
Call for Applications

2009 – 2011 Naval Postgraduate School (NPS) –

Joint Executive Systems Engineering Management (SEM) Program

**Offered in Partnership with the Massachusetts Institute of Technology (MIT)
Consortium for Leadership in Product Development (PD21)**

Announcement Opening Date: June 30, 2009

NPS Admission Deadline: Apply online through August 7, 2009

Announcement Closing Date: August 14, 2009

Announcement has been extended from August 10, 2009 to August 14, 2009 due maintenance of AAPDS

Board Review Date: August 17, 2009

Start Date: 2009-2011 class will kick off in Monterey, CA, Sept. 14-25, 2009

NPS is accepting applications for the Joint Executive SEM program, which is offered in partnership with MIT's "Educational Consortium for Leadership in PD21. This is an opportunity to complete a Master of Science degree in systems engineering management, systems engineering, or product development. A certificate of recognition from MIT and various Defense Acquisition University (DAU) equivalencies for training are also awarded upon completion of the SEM-PD21 program.

SEM-PD21 is an 8-quarter, part-time master's degree program that is conducted by distributed learning through the Internet Web-conferencing tool Elluminate. Students will participate in at least two industry visits during the program, as well as attend a 2-week kickoff and graduation at NPS in Monterey.

Note: All interested applicants must obtain approval and funding from their organizations before applying to NPS for the SEM-PD21 program. Information concerning the program, eligibility requirements, application processes, and funding requirements are listed below.

General Program Information

The SEM-PD21 program is a groundbreaking interdisciplinary leadership program designed for senior engineering and technical professionals. By integrating engineering and management elements, the program strives to develop a new kind of leader with a holistic perspective and knowledge of the total life-cycle acquisition system. Students will acquire the fundamental skills and strategic perspective required of effective change agents, as well as an enhanced ability to recognize barriers to success early in a system's development cycle when corrective actions are least costly. The SEM-PD21 program is the educational

foundation needed by technical leaders to drive systems engineering innovations and help achieve acquisition excellence.

Students in the SEM-PD21 program will be exposed to the latest state-of-the-art concepts, tools, and best practices, both private and public, in systems engineering and management. They will learn from experienced faculty, who have worked in the defense industry and completed defense-relevant research and/or consulting. One of the key value propositions of the program is collaboration -- not only jointly within DoD and across the services, but also with defense industry partners. Imagine the possibilities when future leaders participate and collaborate in nonthreatening educational environments, studying and analyzing how to improve the way defense does business.

To learn more about the SEM-PD21 program, please visit http://www.nps.edu/dl/Degree_Progs/PD21.asp#program.

Students who successfully complete the program will be awarded:

- A Master of Science in systems engineering management, systems engineering, or product development
- Certificate of Recognition from MIT
- DAU equivalencies, including ACQ101, ACQ201, SYS101, SYS202, SYS203, and SYS302. PMT352 is attainable through the Systems Acquisition Elective Track (see curriculum lineup at the above link). While completion of the SEM-PD-21 program provides some of the required training for certification in the above careers, individuals must complete the additional DAU training for certification in each career field.

Who May Apply

Permanent civilian members of the Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (AL&T) Workforce who are GS-12 through GS-15 or equivalent broadband within a Demonstration Project or pay band within the National Security Personnel System may apply. Applicants must be certified in their current acquisition position before the closing date of the announcement. Certification status must be reflected on the Acquisition Career Record Brief (ACRB).

Eligibility Criteria

NPS Prerequisites:

- Baccalaureate Degree (B.A. or B.S.); preferable degree is in engineering or a related scientific or technical field.
- GPA of 2.6 or higher.
- A college calculus and probability and statistics course.
- At least 5 years experience directly related to systems development, engineering, acquisition, operations, or support. (Requirement reduced to 3 years for applicants who hold a master's degree.)

U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center (USAASC) Eligibility Requirements:

- Be a permanent civilian member of the AL&T Workforce.

- Be a career GS-12 through GS-15 or equivalent broadband within a Demonstration Project or NSPS.
- Be certified in current acquisition position.
- Have a letter of acceptance from NPS.

How to Apply

All interested applicants must obtain approval and funding from their organizations before applying for admission to NPS for the SEM-PD21 program. USAASC will accept applications and conduct a board to select individuals for the SEM-PD21 program using the Army Acquisition Professional Development System (AAPDS). Commands should not conduct separate selection boards for this opportunity. All applicants will be selected for attendance using the AAPDS application and board processes, which ensure that all applicants who apply for training and education programs receive appropriate consideration without regards to non-merit factors.

NOTE: Applicants should apply to NPS and USASSC after they have obtained approval and funding from their organizations to attend the SEM-PD21 program.

Applicants should:

1. Update Individual Development Plan (IDP)

Applicants must include the entire course of study for the SEM-PD-21 program on the IDP and obtain supervisor approval for attendance and funding. The course of study can be found under “curriculum” on the NPS Web site at http://www.nps.edu/dl/Degree_Progs/PD21.asp#curriculum.

2. Apply to NPS for admission

Applicants must meet the NPS admission requirements and have a letter of acceptance from NPS. Apply for NPS admission at http://www.nps.edu/DL/info/ad_packet.asp. Once you enter this Web site, select the following:

- Select “Student Application Form”
- Select “Apply Now”
- Select “New Applicant” or “Returning Applicant” and enter personal information
- Select “Program Via Distributed Learning”
- Select “Master’s Degree”
- Select “Systems Engineering Management-PD21 (DL): Curric 721”
- Select “Academic Year/Quarter: 2010/1: Sept. 28, 2009-Dec. 18, 2009”
- In the additional comments block annotate: “USAASC applicant”
- Fill out the remaining portions of the online application
- Select “Submit” when completed

For additional information, contact Dr. Wally Owen at (636) 925-2982 or wowen@nps.edu or Dr. Tom Huynh at (831) 656-7568 or thuynh@nps.edu.

3. Apply to AAPDS

Applicants who are approved and funded by their organizations may begin the USAASC application process in AAPDS while they wait for their letter of acceptance from NPS. The application is an automated process. To access AAPDS, first log in to the Career Acquisition Management Portal at <https://rda.altess.army.mil/camp/> and then click on Career Acquisition Personnel and Position Management Information System (CAPPMIS). Once in CAPPMIS, select AAPDS, click on the event entitled "AETE NPS SEM-PD21 2009-2011," and follow the tabs to submit your application requirements.

4. AAPDS Application Requirements

The following documents must be submitted in AAPDS:

- Acquisition Education, Training, and Experience applicants data.
- NPS Acceptance Letter: Individuals must upload the acceptance letter received from NPS. The conditional letter of acceptance issued by NPS will also be accepted.
- Current ACRB: For assistance in updating the ACRB, please contact your Regional Acquisition Career Manager. They can be located at <http://asc.army.mil/organization/regional/default.cfm>.
- Current Resume: Copy and paste your resume from the Resumix format. Additional information is available at www.cpol.army.mil.
- Statement of Interest.
- IDP Academic Plan: The IDP must include the courses required for completion of the SEM-PD21 Program. List SEM-PD21 as "planned" on the IDP and leave funding source blank.
- IDP: IDP must be approved by the supervisor.
- Post-Utilization Plan: The post-utilization plan must be prepared by the supervisor.
- Agreement to Continue Service: The agreement must be signed and uploaded in AAPDS.

Funding for the SEM-PD21 Program

The applicant's organization is responsible for paying the Service Sponsor Total Ownership Discounted Tuition Cost (see price breakdown below). The SEM-PD21 class is limited to 25 students. Each service (Army, Air Force, and Navy) and defense contractors are allocated 5 seats. The sponsor discounted price will apply to Army candidates based on our goal to fill all 5 Army seats. Please click on "program announcement" at the following link for information on the cost of the 2-year program:

http://www.nps.edu/DL/Degree_Progs/PD21.asp#announcements. Organizations should contact Dr. Wally Owen, Program Manager, at (636) 925-2982 for additional information on the cost of the SEM-PD21 program for their students.

Tuition Cost

- Total Ownership Tuition Cost: The total ownership tuition cost includes all coursework credits (typically 64 quarter credits), textbooks, additional class materials (software, handouts, case studies, camera/microphone, miscellaneous equipment, etc.), transportation, and per diem for all NPS campus and industry visits (typically 5 weeks of travel).

- Open Enrollment Total Ownership Tuition Cost: Open enrollment single-seat total tuition ownership cost is \$46K for military/federal civilians (paid over 3 FY with \$6K in FY09, \$20K in FY10 and \$20K in FY11) and \$50K for Defense contractors (paid over 3 FY with \$6K in FY09, \$22K in FY10 and \$22K in FY11).
- Service Sponsor Total Ownership Discounted Tuition Cost: A 20-percent discount is offered off the single seat for a Service Sponsor of 5 seats each year. The discounted total tuition ownership cost of sponsoring 5 seats each year drops the cost to \$36.8K per seat (paid over 3 FY with \$4.8K in FY09, \$16K in FY10 and \$16K in FY11).

Additional Information

- Applicant's supervisors must approve attendance and funding for the SEM-PD21 program.
- NOTE: Students will be required to reimburse the government for classes with an incomplete grade, withdrawal, and grades that are not at least a "B" in each of the courses. If reimbursement is not received within 30 days from notification, the student may be removed from the program.
- The SEM-PD-21 program can be used to obtain a second master's degree. The review board's decision to fund a second master's degree will be based on what type of a degree applicant possesses and the source of funding for the first degree.
- USAASC will conduct a board to select up to five students.
- USAASC is not the sponsor for the SEM-PD21 program and will not fund applicants under this program.
- The SEM-PD21 is a needs-based board process. Individuals will be evaluated based on the need to complete appropriate training and education. The board is not a competitive process.
- For additional information, contact Gloria King at (703) 805-1521 or Gloria.King@us.army.mil.