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## Military Acquisition Careers

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**T**his is an exciting time to be part of the Army Acquisition Corps (AAC). We are experiencing growth in the contracting arena while simultaneously developing, fielding, and sustaining every system a Soldier wears, rides, flies, or employs. Your skills and experiences can add greatly to the collective ability the AAC needs to ensure that future Soldiers have all the capabilities required to succeed wherever and whenever called upon.

Generally speaking, to be eligible for accession into the AAC in 2010 you must be a captain, hold a baccalaureate degree, be a graduate of the Captains Career Course, and have completed the “key and developmental” positions required by your basic branch. Captains in all branches, with the exception of Chaplain, Judge Advocate General, Medical Service Corps, Medical/Dental Corps, and all other special branches, are eligible for consideration.

Once accessed into the AAC, officers can expect to attend a wide range of training opportunities to get them started in their career with the Corps. AAC career paths mirror those of other branches in the Army, including Training with Industry, Advanced Civil Schooling, Senior Service College, and command at both the lieutenant

colonel and colonel levels. Additionally, the AAC offers various training specific to the duties and functions performed by career acquisition professionals.

The U.S. Army Human Resources Command (HRC) Acquisition Management Branch (AMB) is the organization responsible for managing the accession process. The opportunity for accession is announced annually through a number of media outlets, including Military Personnel (MILPER) messages and e-mail to eligible officers. Specific eligibility criteria will be outlined in the MILPER message. This process is separate from the usual Career Field Designation procedure and consideration is not automatic.

The AAC is always interested in the Army’s brightest business minds seeking

the opportunity to ensure that our warriors are armed and equipped with the best technology to increase their mission success. It is a great opportunity to make a difference.

Noncommissioned officers (NCOs) interested in AAC service may visit the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center’s NCO Web page at <http://asc.army.mil/career/programs/nco/default.cfm> for additional information and points of contact.

For more detailed information regarding either officer or NCO Army acquisition careers, see the article on Page 25 of this issue.

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