



DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY
OFFICE OF THE PRESIDENT
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JAN 29 2013

MEMORANDUM FOR DIRECTORS OF ACQUISITION CAREER MANAGEMENT

SUBJECT: Status of Travel Funding for the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) Training in FY2013

Deputy Secretary of Defense Dr. Ashton Carter issued guidance on how to mitigate budget execution risks during this period of uncertainty in his January 10, 2013, memo, "Handling Budgetary Uncertainty in Fiscal Year 2013" (Atch). In response to Dr. Carter's guidance, the Services and DoD Agencies have implemented various actions to slow spending in preparation for the impact of a possible sequestration and the potential for a yearlong Continuing Resolution.

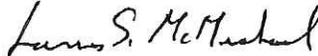
In Dr. Carter's memorandum, Table 1 Categories of Approved Near-Term Actions, cites one potential action to take: "Curtail travel, training, and conferences (**all with exceptions for mission-critical activities including those required to maintain professional licensure or equivalent certifications**)". Acquisition workforce member's travel for DAU acquisition certification training is being adversely impacted and in some instances cancelled by the Services and DoD Agencies in their current interpretation of their budget execution mitigation efforts.

Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) and its implementing regulations require coded workforce members to meet training requirements for certification and professional currency within their grace period. Therefore, DAU certification, assignment specific and currency training, centrally funded by DAU funds, is entirely separate from budgetary actions within a Service or agency to mitigate budget execution issues in FY2013.

Deputy Secretary Carter specifically addressed this issue in his memorandum, "Approvals [to travel] will be granted by Component heads or by senior officials designated by the Component head". Accordingly, for DAU funded student travel to attend DAU courses that are required for mandatory DAWIA certification (Priority One travel); Component Directors of Acquisition Career Management are the designated specific approval authority in this regard for FY2013 training. Components must allow their acquisition workforce members to continue critical training as scheduled, when using DAU central funds following the guidelines stated below:

- DAU course registration processes provide strict procedures to ensure the most cost effective location (CEL) is selected by each student and approved for acquisition training travel funding—those CEL guidelines should be followed by the Component.
- NDAA FY2013 Sec 955 provides for management discretion with regard to cost cutting actions to exempt expenses related to mission critical functions and certification training.

We appreciate the opportunity to continue to provide the critical acquisition training for the Defense Acquisition Workforce in FY2013. DAU will strive to keep the Components and agencies apprised of the FY2013 budget execution status.


James S. McMichael
Acting

Attachment
As stated