

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY

OFFICE OF THE ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF THE ARMY FINANCIAL MANAGEMENT AND COMPTROLLER 109 ARMY PENTAGON WASHINGTON DC 20310-0109

SAFM-CE 24 September 2024

MEMORANDUM FOR BUSINESS-COST ESTIMATING ACQUISITION PROFESSIONALS

SUBJECT: Recommended FY25 – FY26 Continuous Learning Points for the Business-Cost Estimating (BUS-CE) Acquisition Functional Area (AFA)

1. References:

- a. DoDI 5000.66 Defense Acquisition Workforce Education, Training, Experience, and Career Development Program, 25 March 2022
- b. Memorandum, Director of Army Acquisition Career Management (DACM), 31 October 2022, Subject: Continuous Learning Policy and Implementation Guidelines for the Army Acquisition Workforce
- 2. The Army Acquisition Workforce (AAW) is charged with the critical mission of cultivating innovation, designing the impossible, and providing our Warfighters with what they need to be successful. As technology continues to advance at a rapid pace, it is critical that our BUS-CE acquisition workforce maintain currency through self-development and continuous education. The continuous learning points (CLP) requirement is for 80 CLPs in a two-year period. Acquiring CLPs is an important tool for our AAW in keeping an edge and meeting the everchanging challenges.
- 3. For the two-year CLP cycle that begins on 1 October 2024, I recommend that members of the BUS-CE AAW focus 20 percent of the required 80 CLPs (i.e., 16 hours) on the technical areas listed below and/or enroll in the specific courses and training listed in the table below.
 - a. Acquisition Policy
 - b. Software Cost Estimating
 - c. Sustainment Cost Estimating
 - d. Critical Thinking and Leadership
 - e. Data Science
 - f. Digital Literacy/Transformation

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4. The recommended training can be considered as continued professional development opportunities to enhance the knowledge and skills of the BUS-CE AFA.

Course/Types of Activities	Number of CLPs	Category / Skill Area	Course Location
Digital Transformation Masterclass	11.5	Cross-Functional	Udemy: https://armyciv.udemy.com/lea rning-paths/4528912/
Product Management in AI & Data Science	5		
Executive Briefing: Data Science & Machine Learning	2	Data Science	
Design Thinking: The Fundamentals	1.5	Critical Thinking & Leadership	
Introduction to Cloud	2	Software Cost Estimating	
Agile Samurai Bootcamp	3		
Master Agile Estimation: Top Techniques for Scrum & Kanban	2		Udemy: https://armyciv.udemy.com/course/agile-estimation/learn/lecture/291042 https://armyciv.udemy.com/course/agile-estimation/learn/lecture/291042 https://armyciv.udemy.com/course/agile-estimation/learn/lecture/291042 https://armyciv.udemy.com/course/agile-estimation/learn/lecture/291042 https://armyciv.udemy.com/course/agile-estimation/learn/lecture/291042 https://armyciv.udemy.com/course/agile-estimation/learn/lecture/291042 https://armyciv.udemy.com/course/agile-estimation/learn/
CBCE 001: Software Cost Estimation Credential ¹	43		Defense Acquisition University (DAU)
CLE 075 Introduction to DoD Cloud Computing	4		
CLE 078 Software Acquisition for the Program Office Workforce	3		
ACQ 0150 Middle Tier of Acquisition	1	Cross-Functional	
ACQ 2020 Intermediate Systems Acquisition, Part A	19		
ACQ 2030 Intermediate Systems Acquisition, Part B	32		
EVM 101 Fundamentals of Earned Value Management	16		
CBCE 002: Application & Implementation of Operating & Support Cost ²	25	Sustainment Cost Estimating	
CLE 301 Reliability & Maintainability	3		
LOG 0010 Life Cycle Product Support Management	3		
LOG 0110 Introduction to Performance Based Logistics	3		
CCON 016 Excel Skills for Data Analytics & Visualization Credential	55	Data Science	
CLM 058 Critical Thinking	2	Critical Thinking	

¹ Courses include: BCE 0230 Introduction to Software Cost Estimation, BCE 2300V Applied Software Cost Estimating, CLE 076 Introduction to Agile Software Acquisition, ETM 1080 Software Literacy Fundamentals, SWE 0007 Introduction to Modern Software Reuse, and SWE 0046 DoD Modern Software Reuse

² Courses include: BCE 0020 Operations & Support Cost Data Science, BCE 2160 Application of Operating and Support Cost, and BCE 3160V Updating the O&S Cost Estimate

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- 5. In addition to the courses listed above, Udemy, an online digital learning platform, offers vast amounts of training on topics such as data science, programming languages, business operations, modernized software development practices, and leadership and management. I encourage the cost estimating community to take advantage of their free Udemy Business licenses and enroll in relevant courses to help fill knowledge gaps. To obtain your Udemy Business license, go to https://armyciv.udemy.com/ and enter your @army.mil email address.
- 6. I also strongly encourage the cost estimating community to focus on planning, reserving, and completing training requirements for Practitioner or Advanced level BUS-CE certifications as required by position descriptions. Core certification standards (required for DAWIA certification) and functional/interdisciplinary development course recommendations are available on the DAU iCatalog (https://icatalog.dau.edu/onlinecatalog/CareerLvl.aspx).
- 7. Additionally, I recommend that the cost estimating community continue to develop and participate in focused training sessions such as lunch and learn and brown bag sessions, which broaden and enhance the skills of the workforce.
- 8. As emergent needs continue to be assessed, a similar memo will be issued bi-annually to maintain and continue to grow a skilled and competent Cost Estimating workforce. Thank you for the work that you do every day to support the Army Warfighter and to grow the capabilities of the BUS-CE AFA.

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