

# NTIA, DoD put up \$7M prize for open RAN tech

The NTIA and the US Department of Defense said their new 2023 5G Challenge would allocate \$7 million for an 'open, interoperable, secure, multi-vendor 5G ecosystem.' #pressrelease

WASHINGTON – Today, the National Telecommunications and Information Administration (NTIA) announced the launch of the 2023 5G Challenge in collaboration with the Department of Defense (DoD).

The 2023 5G Challenge is a \$7 million prize competition conducted by NTIA's Institute for Telecommunication Sciences. The competition aims to accelerate the adoption and development of an open, interoperable, secure, multi-vendor 5G ecosystem. Such an ecosystem will spur a more competitive and diverse telecommunications supply chain, drive down costs for consumers and network operators and bolster U.S. leadership in the wireless sector.

"A competitive wireless ecosystem is vital for our domestic and economic security. The research conducted from this competition will benefit everything from our cellphones to the secure radio networks needed for our national defense," said Alan Davidson, Assistant Secretary of Commerce for Communications and Information. "To ensure the U.S. remains a global leader in wireless innovation, we are looking for a diverse set of companies and researchers from across the 5G industry to come together and participate to come together and participate in this challenge competition."

## 5G Contestant Information

The challenge is part of NTIA's support of the Department of Defense's 5G to NextG Initiative. Contestants will create 5G equipment prototypes and then test to see if their subsystems can connect to other contestant's equipment. Currently, this type of plug and play operation does not exist in the marketplace.

Applications opened today and must be submitted via email to [5gchallenge@ntia.gov](mailto:5gchallenge@ntia.gov) by 7:00 p.m. ET on March 1, 2023.

The largest prize of \$3,000,000 will go to the top performing contestants that work together to demonstrate network mobility.

Interested applicants are encouraged to attend an Informational Webinar on February 9, 2023. 5G Challenge organizers will be presenting a program overview and answering questions. RSVP for the event [here](#).

Read the press release [here](#).

[NTIA](#)