



# News Release

## Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency

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[www.darpa.mil/newsroom.html](http://www.darpa.mil/newsroom.html)

IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### DARPA HOSTS OVER 200 SERVICE CHIEFS' INTERNS

The Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency (DARPA) has hosted over 200 Service Chiefs' Interns since the program began in 2002.

DARPA's [Service Chiefs' Interns program](#) exposes mid-level career military officers and National Geospatial Intelligence Agency employees to the DARPA mission and increases their awareness of DARPA research programs. Interns spend three months immersed in DARPA technology development activities. Upon return to their parent commands, these officers become ambassadors who can explain technical advances underway and provide advice to their leadership on how to take advantage of DARPA programs to enhance Service and joint warfighting capabilities.

During their time at DARPA, interns attend meetings and briefings with DARPA's senior leadership and visiting dignitaries. They meet individually with DARPA program managers to learn about ongoing technology development efforts, and to provide feedback and suggestions from a military user's point of view. The interns also visit DARPA contractor research locations at large and small businesses and government laboratories and universities. During their contractor visits, the interns are able to experience DARPA technologies in person and gain a better understanding of the future of DoD science and technology. The interns select DARPA programs of particular interest, and plan their visits and interactions accordingly.

"The Service Chiefs' Interns program is a vital way to connect DARPA and the warfighter. DARPA benefits from the insights the interns bring from their deployments in Iraq and Afghanistan. We are able to show them some of the newest technology we're working on, and they take that knowledge on to their next military assignments," explained Chris Earl, program manager of the Service Chiefs' Intern program.

Capt. Paul K. Chappell, U.S. Army, has written an [article](#) in *Air Defense Artillery* about his experience. His enthusiasm is echoed by other interns, including one who noted, "The intern program is highly important, especially now when our nation is at a time of war. The ability to get people who've just come back from the fight to help improve our science and technology efforts is something that is tremendously important to this country."

Service members interested in participating in the program should visit <http://www.darpa.mil/transtern.html> for further information.

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