



Call for Technology Projects

Project Call Released	On or about November 3, 2023
Recommended Deadline for Return to MII for Down-selection	November 28, 2023
Submission Deadline to OSD for Concept Papers	December 4, 2023, 5:00pm ET
Invitations for Presentation phase released	On or about January 12, 2024
Submission Deadline for Presentations and Supporting Docs	February 2, 2024, 5:00pm ET
Team Presentations	February 7, 2024
Final Selections Released; Subaward Negotiations Begin	On or about February 29, 2024
Target Project Start Date	June 3, 2024

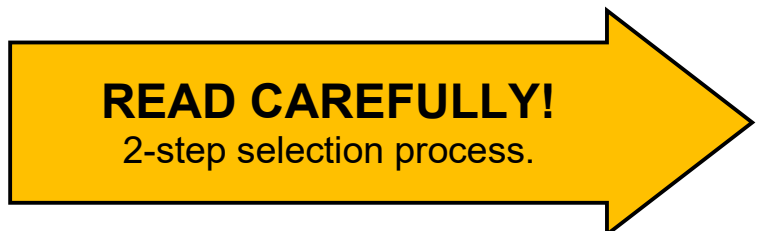


Table of Contents

1. OVERVIEW	3
2. OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION	3
2.1. Description.....	3
2.2. Project Special Topics Area (STA)	4
2.2.1. Special Topic Area 1 (STA1): Organic Industrial Base Modernization	4
2.2.2. Mature or Already Commercialized Technologies	5
2.3. Project Metrics	5
3. AWARD AND ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION	7
3.1. Award Information.....	7
3.2. Project Proposer Eligibility	7
3.3 Submission Dates and Times	8
4. SUBMISSION, REVIEW AND SELECTION	8
4.1. STEP 1: Concept Paper Process	8
4.2. STEP 1: Concept Paper and Quad Chart Structure	9
4.3. STEP 1: Concept Paper and Quad Chart Evaluation Criteria	11
4.4. STEP 1: Concept Paper Submission Requirements	11
4.5. STEP 2: Overview of Presentation Phase (invitation only).....	12
5. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION	13
5.1. Contact Information and FAQ.....	13
5.2. Responsibility for Compliance with Legal Requirements	13
5.3. Unclassified Materials Only	13
5.4. Proposer Incurred Costs.....	13
5.5. Proposer Errors or Omissions	13
5.6. Past Performance	13
5.7. Reservation of Rights	13
5.8. Anticipated Number of Projects	13
5.9. Pre-Award Costs	13
5.10. MII Specific Administrative information	14

1. OVERVIEW

From manufacturing planes and tanks, to Unmanned Aircraft Systems, to MRAPs and beyond, past wars were fought and won by surging the nation's industrial base to meet unanticipated wartime requirements. In the future, wars will not just be won by how well we can manufacture materials and equipment, but by how efficiently we can modify and repair the equipment we have and return it to the battlefield. The key to enabling this critical capability lies in the Organic Industrial Base (OIB), our depots, arsenals, and shipyards, which in many instances are aging, inefficient, and face extreme challenges on their modernization journeys.

Funding Opportunity: DoD OIB Modernization Challenge

This project call will use a two-step submission process for selecting projects:

Step 1: Concept paper and Quad Chart submission. Review and down select.

Step 2: Presentation submission (by invitation only). Team presentation and supporting documents submission. Review and down select.

If projects are selected after Step 2, then the contracting process will occur through the respective Manufacturing Innovation Institutes (MII) sponsoring the submission.

More details of this process are described in the following pages.

Important Dates:

- **12/4/23**, 5:00PM Eastern Time Concept Papers Due
- On or about **1/12/24** Presentation Phase Selections Released
- **2/2/24**, 5:00PM Eastern Time Team Presentations and Supporting Material Due (by invitation only)
- **2/7/24**, Team Presentations
- On or about **2/29/24**, Final Selections Released; Contracting Process through MII Agreements Begin
- **No later than 6/3/24**, Target Project Start Date

NOTE 1: Submissions received after the OSD deadline will not be considered.

NOTE 2: Project call is only open to lead proposers that are active members of an MII (participating with their MII) in good standing according to the eligibility requirements of their institute.

NOTE 3: All information must be submitted via the methods provided by the sponsoring Manufacturing Innovation Institute. The submissions will be prioritized by the MII. Each MII may submit **NO MORE THAN 5** projects. MIIs will then provide projects to OSD for review.

NOTE 4: The DoD reserves the right to add, modify, and/or delete any part of this document as needed.

2. OPPORTUNITY DESCRIPTION

2.1. Description

OSD ManTech is working with each of its Manufacturing Innovation Institutes, leveraging their project call processes under current agreements, to assemble and review white papers that address dual-use applications that are responsive to specific needs of the Department of Defense (DoD) - and the domestic manufacturing industry. This project call is focused on a single Special Topic Area (STA), which is summarized in Section 2.2 below. This STA has been derived from the DoD Organic Industrial Base and contains multiple focus areas. Project teams can select one or more focus areas to address.

Project teams must include their Manufacturing Innovation Institute as a team performer in their projects, and should strongly consider partnering with a sponsoring Military Service or OIB site to ensure alignment, sponsorship, and buy-in to increase the chances of a successful technology transition. At a minimum, the MII should perform project management. However, some MIIs have additional capabilities that could be leveraged

for the effort. Project teams are also encouraged to leverage successfully completed MII technology development programs as well as MII Consortium Developed Intellectual Property (CDIP) in their submissions. It is highly recommended that proposers have discussions with their MIIs as soon as they intend to submit for this project call.

2.2. Project Special Topics Area (STA)

The Special Topics Area relevant for this project call is listed below. Submissions may focus on one or more of these focus areas within this special topic. Ideal submissions will align with DoD's and Military Services' OIB modernization strategies as presented in the 25-26 October 2023 OIB Modernization Workshop (available through your sponsoring MII) and align with the intent of the Services' planned modernization efforts. Additionally, while not required, a commitment from a Military Service or OIB site to sponsor a specific endeavor with additional money, a facility, or technical staff would be viewed as highly favorable. Ideal submissions will link with the Services' OIB modernization strategies and align with existing planned modernization efforts.

2.2.1. Special Topic Area 1 (STA1): Organic Industrial Base Modernization

A successful solution conveys a technical approach or methodology that demonstrates an advanced manufacturing technology that could address one or more of the focus areas below. Each focus area is based upon an identified DoD need in the Organic Industrial Base:

1. Integrated hardware trackers (active, connected sensors) to track worker/equipment/facility/ tool/part movement and condition, and software/control/data solutions to provide prediction and health impact modeling, to help implement Industry 4.0 through better time/motion controls, capture of material, tool position, and environmental impact.
2. Improved technology to modernize manufacturing processes, such as:
 - a. technology to better prepare for the equipment induction process, including inspection equipment and/or AI analytics, to better identify pre-induction materiel conditions, particularly with respect to corrosion, to improve maintenance planning and supply lead time. An ideal solution will help minimize unexpected and unforecasted removal and replacement requirements, which are primary drivers of cost and schedule growth.
 - b. robotic and/or automated inspection for large structures for multi-stage manufacturing with precise localization.
 - c. technologies that modernize traditional manufacturing processes, such as painting, de-painting, riveting, corrosion repair, material handling, circuitry production & repair, etc...
3. Digitization to combat "part-orphaning," including the use of AI/ML to get a design model of legacy parts to allow for design updates/reimaging, including use of vision, scanning, AR and VR systems, when no technical data packages are available for components/subsystems.
4. Qualification/certification technology and processes for part production using data rather than testing.
5. Digitization of the "shop floor," which may include:
 - a. uniquely supportive digital twin efforts, including digitization of assets and digitization of processes, to support quality control and quality assurance of production.
 - b. digital and cybersecurity tools to improve processes and address challenges induced by "air gaps" between networks and production equipment.
6. Development of the workforce in pursuit of the "Virtual Artisan," which could include:
 - a. a robust, cybersecure knowledge management tool to dynamically capture skills and technical knowledge of artisans from the aging workforce, and identify ideal applications for such technologies.
 - b. technologies ideal for reskilling and retraining the workforce as labor becomes automated, including both short and long-term planning tools for managing human capital.

- c. user-friendly tools supportive of technicians and artisans that automate/streamline work, and integrate digitized technical data manuals, operating instructions, and historical maintenance records.
- 7. Novel disposal and/or recycling techniques/technologies to accommodate demilitarization of equipment and munitions.
- 8. Manufacturing or automation equipment that can work in an intrinsically safe environment.
- 9. Development of digital Technical Data Packages in a framework that provides for standard format and interoperability between various Services, equipment and software.
- 10. Other. Proposers may submit a technology or process not addressed above if they deem it relevant to Organic Industrial Base modernization efforts.

2.2.2. Mature or Already Commercialized Technologies

While ineligible to receive award money, as no further investment is needed, MIIs and their ecosystem partners are encouraged to submit mature or already commercialized technologies that are readily available and address the focus areas outlined in Section 2.2.1. These submissions need not follow the submission criteria contained herein. Any format and literature will be accepted, aggregated, and disseminated to the Organic Industrial Base for individual consideration. There are no limits to the number of submissions from this category that each MII can forward to OSD. The only requirements are that each submission is limited to no more than two pages and that an organization and point of contact is included with each submission. Existing product literature is acceptable, as the goal is simply to spread awareness of existing solutions in the marketplace. These packages will be aggregated and disseminated to OIB leadership.

2.3. Project Metrics

All submissions will specify a set of key performance parameters (KPPs) for the project technology. The KPPs selected should be described as to their relevance to the proposed project, and the related project call topic areas. The related metrics that will be measured to evaluate achievement of each KPP should also be specified as well as a baseline for comparison, threshold for minimum achievement during the project, and objective for stretch goals during the project.

OSD requires that metrics be defined for each technology project that will be used to evaluate the progress in achieving the goals of the proposed project and the identified KPPs. A metrics and evaluation framework is provided that can guide which types of metrics should be specified for various aspects of a project, consisting of **cardinal metrics** (categories of measures: performance, productivity, efficiency, acquisition cost, sustaining cost, investment prudence) and **project levels** (elements of the project technology being measured by a metric: component, task, process, or system). Competitive submissions will consider and formulate all the cardinal metrics listed below for their projects:

1. **Performance:** Measures of the characteristics of the entire advanced manufacturing system, its components, or the execution of a manufacturing task. Units for performance metrics will vary based on the advanced manufacturing system, component, or task they are applied to. Performance metrics include those both qualitative and quantitative. Types of performance metrics include accuracy, capabilities, completeness, ergonomics, generalizability, quality, reconfigurability, success/error rate, and usability. Performance metrics should align with the key attributes of Organic Industrial Base manufacturing systems and processes.
2. **Productivity:** The rate at which a manufacturing process is occurring, expressed in units (e.g., items, articles, batches) per time interval (e.g., minute, hour, day). Examples of productivity metrics include defect rate, first time yield, and throughput rate.
3. **Efficiency:** The amount of time required to perform a manufacturing task or the percentage of time spent in set-up, calibration, transition, production, etc., compared to total cycle time of a manufacturing

process. Units for these metrics should be time intervals (e.g., minutes, hours, days). Examples of efficiency metrics include performance time, set-up time, and touch time.

4. **Acquisition:** Cost for initial acquisition of the proposed system. Types of acquisition cost metrics include capital cost and implementation cost.
5. **Sustaining Cost:** Costs, labor, and/or time measures associated with continued operation of the manufacturing process using the proposed system. Types of sustaining cost metrics include involved labor, operational cost, process cost, safety, and training time.

All metrics should be expressed in explicit measures using relevant units (e.g., microinches, seconds, dollars) and in terms of percentage improvement to a baseline. One or more metrics may be specified in each cardinal metric category, although it is not required that metrics for every cardinal metric category or project level be measured. If a cardinal metric is not relevant for a particular project it does not need to be addressed. If advancement in one or more cardinal metrics is more germane to demonstrating success of the project, this should be articulated in the proposal; e.g., consistency of sanding quality (Performance) may have higher impact on the industry than performing the task faster (Efficiency). This may present tradeoffs in the project KPPs/metrics, which should also be described; e.g., a more consistent sanding quality (Performance) is achieved by a system that is more expensive than the baseline (Acquisition Cost), but the savings in Systems Requirement Review costs are worthwhile (Sustaining Cost).

All proposed projects and their components should start no lower than **Technology Readiness Level (TRL) 4** and/or **Manufacturing Readiness Level (MRL) 4** and should intend to mature to, or make a significant advancement toward, TRL 7 and/or MRL 7. Ideally, the submission will be a more mature technology that needs additional investment to significantly move toward, or finalize, technology transition. All submissions must specify the start and end TRL/MRL for the project's key components over the course of project execution, not just the project as a whole.

[The rest of this page is intentionally blank]

3. AWARD AND ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION

3.1. Award Information

The DoD expects awarding up to \$2.5M to fund multiple projects under the OIB Modernization Challenge. Individual project budgets must not exceed \$500K requested from DoD. While it would be reviewed favorably, cost share is not required for submission. The period of performance is expected to be no longer than 6 months. **All projects must be completed and closed prior to Dec. 15, 2024.** For example, all development tasks under the award must be completed, all deliverables must be submitted and approved, technical reports and all close-out documentation required under the MII's sub-agreement with the project performer(s) must be submitted by this date.

Award of Subaward Agreement(s) resulting from this Project Call will be based upon the most responsive proposer(s) whose offer(s) will best advance the MII's mission in terms of cost, functionality and the additional factors specified in this Project Call.

For any topic area described in Section 2 of this Project Call, OSD ManTech and the MIIs reserve the right to:

- Reject any or all offers and discontinue this Project Call process without obligation or liability to any potential proposer;
- Accept other than the lowest priced submission;
- Select for award negotiations based on initial offers received, without discussions or requests for best and final offers, and
- Select all, some, one or none of the submissions, in full or in part, for award negotiations in any of the focus areas.

Proposals selected and successfully negotiated in response to this Project Call will be incorporated into corresponding Subaward Agreement(s) between the Manufacturing Innovation Institute and the selected proposer(s).

3.2. Project Proposer Eligibility

To address the needs of this Project Call, OSD ManTech encourages proposers to work cooperatively in presenting integrated solutions. OSD ManTech recommends proposer team arrangements that enable the organizations involved to complement each other's unique capabilities, while offering the best combination of performance, cost and delivery. **OSD ManTech will recognize the integrity and validity of proposer team arrangements provided that:**

- The lead proposer (or prime) on the project submission is a current member of one of the Manufacturing Innovation Institutes in good standing (i.e., membership dues paid and up to date) by the concept paper submission deadline. Contact the Manufacturing Innovation Institute for details on membership.
- The membership status of other organizations participating as project team members on the submission must be in accordance with the membership policies and assistance agreement terms and conditions of the participating OSD-ManTech partner MII. It is anticipated that in most circumstances team members will be current Institute members in good standing (i.e., membership dues paid and up to date).
- Each team must contain at least one industry organization that is capable of delivering a system to a DoD acquisition organization and who can: a) provide the use case(s) that will guide the overall development and integration, b) conduct the final system demonstration(s), and c) provide the business rationale and economic justification for pursuing the development.
- Team lead organizations will be evaluated on past program performance, overall programmatic experience and capabilities, and their overall capability for ultimately commercializing any technology developed.

- Team arrangements are identified, and relationships are fully disclosed.
- **The lead proposer (or prime) is fully responsible for all project and subrecipient performance.**
- If a project will manage **export-controlled information or restricted material, Foreign Nationals** will not be permitted to perform work under this project at lead proposer or any subrecipient facilities, remotely, or otherwise. As used in this provision, the term “Foreign National” means any natural person who is not a lawful permanent resident as defined by 8 U.S.C. 1101(a)(20) or who is not a protected individual as defined by 8 U.S.C. 1324b(a)(3). It also means any foreign corporation, business association, partnership, trust, society or any other entity or group that is not incorporated or organized to do business in the United States.

3.3 Submission Dates and Times

Concept Paper Deadline: Submissions must be received by 5:00 pm Eastern Time on December 4, 2023 through the respective Manufacturing Innovation Institute. Each MII will establish and provide their own submission instructions to their members. Multiple submissions from a lead proposer addressing different challenges within the Special Topic Area are permitted. Submissions received through methods other than the method directed by the MII will not be considered. Submissions received after the deadline will not be considered.

Submission Address: Lead proposers must submit their concept in accordance with the instructions from their Manufacturing Innovation Institutes. Submission to OSD will follow the procedures outlined in paragraph 4.1.

Expected Timeline:

FINAL Project Call Released.....	On or about November 3, 2023
Recommended Deadline for Return to MII for Internal Down Selection.....	November 28, 2023
Submission Deadline to OSD for Concept Papers	December 4, 2023, 5:00pm ET
Invitations for Presentation Submission released.....	On or about January 12, 2024
Submission Deadline for Presentation Packages.....	February 2, 2024, 5:00pm ET
Team Presentations	February 7, 2024
Final Selections Released; Subaward Negotiations Begin.....	On or about February 29, 2024
Target Project Start Date	Not later than June 3, 2024

4. SUBMISSION, REVIEW AND SELECTION

This project call involves a two-step process with each step having a submission, review and selection stage. The goal of this two-step process is to solicit a broad range of project concepts in Step 1, while making efficient use of the proposer’s bid and concept resources and OSD ManTech’s concept evaluation resources by inviting only teams with the most promising concept papers to submit in Step 2: Project Presentation. In that spirit, we include here a detailed description of the Step 1 process and provide a higher-level overview of the Step 2 process. The full details for Project Presentation submission will be supplied to those that are invited to present.

4.1. STEP 1: Concept Paper Process

- 1) **Pre-submission Document Review.** All documents and guidelines necessary for submission and subaward negotiation will be made available through the DoD NIST MII Sharepoint site (<https://nistgov.sharepoint.com/sites/NNMI/DODInsts/SitePages/Home.aspx>). See paragraph 4.1.2 for specific details on folder location. Lead proposers are strongly encouraged to review these documents and guidelines thoroughly and early in this project call process and contact their MII with any questions or clarifications. **To administer this Project Call as efficiently as possible, it is**

intended that any due dates associated with document submission and subaward negotiation and execution be strictly enforced.

- 2) **Submission of Documents.** The lead proposer submits a **Concept Paper** and **Quad Chart** electronically that succinctly describes the proposed project using the prescribed structure described in Section 4.2. Submission will be done through the DoD NIST MII Sharepoint site (<https://nistgov.sharepoint.com/sites/NNMI/DODInsts/SitePages/Home.aspx>). Therein, all MIIs will access the “OIB Modernization” folder, then the “OIB Modernization Challenge” subfolder, and then the subfolder that corresponds with their own MII. Inside that folder, each MII shall upload one complete submission package per each subfolder embedded therein. ** Please note the folders are secure, so only designated members of that respective MII, as well as authorized OSD administrators, will have visibility of the submissions contained therein. Contact Mr. Aaron Sasson, aaron.sasson@pm2strategies.com, (843) 670-0477, with any questions about the submission process.
- 3) **Initial Compliance Screening.** All submissions will receive an administrative review for adherence to the eligibility, structure and format requirements in Sections 3.2, 4.2 and 4.4. Ineligible and/or incomplete submissions are subject to elimination from further review.
- 4) **Evaluation and Peer Review.** Submissions determined eligible and complete will be reviewed and prioritized by their sponsoring MII. Each MII may submit up to five Concept Papers to OSD, where they will proceed for a full evaluation by subject matter experts. Evaluation criteria in Section 4.3 serves as the basis for scoring of Concept Papers. **For those MIIs that receive more than five submissions from their ecosystem partners, it is expected that the MII will internally down select their submissions and only submit their best five concept papers.
- 5) **Selection to Submit a Presentation.** Selections will be based on the best eligible submissions, and how the concept contributes to the balance (technologies and solutions addressed, risk, cost, impact, etc.) in the overall technology investment portfolios. Proposers selected will be invited to submit a project presentation through a notification from OSD ManTech.

4.2. STEP 1: Concept Paper and Quad Chart Structure

1. **All material will be submitted via the respective OSD ManTech Manufacturing Innovation Institute’s project call process. The lead proposer (or prime) should follow the instructions provided by the MII or contact the MII for instructions.**
2. **Concept Paper (5-page maximum, excluding Title Page)**

The concept paper must use the MS Word template provided and contain the following sections:

1) Title Page (1-page)

- i) Concept Paper title.
- ii) Proposed focus areas within Special Topic Area 1 (STA1). *Note: it is conceivable and permissible that a specific technology could span multiple focus areas
- iii) Lead Organization submitting Concept.
- iv) Technical point of contact must include salutation, last name, first name, street address, city, state, zip code (+4), telephone, & email.
- v) Administrative point of contact must include salutation, last name, first name, street address, city, state, zip code (+4), telephone, & email.
- vi) Team composition and corresponding subrecipient organizations (at least one investigator

- per organization).
 - vii) Proposed project duration (in months).
 - viii) Total proposed funds requested from DoD, total cost share (if included), and total project cost including cost share.
- 2) **Problem Statement**
- i) Describes the problem or need being addressed.
 - ii) Dual-use (i.e., defense/commercial) implication explained.
- 3) **Technical Approach and Methodology**
- i) Describes the technology being developed relative to the proposed application or use case.
 - ii) Indicate re-use of any MII CDIP and/or follow-on of a past MII Project.
 - iii) Includes details of the technical approach or methods being used to address the problem statement.
 - iv) Scientific and technical merit of the project (such as citing proof of concept studies, relevant patents, and publications).
 - v) Improvements made possible by the proposed solution.
 - vi) Type of data that will be needed, collected, and used as part of proposed solution.
 - vii) How success will be measured; key performance parameters (KPPs) and metrics to be used; the advancement of the TRL/MRL; and improvement targets.
 - viii) Includes demonstration commensurate with proposed TRL.
- 4) **Benefits (Impact, Technology Transition)**
- i) Describe the benefits this project will have on OIB modernization.
 - ii) Describe the benefits this project will potentially have on your business and industry (i.e., defense & commercial).
 - iii) How will the technology be transitioned and used in an operational/real-world environment?
3. **Concept Quad Chart (template provided):** The concept paper must be accompanied with a concept Quad Chart. The quad chart must use the MS Power Point template provided and contain the following sections:
- 1) **Description:** What is the concept technology being proposed and what problem does it address? Who is your internal and/or external customer and what are the requirement(s)?
 - 2) **Delivering:** What objectives and/or requirements are you addressing with the proposed concept? (e.g., Hardware, Manufacturing Process, Models, New Materials). What is your concept of operations?
 - 3) **Technical Approach:** What is the technology being demonstrated and how does it advance over current state of the art (SOTA)? What efforts will be performed to prepare for the demonstration and then conduct the demonstration (i.e. development, integration, evaluation, etc.)?
 - 4) **Benefits:** Technical development and manufacturing improvements / targets based on the requirements, is there a dual-use application(s), what is the potential return on investment (ROI) and any co-investment, and what will be delivered (e.g., 50% improvement in throughput)? Is there a technology transition plan? Is there a sponsoring Service or OIB site?

4.3. STEP 1: Concept Paper and Quad Chart Evaluation Criteria

The Concept Submission will be evaluated for completeness and adherence to the descriptions below. A score sheet/weighted rubric will be provided with this project call to ensure transparency.

1. Relevance to Special Topic Area(s)

Proposed project is explicitly linked to the Special Topic Area(s) and demonstrates a significant advancement of an advanced manufacturing capability in modernizing the DoD's Organic Industrial Base. Concept team conveys that they have a sound understanding of the problem statement and the benefactor's requirements.

2. Quality of Technical Approach and Methodology

The concept team clearly articulates a technology approach or strategy for addressing the problem statement. Technical approach is thorough, sound, and feasible. Concept team is composed of the organizations and individuals with the required skills and facilities to accomplish the tasking within the proposed timeline. Technical approach demonstrates adequate resources and access to complete the project without delay and takes into account any occupancy or travel restrictions that the team may need to work under.

3. Quality of Key Performance Parameters and Metrics

Concept clearly defines plans to evaluate the identified KPPs and generate metrics for performance (based on the point of need attributes in 2.3), efficiency, productivity, acquisition cost, sustaining cost, and investment prudence. Defines the manufacturing process being improved with the project technology and what tasks/processes each individual project focuses on. Conveys understanding of TRL/MRL assessment of the technology presently and at the completion of the project.

4. Impact and Technology Transition Plan

Proposed project clearly describes the significance, magnitude, and timeliness of the project impact. Project demonstrates both near-term and long-term impact.

4.4. STEP 1: Concept Paper Submission Requirements

1. In its response to this Project Call, the Proposer shall submit through its respective Manufacturing Innovation Institute:

- 1) Concept Paper in MS Word Format compliant with the instructions above.
- 2) Quad Chart using the **template provided by OSD ManTech**.
2. Paper, email, and fax submissions will not be accepted. All documents must be submitted initially through the method dictated by the Manufacturing Innovation Institute, and ultimately to OSD as described in paragraph 4.1.
3. Figures, graphs, images, and pictures. Figures and tables must be numbered and referenced in the text by their corresponding number. Figures and tables should be of a size that is easily readable, may be in landscape orientation and must be formatted to print on an 8.5 x 11-inch paper size.
4. Font. All concept text is to be prepared **single or double spaced, with either Times New Roman 11-point or Arial 10-point font**, inclusive of figure and table captions. Smaller font may be used within figures and tables but must be legible. Do not write prose in a table to save space.

5. Page Layout. The concept paper must be in portrait orientation except for figures, graphs, images and pictures. Pages must be 8.5 x 11 inches, with at least 0.75-inch margins on both sides, top and bottom.
6. Page Numbering. Number pages sequentially within each section of the concept showing concept section and page number.
7. No formal transmittal letter is required.
8. Concept Language. English.

4.5. STEP 2: Overview of Presentation Phase (invitation only)

1. Submission of Proposed Project Presentation. In the second step in the process, an invited proposer will submit a presentation in PowerPoint format (.ppt or .pptx) that describes the proposed project in detail. The final instructions for these presentations will be included with the invitations to submit Proposed Project Presentations. Only invited Project Presentations will be considered for award. Presentation files and all supporting documentation will be due to OSD ManTech on February 2, 2024 by 5:00pm Eastern Time.
2. Submission of Supporting Documents. If invited to prepare a presentation, the following proposed project supporting documents must be submitted by the lead proposer no later than February 2, 2024 at 5:00pm EST. Submission instructions will be provided in the invitation.

1) Budget and Justification (no page limit)

The Budget and Justification must use the MS Excel template provided.

2) Letter of Commitment

A Letter of Commitment from the Lead Organization is required. An organization's Letter of Commitment must state that the organization commits to provide the level of effort and cost share (if cost share is included) as stated in the corresponding parts of the Concept Paper (and specified in the Letter) and that the organization will abide by the terms and conditions of the partner MII's Membership Agreement and Policies and the terms and conditions of the assistance agreement between OSD ManTech and its respective MII. Each letter must contain: proposer legal name, proposer address, total funds requested, cost-share commitments, proposed Period of Performance, proposer principal investigator, and point of contact's name, email, and phone number.

3. **Project Presentation.** Project teams will present their proposed projects in February 2024 to an audience of relevant subject matter experts. Each team will have approximately 20 minutes for project presentation followed by 25 minutes of question and answer from the audience. Project presentations will not be open to the general public or to other project teams. The tentative date for presentations is February 7, 2024.
4. **Project Presentation Evaluation.** Following the in-person presentations, proposed projects will be evaluated, at a high level, according to the criteria presented in Section 4.3.
5. **Selection for Negotiation for Award.** Proposed project teams will be notified on or about February 29, 2024 regarding project selections. Contract actions between the proposer and the MII will also begin on this date. It is expected that all contracting actions will be complete within 90 days of notification.
6. **Period of Performance (PoP).** Expected PoP is not to exceed 6 months from contract award.
7. **Demonstration.** At the conclusion of the project, winning proposals will be expected to demonstrate their technology in an OIB environment.

5. ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION

5.1. Contact Information and FAQ

Submit all questions concerning this Project Call through the lead proposer's (or prime's) Manufacturing Innovation Institute. MIIs may contact Mr. Aaron Sasson at aaron.sasson@pm2strategies.com or (843) 670-0477 with questions.

5.2. Responsibility for Compliance with Legal Requirements

The lead proposer is responsible for having all its products, services, and facilities in full compliance with all applicable federal, state, and local laws, regulations, codes, standards and ordinances, regardless of whether they are referred to by OSD ManTech or the MII.

5.3. Unclassified Materials Only

Information contained in submissions must be unclassified and free of export-controlled data.

5.4. Proposer Incurred Costs

The proposer is responsible for all costs incurred in preparing or responding to this Project Call. Materials and documents submitted in response to the Project Call will not be returned.

5.5. Proposer Errors or Omissions

OSD ManTech and the MIIs are not responsible for any proposer errors or omissions concerning the Project Call process.

5.6. Past Performance

OSD ManTech and the MIIs reserve the right to disqualify any proposer for demonstrated under-performance in financial and programmatic management of other active or completed MII projects.

5.7. Reservation of Rights

This Project Call does not commit OSD ManTech and the Manufacturing Innovation Institutes to award any legally binding agreement or contract, to pay any costs incurred in the preparation of a submission to this request, or to procure or contract for services or supplies. If selected, the Manufacturing Innovation Institute may require the proposer to participate in negotiations and to submit such monetary, technical, or other revisions of its submissions that may result from preliminary review and negotiations.

5.8. Anticipated Number of Projects

The number of project awards and federal funding amount allocated to this Project Call will be determined based on the quality and quantity of submissions received and the availability of funds. OSD Man Tech and the Manufacturing Innovation Institutes reserve the right to select all, some, one or none of the submitted Concepts and/or Proposals, in whole or in part, for award negotiations.

5.9. Pre-Award Costs

Please note that pre-award costs have not been approved by the federal awarding agency for any potentially awarded subawards and will not be considered an allowable cost under any resulting subaward for this call.

5.10. MII Specific Administrative information

Lead proposers should contact their Manufacturing Innovation Institute for administrative issues around award and project management to include but not limited to: Proposer Rights and Marking, Consortium Developed Intellectual Property, Subrecipient Agreement, Allowable Cost Share, Expected Reporting Requirements, Modification or Withdraw of a Concept, and Media and Publications Guidance.

[The rest of this page is intentionally blank]