

## Topic Area 8 Q&A

Q: Do we need to have experimental validation as part of the proposal?

A: No, you do not need to have that as a part of the proposal. We have had a question in the past about if applications involve both, development or refinement of a tool and experimental, should it go under this topic or another one. In the past, we have said that if it's much more focused on the development of a tool or modeling capability, I would put it here. If it is more focused on the data generation and you are using the tool to see how useful the data is, it would maybe go under something different.

Q: Do we have to incorporate this code with some of the existing codes within the Idaho labs or can it be a standard unknown code for the modeling?

A: No, it does not have to be. We tried to make this wide open to keep from limiting ideas and depending on the application of the scope you are proposing sometimes it doesn't make sense to put in another code. There is no requirement that it be put into a DOE tool. Just be aware of all of the tools out there that may be similar to what you are developing so it is clear what the advancement you are making is. That would be the biggest thing to focus on if developing a new capability.

Q: Do the tools developed and improved have to be under the NEAMS portfolio?

A: There are tools available if it makes sense for whatever advancement is being done to put into one of our tools. It is encouraged, but it is not a criterion for an application under this area and provides a little more direct value to the DOE program and others who are using our tools. You can, but you don't have to. There are a lot of capabilities out there and sometimes we receive applications to develop something new and is pretty obvious there are other multiple similar capabilities that exist. It behooves the applicant to discuss limitations of any of those existing capabilities out there and why it is more appropriate to create something that could be seen as duplication. Sometimes there are reasons to create something new but you need to address why it is better to create and somewhat duplicate instead of adding to what already exists.

Q: Is there any resource publicly available to make us aware of the latest R&D efforts under NEAMS?

A: We try to keep websites up to date. It is difficult to be completely up-to-date with the very latest that is being accomplished within the program. For descriptions of what the program is doing, start at the NEAMS website ([NEAMS.inl.gov](http://NEAMS.inl.gov)). That should identify more of the broad efforts happening on the DOE-NE program. It also identifies team members who would serve as a good point of contact.