

Uniformed Army Science & Engineering (UAS&E) Program

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

Q. Why was the UAS&E Program stood up?

A. The Uniformed Army Scientist and Engineer Program was stood up to build a cadre of military experts who could provide leadership to effectively bridge combat development, materiel development and technology implementation in field operations.

Q. The UAS&E Program was officially started during the fourth quarter of Fiscal Year 2003; what has changed in requirements to result in the program being eliminated?

A. The initial intent of this program was to include acquisition and non-acquisition officers in the UAS&E. While we accessed a few non-acquisition officers, the bulk of the UAS&E members came from the Army Acquisition Corps (AAC). Another challenge to successfully meet the program objectives was the education of officers through PhD programs. The Army chose not to resource this education requirement. The AAC still has requirements for these engineer and science disciplines, however, these will be obtained through advanced civil schooling. While we are eliminating the UAS&E Program, we are not eliminating the requirement for officers in the AAC to have the skills needed to be a successful 51S.

Q. When will the program officially end?

A. The UAS&E Program will end in January 2010.

Q. Where are the UAS&E members now?

A. Most UAS&E members are currently serving in acquisition assignments located in the Program Executive Office (PEO) structure; US Army Training and Doctrine Command; Army Materiel Command; Department of Defense (DoD); Headquarters, Department of the Army; joint commands; and national agencies w/joint, inter-agency, multi-national footprints. In addition, there are a number of assignments within the Laboratories and Research, Development and Engineering Centers which continue to be directly involved in technology development.

Q. What kind of future assignments can I expect?

A. Acquisition officers, mainly Functional Area 51S (FA51S), will continue to serve as science advisors to operational commanders, provide advice on science and technology policy and

investment strategies, and actively engage in research and development relevant to Army needs. Assignments include Army and DoD laboratories; the Research, Development and Engineering Command (RDECOM), the United States Military Academy (USMA), Combatant Commander's staff, the Army and Joint Staff as well as key scientific and engineering advisory positions throughout the Army and DoD. It is in your best interest to increase your breadth and depth of acquisition through different assignment opportunities. Officers should work with Acquisition Management Branch (AMB) assignment officers and strive to rotate through acquisition assignment to achieve certification in different acquisition career fields.

Q. How will eliminating the UAS&E Program affect my career path?

A. The Army's objective is to develop agile and adaptive officers who are equipped to serve across a spectrum of assignments. The AAC's objective is also to develop officers with a variety of skills and experiences as they progress through their acquisition career. Eliminating the UAS&E Program will not impact your success in the AAC. Opportunities to serve in positions that focus on engineering and science are available at all levels. Officers can expect to perform in FA51S positions as well as other diversifying positions aimed at making them more competitive for Command Select List/Key Billet opportunities at the O-5 and O-6 levels.

Q. Will I finish my current assignment or PCS immediately?

A. Eliminating the UAS&E program will not affect your current assignment, providing you are encumbering a valid Military Acquisition Position List assignment. Officers will continue to serve in their respective assignments and will PCS to another diversifying acquisition position when in their PCS window.

Q. Will there still be opportunities to pursue technical degrees within the AAC?

A. Yes. It is important that the AAC continue to pursue and support the educational experiences necessary to manage the unique technological needs of the Army in order to effectively counter existing and emerging threats.

Q. Will I be pulled out of my current Masters/PhD studies, with the elimination of the UAS&E Program?

A. No. Officers who are receiving Army funding and enrolled in an advanced civil schooling curriculum will continue their program of study. Officers will be assigned to a follow-on acquisition assignment based on the needs of the Army after completing their degree. To the greatest degree possible, AMB will assign these officers to FA51S positions within the acquisition community for their first assignment.

Q. How will this affect my promotion potential?

A. You are in charge of your own destiny. Your potential for promotion will be based on your ability to work at higher levels of responsibility through proven performance. Eliminating the UAS&E Program should have no negative impact on promotions.