National Defense Center for Energy and Environment

FY26 NDCEE Call for Proposals

NDCEE Annual Call for Proposals

The National Defense Center for Energy and Environment (NDCEE) is pleased to announce its annual **Call for Proposals, open 28 February – 1 April 2025**. This opportunity invites innovative technology demonstration and validation proposals that advance the Department of Defense's (DoD) mission in **Environment**, **Energy**, and **Safety & Occupational Health**.

Who Can Apply?

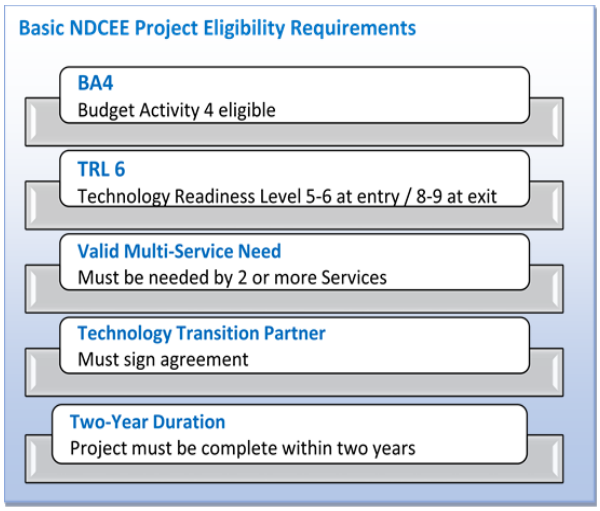
We encourage **DoD personnel** (includes active-duty military members, reservists, National Guard members serving under federal authority, civilian employees directly employed by the DoD, and federal contractors supporting DoD initiatives) to submit proposals and actively seek participation from **academia, industry, and other government agencies**. Non-DoD applicants are welcome but must partner with a **DoD point of contact (POC)** who will serve as a co-lead to facilitate transition planning and ensure deployment benefits for the warfighter.

Key Dates

28 Feb	Call for Proposals begins
1 Apr	Call for Proposals ends; Quad charts are due
5-9 May	Advancing proposals present slides to Review Panel
20 May	Advancing proposals are notified
10 Jun	White paper/letters of support are due from advancing proposals
24-26 Jun	Proposal teams present final briefing to Selection Committee
mid-Sep	FY26 projects are selected

Key Requirements

1. **Submission Portal**: All submissions must be made via our digital platform, accessible with a valid **Common Access Card (CAC)** for authentication.
2. **Eligibility Criteria**: Proposals must meet the basic eligibility requirements outlined in the *How To Do Business Guide* "1. Program Requirements" section listed on NDCEE's website. A snapshot is shown to the right.



3. **Evaluation Criteria**: Competitive proposals will excel in the following areas, each rated on a 1-10 scale:
    - **Mission/Readiness**: Alignment with DoD priorities and operational needs.
    - **Technical Quality / Feasibility**: Scientific rigor and practicality of the proposed solution.
    - **Transition Potential / End user Adoption**: Projects should have broad use application within DoD and not one with very limited applicability.
    - **Modernization and Innovation**: Fresh, forward-thinking approaches that address emerging challenges.

What We're Looking For

While NDCEE does not provide specific statements of need, proposals should align with our three focus areas and demonstrate the potential for cross-cutting impacts. Examples of key subtopics that align with NDCEE's focus area priorities:

Environment

- **PFAS Innovations**
  Focuses on addressing contamination, improving treatment technologies (e.g., filtration, chemical treatments), and meeting environmental regulatory standards for PFAS in soil, water, and air.
- **AIM Act Compliance (e.g., HFCs)**
  Relates to the reduction and replacement of high-global-warming-potential refrigerants, such as HFCs, to comply with environmental regulations and reduce environmental impact.
- **Heavy Metal Replacements**
  Involves finding environmentally friendly substitutes for harmful substances like lead, cadmium, or mercury, with applications in areas such as coatings, electronics, and ammunition.
- **Management & Conservation**
  Promotes sustainable practices to protect natural resources, enhance land conservation, and ensure compliance with environmental regulations across military operations.
- **Waste Management & Recycling**
  Focuses on minimizing waste generation, enhancing recycling efforts, and utilizing innovative waste treatment technologies to reduce environmental impact.
- **Water Conservation & Treatment**
  Focuses on improving water efficiency, innovative water treatment strategies, and reducing water consumption through sustainable technologies in military operations.

Energy

- **Microgrid Development**
  Enhancing energy resilience for critical military operations by enabling localized, independent power generation and storage, particularly in remote or forward-deployed locations.
- **Battery Innovations**
  Developing advanced energy storage technologies, including next-generation batteries, to improve the range and endurance of military equipment while reducing logistical challenges.
- **Renewable Energy Integration**

Incorporating solar, wind, and other renewable energy sources into military installations to reduce reliance on fossil fuels and enhance energy sustainability.

- **Energy Assurance and Cybersecurity**
  Protecting critical energy infrastructure against cyber threats, ensuring the operational continuity of power systems for mission-critical operations, and improving energy security.
- **Hybrid and Electric Vehicle Advancements**
  Advancing hybrid and electric vehicle technologies for both tactical and non-tactical military vehicles, reducing fuel consumption, lowering emissions, and improving overall energy efficiency.

Safety & Occupational Health

- **Mold Remediation Innovations**
  Focuses on technologies and processes to detect, remove, and prevent mold growth, improving indoor air quality and reducing health risks like respiratory issues for workers in military facilities.
- **Chemical Exposure Control Innovations**
  Includes advanced engineering solutions such as closed-loop systems, automated chemical handling, and real-time monitoring to minimize workers' exposure to hazardous chemicals and improve safety.
- **Ergonomics & Worker Comfort**
  Focuses on designing adaptive tools, workspaces, and processes to reduce physical strain, enhance comfort, and improve productivity while minimizing injury risks for military personnel and workers in operational settings.
- **Environmental & Maintenance Controls**
  Encompasses technologies and processes that monitor and regulate environmental factors (e.g., temperature, humidity) and ensure safe working conditions, including the maintenance of facilities and equipment to minimize hazards.
- **Safety & Performance Enhancements**
  Includes advances in personal protective equipment (PPE), automated safety systems, and performance-enhancing technologies to improve safety, operational readiness, and risk mitigation in high-risk environments.

Innovative ideas **beyond these subtopics** are welcome. We encourage you to propose solutions that address evolving challenges, provide a positive return on investment, address DoD needs, emphasizing creativity and adaptability.

How Proposals Are Selected

The **NDCEE Project Selection Committee**, comprising representatives from across DoD Services, will review submissions to identify projects with high potential to enhance mission readiness, advance technology, and provide tangible benefits to the warfighter.

New for FY26: Enhancements to NDCEE's Call for Proposals

Based on lessons learned and community feedback from the FY25 cycle, the NDCEE program has implemented several improvements to streamline the proposal process and maximize project impact:

1. **Increased Project Funding:** Starting with the FY25 Call for Proposals, the NDCEE raised the funding cap to **$1.5M per project**, distributed over two years (e.g., **Year 1: $750K, Year 2: $750K**). This increase accounts for higher cost estimates associated with critical activities such as **MIL-STD testing** and **final field demonstrations**, providing the resources necessary to achieve desired **Technology Readiness Levels (TRLs)** and ensuring a validated path to transition.

2. **Historical Funding Highlights**
   - **FY24 Call for Proposals:** Approved projects received an average of $276K annually.
   - **FY25 Call for Proposals:** Approved projects received an average of $585K annually.
     - This trend reflects NDCEE's commitment to supporting projects with greater complexity and impact, enabling innovative solutions to meet DoD mission needs.

3. **Increase emphasis on appropriate transition partners**: For FY26, the program places a heightened focus on engaging **appropriate transition partners** early in the RDT&E lifecycle to ensure seamless technology adoption. Proposals must outline a clear strategy for collaboration with end-users, acquisition offices, or operational units, emphasizing how the partnership will support technology maturation, validation, and integration. Transition partners are essential to defining test criteria, ensuring operational relevance, and facilitating the pathway from demonstration to deployment. This approach maximizes the impact of funded projects, streamlines adoption, and ensures alignment with mission-critical needs and priorities. Specifically, NDCEE is looking for transition partners that can adopt, implement, and sustain the technology or solution being developed and has a pathway to operational deployment.

Each project submission must clearly address how the proposed technology aligns with the four scoring criteria, emphasizing:

1. **Multi-Service Need:** Demonstrate how the technology addresses requirements that benefit multiple DoD branches, increasing its utility and broadening its impact across the Services.

2. **Projected Return on Investment (ROI):** Highlight the cost-effectiveness of the project, focusing on measurable benefits such as cost savings, operational efficiency, or long-term value to the DoD.

3. **Transition Potential:** Provide a clear plan for transitioning the technology into operational use, including identification of a DoD transition partner and defined steps to achieve adoption.

4. **Mission Impact:** Explain how the technology enhances mission readiness, supports modernization goals, or directly benefits the warfighter in achieving operational objectives.

Projects receiving the highest scores during the Focus Group Panel review will advance to the final consideration stage with the Selection Committee.

Points of Contact

Role	Name	Contact
Program Director – HQDA ASA IEE	Ms. Poppy Harrover	Poppy.j.harrover.civ@army.mil
NDCEE Program Management Office – Operated by the U.S. Army Environmental Command		
Program Facilitator	Mr. Adrian Salinas	Adrian.o.salinas2.civ@army.mil
Program Facilitator	Mr. Charles Serafini	Charles.p.serafini.civ@army.mil

For More Information

Additional details can be found in the **"How to Do Business with NDCEE"** guide. If you do not have this guide, please:

- Contact a Program Facilitator/Program Director, or
- Visit the DENIX website at https://www.denix.osd.mil/.
    - Navigate to "Energy" tab and select NDCEE (https://www.denix.osd.mil/ndcee/).

Submission Details

Submissions for the FY26 cycle are welcome from **28 February – 1 April 2025**. The funding cap is NTE **$1.5M per project** over two years.

How to Submit:

1. **Visit the NDCEE homepage site at: https://www.denix.osd.mil/ndcee/.**
2. **Select the "NDCEE Digital Platform" (located on the right side of the page).**

We look forward to your innovative proposals that advance technology, enhance DoD mission readiness, and benefit the warfighter.