

**BY ORDER OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

AIR FORCE POLICY DIRECTIVE 61-1

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Scientific Research and Development

**MANAGEMENT OF SCIENCE AND
TECHNOLOGY**

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This directive establishes policies for managing and executing the Air Force Science and Technology (S&T) program. It applies to all Air Force military and civilian personnel; members of the Air Force Reserves; members of the Air National Guard; and other individuals or organizations as required by binding agreement or obligation with the Department of the Air Force. This AFPD implements Department of Defense Instructions (DoDI) 3201.01, *Management of DoD Research and Development Laboratories*, DoDI 3210.1, *Administration and Support of Basic Research by the Department of Defense*, DoDI 3201.3, *DoD Research and Development Laboratories*, and DoDI 3201.4, *In-House Laboratory Independent Research (ILIR) and Independent Exploratory Development (IED) Programs*. If there is any conflicting policy between this AFPD and Department of Defense (DoD) issuances, the latter shall take precedence. This AFPD cannot be supplemented. Send all recommendations for changes or comments to Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Air Force, Science, Technology, and Engineering (SAF/AQR), via email to SAFAQR.Workflow@pentagon.af.mil (SAF/AQR Workflow) or to 1060 Air Force Pentagon, Washington, DC 20330-1060, through appropriate channels using AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with Air Force Manual (AFMAN) 33-363, *Management of Records*, and disposed of in accordance with the Air Force Records Disposition Schedule (RDS) located at <https://www.my.af.mil/afrims/afrims/afrims/rims.fcm>.

SUMMARY OF CHANGES

This publication has been substantially revised and must be completely reviewed. It updates Air Force policy to provide greater clarity concerning the roles and responsibilities of all Air Force organizations directly involved in the management of Air Force S&T.

1. Policy. The Air Force is committed to a strong S&T program that will enable a fully integrated air, space and cyberspace force to meet the challenges of the 21st Century. This S&T program lays the technological foundation for the current and future Air Force to assure America's security through global vigilance, reach, and power. The Air Force will manage Air Force S&T as an integrated program that invests in the future while providing the warfighter appropriate near-term support. The Air Force S&T program will carefully balance the investment portfolio in basic research, applied research, and advanced technology development, allocated between in-house and contracted activities, to produce both evolutionary and revolutionary technologies focused on Air Force service core functions and capabilities. These S&T efforts may be initiated in the absence of a validated user requirement or programmed funding for formal acquisition. The Air Force manages the S&T program as a corporate investment and focuses on the entire investment.

1.1. The Air Force will cooperatively plan and execute its S&T program by participating with other Department of Defense organizations and Government agencies. In addition, the Air Force will leverage national and international programs in S&T development.

1.2. The Air Force will consider criteria that include near-, mid-, and long-term warfighter needs, affordability, performance, sustainability, industrial base, and energy in developing and executing its S&T program.

1.3. The Air Force will ensure that funds appropriated for any Air Force S&T Program Element (PE) will be used for S&T efforts consistent with the approved Congressional Descriptive Summaries and any subsequent formal reprogramming.

2. Governance. Headquarters Air Force (HAF), Major Commands (MAJCOMs), Centers, and the Air Force Research Laboratory (AFRL) participate in Air Force S&T governance. Operational MAJCOMs provide prioritized capability and technology needs to Air Force Materiel Command (AFMC) for review, assessment, and subsequent transmission to the S&T community, and AFMC provides a mechanism for MAJCOM evaluation and feedback on the AF S&T program. Many organizations contribute to the transition of the resulting demonstrated technologies to new system developments or as improvements to existing systems and capabilities.

3. Responsibilities.

3.1. Secretary of the Air Force (SECAF) and Chief of Staff of the Air Force (CSAF) shall:

3.1.1. Set the overall strategic direction for Air Force S&T.

3.1.2. Approve the Air Force S&T Strategy.

3.2. Chief Scientist of the Air Force (AF/ST) shall provide independent, technical advice on current and future Air Force technological capabilities to Air Force senior leaders.

3.3. Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Acquisition (SAF/AQ) shall:

3.3.1. Develop Air Force S&T policy for SECAF approval, and provide strategy, implementing guidance, planning and programming guidance, and oversight of the Air Force S&T program.

3.3.2. Develop the Air Force S&T Strategy. Submit the Air Force S&T Strategy to SECAF and CSAF for approval.

3.3.3. Represent and support the Air Force S&T program in all Air Force corporate processes. Advocate and defend the Air Force S&T program to the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the Congress.

3.3.4. Conduct periodic reviews of the Air Force S&T program, as required.

3.3.5. Appoint/designate an Air Force Technology Executive Officer (TEO) and direct the TEO to execute the Air Force S&T program per the Air Force S&T Strategy.

3.3.6. In coordination with AFMC/CC, develop Air Force S&T PE descriptions, ensure proper distribution of S&T PE funding, prepare budget justification for Congress, and initiate S&T reprogramming actions consistent with the Air Force Corporate process.

3.3.7. Ensure technology is reviewed for transition to new or existing systems and capabilities, consistent with Air Force requirements and priorities.

3.3.8. Direct, administer, and control activities for Air Force S&T relating to patents, inventions, trademarks, copyrights, royalty payments, and matters connected therewith.

3.4. Commander, AFMC (AFMC/CC) shall:

3.4.1. Provide infrastructure, equipment and trained personnel necessary to plan, program, and execute the Air Force S&T program.

3.4.2. Prepare and submit the annual Air Force S&T Program Objective Memorandum (POM) to the HAF within the AFMC POM submission.

3.4.3. Advocate for Air Force S&T to Air Force senior leadership, including Air Force MAJCOMs.

MICHAEL B. DONLEY
Secretary of the Air Force

Attachment 1**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION*****References***

DoDD 5134.03, *Director of Defense Research and Engineering (DDR&E)*, November 3, 2003

DoDD 7045.14, *The Planning, Programming, and Budgeting System (PPBS)*, May 22, 1984

DoDI 3201.01, *Management of Research and Development Laboratories*, January 3, 2006

DoDI 3201.3, *DoD Research and Development Laboratories*, March 31, 1981

DoDI 3201.4, *In-House Laboratory Independent Research (ILIR) and Independent Exploratory Development (IED) Programs*, October 8, 1993

DoDI 3210.1, *Administration and Support of Basic Research by the Department of Defense*, September 16, 2005

Adopted Forms

AF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AFMC—Air Force Materiel Command

AFRL—Air Force Research Laboratory

CSAF—Chief of Staff of the Air Force

DoD—Department of Defense

DoDD—Department of Defense Directive

DoDI—Department of Defense Instruction

DTM—Directive-Type Memorandum

HAF—Headquarters Air Force

MAJCOM—major command

PE—program element

POM—Program Objective Memorandum

S&T—Science and Technology

SECAF—Secretary of the Air Force

TEO—Technology Executive Officer

Terms

Advanced Technology Development—Includes all efforts that have moved into the development and integration of hardware for field experiments and tests. Also referred to as “6.3” or RDT&E Budget Activity Code 3.

Applied Research—Systematic study to gain knowledge or understanding necessary to determine the means by which a recognized and specific need may be met. Also referred to as “6.2” or RDT&E Budget Activity Code 2.

Basic Research—Systematic study directed toward greater knowledge or understanding of the fundamental aspects of phenomena and of observable facts without specific applications towards processes or products in mind. It includes all scientific study and experimentation directed toward increasing fundamental knowledge and understanding in those fields of the physical, engineering, environmental, and life sciences related to long-term national security needs. It is farsighted high payoff research that provides the basis for technological progress. Also referred to as “6.1” or RDT&E Budget Activity Code 1.

Science—The investigation of material phenomena, a pursuit of knowledge, an understanding of phenomenology.

Technology—The application of science to industrial or military objectives.

Technology Executive Officer—The individual dedicated to executive management and supervision of the Air Force S&T portfolio, analogous to a Program Executive Officer (defined in AFPD 63-1/20-1). The TEO shall be appointed/designated by and is accountable to the Service Acquisition Executive.