



DEFENSE ACQUISITION UNIVERSITY EMPLOYEE SELF-ASSESSMENT

ACQ 101 - Fundamentals of Systems Acquisition Management

Note:

- Provide a justification(s) package referencing the numbered outcomes as appropriate on separate paper.
- Only the numbered outcomes (bold font) need to be addressed.
- The enablers (indented if specified) are provided to ensure the outcome is sufficiently addressed.
- The **Achieved** column is for use by the initial (functional) evaluator.
- Attach this guide with the justification to the DD form 2518 for a complete package.

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Outcomes and Enablers		Achieved?	
		Yes	No
1	Recognize the key drivers of the Department of Defense's Acquisition Management System.		
	Define Systems Acquisition Management.		
	Recognize how risk (cost/schedule/performance) is at the core of acquisition management.		
	Name the principle regulations governing defense acquisition and procurement.		
	Recognize the requirement for effective safety and health programs for every defense acquisition program and top-level legislation that applies to our environmental concern.		
	Identify the three major DoD decision-making support systems in defense acquisition programs.		
2	Identify the major institutions, key players, and acquisitions categories (ACATS) in the defense acquisition process.		
	Identify the major institutions involved in the defense acquisition process.		
	Recognize the key players within DoD who have an impact on the acquisition workforce and programs.		
	Define Acquisition Categories (ACATs) in defense acquisition programs.		
	Identify the difference types of ACATs used for Weapon Systems and Automated Information Systems.		
3	Recognize that the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development System (JCIDS) is the key driver of new defense acquisition program requirements.		
	Recognize the user's (warfighter's) role and tools in identifying deficiencies through the JCIDS process.		
	Recognize the key players and documents governing the JCIDS process.		
	Recall the importance of the Capability Requirements and Capabilities-Based Assessment (CBA) Process.		
	Identify the preferred order of non-materiel and materiel solutions contained in the JCIDS		
	Name the documents, developed by the user, that refine initial systems capabilities and specify performance parameters.		
4	Recognize the need for a phased-acquisition approach and a tailored acquisition strategy.		
	Recognize the interface between the Defense Acquisition System and the Joint Capabilities Integration and Development (JCIDS) System.		
	Recognize the key considerations of the Materiel Solutions Analysis phase of the Defense Acquisition System.		
	Define the term Acquisition Strategy (AS).		
	Recognize the key considerations of the Technology Maturation and Risk Reduction phase of the Defense Acquisition System.		
	Define the term Acquisition Program Baseline (APB).		
	Recognize the key considerations of the Engineering and Manufacturing Development phase of the Defense Acquisition System.		
	Recognize the key considerations of the Production and Deployment phase of the Defense Acquisition System.		
	Recognize why net-ready interoperability must be considered with all affected U.S. and Allied systems.		
5	Recognize the nature of team interaction, its principle phases, and how teams arrive at better solutions.		
	Recognize the role of Integrated Product Teams (IPTs) in team building.		
	Recognize the five stages of team development.		
	Recognize key concepts of building a collaborative and effective team.		
	Recognize the principle considerations of team decision making.		
6	Recognize the inherent power of a well-designed Work Breakdown Structure (WBS) and its application throughout the Defense Acquisition Process.		
	Define Work Breakdown Structure (WBS).		
	Recognize how Contractors and DoD Components use WBS.		
	Recall the types of WBS and compare their differences.		



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	Identify who is responsible for development and maintenance of the types of WBS.		
	Recognize WBS's applicability throughout the acquisition life cycle.		
7	Recognize the importance of cost-estimating techniques, defense budget appropriations, and the budget allocation process in defense acquisition management.		
	Define the terms: Budget Authority, Commitment, Obligation, Expenditure, Outlay		
	Recognize the scope of Life-Cycle Costs (LCCs).		
	Recall the basic cost-estimating techniques and their utility to the acquisition life cycle.		
	Recall the major appropriations categories and their relationship with defense acquisition management.		
	Indicate the relationship between the funding policy and the specific appropriation category.		
	Identify the DoD's Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution (PPBE) process.		
	Identify the enactment process for DoD budgets.		
	Identify the apportionment process for allocating the Budget Authority.		
	Recall the major provisions and intent of the Misappropriation Act, the Anti-Deficiency Act, and the Bona Fide Need Rule.		
	Identify the execution process for DoD budgets		
	Identify the need for reprogramming authority.		
	Identify the key concepts of Below Threshold Reprogramming.		
8	Recognize the significance of the contracting process (Planning for Solicitation; Solicitation, Evaluation, and Award; and Post Award) to acquire goods and services in DoD Acquisitions.		
	Recall why DoD uses contracts to acquire needed supplies and services		
	Recognize the legal nature of contracts and the regulations that govern the contracting and procurement processes.		
	Identify the agencies and contract personnel responsible for performing contracting functions.		
	Identify the pre-solicitation phase of contracting (e.g. determination of capability need, requirement package, and method of contracting.)		
	Identify the soliciting, evaluation, and award phase of contracting (e.g., solicitation of sources, response and evaluation, and contract award.)		
	Identify the post-award phase of contracting (e.g., contract administration and deliver contract and closeout.)		
9	Describe the value and benefits of Earned Value Management (EVM) in the defense acquisition process.		
	Recognize how EVM fits into the defense acquisition process.		
	Recognize the concept of EVM.		
	Recognize the management processes associated with EVM.		
	Identify the DoD offices and agencies responsible for EVM.		
	Recognize required EVM implementation activities.		
	Recognize the value and benefits of EVM in the defense acquisition process.		
	Recall the use of EVM as an integrated program management tool.		
	Recall the purpose of the Contractor Funds Status Report.		
	Recall the differences between the integrated Program Management Report (IPMR) and the Contractor Funds Status Report (CFSR).		
	Recall the utility of the Integrated Baseline Review (IBR).		
	Define the five EVM Independent Variables.		
	Recall the utility of the Integrated Baseline Review (IBR).		
	Recognize the various calculations associated with contractor performance variances.		
	Define the difference between the Government calculated Estimate At Completion (EAC) and Contractor's EAC.		
	Recall the importance of the various performance indices used in the calculation of various EACs.		
10	Recognize that the Systems Engineering Process is used to translate requirements into an integrated, system design solution.		



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	Recall the most common supporting disciplines in the SE Process.		
	Recognize the roles and responsibilities of the Government and the contractor in a typical SE Process.		
	Identify the SE activities that are integrated throughout the life cycle.		
	Recall the development of a Systems Engineering Plan (SEP).		
	Identify the eight technical processes in Systems Engineering.		
	Identify the eight technical management processes in Systems Engineering.		
	Recognize the role of standards and specifications in the SE Processes.		
	Identify the visual model used to depict the SE Processes.		
11	Identify how the state of U.S. Technology and the planned evolution of science and technology impacts defense acquisitions.		
	Recall the U.S. technology posture in relation to defense acquisition.		
	Identify the role of basic research, applied research, and advanced development budgeting activities in the Science and Technology (S&T) process.		
	Recognize the considerations when transitioning technology into defense acquisition		
	Recognize how technologies are introduced into the acquisition life cycle		
	Recall the benefits and drawbacks of Advanced Technology Demonstrations (ATDs) and Joint Capabilities Technology Demonstrations (JCTDs).		
12	Recognize the fundamentals of Test and Evaluation (T&E) in support of the acquisition process.		
	Recognize the fundamentals of T&E.		
	Identify the different types of T&E.		
	Identify the T&E planning process including the development of the Test and Evaluation Master Plan (TEMP).		
	Identify how T&E is integrated throughout the acquisition life cycle.		
13	Recognize the role of acquisition logistics in system readiness.		
	Identify life cycle logistics' relationship to the system's life cycle.		
	Recognize the importance of designing for sustainment		
	Recognize the importance of addressing life cycle costs early in the acquisition life cycle.		
	Recognize the 12-step DoD Product Support Strategy Process Model and the DoD Product Support Business Model (PSBM) that facilitate the development of successful PBL support strategies.		
	Identify the supportability design consideration of life cycle logistics (e.g. reliability, availability, and maintainability [RAM])		
	Recognize the link between supportability and the product support analysis		
	Recognize how Systems Engineering is applied to life cycle sustainment		
	Identify the importance of life cycle sustainment throughout the acquisition life cycle		
	Recognize the importance of the 12 Integrated Product Support (IPS) Elements in supportability planning.		
14	Recognize the importance of the Performance Based Logistics (PBL) to achieving system readiness requirements and reducing life-cycle costs.		
	Recognize the differences between outcome-based performance support and transactional support.		
	Recognize the importance of metrics as it relates to achieving system readiness and life-cycle cost goals.		
	Recognize the importance of PBL contracting strategies.		
	Recognize the importance of financial and other incentives as it relates to innovative cost reduction initiatives.		
15	Recognize the integral nature of systems software in modern defense systems, the complexity of software development as part of the Systems Engineering (SE) Process, and best practices for successful software development.		
	Recognize the major components of a computer and its programming language interfaces.		
	Identify a software-intensive system including the rapid growth of this system.		



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	Recognize the provisions of Clinger-Cohen Act (CCA), DoDD 5000.01, and DoDI 5000.02 that are applicable to software acquisition.		
	Recognize the role of interoperability and architecture in software acquisition		
	Identify the software development paradigms used in software development.		
	Identify the key activities of the software development process.		
	Recognize the categories of software measures.		
	Recognize the fiscal impact of Post-Deployment Software Support (PDSS).		
16	Recognize the major producibility goals of the design effort and the DoD quality process which translates a released design to a producible product.		
	Identify the magnitude of the fiscal commitment to a program in production and beyond.		
	Recognize issues associated with Production, Quality, and Manufacturing.		
	Recognize Production, Quality, and Manufacturing as an integrated part of the Systems Engineering Process.		
	Identify the five basic elements (5 Ms) as they relate to designing a production program.		
	Recall five top-level design goals for a producible product.		
	Identify contractor's flexibility in selecting quality products.		
17	Identify the Facilities Engineering process and how it relates to the DoD Acquisition Process.		
	Define the term "Facilities Engineering".		
	Identify how Facilities Engineering relates to the DOD Acquisition process.		
	Identify career field functions within Facilities Engineering.		
	Recall specific Facilities Engineering considerations (e.g., funding, equipment installation, public-private ventures, commercial activities, base realignment and closure, and civil works projects.)		
	Identify the primary phases in the life cycle of a facility.		
	Recall the role of Special Considerations in the life cycle of a facility (e.g., regional planning utilities anti-terrorism and force protection, environmental laws, safety and occupational health laws, natural and cultural resources, and housing.)		
	Define Contingency Facilities Engineering.		
18	Recognize how the scope and diversity of the current industry landscape influences companies' methods of competing for defense contracts.		
	Identify the differences in business/market strategies, priorities, and processes between DoD large (first tier), medium (second tier), and small business.		
	Identify the differences in business operations and strategies between companies focused on weapons systems, commercial products, and Information Technology (IT).		
	Recognize the impact to DoD regarding the differences between public and private companies.		
	Recognize the "macro" issues that drive DoD industry strategy today.		
	Recall how industry can be vulnerable to trends within the landscape, such as economic downturns, technology breakthroughs, workforce skill availability, energy issues, raw materials, and supplies.		
19	Recognize intelligence organizations, responsibilities, key terms, acronyms and references used to support an acquisition program.		
	Identify intelligence organizations, responsibilities, key terms, acronyms and references used to support to an acquisition program.		
	Identify organizations, responsibilities, key terms, acronyms and references regarding program protection, cybersecurity and counterintelligence as used to support an acquisition program.		