



## WHAT IS A PARTNERSHIP INTERMEDIARY?

A **partnership intermediary (PI)** is a state or local government, or a non-profit entity owned/funded/chartered/operated in whole or in part by a state or local government that assists, counsels, advises, evaluates or otherwise cooperates with small business firms and educational institutions.

The use of a partnership intermediary is authorized under Title 15 U.S.C. §3715.

## DHS PARTNERSHIP INTERMEDIARY AGREEMENTS

**Partnership Intermediary Agreements (PIAs)** utilize the non-profit PI's specialized skills to increase the maturity and market readiness of Department of Homeland Security relevant technologies to prepare them for transfer and commercialization to support homeland security needs. PIs may not be used to conduct research and development activities. PIAs are not Federal Acquisition Regulations-based contracts and cannot be used to circumvent standard federal procurement mechanisms.

## HOW DHS USES PIAS

PIAs are managed by the Technology Transfer and Commercialization Branch (T2C) of the Office of Industry Partnerships at the DHS Science and Technology Directorate. T2C manages the process for entering into new PIAs and for new projects proposed to be conducted under existing PIAs to support DHS programs. The intent is to maintain an ecosystem of DHS PIAs to provide services to support technology transfer and commercialization of DHS relevant technologies. T2C negotiates the individual scope of each PIA within the ecosystem to ensure limited overlap and to capitalize on each PI's regional network and expertise. T2C assigns proposed PIA projects to the most appropriate PI based on the needs of the DHS program and the PI's expertise and capacity.

## CURRENT DHS PIA ECOSYSTEM

- MilTech (Montana)
- NYSTEC (New York)
- RTI International (North Carolina)

## SERVICES PROVIDED BY PARTNERSHIP INTERMEDIARIES

PIs may provide a variety of services that can be used to support technology transfer and commercialization activities but cannot conduct research and development.

## EXAMPLES OF PIA PROJECTS

- Evaluate and explore commercialization avenues for DHS technology.
- Identify potential licensees for the technology funded by DHS.
- Create a catalog of federally funded technologies at government laboratories with homeland security applications that could benefit from DHS commercialization support funds.
- Assist with prototype design and production for DHS operational testing.

## BECOMING A DHS PARTNERSHIP INTERMEDIARY

Partnership intermediaries may submit a statement outlining their capabilities as they align to one or more of the objectives outlined in the open request on beta.SAM.gov at <https://go.usa.gov/xwbdm> to be considered by T2C when there is a need for additional PIAs to be added to the DHS PIA ecosystem. PIAs may be funded or unfunded, depending on the availability of DHS funds. Learn more about PIs at: <https://www.dhs.gov/science-and-technology/technology-transfer-program>.

