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**Exhibit R-2, RDT&E Budget Item Justification:** PB 2025 Army **Date:** March 2024

<b>Appropriation/Budget Activity</b> 2040: <i>Research, Development, Test &amp; Evaluation, Army / BA 6: RDT&amp;E Management Support</i>	<b>R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)</b> PE 0605716A / <i>Army Evaluation Center</i>
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COST (\$ in Millions)	Prior Years	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025 Base	FY 2025 OCO	FY 2025 Total	FY 2026	FY 2027	FY 2028	FY 2029	Cost To Complete	Total Cost
Total Program Element	-	67.058	71.118	73.220	-	73.220	70.274	71.621	78.881	79.669	0.000	511.841
302: <i>Army Evaluation Center</i>	-	67.058	71.118	73.220	-	73.220	70.274	71.621	78.881	79.669	0.000	511.841

**A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification**

This funding line supports test and evaluation (T&E) of Army Modernization Priority Programs.

This Program Element (PE) provides the resources to operate the Army Evaluation Center (AEC), the Army's independent evaluator for Army Futures Command (AFC) Cross Functional Team (CFT) efforts and all other Army and Joint Service programs (currently over 700 programs in total). AEC is the lead agent to plan, direct, and evaluate all required program testing and is the unbiased, independent authority for reporting on system progress. AEC is the focal point in test strategy development, system safety verification, and data analyses from early developmental consumer tests through operational tests. AEC develops Critical Operational Issues and Criteria (COIC) in conjunction with AFC to narrow the focus of testing to what is essential. AEC reviews and shapes system requirements to ensure they do not drive unnecessary testing. AEC provides critical independent assessments on system effectiveness, suitability, survivability, and safety to include cybersecurity; electronic warfare (EW); artificial intelligence (AI); safety of materiel solutions; and viability of emerging technologies and engineering change proposals to support major acquisition/fielding decisions including but not limited to acquisition milestones, materiel changes, and materiel releases.

AEC is responsible for all assigned developmental and independent operational evaluations of Army materiel, information, and acquisition systems. AEC must remain independent from the development community. AEC assists the Chief of Staff of the Army decision making process by supporting Army Capabilities Integration Development System (A-CIDS) processes as well as supporting the AFC through the CFT concept. AEC evaluates operational effectiveness by determining if the system provides intended benefits to the Force. AEC assesses, confirms, and releases system safety for use by Soldiers upon fielding and during government sponsored experiments and demonstrations. AEC determines impacts to readiness through Human Systems Integration (HSI), Unit Systems Integration (USI), and Army Systems Integration (ASI), as well as doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, facilities, and policy (DOTMLPF-P) impacts. AEC evaluates ballistics survivability and lethality missions, adversarial assessments/threat computer network operations (TCNO), cooperative vulnerability and penetration assessments (CVPA), and EW (attack, support) countermeasures in support of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2016 Section 1647, establishment of Cybersecurity and Electromagnetic Affects (CEMA). AEC manages, plans, and executes Information Assurance (IA) operational assessments during annual Combatant Command and Army Service exercises in support of the congressionally mandated Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Director, Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E) assessment, and performs operational test agency (OTA) duties for the Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS).

This PE funds direct civilian labor and minimum non-labor requirements to include: personnel training, career development, supplies and equipment, hardware, software, temporary duty (TDY) travel, and other external Other Government Agency (OGA) support as well as methodology development required to evaluate emerging technologies and instrumentation requirements.

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<b>Appropriation/Budget Activity</b> 2040: <i>Research, Development, Test &amp; Evaluation, Army / BA 6: RDT&amp;E Management Support</i>	<b>R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)</b> PE 0605716A / <i>Army Evaluation Center</i>
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AEC consists of seven directorates - Analytics, Artificial Intelligence, and Digital Engineering Evaluation Directorate; Aviation-Fires Evaluation Directorate; Ballistic Missile Defense Evaluation Directorate (primarily funded by the Missile Defense Agency); Command, Control, Communications, Computers, Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance Evaluation Directorate; Mounted Systems Evaluation Directorate; Soldier Evaluation Directorate; and Survivability Evaluation Directorate - and a lean headquarters element as AEC receives staff services from the Army Test and Evaluation Command (ATEC) Headquarters (HQ). AEC provides direct support to AFC with personnel geographically co-located with eight CFTs - Long Range Precision Fires; Next Generation Combat Vehicle; Future Vertical Lift; Network; Assured Positioning, Navigation, and Timing; Air and Missile Defense; Soldier Lethality; and Synthetic Training Environment - and the Rapid Capabilities - Critical Technology Office and the Artificial Intelligence Task Force.

The AEC primary competencies are: identify what decision makers need to know; plan and direct T&E strategies; evaluate operational effectiveness, suitability, survivability, and safety; and provide senior leadership unbiased advice on Army and Joint Service programs.

<b>B. Program Change Summary (\$ in Millions)</b>	<b><u>FY 2023</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2024</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2025 Base</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2025 OCO</u></b>	<b><u>FY 2025 Total</u></b>
Previous President's Budget	67.058	71.118	73.112	-	73.112
Current President's Budget	67.058	71.118	73.220	-	73.220
Total Adjustments	0.000	0.000	0.108	-	0.108
• Congressional General Reductions	-	-			
• Congressional Directed Reductions	-	-			
• Congressional Rescissions	-	-			
• Congressional Adds	-	-			
• Congressional Directed Transfers	-	-			
• Reprogrammings	-	-			
• SBIR/STTR Transfer	-	-			
• Adjustments to Budget Years	-	-	0.108	-	0.108

**Change Summary Explanation**

Minor increase in FY25 funding from the previous PB to the current PB due to revised economic assumptions.

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<b>Exhibit R-2A, RDT&amp;E Project Justification:</b> PB 2025 Army										<b>Date:</b> March 2024		
<b>Appropriation/Budget Activity</b> 2040 / 6					<b>R-1 Program Element (Number/Name)</b> PE 0605716A / Army Evaluation Center				<b>Project (Number/Name)</b> 302 / Army Evaluation Center			
<b>COST (\$ in Millions)</b>	<b>Prior Years</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025 Base</b>	<b>FY 2025 OCO</b>	<b>FY 2025 Total</b>	<b>FY 2026</b>	<b>FY 2027</b>	<b>FY 2028</b>	<b>FY 2029</b>	<b>Cost To Complete</b>	<b>Total Cost</b>
302: Army Evaluation Center	-	67.058	71.118	73.220	-	73.220	70.274	71.621	78.881	79.669	0.000	511.841
Quantity of RDT&E Articles	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-		

**A. Mission Description and Budget Item Justification**

This Project provides the resources to operate the Army Evaluation Center (AEC), the Army's independent evaluator for Army Futures Command (AFC) Cross Functional Team (CFT) efforts and all other Army and Joint Service programs (currently over 700 programs in total). AEC is the lead agent to plan, direct, and evaluate all required program testing and is the unbiased, independent authority for reporting on system progress. AEC is the focal point in test strategy development, system safety verification, and data analyses from early developmental consumer tests through operational tests. AEC develops Critical Operational Issues and Criteria (COIC) in conjunction with AFC to narrow the focus of testing to what is essential. AEC reviews and shapes system requirements to ensure they do not drive unnecessary testing. AEC provides critical independent assessments on system effectiveness, suitability, survivability, and safety to include cybersecurity and electronic warfare (EW); artificial intelligence (AI); safety of materiel solutions; and viability of emerging technologies and engineering change proposals to support major acquisition/fielding decisions including but not limited to acquisition milestones, materiel changes, and materiel releases.

AEC is responsible for all assigned developmental and independent operational evaluations of Army materiel, information, and acquisition systems. AEC must remain independent from the development community. AEC assists the Chief of Staff of the Army decision making process by supporting Army Capabilities Integration Development System (A-CIDS) processes as well as supporting the AFC through the CFT concept. AEC evaluates operational effectiveness by determining if the system provides intended benefits to the Force. AEC assesses, confirms, and releases system safety for use by Soldiers upon fielding and during government sponsored experiments and demonstrations. AEC determines impacts to readiness through Human Systems Integration (HSI), Unit Systems Integration (USI), and Army Systems Integration (ASI), as well as doctrine, organization, training, materiel, leadership and education, personnel, facilities and policy (DOTMLPF-P) impacts. AEC evaluates ballistics survivability and lethality missions, adversarial assessments/threat computer network operations (TCNO), cooperative vulnerability and penetration assessments (CVPA), and EW (attack, support) countermeasures in support of the National Defense Authorization Act (NDAA) 2016 Section 1647, establishment of Cybersecurity and Electromagnetic Affects (CEMA). AEC manages, plans, and executes Information Assurance (IA) operational assessments during annual Combatant Command and Army Service exercises in support of the congressionally mandated Office of the Secretary of Defense (OSD) Director, Operational Test and Evaluation (DOT&E) assessment, and performs operational test agency (OTA) duties for the Ballistic Missile Defense System (BMDS).

This Project funds direct civilian labor and minimum non-labor requirements to include: personnel training, career development, supplies and equipment, hardware, software, temporary duty (TDY) travel, and other external Other Government Agency (OGA) support as well as methodology development required to evaluate emerging technologies and instrumentation requirements.

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Positioning, Navigation, and Timing; Air and Missile Defense; Soldier Lethality; and Synthetic Training Environment - and the Rapid Capabilities-Critical Technology Office and the Artificial Intelligence Task Force.				
The AEC primary competencies are: identify what decision makers need to know; plan and direct test and evaluation (T&E) strategies; evaluate operational effectiveness, suitability, survivability, and safety; and provide senior leadership unbiased advice on Army and Joint Service programs.				
<b>B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)</b>		<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>
<b>Title:</b> Army Evaluation Center Civilian Pay		61.620	64.489	66.385
<p><b>Description:</b> AEC provides integrated technical and operational evaluations and continuous evaluation of assigned weapon systems and major automated information systems for major milestone decisions, materiel changes, and materiel releases in support of the Army Acquisition Executive and force development. AEC develops the evaluation strategy, designs technical and operational tests, and evaluates the test results to address the combat effectiveness, suitability, survivability, and safety factors pertinent to the decision process for more than 700 systems/programs across the Army, other Services, and Agencies. AEC prepares integrated System Evaluation Plans and conducts integrated technical and operational evaluations for all assigned systems. In support of real-world events, AEC provides Capability and Limitation Reports and safety verification documents. AEC assists the Chief of Staff of the Army decision making process by supporting the Army Capabilities Integration Development System (A-CIDS) processes.</p> <p>AEC exercises enterprise authority to prioritize, synchronize, and resource evaluations and assessments in support of Army Modernization and in accordance with AFC priorities. As a principal member of the ATEC Board of Directors (BOD), AEC partners with other ATEC organizations to provide enterprise oversight and decision making and coordinate enterprise initiatives to accelerate and reduce the cost of evaluations and assessments. AEC supports the A-CIDS process by reviewing and shaping COIC that are operationally relevant, total system focused, and that can be evaluated while driving essential T&amp;E. AEC provides direct support to AFC by resourcing coordinators geographically co-located with eight CFTs, the Rapid Capabilities Critical Technology Office (RCCTO), and the AI Task Force. AEC resources eight integrators dedicated to each CFT to lead synchronization efforts across the T&amp;E enterprise. AEC enables rapid capability development by partnering with and dedicating coordination efforts with RCCTO. AEC employs innovative and adaptive T&amp;E processes through applying flexibility given limited resources and shifting priorities while leveraging all credible data sources. AEC develops and deploys enhanced T&amp;E capabilities focusing on modernizing T&amp;E capabilities while refining the investment process. AEC partners with analytic and strategic partner organizations to share resources, gain evaluation and assessment efficiencies, and increase capacity to support AFC. AEC applies new and innovative techniques in data mining, data visualization, and presentation of large data sets; and develops methodologies for the evaluation of artificial intelligence and hypersonic weapons.</p> <p><b>FY 2024 Plans:</b> Will continue to fund operational costs for AEC including civilian pay (approximately 91% of AEC's total budget is civilian labor). Develop and apply new techniques in cloud computing, data mining, data visualization, and presentation of large data sets in</p>				

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<b>B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)</b>	<b>FY 2023</b>	<b>FY 2024</b>	<b>FY 2025</b>
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<p>support of Army Data Transformation initiatives. Continue to research and develop evaluation metrics for new and emerging technologies in AI/ML, Data Management and Analysis, Virtual/Augmented Reality, Cybersecurity, and aerospace operations. Develop future leaders and invest in improved evaluation tools and capabilities in emerging technologies. Support Army Modernization priorities by providing dedicated support to Army Futures Command CFT concept, RCCTO, and the AI Task Force. Lead Project Convergence planning, execution, and reporting activities through its Sensor to Shooter cell. Invest in new modernization efforts to support increasing demands for classified information processing in direct support of Army modernization priorities.</p> <p><b>FY 2025 Plans:</b> Will continue to fund civilian pay. More than 90% of AEC's total budget is for civilian labor. Will develop and apply new techniques in cloud computing, data mining, data visualization, and presentation of large data sets in support of Army Data Transformation initiatives. Continue to research and develop evaluation metrics for new and emerging technologies in AI/ML, Data Management and Analysis, Virtual/Augmented Reality, Cybersecurity, and aerospace operations. Develop future leaders and invest in improved evaluation tools and capabilities in emerging technologies. Support Army Modernization priorities by providing dedicated support to Army Futures Command CFT concept, RCCTO, AI Task Force, and Contested Logistics. Lead Capstone planning, execution, and reporting activities through its Sensor to Shooter cell. Invest in new modernization efforts to support increasing demands for classified information processing in direct support of Army modernization priorities.</p> <p><b>FY 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement:</b> Increased funding due to revised economic assumptions.</p>			
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<p><b>Title:</b> Army Evaluation Center Operations Support</p> <p><b>Description:</b> AEC operational support costs. Contract services include facilities maintenance and repair and custodial support to ensure safety, health and hygiene of the AEC workforce; sustainment services such as grass cutting, snow removal, and security for AEC facilities; software licenses required for scientific and statistical methods in developing rigorous, defensible test plans and evaluating the results; training for the highly technical civilian and military workforce (484 total number); life cycle replacement of IT equipment, printers, VTC equipment, wireless communications; contract support services for IT helpdesk, network, cybersecurity, etc.; and annual consumable supplies.</p> <p><b>FY 2024 Plans:</b> Funding will continue to support AEC operational support costs including contract support, software licenses, training, life cycle replacement of equipment.</p> <p><b>FY 2025 Plans:</b></p>	5.438	6.629	6.835
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<b>B. Accomplishments/Planned Programs (\$ in Millions)</b>	FY 2023	FY 2024	FY 2025
Funding will continue to support AEC operational support costs including contract support, software licenses, training and development, life cycle replacement of equipment, and investment in secure information processing/storage facilities, equipment, and capabilities.			
<b><i>FY 2024 to FY 2025 Increase/Decrease Statement:</i></b> Funding increase supports the planned lifecycle of the effort and economic assumptions.			
<b>Accomplishments/Planned Programs Subtotals</b>	67.058	71.118	73.220

**C. Other Program Funding Summary (\$ in Millions)**  
N/A

**Remarks**

**D. Acquisition Strategy**  
N/A