SOLICITATION OPEN FEDERAL

Neutron Strategic Technology Advanced Research (Neutron-STAR) Advanced Research Announcement (ARA)

Department of Defense › Department of the Air Force › FA9453 AFRL RJZ

Solicitation FA9453-23-R-A004

Scan for the live page

B
79

RFP DETECTOR SCORE

High data confidence

Strong • 79 / 100

Strong (B, 79/100): active buyer ($36.7B FY24–FY26), 312 days to respond.

+10.3 Issuer & market | +4.9 Time & stage | +4.9 Clarity & completeness | +4.8 Competition & access

Informational, not advice. How the score works: rfpdetector.com/methodology/score

At a glance

ESTIMATED VALUE	SET-ASIDE	NAICS	PSC
~$1.1M Estimated: median award, FY24–FY26	None Full and open competition	541715 Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)	AC33 Product / service code
PLACE OF PERFORMANCE	**POSTED**	**RESPONSE DUE**	**LISTING**
Not stated	Mar 14, 2023 Updated Nov 13, 2026	Oct 1, 2027, 12:00 AM MDT 311 days left	Official federal notice Updated Nov 13, 2026

Our summary

Department of the Air Force (FA9453 AFRL RJZ), part of the Department of Defense, posted a solicitation titled “Neutron Strategic Technology Advanced Research (Neutron-STAR) Advanced Research Announcement (ARA)” under solicitation number FA9453-23-R-A004. It was first posted on Mar 14, 2023 and has been updated 11 times since. Responses are due Oct 1, 2027, 12:00 AM MDT. It is classified under NAICS 541715 (Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)) and product/service code AC33. No set-aside is listed. 10 documents are attached to the official notice. The listed point of contact is Neutron STAR Team.

Summary by RFP Detector.

Timeline

- **Posted** Mar 14
- **Response due** Oct 1
- **Archive** Oct 1

02 Score breakdown

Every RFP starts at 50. Each factor adds or subtracts points depending on how this RFP compares with a typical one, scaled by its weight and by how sure we are of the data. Unknown data has no effect.

Factor		◀ lowers the score / raises the score ▶	Points	Range
Value	ESTIMATED		+3.6	−18.0 / +18.0 w 20 · conf 80%
No value published. Typical award is about $1.1M: the median of 4,873 Air Force contracts over $25K awarded in NAICS 541715, FY24–FY26.				
Competition & access	MEASURED		+4.8	−18.0 / +18.0 w 20 · conf 100%
Full and open competition. The largest recipient took 9% of these dollars in FY24–FY26, and spending is spread across many vendors.				
Issuer & market	MEASURED		+10.3	−23.4 / +12.6 w 20 · conf 100%
Air Force obligated $36.7B on NAICS 541715 across 5,004 contracts in FY24–FY26. 8 other notices from this office in the past 12 months.				
Time & stage	MEASURED		+4.9	−14.9 / +12.2 w 15 · conf 100%
Solicitation, bids due: 312 days to respond (due Oct 1, 2027, 12:00 AM MDT). Long lead time.				
Clarity & completeness	MEASURED		+4.9	−18.9 / +8.1 w 15 · conf 100%
10 documents, named contact with email, 2,521-word description.				
Freshness	MEASURED		+0.4	−9.0 / +9.0 w 10 · conf 100%
Updated 9 days ago (new documents).				

Starts at 50 · contributions sum to **78.9**

Score **79** **(B)**

Score trend

Recorded whenever the score changes, last 30 days



Nov 13: 83 Nov 22: 79

Evaluated Nov 23, 2026, 3:15 AM EST · version 1.0.0

How the score works

Value	weight 20 · −18.0 to +18.0
Competition & access	weight 20 · −18.0 to +18.0
Issuer & market	weight 20 · −23.4 to +12.6
Time & stage	weight 15 · −14.9 to +12.2
Clarity & completeness	weight 15 · −18.9 to +8.1
Freshness	weight 10 · −9.0 to +9.0

Measured data counts fully, estimated data counts less, unknown data counts zero. Grades: A 80–100 · B 65–79 · C 50–64 · D 35–49 · F 0–34. Data confidence (96/100) is how much of the score rests on measured data.

Full methodology: rfpdetector.com/methodology/score

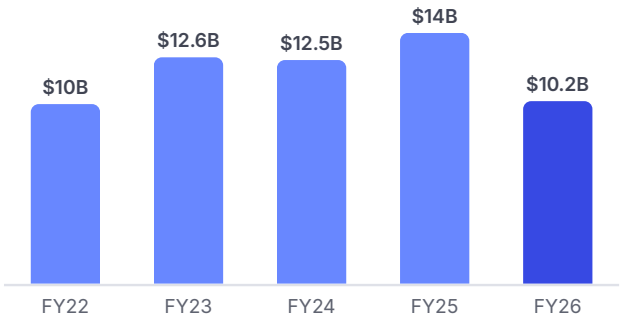
03 Market intelligence

Federal contract awards for Department of the Air Force, NAICS 541715. Award counts and sizes cover new awards in FY24–FY26; dollars are obligations in the same window.

CONTRACTS AWARDED	TOTAL OBLIGATED	MEDIAN AWARD OVER $25K
5,004	**$36.7B**	**$1.1M**
New awards, FY24–FY26	Obligated FY24–FY26	4,873 awards above $25K

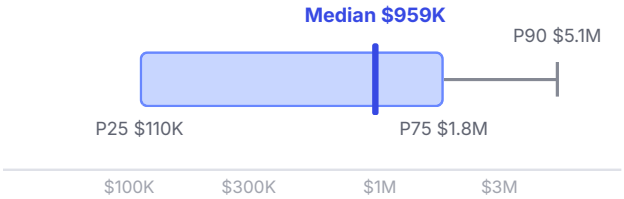
Obligations by fiscal year

Department of the Air Force, NAICS 541715



Award size

Air Force NAICS 541715 contracts, FY24–FY26 (log scale)



For reference, the typical federal contract award above $25K across all agencies is about $69K.

Largest recipients in this market

Share of obligated dollars, FY24–FY26

1	The Aerospace Corporation	$3.3B	9%
2	Booz Allen Hamilton Inc	$2.1B	6%
3	Northrop Grumman Systems Corporation	$1.9B	5%
4	Kbr Wyle Services, LLC	$1.8B	5%
5	Lockheed Martin Corp	$1.7B	5%

These are the largest recipients across this agency and NAICS code, not the incumbent of this RFP. Concentration feeds the Competition & access factor.

How this market feeds the score

Value	Competition & access	Issuer & market
+3.6	+4.8	+10.3
Typical award ~$1.1M	Full and open	Active buyer ($36.7B FY24–FY26)

Federal award history: contract award types A–D, FY24–FY26, updated Nov 13, 2026.

04 Requirements & logistics

Facts from the notice. Confirm every requirement and date on the official notice before responding.

Eligibility

SET-ASIDE

Full and open competition: any responsible business may respond.

NAICS

541715 Research and Development in the Physical, Engineering, and Life Sciences (except Nanotechnology and Biotechnology)

PRODUCT / SERVICE CODE

AC33

Place & submission

PLACE OF PERFORMANCE

Not stated

HOW TO SUBMIT

As instructed in the official solicitation

OFFICIAL SOLICITATION

Open the official solicitation at rfpdetector.com (free account)

Contacts

Neutron STAR Team · primary
afrl.rvkb.afrlneutronstardms@us.af.mil

Documents

10 listed

- Attachment 3 - Security Program Questionnaire.docx
- Neutron STAR Industry User Guide v3 25 Sept 25.docx
- Attachment 2 - Standard Form 424 (Research and Related SeniorKey Person Profile).pdf
- Neutron Star Industry User Guide.pdf
- Neutron STAR Industry User Guide v3 03 August 25.docx
- Attachment 1 - Neutron STAR Cover Page.pdf

+ 4 more on the official notice

Document names from the official notice. RFP Detector doesn't re-host notice documents.

Open the official solicitation at rfpdetector.com (free account)

Before you respond

Confirm on the official notice

- [ ] Read every attachment and amendment on the official solicitation
  10 documents listed below
- [ ] Confirm the response deadline and time zone
  Oct 1, 2027, 12:00 AM MDT
- [ ] Check you meet the set-aside / eligibility requirement
  Full and open competition
- [ ] Make sure your federal entity registration (UEI) is active
  Federal awards require an active entity registration
- [ ] Confirm how to submit
  See the official solicitation

Bid / no-bid questions

For your own decision

- [ ] Do you have relevant past performance for this scope and customer?
- [ ] Can you staff and deliver on time with a compliant response?
- [ ] Can you perform where the work is located?
- [ ] Does your pricing fit the typical award range ($110K–$1.8M)?
- [ ] Do you need a teaming partner or subcontractors to cover the full scope?

A generic checklist, not advice to bid or not bid.

05 Related RFPs

Open RFPs with the same NAICS industry group or category (same state first, then by score), and more from this issuer. Each title links to its page on RFP Detector.

Similar open RFPs

- A | 87 **NGA - Boosting Innovative GEOINT - Science & Technology Broad Agency Announcement (BIG-ST...**
  National Geospatial-Intelligence Agency (NGA) · Due Dec 21
- A | 82 **Multi-Domain Force Applications and Traffic Management for Unmanned Aircraft Systems (M-FAT)**
  Department of the Air Force · No due date
- A | 82 **Automated Processes for Knowledge Discovery and Information Retrieval**
  Department of the Air Force · No due date
- A | 82 **Adaptive Fusion, & Reasoning of Multi-Source Data (Afar)**
  Department of the Air Force · No due date
- A | 82 **Ultra-Broadband Terahertz Radio Development**
  Department of the Air Force · No due date

More from FA9453 AFRL RJZ

- B | 72 **Request for Information: Multi-Source PNT UE**
  Department of the Air Force · Due Nov 30
- C | 51 **Capacity on a Uhf-Capable on-Orbit Meo Satellite**
  Department of the Air Force · Due Dec 1
- B | 78 **Space Environment Technologies and Science (SETS) Broad Agency Announcement (BAA)**
  Department of the Air Force · Due Dec 17
- C | 62 **Space Technology Advanced Research-Fast-Tracking Innovative Software and Hardware (Star-F...**
  Department of the Air Force · Due Mar 23

Data and as-of times

Notice data	Official federal notice, first seen Nov 13, 2026, updated Nov 13, 2026
Market data	Federal award history, contract award types A–D, FY24–FY26, updated Nov 13, 2026
Score	RFP Detector Score v1.0.0, evaluated Nov 23, 2026, 3:15 AM EST
Report	ID b2b8df5606d7a6753328 · generated Nov 23, 2026, 3:24 PM EST
Official notice	Open the official solicitation at rfpdetector.com (free account)

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