Report is available on eBRAP.

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 program announcement may entail additional reporting requirements related to recipient integrity and performance matters. Recipient 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 recipients are required to disclose, semiannually, information about criminal, civil and administrative proceedings as specified in the applicable Representations.

8.3. Additional Requirements

An organizational transfer of an award supporting the Initiating PI or Partnering PI is discouraged and will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis.

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

9. Other Information

9.1. Program Announcement Version

Questions related to this program announcement should refer to the program name, the program announcement name and the program announcement version code CD26_01d.

9.2. Administrative Actions

After receipt of full applications, the following administrative actions may occur.

9.2.1. Rejection

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

- The Project Narrative is missing.
- The Budget is missing.
- Pre-application was not submitted.

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:

- A member of the FY26 PCRP Programmatic Panel is named as being involved in the development or execution of the research proposed or is found to have assisted in the pre-application or application processes.
- The application 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 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 from an extramural organization, including non-DOW federal agencies, is received through eBRAP.
- The federal government recipient 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 fails to conform to this program announcement description.

- The application includes URLs, with the exception of links in the References Cited and Publication and/or Patent sections.
- The application 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.
- More than one application is received naming the same investigator as PI. Only the first application received will be accepted; additional applications will be administratively withdrawn.
- The PI does not meet the eligibility criteria.
- The application does not address at least one of the FY26 PCRP Overarching Challenges.
- The application proposes a clinical trial.
- The application proposes development of new datasets.
- Failure to submit all associated (Initiating and Partnering PI) applications by the deadline.

9.2.4. Withhold

Applications 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 Grants Officer for a determination of the final disposition of the application.

Appendix 1. Full Application Submission Checklist

Full Application Components	Uploaded	
	PI/Initiating PI	Partnering PI
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 Statement – Attachment 6, upload as "Impact.pdf"	☐	
Transition Plan – Attachment 7, upload as "Transition.pdf"	☐	
Inclusion of Women and Minorities *(if applicable)* – Attachment 8, upload as "Inclusion.pdf"	☐	
Partnership Statement *(if applicable)* – Attachment 9, upload as "Partnership.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 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

ARRIVE	Animal Research: Reporting of In Vivo Experiments
CDMRP	Congressionally Directed Medical Research Programs
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations
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
DoDGARs	Department of Defense Grant and Agreement Regulations
DSA	Data Science Award
DOW	U.S. Department of War
eBRAP	Electronic Biomedical Research Application Portal
EC	Ethics Committee
ET	Eastern Time
FAD	Funding Authorization Document
FY	Fiscal Year
GAI	General Application Instructions
IACUC	Institutional Animal Care and Use Committee
IRB	Institutional Review Board
LOI	Letter of Intent
M	Million
MIPR	Military Interdepartmental Purchase Request
ORRC	Office of Research and Regulatory Compliance
PCRP	Prostate Cancer Research Program
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
UEI	Unique Entity Identifier
URL	Uniform Resource Locator
USC	United States Code
VA	U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs