

Spotlight on DAU Learning Resources

CORE CERTIFICATION STANDARDS HIGHLIGHTED IN DAU 2008 CATALOG

The under secretary of defense for acquisition, technology and logistics has approved the Core Certification Standards contained in an appendix to the Defense Acquisition University 2008 Catalog <<http://www.dau.mil/catalog/default.aspx>>. The standards were published under the authority of DoD Directive 5000.52, "Defense Acquisition Education, Training, and Career Development Program." DoD components are responsible for ensuring that workforce personnel are trained and qualified for their current assignment, prepared for more responsible jobs, and cross-trained for assignments in other acquisition career fields. The authorized acquisition career fields/paths are:

- Auditing
- Business, Cost Estimating, and Financial Management
- Contracting
- Facilities Engineering
- Industrial/Contract Property Management
- Information Technology
- Life Cycle Logistics
- Production, Quality, and Manufacturing
- Program Management
- Purchasing
- Systems Planning, Research, Development, and Engineering—Program Systems Engineer
- Systems Planning, Research, Development, and Engineering—Science and Technology Manager
- Systems Planning, Research, Development, and Engineering—Systems Engineering
- Test & Evaluation.

Core Plus

The Core Plus construct was designed to advance the DoD AT&L competency management model by providing a "roadmap" for the development of acquisition workforce members beyond the minimum certification standards required for their position. Accordingly, the Core Certification Standards and Core Plus Development Guide provided in the 2008 catalog provide acquisition workforce members a listing of:

- Core Certification standards by acquisition career field and level
- Core Plus knowledge and skills that are delivered through coursework that targets functions or tasks directly related to specific types of job assignments.

Core Plus Attributes

Core Plus helps identify the right learning for the right people at the right time during their professional devel-

opment. It does this by connecting workforce members not only to their career field and level but also to their particular job assignment needs. Core Plus also identifies targeted training that relates to specific tasks in a given assignment type. As Core Plus matures, learners can expect:

- "Scrap learning," i.e., wasted or irrelevant course content, to be minimized
- Repetitive course content to be minimized
- development of more well-rounded acquisition core coursework
- Shorter functional courses required for certification
- An increase in modular course content
- An increase in courses targeted to workforce job assignments
- More flexibility, focus, and guidance in the construction of Individual Development Plans (IDPs).

Navigating the Guides

Similar to the former career field certification standards, there is a Core Certification and Core Plus Development Guide for each career field at each level—Level I (Entry), Level II (Intermediate), and Level III (Advanced). Each guide, as displayed in the sample on page 97 of the *DAU 2008 Catalog*, is also broken down into four or five major sections:

- Types of Assignments
- Core Certification Standards
- Unique Position Training Standards (if applicable)
- Core Plus Development Guide
- Footnotes.

Learn more about Core Plus at <www.dau.mil/workforce/index_sub1_CorePlus.asp?eventid=1583> or view the Core Plus Q&A video at <<http://view.dau.mil/dauvideo/view/eventListing.jhtml?eventid=1583>>.

DAU AND NDIA TO SPONSOR DEFENSE SYSTEMS ACQUISITION MANAGEMENT COURSE OFFERINGS FOR INDUSTRY MANAGERS

DAU and the National Defense Industrial Association will sponsor offerings of the Defense Systems Acquisition Management (DSAM) course for interested industry managers at the following locations during fiscal 2008:

- March 10-14, 2008, Pointe Hilton Squaw Peak Resort, Phoenix, Ariz.
- June 9-12, 2008, Hyatt Regency Denver—Colorado Convention Center, Denver, Colo.
- Sept. 8-12, 2008, Loews Annapolis Hotel, Annapolis, Md.

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DSAM presents the same acquisition policy information provided to DoD students who attend Defense Acquisition University courses for acquisition certification training. It is designed to meet the needs of defense industry acquisition 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 and instruction) and the CJCS 3170 series (instruction and manual)
- Defense transformation initiatives related to systems acquisition
- Defense acquisition procedures and processes
- The planning, programming, budgeting, and execution process and the congressional budget process
- The relationship between the determination of military capability needs, resource allocation, science and technology activities, and acquisition programs.

For further information see "Courses Offered" under "Meetings and Events" at <<http://www.ndia.org>>. Indus-

try students contact Phyllis Edmonson at 703-247-2577 or e-mail pedmonson@ndia.org. A limited number of experienced government students may be selected to attend each offering. Government students must first contact Bruce Moler at 703-805-5257, or e-mail bruce.moler@dau.mil prior to registering with NDIA.

INTEGRATED DEFENSE AT&L LIFE CYCLE MANAGEMENT FRAMEWORK CHART

The Defense AT&L Life Cycle Management Framework Chart Version 5.2 will be revised in early 2008 to reflect changes in the acquisition process that are now being finalized. DAU will reprint the new framework chart as soon as it receives the approved version. The university currently anticipates availability of the new chart for general distribution around April 1, 2008. Because DAU has a very limited quantity of the existing 5.2 version, distribution is currently limited to students attending DAU courses. The 5.2 online version, however, remains available for viewing and printing at <<https://akss.dau.mil/ifc/>>.

Defense Acquisition University Strategic Partnerships

Through the years, the Defense Acquisition University has established strategic partnerships with universities and colleges, defense-sector corporations, professional associations, other government agencies, and international organizations. Such partnerships with academic institutions allow DoD AT&L workforce members to transfer DAU course work toward college and university degrees and certificates. Partnerships with industry, professional societies, government agencies, and international organizations focus on sharing training materials, tools, modules, and training opportunities. A complete database of DAU Strategic Partnerships can be found at <<http://www.dau.mil/about-dau/partnerships.aspx>>. In November and December 2008, two more partnerships were added to the database:

Davenport University, of Caledonia Township, Mich., has been selected by DAU as a partner university to provide mandatory, assignment-specific, continuing education courses in the acquisition, technology, and logistics military and civilian workforce. DAU Midwest Region Acting Dean Carl Hayden; Davenport University President Randolph K. Flechsig; Provost Tom Brown, Ph.D.; and Dean of the School of Technology and Davenport University Online Reid Gough, took part in a signing ceremony on Nov. 20, 2007. The articulation agreement, which outlines

the terms under which Davenport University and DAU will work together, was signed at the Gerald R. Ford Presidential Museum. The agreement will ultimately facilitate the transfer of DAU course credits that have been certified by the American Council on Education toward Davenport University degree programs in the field of Business and Technology. More information is available at <www.Davenport.edu>.

Directorate of Contracting, Aeronautical Systems Center and the Defense Acquisition University Midwest Region, signed a Learning Organization Agreement on Dec. 20, 2007, validating their mutual long-term commitment to the discipline and education of contract pricing in defense acquisition. Under this learning organization agreement, the organizations will share tools and educational resources to make improvements in the contract pricing discipline for the acquisition, technology, and logistics workforce. ASC Director of Contracting Air Force Col. Jeffrey E. Schmidt and Acting Midwest Region Dean Carl D. Hayden signed the agreement at the DAU Midwest Campus in Kettering, Ohio. Also in attendance were Chief of ASC Pricing Bill Chandler, Chief of Analysis and Negotiation Branch B Janice Muskopf, and DAU Midwest faculty and staff members.