

International Acquisition (INTL) Career Path

Fact Sheet

In 2007, USD(AT&L) established the International Acquisition (INTL) Career Path to guide the development of Defense Acquisition Workforce (DAW) personnel working on international acquisition programs. International acquisition has always been recognized as a function that crosses most of the acquisition career fields. The INTL career path was initially implemented only with Program Management personnel. In 2014, USD(AT&L) authorized coding of all DAW personnel engaged in international functions *regardless of career field*.

International Acquisition is defined by the Position Category Description (PCD) at <http://icatalog.dau.mil/pcds.asp>. The PCD describes the types of positions that should be designated as International Acquisition (INTL). These positions fall into four broad categories of duties: International Cooperative Programs, Defense Sales and Transfers, Acquisition Strategy Development, and Technology Security and Foreign Disclosure.

Personnel in INTL positions are required to complete DAU training courses as reflected in the [International Acquisition Training Standards & Core Plus Development Guide](#) in the DAU iCatalog. The International Acquisition guide provides for three categories of training:

- Core Training Standards must be completed by all personnel assigned to INTL designated positions. This training is specific for the level of the position.
- Unique Position Training Standards are dependent on the type of duties that an individual is performing. The individual and their supervisor should determine whether the identified training courses are relevant to their duties and should be taken.
- Core Plus Development Guide includes additional (desired) training for continuous learning or as needed in support of International Acquisition duties. Core plus training courses are linked to specific types of duties, such as International Cooperative Programs or Defense Sales and Transfers.

Frequently Asked Questions

- **How do I know if I am in a position that has been designated as requiring international acquisition training?** *Talk with your supervisor who should be able to tell you if your position is coded INTL. If your supervisor is unsure, please contact your command's DAWIA Representative or HR Office.*
- **If my position is coded INTL, how do I know what level it's coded (i.e., Level 1/2/3)?** *Your position only has 1 acquisition-related level: the certification level required for your position category is also used to determine which level of international training requirements apply. Your supervisor or command DAWIA Representative can tell you where to find this information. As an example, if your position is coded Program Management Level 2 with INTL designation, you are required to complete level 2 requirements for the International Career Path Training Standard in addition to the program management certification standards for your position.*
- **If I am in a Level 1 acquisition position, do I only take the level 1 International Acquisition courses?** *Yes, you're only required to accomplish the Level 1 Core Training Standards (ACQ 101, ACQ 120, and ACQ 130). You may also want to take some of the Core Plus training classes to help you gain additional INTL competencies.*
- **How do I know if I should take the Position Unique Training?** *Your supervisor can tell you whether you should take either of these training classes based on your job duties and the Types of Duty in the Training Standard at iCatalog. Currently Unique Position Training Standards (UPTS) only apply at INTL levels 2 and 3.*
- **Will I receive a certificate when I finish the Core Training Standards and/or my Unique Position Training Standards?** *No, the INTL Career Path currently does not include certification. DAU will provide a certificate of completion for each course you complete.*
- **Is attendance in International Acquisition training courses limited to DAW personnel in INTL designated positions?** *Attendance in DAU international acquisition courses is open to all U.S. Government and industry personnel; however, DoD personnel in INTL positions and other acquisition positions are given higher priority during the registration process.*
- **I have completed all the Defense Institute of Security Assistance Management (DISAM) training. Why do I need to complete this DAU training, it appears redundant?** *DISAM's excellent training is focused on Security Cooperation and Security Assistance policies and procedures. DAU's training is focused on the planning and execution of International Acquisition and Exportability (IA&E) activities within the Defense Acquisition System. DAU and DISAM training each offer important insights into key aspects to their respective areas and are complementary with only minor duplication.*

- **What is the difference between the International Acquisition Career Path and DSCA's International Affairs Certification Program?** *DSCA's certification program is a voluntary program (not legislated as is DAWIA) and establishes education, training, and experience requirements with certifications at Level I, II, or III for the Security Cooperation Work Force. AT&L's career path identifies mandatory training requirements for identified DAW personnel with the goal of enhancing acquisition outcomes for the DoD and our international partners and customers.*