

## InfiniBand<sup>SM</sup> Trade Association

### CRITERIA FOR GOVERNMENT/UNIVERSITY PARTICIPANTS

#### I. Introduction:

From time to time the InfiniBand<sup>SM</sup> Trade Association Steering Committee may consider allowing certain government or university participants limited access to draft Specification materials and other specific non-public documents of the IBTA for use in limited pursuits under the Participant Program. Participants are NOT full Members of the IBTA. Their access to documents is limited. They do not have access to email threads. They do make an RND commitment to the Membership but do not receive a reciprocal commitment from the Membership in return. Annual dues are US \$2,500.00.

**Intended Participants:** The Participant Program is intended to allow limited government or university personnel from institutions with minimal competitive intellectual property interests (as opposed to the commercial intellectual property interests of Members) to have limited access to preliminary work of the IBTA for the purposes of academic instruction or evaluation at their institution.

The Participant Program is NOT intended for:

- a) Personnel under contract to perform services for the IBTA,
- b) Regular or substantial Contribution to IBTA Specification documents (while there are provisions that make Contributions possible, we would rather have active participants as Members), or
- c) Use by any entity where the use could adversely (directly or indirectly) affect the goals of the IBTA or compromise the expectation of a commitment to reasonable and non-discriminatory ("RND") patent licensing between Members.

Universities and government agencies with substantial Intellectual Property patent interests that may conflict with the RND proposition between Members are encouraged to sign up as full Members and NOT as Participants.

**Candidate Selection:** The Steering Committee ultimately decides whether to offer a particular Candidate the opportunity to enter into the Participant Program (execute the Participant Agreement and obtain access as defined under the Agreement or as otherwise directed by the IBTA).

*\* Note: Meeting the Prerequisite Qualifications is a precondition to being considered as a viable candidate. Additional objective factors may also be considered at the discretion*

*of the Steering Committee. Meeting the Prerequisite Qualifications does not ensure participation in the program.*

## **II. Participant Prerequisite Qualifications:**

- A legitimate purpose that is aligned with the interests of the IBTA
- Initially, no apparent Participant patents that would meet the definition of Necessary Claims.
- A commitment to the purpose of the InfiniBand<sup>SM</sup> Trade Association
- In the event of disclosure of preliminary documents, a reasonable assurance and demonstrated ability to keep confidential information confidential

## **III. Termination/Discontinuance:**

The Steering Committee may terminate, redefine or revoke Participant access to Confidential Information at any time and for any reason, with or without cause.

## **IV. Application Process:**

1. Submit application to [administration@infiniband.org](mailto:administration@infiniband.org) including, submitter's name, institution named, indication of willingness to meet the RND commitment, and the stated purpose/plans.
2. Vital Technical Marketing (VTM - 3<sup>rd</sup> party secretariat) to send request to the Marketing Working Group and the Steering Committee. A response date will be assigned not to exceed 2 weeks. Follow-up from VTM, if required, to ensure timely response to requestor.
3. The Marketing Working Group and the Steering Committee will review applications and discuss as necessary.
4. If the decision is to accept a candidate, the candidate will be allowed to participate only after execution of the Participant Agreement by a duly authorized representative of the institution to which the candidate belongs.
5. If the decision is to reject a candidate. VTM will inform the candidate as soon as practical. All decisions of the Steering Committee are final.