

DoD High Performance Computing Modernization Program (HPCMP)

Dedicated HPC Project Investment (DHPI) Initiative

Basic Guidelines

The following information is provided so potential submitters have a better understanding of the DHPI process and what makes a proposal worthy of award. It is important to note that the HPCMP has a mission to support S&T, T&E, and acquisition engineering communities (as indicated in Congressional language).

A. Unacceptable requests

1. Proposals requesting funding outside the DHPI guidelines. The DHPI program **“only funds”** the initial hardware for the system. It is expected that the proposing organization views their investment as one piece of an organizational commitment to address priority activities and is prepared to fund necessary ancillary system costs. Representative items **“not eligible”** for funding include

- i. Funding for labor
- ii. Funding for commercial or licensed software
- iii. Funding for contracting services
- iv. Funding for facility preparation
- v. Funding for ancillary equipment not essential to the project
- vi. Funding for specialized networking solutions
- vii. Funding for extending system warranties
- viii. Funding for maintenance
- ix. Funding for spare maintenance parts

2. DSRCs cannot use HPCMP funds to provide support for this project

3. Funding requests that exceed \$2M without advanced written concurrence from the Director, HPCMP.

B. Requests for small amounts of HPC features not crucial to the project and to be used for preliminary investigations are not appropriate (e.g., requesting a 100-node cluster with two GPU-equipped nodes “just so we can see how they work”).

C. **A DHPI is not the appropriate funding vehicle for ongoing operational computing requirements.** Additionally, if a subject agency’s first DHPI, if any, has already demonstrated a proof-of-concept and/or innovative use of HPC technology, subsequent DHPI proposals that address the same requirements will be at a significant disadvantage in the evaluation process.

D. The proposal should have a well-defined, technical, and challenging HPC-class problem that cannot be addressed using existing shared DSRC resources. The project must be in one of the “Targeted

E. Projects should be prepared to utilize the system upon installation and acceptance. All possible algorithm/software development and evaluation should be complete. **Only software**

development required to migrate and optimize the software to the DHPI system is allowed.

- F. Proposals that cannot address required items due to classification sensitivity **must submit a proposal or proposal addendum that is classified to be evaluated.**
- G. Multi-site proposals should carefully justify why multiple sites are required. If the proposal includes hardware at multiple sites for unrelated (or only loosely related) projects, then multiple proposals should be submitted.
- H. Schedule milestones should be substantive and measurable. Vague milestones that will be met by default (e.g., “work on input data”) should not be included.
- I. Proposals that do not advance DoD and HPCMP mission objectives and ROI will be scored poorly.

Acronyms

DHPI	Dedicated High Performance Computing Project Investment (HPCMP)
DSRC	DoD Supercomputing Resource Center (HPCMP)
GPU	Graphics Processing Unit
HPC	High Performance Computing
HPCMP	High Performance Computing Modernization Program
S&T	Science & Technology
T&E	Test & Evaluation