



ARL continues to receive strong support from our sponsors and several current programs have major procurements in process. We want your feedback and invite you to email SupplierRelations@arl.psu.edu with any questions, suggested topics, or areas of interest.

We appreciate your partnership as you play a vital role in helping ARL and our sponsors achieve our collective mission.

## PROJECT SPOTLIGHT: Penn State's Applied Research Laboratory awarded \$99 million U.S. Army Contract

UNIVERSITY PARK, Pa. — The Applied Research Laboratory at Penn State (ARL) recently was awarded a \$99 million U.S. Army contract for research and analysis support. For more than 20 years, the U.S. Army has partnered with the ARL to supply innovative research for issues related to logistics, intelligence and analysis.



Under the new contract, ARL will deliver research and development in areas ranging from enterprise resource planning to supply and maintenance management systems. ARL will also provide expertise in electronic maneuver warfare, vehicle dominance and unmanned systems. The wide range of skills, special equipment, unique facilities, and expertise supporting other services and agencies provide unique value and opportunity for the U.S. Army to fulfill its national security missions.

*The work is expected to be completed by January 2028.*

*"The dedicated scientists and engineers at ARL take our commitment to our national security partners very seriously. Logistics and platform technologies continue to rapidly evolve. To solve complex problems demands the agility, adaptability, and creativity that is embedded in our culture," said ARL Executive Director Allan Sonstebly. "We're grateful to the United States Army to provide us the opportunity to serve them as trusted partners."*

*Penn State Newswire 2023*

## Has Your Company Updated Their SPRS Score Lately?

Supplier Performance Risk Assessment (SPRS) is a government managed system that was rolled out in late 2020. SPRS is a database containing the results of contractor's self-assessment against the 110 NIST (cybersecurity risk and protection guidelines) 800-171 controls. DFARS (cybersecurity implementation requirements) 252.204-7019 requires the self assessment be performed and updated regularly. A score must be recorded for each Enterprise/Enclave with CUI associated with the performance of the contract and updated at least every three years. The self assessment scores range from -203 to 110. This score is then loaded into the Procurement Integrated Enterprise Environment (PIEE) website where it is readily available to DoD Acquisition Professionals. A significant portion of ARL suppliers must have a recorded, up to date, SPRS score to work on ARL projects. The PIEE website encourages suppliers to update their self assessment score as they make improvements to their systems security. If scores are not updated within a three year time frame, your company may not be eligible for ARL RFQs.

## National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA 889)

NDAA 889: Penn State is prohibited from procuring, obtaining, extending or renewing any contract to procure certain blacklisted telecommunication and video surveillance equipment. This is an effort to protect national security. These goods are produced by certain companies in the People's Republic of China and their subsidiaries. These Chinese companies include: Hytera Communications Corporation, Hangzhou Hikvision Digital Technology Company, Huawei Technologies Company, ZTE Corporation and Dahua Technology Company.

*If your company has questions about the Cybersecurity requirements or SPRS, the Blue Cyber Program is a free resource available to small business contractors.*

*<https://www.safcn.af.mil/CISO/Small-Business-Cybersecurity-Information/>*

### Affirmative Action/Equal Opportunity Statement

Penn State is an equal opportunity, affirmative action employer, and is committed to providing employment opportunities to all qualified applicants without regard to race, color, religion, age, sex, sexual orientation, gender identity, national origin, disability or protected veteran status. UBR ARL-24-25