

FY12 DAWIA Contracting Certification Questions & Answers (Q&As)
Questions from USACE Webinar conducted 16 March 2011
Answers as of 28 March 2011

Q1: If an employee has all their classes for a certification Level 1 before 1 Oct 2011, but not enough business hours, can they apply for Level 1 certification after 1 Oct 2011 without taking CLC058 and CON170?

A1: No, in this case the employee did not meet the education requirement of a DAWIA Contracting Certification and was not eligible for certification by 1 Oct 2011, therefore; they will need to take the new required courses for their Level I certification. Completion of all four courses, CON 110, 111, 112 and 120 will become the predecessor course for new CON 115 course in FY12, until 1 Oct 2013.

Q2: If an employee will complete the Webster program in Dec 2011, will they be able to use that for their certification, or do they have to take the new courses as well?

A2: Webster University allows students to receive DAU equivalency training. The equivalency training will continue to serve as predecessor courses until 1 Oct 2012 or 1 Oct 2013 depending on the course (see below answers to questions to which courses specifically). However, in this case the employee will not be eligible for certification by 1 Oct 2011, therefore; assuming they already have their level I certification they will need to take CON270, CLC057, CLC051 and HBS428 to meet the new training standards for Level II certification. The four new courses are not part of the current Webster program; therefore they need to be taken in addition to the Webster curriculum. ACQ 101, which is no change to the FY11 requirement, remains a FY12 requirement as well.

Q3: If someone has taken CON 110, 111, 112, but not 120; what good will it be for them to take 120?

A3: All four of these classes collectively become predecessor courses for CON215 until 1 Oct 2013, therefore; if an employee can complete all of these courses before 1 Oct 2010, they will not have to take the CON115 class.

Q4: Are there any considerations given to the fact that there is trouble getting into CON 120, CON 217, and CON 218 this FY?

A4: Army still has significant quotas left for CON 120. Recommend registering and completing CON 120 ASAP if CON 112 is completed. Priority 1 students will be given priority. Additional information on commercial vendors can be found at <http://icatalog.dau.mil/appg.aspx> . If quotas have run out by the time you apply, then have your command submit a request to Army DACM Office for 852 funding of the equivalency course from a commercial vendor.

Q5: When will the new classes become available?

A5: October 2011 and available for student registration on May 18, 2011. CON 280 & CON 290 anticipated delivery 1st QTR FY12 (Jan 2012, but this could change from now until 1 Oct 11). DAU is working to deliver the courses beginning of Oct 2011.

Q6: Are CON215 and CON218 predecessor courses until 1 Oct 2012 or 1 Oct 2013? I've seen conflicting information, and don't understand why these classes would be different from every other predecessor course.

A6: The predecessor dates vary depending on the course. CON 215 and CON 218 valid predecessor to CON 280 and CON 290 until 1 Oct 2012. CON 214 and CON 217 valid predecessor until 1 Oct 2013.

Q7: If I have an employee who has completed all their Level I and Level II training through prior to 1 Oct 2011, but they don't meet the requirement for work experience in Contracting for their Level II before 1 Oct 2011, will they have to take the new classes?

A7: It depends. An employee with one year of experience may use one year of education to substitute for the required second year of experience but only when applying for their level 2 certification in Contracting. The Webster University courses apply in this case.

Recommend when the employee has one year of experience and completed all the Webster courses they will apply for Level I. The next day they can apply for the Level II and there will appear an additional 4th box to choose in the experience field and it will display: "Option 4. I will use up to 1 year of my education to fulfill the education requirement" - select this option. This option will only be available if the employee is short 12 months or less of experience within the career field they are applying and have achieved at least an associate degree or higher.

Note: This option WILL NOT APPEAR in the Certification Management System (CMS) until the employee has achieved their first year and is not available for Level I.

Q8: If employees have Level I certification, what will the prerequisites be for the new Level II classes? For example, is CON170, CLC056 and a Level I certification required prior to taking CON270, or will the Level I certification be sufficient?

A8: The requirement to successfully complete all Level 1 contracting courses remain a prerequisite for Level II core courses. In addition, CLC 056 and CON 170 will be the new required prerequisites for CON 270. You will need to take CON170 or CLC056 in order to take CON270.

Q9: Are their approved outside vendors for the new classes?

A9: Not at this time.

Q10: Why are the training standards changing?

A10: The restructure is driven in large measure by direction provided in a memorandum by Dr. Ashton Carter, USD (AT&L), entitled "Better Buying Power: Guidance for Obtaining Greater Efficiency and Productivity in Defense Spending" dated September 14, 2010. The memorandum identified 23 initiatives for reducing inefficiencies and improving cost performance. These initiatives were mapped across the multi-functional portfolio of DAU DAWIA courses. Thirty seven courses have been linked to at least one of the "Carter initiatives." Nine contracting courses were identified. The restructure will provide greater detail of topics in the CON curriculum and identify opportunities for increased rigor and depth of instruction in contracting and contract pricing.