

Leadership Excellence in Acquisition Program Now Accepting Applications

*From the Director, DAU Center for Contracting
Leonardo Manning
April 30, 2015*

The Partnership for Public Service's Leadership Excellence in Acquisition Program (LEAP) is a leadership development program for federal contracting professionals seeking to develop the leadership and business skills necessary to take on future government leadership roles. The program is now accepting applications for the next cohort, which will kick-off Oct. 13-15, 2015.

Addressing a need identified by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy (OFPP), the nine-month program is designed to complement the technical skills learned in other programs with the leadership and interpersonal skills necessary to become a high-performing acquisition professional. Through a combination of innovative coursework, best practice benchmarking, and facilitated dialogue with industry leaders, graduates of the program emerge with a stronger capability to manage others, lead teams, and deliver results.

Sessions include a combination of content delivery, peer collaboration, networking, and benchmarking. Participants benchmark some of the most successful organizations and leaders in the acquisition field for a behind-the-scenes look at their strategies for delivering results. Lessons taught in the classroom are reinforced through team capstone projects designed to tackle complex acquisition workforce issues. Current

projects range in topic from developing a comprehensive acquisition employee retention plan to encouraging greater innovation from contractors. Participants meet for a session every two months for a total of approximately 14 days in session and 89 classroom hours.

Enrollment in LEAP is open to mid-level high-performing contracting officers and contracting specialists. At a minimum, participants should possess a Level II or equivalent certification and have at least three years of contracting experience. Program tuition is \$5,900 and includes all course materials, session facilitation, and program support. Upon completion of the program, graduates will be eligible to earn Continuous Learning Points.

Leadership Excellence in Acquisition Program Brochure (<http://ourpublicservice.org/issues/develop-leaders/leadership-excellence-in-acquisition-program.php>)

Leadership Excellence in Acquisition Program Overview (<http://www.fai.gov/drupal/content/leadership-excellence-acquisition-program-accepting-applications>)

For more information or to download the application, visit <http://ourpublicservice.org/leap>, or contact Mollie Allers at mallers@ourpublicservice.org or 202-775-2749.

Defense Systems Acquisition Management Course Schedule Announcement for 2015

The National Defense Industrial Association (NDIA) is sponsoring an offering of the Defense Systems Acquisition Management (DSAM) course Sept. 21-25, 2015, at the Hilton Providence in Providence, Rhode Island.

The DSAM course meets the needs of defense industry program managers in today's dynamic environment, providing the latest information related to:

- Defense acquisition policy for weapons and information technology systems including discussion of the DoD 5000 series (directive, instruction, and guidebook).
- Defense acquisition, and reform and initiatives.
- Defense acquisition procedures and processes.
- The Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution process, and the Congressional budget process.
- The relationship between capability needs determination, resource allocation, science and technology activities, and acquisition programs.

The course will include blocks of instruction in: Management in the Acquisition Environment, Acquisition Life Cycle Process, Challenges to Program Management, and Application of Acquisition Procedures. Taught by Defense Acquisition University (DAU) professors and other guest speakers, the course uses the same acquisition policy information provided to DoD students who attend DAU courses for formal acquisition certification.

Prospective DSAM students are industry program managers, assistant program managers, systems engineers, industry personnel serving on DoD Integrated Product Teams, and other personnel that must interface with DoD program offices involved in program development and execution.

The result of successful completion of this course is a comprehensive understanding of the environment and driving forces affecting program managers, which will significantly increase awareness and effectiveness in dealing with programmatic issues.

The course is also open to a limited number of government mid- to upper-level managers, tuition-free. Government personnel may apply the DSAM course towards fulfillment of government continuous learning (CL) points. DSAM counts for 34 CL points, or 3.4 Continuous Education Units (CEU). Attending a DSAM course does not provide any credit or equivalency toward Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act certification in any acquisition career field.

All course materials and handouts will be provided to students on CD ROM. Please bring a laptop computer that is equipped with a CD ROM with you to the class. If you do not have access to a laptop, please contact the respective meeting planner as soon as possible. There will be a limited number of laptops available for use through NDIA, so please call early.

For further information, please contact Angie DeKleine, NDIA Operations, at adekleine@ndia.org or 703-247-2599. Register online for the June 2015 course offering at <http://www.ndia.org/meetings/502C/Pages/default.aspx>.

DAU Credits Now Accepted Toward APUS Degree Programs (July 7, 2015)

Defense Acquisition University, an internationally recognized, award-winning Department of Defense corporate university, and American Public University System (APUS) signed a partnership agreement to provide enhanced online education opportunities for the Defense Acquisition Workforce through DAU's Excelerate program.

Workforce members are eligible to receive credit from Excelerate partner institutions toward various degrees and certificate programs for achievement of Level II and Level III Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act certification.

Under the APUS agreement, DAU credits will be applied towards major or concentration course requirements for an MBA or Master's in Government Contracting, Management, Defense Management, Transportation and Logistics Management, or Information Technology with either American Military University (AMU) or American Public University (APU).

"DAU constantly assesses methods to enhance support for the warfighter and the Defense Acquisition Workforce," said DAU Acting Vice President Dr. Roy Wood. "The opportunity to continue career-relevant training while earning college credit is invaluable for members of our nation's defense community."

Founded as American Military University in 1991 to educate those who serve, APUS today offers more than 90 degree programs through AMU and APU to military, public service, and corporate professionals in such fields as homeland and national security, intelligence, and emergency and disaster management. APUS faculty members include executives in government, business, and nonprofit organizations including the Department of Defense, Homeland Security, State

Department, CIA, Federal Emergency Management Agency, and the United Nations.

“We’re pleased to work with DAU to support the specialized professional development needs of those working to support and enhance America’s global defense capabilities,” said Dr. Wallace E. Boston, APUS president and CEO, who joined Wood for the signing ceremony at Ft. Belvoir, Virginia.

Norwich University Offers Opportunity for DAU Students

In mid-June, Defense Acquisition University boosted its ability to provide educational opportunities to the Defense Acquisition Workforce with the creation of a partnership featuring Norwich University.

With this new arrangement, DAU students are eligible for benefits in both Norwich University’s online bachelor’s and master’s programs. At the bachelor’s level, students will be offered a one-time tuition scholarship toward their chosen degree completion program. Master’s level students can use their DAU credits toward multiple degrees, including: Master of Business Administration, Master of Civil Engineering, or Master of Information Security and Assurance. Students accepted into these graduate programs will benefit from reduced tuition for their remaining graduate credits.

Founded in 1819, Norwich University is the oldest private military college in the United States and the birthplace of the Reserve Officers’ Training Corps (ROTC). The university offers professional and liberal arts programs to military and civilian students, and is accredited by the New England Association of Schools and Colleges.

Norwich University’s College of Graduate and Continuing Studies builds upon the institution’s rich legacy of academic excellence and innovation in offering online programs for working adults and lifelong learners. Nine master’s programs and three bachelor’s degree completion programs are delivered through Norwich University Online, a virtual and highly interactive learning platform that connects Norwich’s exceptional faculty and curricula to students across the country and around the world. The online programs are recognized throughout the industry for their rigor, small class sizes, high student satisfaction, and retention.

DAU Achieves “Learning! 100” Title

At the recent “Enterprise Learning! Conference” hosted by George Mason University, Defense Acquisition University was recognized with top honors as part of the Learning! 100. This group represents the top 100 learning institutions across the country. More information on DAU’s recogni-

tion is at <http://www.clomedia.com/articles/6307-dau-defense-through-development>.

Help with Acquisition Cybersecurity

In today’s world, cybersecurity is front and center. To help you get the acquisition cybersecurity answers you need faster and more efficiently, DAU has launched a comprehensive web resource. The new site features policy updates, job support tools, and learning aids. Visit the site at <http://www.dau.mil/OtherProducts/pages/cybersecurity.aspx>.

Additive Manufacturing Resource Page Goes Live

You may know it better as 3-D printing, but additive manufacturing isn’t running out of “ink” in the near future. In conjunction with Deloitte University Press (a DAU strategic partner), the university announces the creation of a new reference website at <https://acc.dau.mil/AM> to act as a guide for the acquisition workforce on all topics related to this cutting-edge process.

DAU: Helping You Complete the Mission

In addition to classroom and online learning, DAU provides tools and guides to assist acquisition professionals in the day-to-day completion of projects and tasks. From the “Acquisition Requirements Roadmap Tool” to the “Life-Cycle Sustainment Plan Template,” these tools are there to help the acquisition workforce support the warfighter and better serve the public. Visit <https://dap.dau.mil/smart/> for a complete list.

FROM LEONARDO MANNING, DIRECTOR, CENTER FOR CONTRACTING

CON Educational Opportunity-Leadership Excellence in Acquisition Program (June 8, 2015)

On April 30, 2015, I provided information on the Leadership Excellence in Acquisition Program and the Fall 2015 program. This is a reminder that applications will be accepted on a rolling basis through September 25, 2015, and the Fall program will kick off Oct. 13-15, 2015.

Today’s acquisition professionals need to combine technical execution with strong leadership skills to achieve agency missions. Addressing a need identified by the Office of Federal Procurement Policy, the Partnership’s Leadership Excellence in Acquisition Program is an opportunity for mid-level acquisition talent to strengthen their business and management skills through a combination of innovative coursework, peer collaboration, best practices, benchmarking, and facilitated dialogue with industry leaders. Graduates of the program will be better equipped to drive individual and agency performance.

Download the Leadership Excellence in Acquisition Programs brochure at <https://search.dau.mil/viewer/index.jsp?start=0&proxy=%2F&sessionid=a067d50a-ac0d-4ce8-abef-05aeb424c476>.

President Obama's "Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces" Executive Order (E.O. 13673) Issued May 28, 2015 (June 8, 2015)

On May 28, 2015, the FAR Council issued a proposed regulation implementing both President Obama's "Fair Pay and Safe Workplaces" Executive Order (E.O. 13673) and the U.S. Department of Labor's (DOL) associated proposed guidance, requiring government contractors and subcontractors to report regularly on workplace law violations found by administrative agencies, the courts, and arbitrators. 80 FR 30548: <http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/FR-2015-05-28/pdf/2015-12560.pdf>

The proposed rule and guidance require companies to report past and pending labor law violations so that contracting officers may consider them, along with mitigating circumstances, during the award process for contracts valued at over \$500,000. Both prime contractors and subcontractors are covered. The contracting officer, in consultation with the newly created Agency Labor Compliance Advisor (ALCA), must make a responsibility determination when considering contract awards. The idea is to promote efficiency in government procurement by ensuring federal agencies contract only with "responsible" contractors who comply with federal and state workplace laws. The contracting officer can also take this information into account when considering other actions, such as a decision not to exercise an option on a contract, to terminate a contract, or to refer matters to an agency suspending or debarring official.

It also will require that processes are established to assist contractors and subcontractors to come into compliance with labor laws and that they provide employees with information on how they are paid. Each pay period, covered federal contractors and subcontractors must provide all individuals performing work under the contract a wage statement containing the employee's hours worked, overtime hours, pay, and any additions or deductions made in pay.

Also, as described in the EO, employers with a contract exceeding \$1 million are prohibited from requiring employees to enter into contractor-mandated pre-dispute arbitration agreements for disputes arising out of Title VII of the Civil Rights Act or torts related to sexual assault or harassment. Labor Secretary Thomas Perez wrote in his May 27 blog post on the proposed rules and guidance, "They also ensure

that workers who may have had their civil rights violated or been sexually assaulted can have their day in court, ending pre-dispute mandatory arbitration agreements covering these claims at large federal contractors."

"The opportunity to contract with the federal government is a privilege, not an entitlement. Taxpayer dollars should not reward corporations that break the law," said U.S. Secretary of Labor Thomas E. Perez.

Companies must report any labor law violations to the Contracting Officer. The 14 federal labor laws and executive orders identified in the Executive Order 13673 are:

- the Fair Labor Standards Act;
- the Occupational Safety and Health Act of 1970;
- the Migrant and Seasonal Agricultural Worker Protection Act;
- the National Labor Relations Act;
- the Americans with Disabilities Act of 1990;
- the Family and Medical Leave Act;
- Title VII of the Civil Rights Act of 1964;
- the Age Discrimination in Employment Act of 1967;
- the Davis-Bacon Act;
- the McNamara-O'Hara Service Contract Act;
- Section 503 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973;
- Vietnam Era Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1972 and the Veterans' Readjustment Assistance Act of 1974;
- Executive Order 11246 (Equal Employment Opportunity); and
- Executive Order 13658 (Establishing a Minimum Wage for Contractors).

Good News on the Small Business Front (June 29, 2015)

Good news again on the Small Business front. The Small Business Administration recently announced the Federal Government has surpassed its Small Business Goal for 2014 marking the 2nd year in a row. The government awarded almost 24.99% of federal contracts to small businesses, the highest percentage of contracting dollars awarded to small businesses since the 23% goal was established in 1997. See the following SBA website for more information: <https://www.sba.gov/content/federal-government-achieves-small-business-procurement-contracting-goal-second-consecutive>.

DoD also eclipsed its goal of 21.35% by awarding 23.47% of its eligible contract dollars to small business. I would like to congratulate the acquisition workforce and U.S. small businesses in achieving this great accomplishment.

Read more of Manning's Blog entries at <https://dap.dau.mil/training/cl/blogs/default.aspx>.

FROM STEVE SKOTTE, DAU PROFESSOR OF SPACE ACQUISITION

Application of Better Buying Power Saves Space Program a Cool \$425 Million (June 2, 2015)

The Air Force's Space and Missile Systems Center (SMC) reduced the cost of an advanced satellite contract through the application of the Better Buying Power 3.0 initiatives when it awarded the Combined Orbital Operations Logistics Sustainment (COOLS) contract. The service contract requires the winning bidder to provide service and sustainment for three satellite constellations.

Lt. Gen. Sam Greaves, SMC commander and Air Force Program Executive Officer for Space, said, "The application of Better Buying Power principles garnered \$425 million of savings over the total contract period by combining the sustainment of the three systems into one."

The COOLS contract will provide O&S support for the Advanced Extremely High Frequency (AEHF), Milstar Block I/II, and Defense Satellite Communications System III (DSCS III) constellations. More information is available at <http://www.losangeles.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123449123>.

Read more of Skotte's Blog entries at <https://dap.dau.mil/training/cl/blogs/default.aspx>.

FROM BILL KOBREN, DAU DIRECTOR, LOGISTICS & SUSTAINMENT CENTER

New PBL Contracting Strategies Training Now Available (July 16, 2015)

DAU is pleased to announce the launch of our newest web-based life cycle logistics continuous learning module. Jointly developed by DAU life cycle logistics and the contracting subject matter experts, CLL 031, Performance Based Logistics (PBL) Contracting Strategies, addresses applicable contracting principles and practices so the learner understands how the logistician and contracting officer can best work together to ensure the effective implementation of Performance Based Logistics (PBL) strategies. Developed to directly support the Better Buying Power (BBP) 3.0 initiative to "ensure effective use of PBL," CLL 031 provides a foundation on the basic support, contracting concepts, and business practices inherent in developing and implementing effective and successful PBL arrangements. Workforce members from both functional communities, as well as others who are engaged with developing or implementing PBL product support

arrangements (PSA) are encouraged to take advantage of this newly deployed training. Learn more about CLL 031 at http://icatalog.dau.mil/onlinecatalog/courses.aspx?crs_id=2064.

New Army "Type Classification, Materiel Release, Fielding, and Transfer" Regulation (July 21, 2015)

For our colleagues in the Army life cycle logistics community, in case you have not already seen it, the Army issued a newly updated version of Army Regulation 700-142 "Type Classification, Materiel Release, Fielding, and Transfer" on June 2, 2015. The changes contained in this major revision to Army policy include:

- Adds strategic satellite communications systems (table 1-1).
- Adds the Army Enterprise System Integration Program as the system to coordinate nonstandard line item numbers (para. 2-14g).
- Adds policy on using risk management for materiel fielded by another Service or Agency (para. 4-2e).
- Revises the urgent materiel release policy to allow the Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7 to approve the missions that an urgent materiel release can support (para. 4-10).

New DoD Risk, Issue, and Opportunity Management Guide for Defense Acquisition Programs (July 23, 2015)

Risk Management is one of those foundational activities that is vitally important, ubiquitous, and spans the system acquisition process, encompassing every functional community in the process. To enhance workforce knowledge and improve implementation across the department, the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Systems Engineering recently issued a new June 2015 "Department of Defense Risk, Issue, and Opportunity Management Guide for Defense Acquisition Programs."

Let me encourage all life cycle logisticians and product support managers to take the time to read through this important new guidebook (<http://www.acq.osd.mil/se/docs/RIO-Guide-Jun2015.pdf>), and take the time to consider how best the processes and procedures outlined therein can be systematically applied to your own programs.

DAU also offers a number of learning assets that address risk management, many of which are in the process of being updated to reflect the contents of the updated guidebook. Just a few of DAU risk management learning assets include:

- CLB 024 Cost Risk Analysis Introduction
- CLM 017 Risk Management

Spotlight on DAU Learning Resources

- Risk Management Framework (RMF) for DoD Information Technology (IT) ACQuipedia Article
- Risk Assessment ACQuipedia Article

Read more of Kobren's Blog entries at <https://dap.dau.mil/training/cl/blogs/default.aspx>.