

### Subpart 1—Awards for Scientific and Technical Contributions

#### § 1240.100 Purpose.

This subpart prescribes procedures for submitting applications for monetary awards to the Administrator of NASA for scientific and technical contributions which have significant value in the conduct of aeronautical and space activities pursuant to 51 U.S.C. 20136, and establishes the awards program consistent with the Federal Technology Transfer Act of 1986, section 12, 15 U.S.C. 3710b(1).

[77 FR 27366, May 10, 2012]

#### § 1240.101 Scope.

This subpart applies to awards for any scientific or technical contribution, whether or not patentable, which is determined by the Administrator after referral to the Inventions and Contributions Board to have significant value in the conduct of aeronautical and space activities, upon submission of an application for award to NASA, or upon the Administrator's own initiative, under 51 U.S.C. 20136.

[77 FR 27366, May 10, 2012]

#### § 1240.102 Definitions.

As used in this subpart:

(a) *Administrator* means the Administrator of the National Aeronautics and Space Administration.

(b) *Board* means the NASA Inventions and Contributions Board.

(c) *Chairperson* means the Chairperson of the NASA Inventions and Contributions Board.

(d) *Commercial quality* refers to computer software that is not in an experimental or beta phase of development, that performs in accordance with its specifications, and includes documentation describing the software's form and function.

(e) *Contract* means any contract, agreement, understanding, or other arrangement with NASA or another Government Agency on NASA's behalf, including any assignment, substitution of parties, or subcontract executed or entered into thereunder.

(f) *Contractor* means the party who has undertaken to perform work under a contract or subcontract.

(g) *Innovation* means a mathematical, engineering or scientific concept, idea, design, process, or product.

(h) *Innovator* means any person listed as a contributor, inventor, or author of an innovation.

(i) *Invention* includes any act, method, process, machine, manufacture, design, or composition of matter, or any new and useful improvement thereof, or any variety of plant, which is or may be patentable under the patent laws of the United States or any foreign country.

(j) *Qualified User* means any person that has legally acquired computer software and has the right to use it for a legal purpose.

(k) *Verified* means passing rigorous testing to ascertain whether the functionality claimed in the innovation's documentation is realized.

[67 FR 31120, May 9, 2002, as amended at 77 FR 27366, May 10, 2012]

#### § 1240.103 Criteria.

(a) Only those contributions to NASA which have been:

(1) Used in a NASA program or adopted or sponsored or supported by NASA, and

(2) Found to have significant value in the conduct of aeronautical and space activities, will be recommended for award under this subpart.

(b) In determining the amount, terms, and conditions of any award, the following criteria will be considered:

(1) The value of the contribution to the United States;

(2) The aggregate amount of any sums which have been expended by the applicant for the development of such contribution;

(3) The amount of any compensation (other than salary received for services rendered as an officer or employee of the Government) previously received by the applicant for or on account of the use of such contributions by the United States; and

(4) Such other factors as the Administrator shall determine to be material.

#### § 1240.104 Applications for awards.

(a) *Eligibility*. Applications for award may be submitted by any person including any individual, partnership,