



Fundamental Research Overview

DARPA's intent is to contract for fundamental research without restrictions

- The relationship between DARPA and performers requires collaboration.
 - DARPA is challenging itself, from this point forward, to eliminate pre-publication review and other restrictions on fundamental research except in those exceptional cases when it is in the best interest of national security.
 - DARPA is establishing a proactive process that requires our staff to make informed predictive judgment to define and scope fundamental research prior to contract initiation.
 - DARPA is requiring Program Managers to monitor fundamental research for contract modifications, statement of work creep, or unanticipated breakthroughs that may exceed fundamental research scope.
 - DARPA is reviewing its contracting processes and contracting agent guidelines to ensure this intent is institutionalized for all DARPA funded fundamental research contracts.
- DARPA performers and researchers must share responsibility by:
 - Developing a keen understanding of when “fundamental research” does not apply.
 - Ensuring publications are consistent with the defined research scope (i.e. not discussing applied uses in publications).
 - Continuously monitor contracted fundamental research for modifications, statement of work creep, or unanticipated breakthroughs that may exceed contracted fundamental research scope.