



WHAT IS A PARTNERSHIP INTERMEDIARY?

A **partnership intermediary** (PI) is a state or local government, or a nonprofit 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 PI's specialized skills to increase the maturity and market readiness of the Department of Homeland Security (DHS) relevant technologies to prepare them for transfer and commercialization to support homeland security needs. 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 DHS Science and Technology Directorate's (S&T) Technology Transfer and Commercialization Branch (T2C) of the Office of Industry Partnerships. 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 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

- DEFENSEWERX (Florida)
- 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.

TYPES OF PIA PROJECTS

1. Market Intelligence - identify size, trends, and competitors for target markets and barriers to market entry or adoption
2. Potential Partners - identify cooperative research and development agreement (CRADA) collaborators, manufacturing or licensee partners, and subject matter experts
3. Assess Technology Maturity and Market Readiness - identify steps to advance technology or manufacturing readiness, which may include design review of prototypes

BECOMING A DHS PARTNERSHIP INTERMEDIARY

DHS is not currently seeking new PIs but PI entities are welcome to submit a statement outlining their capabilities to T2C.PIA@hq.dhs.gov for consideration in the future. You can also learn more by visiting the PI webpage: dhs.gov/science-and-technology/technology-transfer-partnership-intermediaries.

