The Army Acquisition Workforce consists of over 42,000 highly trained, dedicated professionals who execute diverse responsibilities on a daily basis to enable the disciplined management of an acquisition portfolio. Acquisition activities require extensive knowledge, education, and training to ensure successful development, acquisition, fielding, and sustainment of the world’s best equipment and services to meet Army needs.

This skilled Workforce adheres to requirements set forth in the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) which was enacted by Public Law 101-510 on 5 November 1990. Congress intended that DAWIA would “improve the effectiveness of the personnel who manage and implement defense acquisition programs.” The Army DACM (Director, Acquisition Career Management) is the focal point for the management, development and sustainment of the Army Acquisition Workforce.

With DACM guidance and senior leadership involvement, the Army Acquisition Workforce has significantly improved at meeting the DAWIA requirements. 91% of the Workforce is certified in their career field or within the allowable grace period, up a significant 12% since FY08 (78.4%). 98% have an updated IDP and 88% of the Workforce is on track to complete 80 Continuous Learning Points (CLPs) by the end of the current cycle - 30 September 2012. The DACM challenges the Workforce to meet 100% compliance on the CLP metric by 30 September.

The continued, outstanding performance on these standards reinforces the fact that the Army Acquisition Workforce is an exceptionally trained and relevant population dedicated to providing our Warfighters a decisive advantage to win our Nation’s wars.

**FISCAL YEAR 2013 EDUCATION CHANGES TRAINING**

Fiscal Year 2013 (FY13) will bring numerous changes to the certification training requirements under the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA). Army Acquisition Career Fields will experience additions, substitutions, and deletions of required courses offered though the Defense Acquisition University (DAU). Career fields impacted for FY13 include:

- Contracting; Industrial/Contract Property Management; Business Financial Management; Test and Evaluation; SPRDE-Program Systems Engineer; and Program Management.

If you are not certified in your Acquisition Career Field by 30 September 2012, you are subject to the FY13 training requirements changes which take effect 1 October 2012.

It is imperative that you plan ahead to understand the impact that the FY13 changes will have on your certification requirements.

Please visit the DAU iCatalog, at the link below, for specific FY13 course changes as they relate to your Acquisition Career Field.

http://icatalog.dau.mil/
Every workforce member is responsible for their own career development. We can, and should, find mentors along the way and regularly discuss our plans/ideas with our supervisors; however, in the end, we are responsible for ourselves. As the Army DACM Office, we have a wide variety of opportunities available to help you develop your functional acquisition and leadership skills where you are in your career.

That being said, each acquisition workforce member is coming up on the tail end of their 2-year 80 Continuous Learning Point (CLP) requirement. The intent of the CLP policy is not to just check the box; not to just ensure you have ‘met the requirement.’ The intent is that you have taken deliberate steps (with guidance from your supervisor) toward appropriate functional, leadership, and acquisition-related training to ensure currency, enhance professional development, and lessen identified gaps. For those who have not yet completed the requirement, here are some suggestions. There are hundreds of free online continuous learning courses DAU offers: http://icatalog.dau.mil/onlinecatalog/tabnavcl.aspx.

Lastly, if you believe you have completed at least 80 points but have yet to record them, please do so immediately. If you are unsure, review the Army’s CLP policy for guidance on what does and does not count (remembering that CLPs must be leadership or acquisition related): http://asc.army.mil/docs/policy/Army_CLP_Implementation.pdf.

Scott Greene, AETE Branch Chief

EDUCATION AND TRAINING CORNER

Owning Your Own Career and Professional Development

Please take a look at the DACM Acquisition Education, Training, and Experience (AETE) programs webpage (http://asc.army.mil/web/career-development/programs/) to find out additional information on all of our offered programs. I also encourage supervisors to identify your high performers and which programs might be of value to them in their career progression.

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DA PAM 600-3 Update: The Army is rewriting DA PAM 600-3, “Commissioned Officer Professional Development and Career Management.” The overall goal is to simplify career guidance, establish clear career priorities, and synchronize with broader Army career development terms and initiatives. Key changes to the Army Acquisition Corps, chapter 42, include: 1) multi-functional vs. single tracked career paths; 2) re-greening opportunities for AAC Officers; and 3) rolling Acquisition Career Fields (ACFs) R, S, and T into ACF A to increase career opportunities.

NCO Degree Completion Program (DCP) is currently open. The deadline for DCP applications is 14 Sept.

51C NCO Reclassification Board: In 2007, the AAC established Military Occupational Specialty (MOS) 51C for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (AL&T) Contracting Non-commissioned Officers (NCOs). As the Army proponent for MOS 51C, the U.S. Army Acquisition Support Center (USAASC) developed a centralized board, composed of commanders and command sergeants major from the contracting commands. NCOs are evaluated based on their demonstrated performance, time in service, commander’s recommendation, civilian education levels, and other quality criteria. For more information on MOS 51c Reclassification, visit http://asc.army.mil/web/career-reclassification/military-nco/active-component-reclass-program/.

Contact Information:
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