

USAASC Newsletter

Preparing for the Future: People, Teamwork,
Partnership, Leadership



U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center,
9900 Belvoir Road, Bldg 201, Suite 101, Fort Belvoir, VA 22060-5567

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Acquisition News

USAASC Awards Ceremony

USAASC Home Page. The 2007 U.S. Army Acquisition Corps (AAC) Awards Ceremony will be held Sunday, Oct 7, 2007, at the Marriott Hotel Crystal Gateway in Arlington, VA. Army Acquisition Executive/Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, Claude M. Bolton Jr., will host the event. Registration information is now available at http://asc.army.mil/conference/aac_awards.cfm. Please e-mail any questions regarding this event to usaasc_events@us.army.mil.

Defense Acquisition University (DAU) FY08 Catalogue

The DAU FY08 Catalogue is posted and available at <http://www.dau.mil/catalog/default.aspx>.

Army Puts 'Temporary' Back in TCS

Army News Service, Aug. 9, 2007. The Army is putting the "temporary" back into temporary change of station (TCS) orders that authorize and fund assignments for Soldiers in contingency support positions that are not in a combat zone. Effective Aug 15, TCS orders will be issued only for assignments of 180 days or less, unless a waiver is granted. Additionally, Soldiers will not be approved for two sets of 180-day orders within the same 365-day period. The changes are intended to ensure that Soldiers and Families have predictable, reasonable service requirements.

<http://www.army.mil/-news/2007/08/09/4336-army-puts-temporary-back-in-tcs-orders/>

Rest & Recuperation (R&R) Leave Extension to 18 Days.

MILPER Message Number 07-195. Due to recent DoD rotation and mobilization policy changes, the Office of the Secretary of Defense (Personnel & Readiness) has approved an extension of chargeable R&R leave days from 15 to 18 for service members who will be deployed to the Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) or Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) area of operations for 15 months.

<http://www.army.mil/-news/2007/07/24/4156-dod-extends-rr-program-for-soldiers-on-15-month-deployments/>

Army Preparing for Future of Conflict

Army News Service, Aug. 15, 2007. The Army is growing its ranks and transforming into an agile force ready to face a future that could be rife with conflicts around the world, the Army chief of staff said here yesterday. GEN George W. Casey Jr. spoke at the National Press Club, highlighting the Army's progress on transformation and modernization while sustaining the current conflicts in Iraq and Afghanistan, and outlining the service's needs for the future. GEN Casey noted that the Army's almost-six-year commitment to the war on terror has stressed the all-volunteer force. "But we remain a resilient and committed professional force," he said. "Our immediate challenge is to balance the current demands on the all-volunteer force with the need to transform and to build readiness for the future."

<http://www.army.mil/-news/2007/08/15/4427-army-preparing-for-future-of-conflict-gen-casey-says/>

DAU First Acquisition Research Paper Competition

The DAU Alumni Association (DAUAA), in support of the DAU Research Program, is proud to announce its first annual acquisition research paper competition. Competition is open to anyone with interest in the DoD acquisition system, and is not limited to government or contractor personnel. The theme of the papers for 2008 is: "Defense Life Cycle Management: Sustaining DoD Weapon Systems." Research papers are due Nov 15, 2007.

(AKO Registration Required)

<http://www.dauaa.org/ResearchPaper2007.htm>

AL&T Workforce News

MILDEP Guidance Memorandum #2

LTG N. ROSS THOMPSON III Memorandum for Army Acquisition Corps Officers, Subject: Director of Acquisition Career Management Guidance Memorandum #2.

As I enter my ninth month as the Director of Acquisition Career Management, I have gained greater insight into the challenges and demands on the members of the Army Acquisition Corps (AAC). The on-site visits, briefings and program updates have provided invaluable information to assist me in my personal assessment of the state of the Acquisition Corps. There are a few areas we need to recalibrate in order to ensure we remain a great force multiplier for the Army.

First, we must maintain our Warrior Ethos and the leadership traits that reinforce this mantra of selfless service. All leaders must ensure their physical fitness and acquisition training programs are preparing their subordinates for the physically and mentally demanding environments in which we operate around the world.

The Acquisition, Logistics and Technology community has transformed into "one face to the warfighter" as part of the Army Sustainment Command. The AAC now has critical positions in the Army Field Support Brigades and Logistics Support Elements at each corps and division. Filling these positions is of the highest priority and we will fill them with Soldiers that have the potential and desire to serve as future senior leaders in the Acquisition Corps.

Soldiers should be prepared to move at the completion of their tours and seek assignments outside their specialty and geographic comfort zone that provide multifunctional development opportunities. In order to achieve these objectives, tour extensions will more than likely not be supported and retirements should be submitted 12 months out, consistent with Army policy. High School Stabilization requests need to be coordinated 12-18 months in advance. Officers who decline Centrally Selected List (CSL) positions will be immediately world wide reassignable as their skill sets and Army requirements dictate.

Assignment opportunities managed and executed by the Acquisition Management Branch represent the needs of the Army at that time. Multifunctional diversification will be emphasized at every grade possible and will also be a consideration in CSL Slating. Filling lower priority requirements will not allow us to achieve the end-state necessary to support the total force and grow multifunctional leaders for the future.

Finally, I would like to reiterate that we have critical personnel requirements to fill and the entire Army is challenged to meet multiple demands fighting the war on terrorism. I expect the Acquisition Corps to embrace the Army Values and Warrior Ethos and accept the challenge to put the needs of the service first. I am proud of the courage, competence and commitment of our Soldiers and civilians.

http://asc.army.mil/docs/transformation/MILDEP_Guidance_Memo_2AUG07.pdf

Army Congressional Fellowship Program

MILPER Message 07-211. The Army Congressional Fellowship Program offers a unique opportunity for top Army captains and majors to receive valuable training and experience by serving as staff assistants to members of Congress. Fellows are typically given responsibility for drafting legislation, arranging congressional hearings, writing speeches and floor statements, and briefing members for committee deliberations and floor debate.
(AKO Registration Required)

<https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/Active/opfam51/congressional-fellowship.html>

CORE Plus Training

DAU. Fiscal Year 2008 will bring an enhancement to the AT&L certification framework. It is called Core Plus. This framework is designed to guide acquisition professionals to competency development beyond the minimum standards required for certification, based on specific types of assignments within an acquisition function/career field. To learn more about Core Plus, view the video at the Web link below:

<http://view.dau.mil/dauvideo/view/eventListing.jhtml?eventid=1583>

The video features opening remarks by Mr. Frank Anderson, President of DAU, and then a panel goes through a series of questions and answers about Core Plus, which explain how this enhancement certification framework can be used. The video is 40 minutes long and typically takes 2-3 minutes to download. Additionally, as of Sep 1, 2007, you can expect to find the FY08 certification requirements available on the DAU Web site at:

<http://www.dau.mil/workforce/index.asp>

AAC Upcoming Events

2007 AUSA Annual Meeting & Exposition

- Oct. 8-10, 2007
- Washington Convention Ctr, Washington, DC

<http://www.ausa.org/webpub/DeptIndustry.nsf/byid/JRAY-6XXRVV>

Important AAC Links

U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center

<http://asc.army.mil>

Army AL&T Magazine

<http://asc.army.mil/altmag/>

Acquisition Management Branch

https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/active/opfam51/am_bmain.htm (AKO registration required)

Comments to the Editorial Staff

The USAASC Newsletter editorial staff is accepting articles. Writers Guidelines can be found on the AAC Transformation Web page. To open our Web page, click on the following link. <http://asc.army.mil/transformation>

We encourage you to address issues or concerns to: MAJ Gregg Rupkalvis at (703) 805-2732/DSN 655-2732 or gregg.rupkalvis@us.army.mil