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Program Management Career Track

INTEGRATED ACQUISITION TRAINING

Next-Generation
Program Management Training



Program Management Certification Standards

The Program Management (PM) Core Certification Standards are listed below for each level. PM Core Plus knowledge and skills targeting functions or tasks directly related to specific types of job assignments can be found in the DAU iCatalog at <http://icatalog.dau.mil>. The Core Plus construct was designed to provide a roadmap for the development of acquisition workforce members beyond the minimum certification standards required for their position.

LEVEL I CERTIFICATION 1 YEAR ACQUISITION EXPERIENCE

ACQ 101
Fundamentals of Systems Acquisition Management

SYS 101
Fundamentals of Systems Planning,
Research, Development, and Engineering (SPRDE)

CLB 007
Cost Analysis

CLB 016
Introduction to Earned Value Management

LEVEL II CERTIFICATION 2 YEARS ACQUISITION EXPERIENCE at least one year must be in program management

ACQ 201A
Intermediate Systems Acquisition, Part A

ACQ 201B
Intermediate Systems Acquisition, Part B

CON 110
Mission Support Planning

PMT 250
Program Management Tools

SAM 101
Basic Software Acquisition Management

LEVEL III CERTIFICATION 4 YEARS ACQUISITION EXPERIENCE: at least two years in a program office or similar organization, and 1 year in a program management position with cost, schedule, and performance responsibilities

PMT 352A
Program Management Office Course, Part A

PMT 352B
Program Management Office Course, Part B

SYS 202
Intermediate Systems Planning, Research,
Development, and Engineering, Part 1

Meets statutory requirement (10 U.S.C. 1735) for PEOs/deputy PEOs and PMs/deputy PMs of Acquisition Category I, IA, and II programs

PMT 401
Program Manager's Course

PMT 402
Executive Program Manager's Course

PLAN YOUR TRAINING WITH CORE PLUS

Core Plus represents an enhanced career field certification and development framework that is best illustrated as three concentric circles.



The **inner ring**, Core Acquisition Certification, represents the broad range of competencies that are common across the Defense Acquisition Workforce.

The **middle ring**, Core Functional Certification, represents those specialized competencies that relate to an acquisition function (i.e., career field) such as contracting, program management, test and evaluation, or any one of the 12 acquisition career fields.

Finally, the **outer ring**, Core Plus, represents those acquisition or functional competencies that target tasks directly related to specific types of job assignments in a particular acquisition career field.

For each career field/path, the combination of the inner and middle rings for each level (I, II, and III) will represent the minimum career field certification standards associated with the position requirements.

Course Registration Websites and Contacts:

Army: <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/aitas/>

Navy: <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/navyedacm/Public/DODConsentForm.htm>

Air Force: <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/acqnow/>

Civilian DoD employees outside the military departments: <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/acqtas>

Civilians working for non-DoD federal agencies, e.g., DOE, IRS, FAA, etc.: <https://atrrs.army.mil/channels/nondod>

Industry Contractors working on DoD projects: <https://www.atrrs.army.mil/channels/acqtas/>

General Course Information: www.dau.mil/studentInfo/Pages/faqs.aspx

Continuous Learning Websites

Continuous Learning Policy and Procedures: www.acq.osd.mil/dpap/

Continuous Learning Center: <http://dc.dau.mil>

Defense Acquisition Portal: <https://dap.dau.mil>

Acquisition Community Connection: <https://acc.dau.mil>

Business, Cost Estimating, and Financial Management: <https://acc.dau.mil/bcefm>

For DAU course info: <http://icatalog.dau.mil>

ACQ 101

Fundamentals of Systems Acquisition Management

- Provides a DoD system acquisition process overview covering all phases of acquisition.
- Introduces the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development Systems; the planning, programming, budgeting, and execution process; DoD 5000 series policy documents; and the governing structure for systems acquisition management.
- Target Audience: Military, O1 through O3; DoD civilians, GS-5 through GS-9; and their industry counterparts; however, the course is open to all ranks and grades.
- This is a self-paced, online course
- Prerequisite: None

SYS 101

Fundamentals of Systems Planning, Research, Development, and Engineering

- Provides an introduction to systems engineering and the various technical management and technical processes involved in its application.
- Provides the essential foundations needed for professionals to effectively participate in the application and the management of DoD systems engineering processes and their activities.
- Target Audience: Systems Engineering career field and personnel in technical and program management positions who need a better understanding of systems engineering processes.
- This is a self-paced, online course
- Prerequisite: ACQ 101

CLB 007

Cost Analysis

- Continuous learning module focusing on the basic cost analysis process.
- Module helps professionals define various financial management terms as they relate to the defense acquisition process, determine when various cost estimates are required to be prepared, determine what estimating methodology is most appropriate, and what cost data is of interest to various program stakeholders.
- Target Audience: Open to all ranks and grades.
- This is a self-paced, online course
- Prerequisite: None

CLB 016

Introduction to Earned Value Management

- Continuous learning module introducing the basics of earned value management (EVM).
- Professionals will become familiar with EVM-related legislation and policies, and will also learn the five independent earned value variables and the three most common EVM metrics.
- Target Audience: Open to all ranks and grades
- This is a self-paced, online course
- Prerequisite: None

ACQ 201A

Intermediate Systems Acquisition, Part A

- Prepares mid-level acquisition professionals to work in integrated product teams and to better understand systems acquisition principles and processes.
- Professionals will use computer-based training to virtually participate in simulated integrated product teams, developing plans and resolving problems.
- Target Audience: Military, O3 and above; DoD civilians, GS-9 and above; and their industry counterparts. Students must be certified Level I (or industry equivalent) in an acquisition career field.
- This is a self-paced, online course
- Prerequisite: ACQ 101

ACQ 201B

Intermediate Systems Acquisition, Part B

- Prepares mid-level acquisition professionals to better understand systems acquisition principles and processes.
- Professionals will participate in integrated product teams that will allow them to enhance and apply their knowledge of the business, technical, and managerial aspects of acquisition
- Target Audience: Military, O3 and above; DoD civilians, GS-9 and above; and their industry counterparts. Students must be certified Level I (or industry equivalent) in an acquisition career field.
- 5-day classroom course
- Prerequisite: ACQ 201A

CON 110

Mission Support Planning

- Introduces personnel to their role as a business advisor in the acquisition process and focuses on the students' role in developing the ability to plan successful mission support strategies based on their knowledge of the contracting environment.
- Professionals will learn how to use the Federal Acquisition Regulation and Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement, conduct effective market research, develop alternative acquisition strategies, and understand how socioeconomic programs support the acquisition planning process.
- Target Audience: Open to all ranks and grades and designed for noncontracting personnel who play a role in the acquisition process.
- This is a self-paced, online course
- Prerequisite: None

PMT 250

Program Management Tools

- Designed to train professionals in skills needed in a program office and to be effective integrated product team leads.
- Professionals learn to use program management tools and concepts.
- Target Audience: Military, O3/O4; DoD civilians, GS-12/13 in the Program Management career field; and their industry counterparts.
- This is a self-paced, online course and includes group work in a virtual classroom
- Prerequisite: ACQ 201B



"No changes to the acquisition system itself can substitute for good sense, good discipline, alignment of what we buy with what our strategy requires and, above all, good people performing the acquisition function."

Ashton B. Carter
Under Secretary of Defense
for Acquisition, Technology & Logistics

SAM 101

Basic Software Acquisition Management

- Discusses introductory-level concepts in DoD information systems acquisition management; software acquisition/development risks; DoD regulatory and technical frameworks, software, and system architectures; and software development life cycle and integration processes.
- Professionals learn to understand software acquisition and information technology management-specific terms and concepts.
- Target Audience: This course is designed for acquisition professionals not in the IT career field, but in positions that include some aspect of software acquisition or information technology management
- This is a self-paced, online course
- Prerequisite: ACQ 101

PMT 352A

Program Management Office Course, Part A

- Designed to train professionals to be effective Level III program management leaders in a program office by honing analysis, synthesis, and evaluative skills.
- Professionals learn to understand information technology policies, best practices, information assurance measures, and interoperability considerations; describe current manufacturing and logistics concepts and best practices such as Lean manufacturing and supply chain management; and explain appropriate management and decision-making models to aid in addressing various acquisition program issues.
- Target Audience: Military, O4/O5; DoD civilians, GS-13/14 in the Program Management career field; and their industry counterparts.
- This is a self-paced, online course
- Prerequisite: PMT 250

PMT 352B

Program Management Office Course, Part B

- Designed to train professionals to be effective Level III program management leaders through the use of scenario-based practical exercises with topical themes such as interoperability, prototyping, and evolutionary acquisition.
- Professionals learn to lead and contribute to effective teams in a DoD program management office and apply critical-thinking and problem-solving skills to system acquisition problems throughout a defense system's life cycle.
- Target Audience: Military, O4/O5; DoD civilians, GS-13/14 in the Program Management career field; and their industry counterparts
- 4-week and 2-day classroom course
- Prerequisite: PMT 352A

SYS 202

Intermediate Systems Planning, Research, Development, and Engineering, Part I

- Provides an understanding of the DoD systems engineering (SE) processes and includes the scope and role of SE and its key technical inputs and outputs, the key aspects of technical baselines and the role of technical reviews, and important design considerations.
- Professionals will understand the scope of systems engineering and its relationship to other program management functions across the life cycle.
- Target Audience: Open to all professionals who require an understanding of how systems engineering is applied to system acquisition and sustainment
- This is a self-paced, online course
- Prerequisites: SYS 101, ACQ 201B (Access to the DAU Integrated Defense Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics Life Cycle Management System Chart available at <https://acc.dau.mil/ifc> is required.)

PMT 401

Program Manager's Course

- Designed to improve DoD acquisition outcomes by strengthening critical thinking and decision-making skills of potential leaders of major defense acquisition programs and program support.
- Participants analyze acquisition case studies addressing contemporary program challenges and apply their acquisition knowledge; receive peer/instructor mentoring/coaching.
- Target Audience: Military O5 or DoD civilians, GS-14 or above. Level III Program Management career field members, and industry counterparts, with demonstrated potential to become major program or project managers. Limited numbers of Level III professionals in other acquisition career fields may apply. Statutorily required for program executive officers (PEOs)/deputy PEOs, and program managers (PMs)/deputy PMs of ACAT I, IA and II programs.
- 10-week classroom course
- Prerequisite: PMT 352B

PMT 402

Executive Program Manager's Course

- Provides situational awareness of the DoD acquisition system environment through the use of open, interactive dialogue with senior DoD, congressional, Government Accountability Office, and industry leaders; tailored sessions on contemporary topics/processes; and student-directed activities based on individual learning needs.
- Professionals will gain complete comprehensive assessments of their program, program office, and individual learning needs; and will develop a plan of action to better manage their program, program office, and professional development.
- Target Audience: This course is statutorily required for PEOs/deputy PEOs and PMs/deputy PMs of ACAT I, IA, and II programs prior to assuming respective positions. Industry professionals may attend on a space-available basis.
- Online workshop followed by a 20-day classroom course
- Prerequisite: PMT 401