

Defense Health Agency Education Partnership Outreach

March 2016



“Medically Ready Force . . . Ready Medical Force”

Overview

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DHA Educational Partnership and Outreach - Objective



The Defense Health Agency is developing partnerships with academic institutions and federal labs in order to *share knowledge, advance research, and solve difficult and important problems* for the benefit of the Warfighters, beneficiaries, and external community.



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DHA Services Overview

In order to manage its end-to-end HIT R&D lifecycle responsibly, the DHA has developed the following supporting services that enable MHS stakeholders to actualize their innovative Health IT ideas while closing existing functional and/or technical gaps

**Dynamic Market
Research**



**Technical & Enterprise
Architecture Expertise**



DHA Services

**Algorithmic
Analyses**



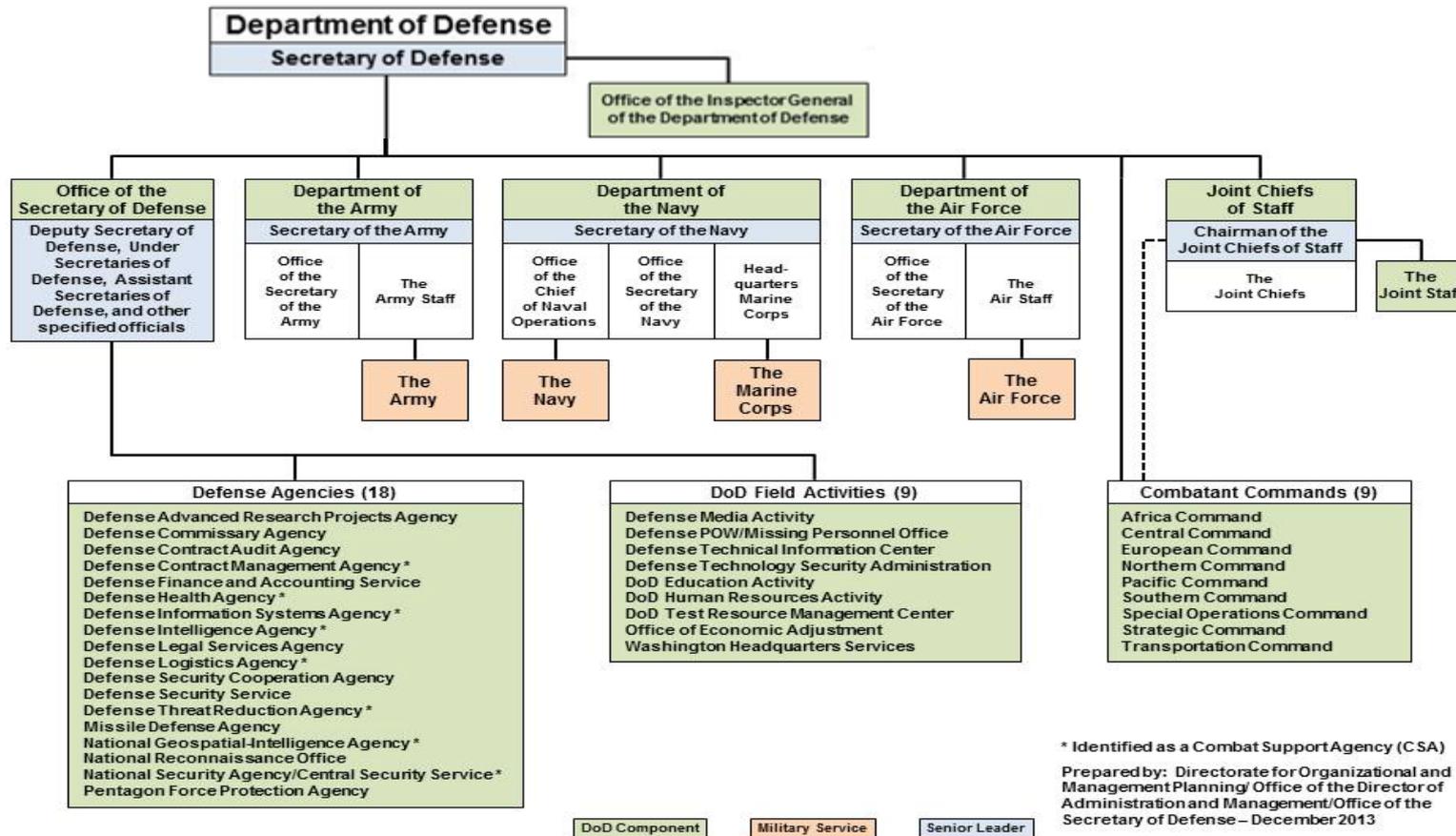
**R&D Funding,
Acquisition, and
Execution Insight**



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DHA Organization Overview

The DHA is a Defense Agency for the Department of Defense (DoD) Secretary of Defense



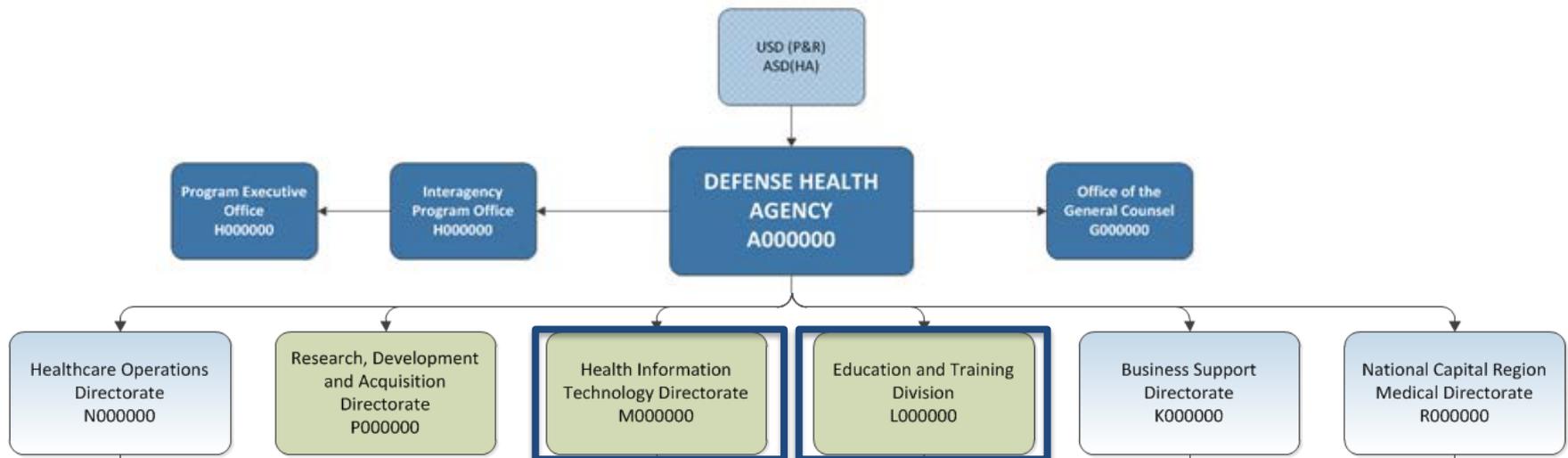
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DHA HIT and E&T Directorates are Leading the Charge



Within the DHA, the Health Information Technology (HIT) and Education & Training (E&T) Directorates are leading the charge for external research collaboration

- HIT promotes innovation in support of the Warfighters and their families and streamlines adoption of new HIT Research and Development (R&D) through inception, development, execution, and deployment across the DHA
- E&T leads a standardized, high value education, and training program across the Military Health System (MHS) and works to maximize educational resources for the DHA



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Types of Partnership Agreements

The DHA will pursue the agreement type that best aligns with the purpose of the partnership for both parties. The primary types of agreements are:

Educational Partnership Agreements (EPA). An EPA is a formal agreement between a defense laboratory and an educational institution for the purpose of encouraging and enhancing study in scientific disciplines at all levels of education.

Overarching in nature, EPAs are intended to aid in the educational experience of students of all levels by providing a mechanism by which those students can benefit from staff expertise, unique facilities and equipment that the DoD entity can provide.

Memorandum of Agreement (MOA): A MOA is a written document describing a cooperative relationship between two parties wishing to work together on a project or to meet an agreed upon objective. A MOA is more formal than a verbal agreement, but less formal than a contract.

Organizations can use a MOA to establish and outline collaborative agreements, including data use agreements and service partnerships or agreements to provide technical assistance and training. A MOA may be used regardless of whether or not money is to be exchanged as part of the agreement.

Partnership Opportunities

The following are potential opportunities that can be explored under a partnership agreement:

- Lecture Series on Military Health IT topics
- Loaning of Equipment
- Scientific Review of R&D efforts
- Committee Membership/Mentorship (counseling and/or sponsoring a student through a paper)
- Data Use and Sharing Agreements
- Student Internships at a DHA IT Lab or Office
- Counseling researchers through MHS funding instruments for research (e.g. Broad Agency Announcements (BAAs))
- Conducting research together in one of the DHA's labs
- Socializing the University's research through the DHA (i.e., R&D as a Service data collection effort)

Is an EPA the Right Choice for Your Educational Institution?



Below are a few of the many benefits to both the university and the DHA by entering into an Education Partnership Agreement:



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Next Steps

Determine if your institution would like to engage with the DHA in an Education Partnership

Designate a point of contact at your institution to be your Education Partnership Liaison

Contact DHA.IATDD@mail.mil to begin the agreement development process

