

Education Partnership Agreements (EPAs)

What is the Air Force Technology Transfer (T²) program and how is it connected with EPAs? The T² program promotes the transfer and/or exchange of technology with state and local governments, academia, and industry to create jobs, improve productivity, and increase competitiveness while supporting the AF mission. The Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) assists the T² program by opening up expanded areas of exploration and cooperation to academia through EPAs.

What is an EPA?

It is a formal agreement between a defense laboratory and an educational institution to transfer and/or enhance technology applications and provide technology assistance for all levels of education (pre-kindergarten and up). (Title 10 USC 2194)

The term "defense laboratory" means any laboratory, product center, test center, depot, training and educational organization, or operational command under the jurisdiction of the Department of Defense.

What type of educational institutions can participate?

Any local educational agency, colleges and universities, and nonprofit (501c3) institutions dedicated to improving science, mathematics, and engineering education can participate. Federal departments and agencies are to give the highest preference to elementary and secondary schools with mathematics and science education programs to meet the National Education Goals. (E.O. 12999)

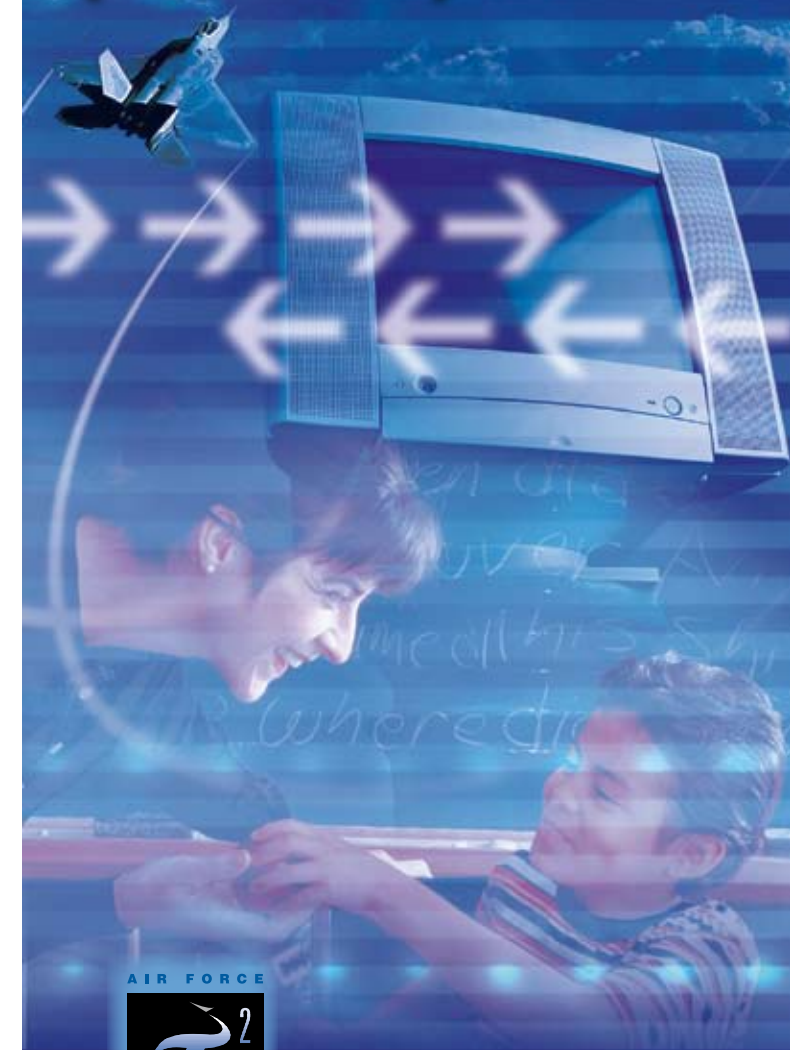


Air Force Technology Transfer Program



U.S. AIR FORCE

Technology Transfer Education Partnership Agreements (EPAs)



Sharing Air Force Technology with Academia & State and Local Governments

IT²EPA

Technology Transfer Education Partnership Agreement

What authority does the Director of a Laboratory have involving EPAs?

- > May directly transfer (donate) laboratory (i.e., scientific, research) equipment that is in excess of the needs of that lab to public and private schools and nonprofit institutions in the U.S. Zone of Interior.
- > Make laboratory personnel available to teach or assist in developing courses and course materials.
- > Involve faculty and students in laboratory research.
- > Provide academic and career advice and assistance to students.

What are the benefits of partnering with the AF?

- > Promotes a better educated and technology-aware public through support of the educational process.
- > Involves students and teachers in developing useful technological applications.
- > Supplies future workforce with training on state-of-the-art equipment—potential for higher wages and faster promotion of employees.
- > Cooperates with the institution in developing a program under which the students may be given academic credit for work on defense laboratory research projects.
- > Improves students' overall confidence and interest in math, science, and technology.
- > Provides schools with quality, educationally useful equipment.
- > Fosters work between undergraduate and graduate students with mentors from AFRL and other organizations on research and development projects.

What are the benefits to AFRL?

- > Involves students in the laboratories to ensure future pool of scientists and engineers.
- > Increases potential for applying military technology to commercial markets.
- > Provides leverage/cost savings to the Air Force by utilizing student participation in projects.
- > Improves community awareness of Air Force core values and increases visibility of Air Force technologies.
- > Enhances the reputation of the laboratory and enables lab employees to become mentors within local school districts.



More Information

For current R&D opportunities, visit www.dodtechmatch.com

EPA Examples:

The Information Institute

The Information Institute is a virtual, collaborative research environment concentrating on Information Science and Technology. It currently consists of universities allied with the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) at the Rome Research Site (New



York) and Wright Research Site (WPAFB, OH) through an Educational Partnership mechanism. The institute will enhance the AFRL workforce by providing employment opportunities for participating students. The institute will establish new ties and strengthen existing ties among member

universities, which will enable them to leverage research opportunities. AFRL will serve as a mentor for staff enrichment, and universities will receive financial support for research. The Information Institute provides a unique opportunity to work with the U.S. Air Force to turn science into applications.

AFRL Mars Missions Project

Classroom-based Mars colonization simulation was adapted from a project created by the Challenger Center for Space Science



Education. AFRL, at Kirtland AFB, New Mexico, sponsors annual Mars Missions for elementary school (5th grade) students. This project exposes students to technological, scientific, and environmental issues related to space exploration; demonstrates problem solving and team learning using a cooperative model; integrates science, mathematics, and the arts; and provides students with positive role models from the fields of science and technology.



technology transfer