Application Frequently Asked Questions

1. **Will this be an open or closed framework?**

   The aspiration is to have an open supply chain, which is constantly refreshed to ensure Dstl has access to the most diverse talent available. QinetiQ are committed to establishing an approach to delivering Lots 3 and 4 which fundamentally encourages innovation, collaboration and partnering.

2. **Who is eligible to apply to become a member?**

   The opportunity to apply to become a supplier for Lots 3 and 4 is open to all organisations which can demonstrate capability and meet the criteria described in question 5 for the Lots(s) it applies for.

3. **Are there any Restrictions on who can apply?**

   No, although certain criteria (described in question 5) need to be met for applications to be successful.

4. **I want to join both LOTs which are managed by QinetiQ, can I make one joint application?**

   Yes, QinetiQ will operate a single supply chain, although make sure that you provide a Capability Matrix for both Lots as part of your submission.

5. **What is the approval Criterion for applications**

   The Steering Group will approve applications that demonstrate:

   - expertise in the areas specified in the Capability Matrix
   - appropriate security awareness e.g. Cyber Essentials is required to join the members collaborative space
   - suitable UK presence

   QinetiQ reserves the right to request further information from the applicant before making its decision.

6. **Security**

   Applicants need to be aware that approval to join the QinetiQ Lots does not guarantee access to work under the Framework if the member fails to provide evidence to the satisfaction of QinetiQ that it has the capability to protect classified information to the expected published standards. This will only apply for organisations wishing to contribute to tasks delivered at OFFICIAL SENSITIVE or above.

7. **How do I Apply?**

   Please see details provided in the Supplier Application Form.

8. **How are Applications Assessed?**

   Only fully completed applications will be assessed. You must supply all the application forms, in one email submission. These will then be assessed by QinetiQ and its Steering Group who will then either approve or reject the application based on the relevance of the capability matrix and initial pre-screening checks.

9. **When are Applications assessed?**

   Applications will be assessed on a continual basis throughout the life of the Framework, at a minimum of a quarterly basis.

10. **My application is unsuccessful, will I be able to appeal or re-apply?**

    The decision of the panel will be final. If an application is rejected, feedback will be provided detailing the reason for rejection.

    If the applicant has made a fundamental change to its application, the applicant may re-submit their application if they feel that the change addresses the reasons for rejection.

11. **My application is successful, what are the next steps?**

    You will be invited to sign-up to the "Team Serapis" Collaboration Agreement. Once signed and returned, your organisation will be a member of Team Serapis community. Signature of the Collaboration Agreement will give your organisation visibility of the pipeline of tasks and events applicable to Lots 3 and 4.

    At the same time, you will also be invited to sign-up to the QinetiQ Serapis Enabling Sub-Contract (ESC). This is the agreement which QinetiQ will use to contract for all tasks it manages under Serapis. Signature of this agreement will give your organisation the right to bid for and contract tasks.

12. **Are the agreements open to negotiation?**

    QinetiQ will not negotiate the Collaboration Agreement or Enabling Sub - Contract. All organisations which join Team Serapis must join on the same contractual baseline.

13. **How will intellectual property (IP) be managed?**

    IP will be managed on a Task by Task basis. At the commencement of all Tasks the IP conditions applicable to the Task will be clearly communicated

as part of the briefing pack. Typically this will be in the form of DEFCON 703 or DEFCON 705.

14. **What is the typical work that will be contracted through Serapis?**

Fundamentally, Serapis is a framework for science and technology not procurement; therefore, the focus is on lower technology readiness level (TRL) requirements.

15. **Will all Tasks be competed?**

The intention is to publish ALL Tasks to the Team Serapis community, unless directed otherwise by the Authority. A variety of tasking mechanisms will be used depending upon the nature of the task and the requirements of the Authority.

Tasks will be issued by Secretary of State for Defence acting through the Defence Science and Technology Laboratory (Dstl) as well as other Partners Across Government (PAGs):

- Home Office
- Foreign & Commonwealth Office
- Department for Business, Energy & Industrial Strategy

Contact us

If you would like further information about the Serapis framework, please email: serapis@qinetiq.com.