



## DoD INSTRUCTION 5000.57

### DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY

---

**Originating Component:** Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment

**Effective:** January 11, 2024

**Releasability:** Cleared for public release. Available on the Directives Division Website at <https://www.esd.whs.mil/DD/>.

**Reissues and Cancels:** DoD Instruction 5000.57, "Defense Acquisition University (DAU)," December 18, 2013, as amended

**Approved by:** William A. LaPlante, Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment

---

**Purpose:** In accordance with the authority in DoD Directive 5135.02 and pursuant to Sections 1746 and 1746a of Title 10, United States Code (U.S.C.), this issuance establishes policy and assigns responsibilities for operation of the Defense Acquisition University (DAU).

## TABLE OF CONTENTS

SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION .....	3
1.1. Applicability. ....	3
1.2. Policy. ....	3
SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES.....	5
2.1. USD(A&S).....	5
2.2. President, DAU.....	5
2.3. Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness.....	8
2.4. DoD Component Heads. ....	9
2.5. Secretaries of the Military Departments. ....	9
2.6. Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff. ....	9
GLOSSARY .....	10
G.1. Acronyms. ....	10
G.2. Definitions.....	10
REFERENCES .....	12

## SECTION 1: GENERAL ISSUANCE INFORMATION

### 1.1. APPLICABILITY.

This issuance applies to OSD, the Military Departments, the Office of the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff and the Joint Staff, the Combatant Commands, the Office of Inspector General of the Department of Defense, the Defense Agencies, the DoD Field Activities, and all other organizational entities within DoD (referred to collectively in this issuance as the “DoD Components”).

### 1.2. POLICY.

a. In accordance with DoD Instruction (DoDI) 5000.66, members of the Defense acquisition workforce (Defense AWF) who deliver and sustain warfighting capabilities will be highly qualified to perform their acquisition mission, as enabled by education and training.

b. In accordance with Sections 1746 and 1746a of Title 10, U.S.C., as well as DoDI 5000.66, the DAU will:

(1) Provide the Defense AWF career-long, integrated continuous learning support through certification courses, credentials, job performance training, exchanges or rotations, executive and international courses, online training, knowledge sharing, job support tools, defense acquisition research, competency identification and skills gap analysis, workshops, and other activities in support of talent management as directed by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)).

(2) Support Defense AWF development and talent management initiatives, providing an innovative, responsive learning environment to drive acquisition outcomes that ensure effective and affordable capabilities for the warfighter.

(3) Be managed and directed by a president who will be the DAU’s chief executive officer.

(4) Be structured to serve the Defense AWF community. The President, DAU will establish subordinate organizational elements as needed to execute the DAU mission within resources assigned by the Secretary of Defense.

(5) Include the Defense Systems Management College, the College of Contract Management, and other regional and major staff elements approved by the USD(A&S).

(6) Provide human capital management and administrative services for DAU faculty and staff.

(7) Provide support for Defense AWF career management as directed by the USD(A&S).

c. The DAU may, within assigned resources, employ enough civilian professors, lecturers, and instructors to meet mission needs and compensate such faculty in accordance with Sections 1746 and 1746a of Title 10, U.S.C.

## SECTION 2: RESPONSIBILITIES

### 2.1. USD(A&S).

The USD(A&S):

- a. Prescribes policies and requirements for DAU education and training programs, pursuant to Section 1702 of Title 10, U.S.C.
- b. Establishes objectives to efficiently and effectively use available acquisition resources by coordinating DoD acquisition education and training programs and tailoring them to support the careers of civilian and military personnel in Defense AWF positions.
- c. Selects the President, DAU, and advises them on DoD policies and procedures related to DAU development and operation.
- d. Provides centralized funding (including funding for students to attend DAU courses of instruction), personnel, and other resources to support the DAU and its mission objectives. Approves any proposed adjustments within the Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution process.
- e. Establishes a program of education and training standards, requirements, and performance learning assets for the civilian and military Defense AWF. The program will promote jointness and interoperability to the greatest extent practical and provide benefits as broadly as possible to the workforces supporting the acquisition and sustainment mission.
- f. In coordination with the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, establishes the content of the Senior Acquisition Course (SAC) at the Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy (ES).

### 2.2. PRESIDENT, DAU.

Under the authority, direction, and control of the USD(A&S), through the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, the President, DAU:

- a. Executes Sections 1746 and 1746a of Title 10, U.S.C.
- b. Advises and supports the USD(A&S) in executing the responsibilities in Paragraph 2.1. by:
  - (1) Providing support to the functional area leaders (FALs) by establishing a central repository for the acquisition functional area competency models and the tracking of competencies to learning assets.

(2) Providing a uniform framework for certification standards, assignment-specific learning, and qualification standards applicable to acquisition position categories as approved by the FALs.

(3) Providing and operating a Defense AWF business management system designed to support the management and execution of the Defense Acquisition Workforce Education, Training, Experience, and Career Development Program by maintaining the system of record for Defense AWF qualification data, in accordance with DoDI 5015.02.

(4) Maintains a publicly accessible website (<https://icatalog.dau.edu/>) to publish the acquisition functional area certification standards, position category descriptions, and other information as required to support the execution of the Defense Acquisition Workforce Education, Training, Experience, and Career Development Program.

c. Selects and supervises the Director, Human Capital Initiatives and the 4th Estate Director for Acquisition Career Management (DACM).

d. Organizes, directs, and manages the DAU and all resources assigned to the DAU.

e. Proposes the DAU's resourcing requirements to USD(A&S) for the Future Years Defense Program and other Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution actions by:

(1) Working with DoD Component Defense AWF organizations to determine priorities for attendance at DAU courses and allocate quotas, student travel, and per diem funding to the DoD Components.

(2) Providing an appropriate programming and budgeting mechanism to control the allocation of resources to achieve DAU objectives, including funding for:

(a) Operating expenses, including faculty and staff salaries.

(b) Students to attend courses of instruction.

(3) Coordinating with the Joint Staff and National Defense University to identify requirements and resourcing to execute SAC.

f. Provides access to acquisition-specific training designed to support effective implementation of acquisition-related duties performed by DoD personnel who are not part of the Defense AWF.

g. Executes the Defense Acquisition Credential Program, pursuant to DAU Directive 703, in support of Defense AWF, the FALs, Defense acquisition knowledge area communities, and component acquisition organizations.

h. Executes a coaching program focusing on three types of coaching:

(1) Leader as coach.

- (2) Team coaching.
- (3) Executive coaching.
  - i. Conducts a defense acquisition research program to support the development of learning assets and acquisition policy.
  - j. Develops and manages information systems for maintaining records on student enrollment, course completions, and related workforce data in accordance with DoDI 5400.11.
  - k. Obtains external support for the DAU, as necessary, through interservice and intragovernmental support agreements in accordance with DoDI 4000.19.
  - l. Negotiates, executes, terminates, and oversees the terms of the memorandums of understanding, memorandums of agreement, and other agreements between the DAU and other DoD organizations, other U.S. Government organizations, academic institutions, and industry.
  - m. Enters into intragovernmental transactions with other DoD and U.S. Government organizations to accept appropriated fund authority and to transfer DAU funding to such organizations to execute the DAU mission.
  - n. Maintains an electronic catalog describing the DAU's learning assets and engages in other outreach efforts to keep the Defense AWF informed of acquisition developments and other continuous learning opportunities.
  - o. Establishes and implements a course equivalency program that identifies alternatives for the DACMs and Director for Acquisition Talent Management to help the workforce attain the training required for their assigned Defense AWF position.
  - p. Establishes and implements a Defense AWF Fulfillment Program that provides criteria for determining whether an individual has demonstrated competence in the areas that are taught in the training courses required for their assigned position.
  - q. Establishes DAU prerequisite course requirements that promote the attainment of course outcomes (i.e., learning objectives) and improve the students' understanding of acquisition and life cycle management within the DoD and functional areas.
  - r. Works with relevant DoD professional schools, DoD and Federal training institutions, and other degree-granting institutions to ensure best practices are used in curriculum development and course delivery to support the Defense AWF.
  - s. Maintains appropriate liaison and communication with the DoD Components, other Federal agencies, and other public and private sector organizations and educational institutions, through a formal outreach program, for the exchange of information concerning assigned programs, activities, and responsibilities.

t. Uses existing systems, facilities, and services of the DoD and other Federal agencies, when practicable, to avoid duplication and to achieve maximum efficiency and economy in developing and delivering training and other Defense AWF-related services.

u. Obtains reports and information and conducts surveys, pursuant to DoDI 8910.01 and as necessary, to carry out assigned responsibilities.

v. Communicates with other Federal officials, State and local officials, members of the public, and representatives of foreign governments, as appropriate, in carrying out assigned responsibilities.

(1) Communications with representatives of the Legislative Branch other than the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Committees must be conducted through the Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Legislative Affairs.

(2) Communications with the House and Senate Defense Appropriations Committees must be coordinated with the Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer, Department of Defense.

w. In accordance with Section 1725(a)(3)(B) of Title 10, U.S.C., works with Service acquisition executives to manage any senior military acquisition advisor adjunct professors associated with the DAU.

x. Administers the Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account through Human Capital Initiatives.

y. Informs the DACMs and Director for Acquisition Talent Management before setting course expiration dates.

z. Provides DACMs and Director for Acquisition Talent Management and the OSD functional area integration teams' executive secretaries with course enrollment, failure, and completion data on a regular or as requested basis.

aa. Performs other duties the Secretary of Defense or the USD(A&S) may assign.

### **2.3. UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE FOR PERSONNEL AND READINESS.**

The Under Secretary of Defense for Personnel and Readiness advises and assists the USD(A&S) in establishing civilian personnel policy, programs, and rates of pay pertaining to Section 1746(b) of Title 10, U.S.C. regarding employment and compensation of civilian faculty members.



## **2.4. DOD COMPONENT HEADS.**

Acting through their acquisition executives, as appropriate, the DoD Component heads:

- a. Provide the DAU their annual student training requirements and associated budgetary requirements for travel and per diem for Defense AWF personnel, non-acquisition personnel with acquisition-related duties, and direct hire 1102 local nationals.
- b. Coordinate with the DAU in formalizing class schedules and allocating student quotas to meet requirements.
- c. Select and schedule candidates for the SAC at ES.
- d. Act as a liaison between the DAU and DoD Component organizations, as needed, to facilitate a faculty exchange program pursuant to Section 1746a of Title 10, U.S.C.
- e. Support DAU outreach efforts as requested.

## **2.5. SECRETARIES OF THE MILITARY DEPARTMENTS.**

In addition to the responsibilities in Paragraph 2.4., the Secretaries of the Military Departments, through coordination and as required by their Service acquisition executives, will assign military personnel to the DAU.

## **2.6. CHAIRMAN OF THE JOINT CHIEFS OF STAFF.**

In addition to the responsibilities in Paragraph 2.4., the Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff:

- a. Ensures the National Defense University and ES provide the SAC for Defense AWF personnel serving in critical acquisition positions.
- b. In coordination with the USD(A&S), ensures the ES acquisition curriculum is relevant to the educational needs of senior-level Defense AWF professionals.
- c. In coordination with DAU, identifies requirements and resourcing for execution of the SAC.

## GLOSSARY

### G.1. ACRONYMS.

ACRONYM	MEANING
AWF	acquisition workforce
DAU	Defense Acquisition University
DACM	Director for Acquisition Career Management
DoDI	DoD instruction
ES	Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy
FAL	functional area leader
SAC	Senior Acquisition Course
U.S.C.	United States Code
USD(A&S)	Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment

### G.2. DEFINITIONS.

Unless otherwise noted, these terms and their definitions are for the purpose of this issuance.

TERM	DEFINITION
<b>chief executive officer</b>	The individual responsible for overseeing all DAU activities. The chief executive officer is also the chief administrative officer as defined by the accrediting body.
<b>certification</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.
<b>competency</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.
<b>contracting officer</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.
<b>critical acquisition position</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.
<b>Defense acquisition knowledge area</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.

<b>TERM</b>	<b>DEFINITION</b>
<b>Defense AWF</b>	A group comprised of persons who occupy AWF positions in the DoD, as designated pursuant to Section 1721(a) of Title 10, U.S.C.
<b>Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.
<b>Defense Acquisition Workforce Education, Training, Experience, and Career Development Program</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.
<b>direct hire 1102 local nationals</b>	Foreign nationals serving in the roles of contract specialists, warranted contracting officers, and team leads in DoD contracting offices who are not considered part of the Defense AWF.
<b>FAL</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.
<b>functional area</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.
<b>Service acquisition executives</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.
<b>Senior Military Acquisition Advisor</b>	Defined in DoDI 5000.66.

## REFERENCES

- Defense Acquisition University Directive 703, “Defense Acquisition Credential Program,” October 7, 2022<sup>1</sup>
- DoD Directive 5135.02, “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment (USD(A&S)),” July 15, 2020
- DoD Instruction 4000.19, “Support Agreements,” December 16, 2020
- DoD Instruction 5000.66, “Defense Acquisition Workforce Education, Training, Experience, and Career Development Program,” July 27, 2017, as amended
- DoD Instruction 5015.02, “DoD Records Management Program,” February 24, 2015, as amended
- DoD Instruction 5400.11, “DoD Privacy and Civil Liberties Programs,” January 29, 2019, as amended
- DoD Instruction 8910.01, “DoD Implementation of the Paperwork Reduction Act,” December 5, 2022
- United States Code, Title 10

---

<sup>1</sup> Available upon request to DAU.