WHAT IS AN FFRDC?

A Federally Funded Research and Development Center (FFRDC) acts as a vehicle for special research and development (R&D) contracting within the Federal Government. The objective of DHS FFRDCs is to provide the Department with independent and objective advice and quick response on critical issues throughout the Homeland Security Enterprise (HSE).

There are two DHS FFRDCs managed by the FFRDC Program Management Office (PMO) – Homeland Security Operational Analysis Center (HSOAC), a study and analysis center; and Homeland Security Systems Engineering and Development Institute (HSSEDI), a systems engineering and integration center.

HSOAC and HSSEDI have defined focus areas that allow them to perform high-quality research and provide advice that is authoritative, objective and free from conflict of interest caused by competition.

FFRDC PMO MISSION & VISION

The FFRDC PMO’s mission and vision statements demonstrate the PMO’s commitment to serving the Science & Technology Directorate (S&T) and DHS by providing access to technical and analytic expertise via the FFRDCs.

- Mission: We advance the DHS mission; providing guidance, expertise, and access to advanced technical and analytic capabilities to help keep America Safe.
- Vision: Unite and advance R&D through strategic, coordinated involvement; bringing innovative solutions to DHS and the Nation.

FFRDC PMO FUNCTIONS

The FFRDC PMO provides centralized oversight and support of the FFRDCs - acting as a liaison, developing long-term and short-term Component outreach strategies, acting as a repository for the FFRDCs’ research deliverables, and disseminating FFRDC-related information.

At a high level, the FFRDC PMO business functions are: Procurement and Acquisition, Post Award Processing, Education and Outreach, Strategy, and Knowledge Management. This core set ensures that S&T counterparts, DHS Components, and the FFRDCs are all well positioned to establish and grow a truly symbiotic relationship.

GATEWAY TO THE FFRDCS

DHS has three FFRDCs available to support the overall mission of keeping the homeland safe. The FFRDC PMO can help provide access to one of these FFRDCs, and determine the requirements to best fit your Component’s needs and put a task order in place. If HSOAC or HSSEDI cannot perform the desired effort, the FFRDC PMO will work with your Component to find an appropriate solution.

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