

Army Medical Department Acquisition

1. Description of Army Medical Department Acquisition

a. AMEDD Acquisition officers are responsible for researching, developing, testing, procuring, equipping and sustaining the AMEDD in order to enable readiness and conserve the fighting strength while caring for our Soldiers and Families. The function of medical acquisition involves incorporating technical solutions to respond to the rapidly changing environment and ensuring our AMEDD has the highest quality products and capabilities – ensuring Army Medicine is the Nation’s premier expeditionary and globally integrated medical force. Medical Acquisition officers are capable of leading teams and organizations to convert concepts, capability gaps and requirements into materiel solutions and to address the associated Doctrine, Organization, Training, Materiel, Leadership and Education, Personnel, Facilities and Policy (DOTMLPF-P) implications.

b. The Medical Acquisition 8X SI is available to all AMEDD officers who are in ‘8x’ positions. Officers possessing the 8X SI are educated and experienced in functions to research, develop, acquire, field, test and evaluate, and sustain materiel by conducting R&D and/or leveraging organic or commercial technologies, and capabilities to meet the Army’s current and future mission requirements. Additionally, they are educated and experienced in conducting/managing research, develop, test and evaluation (RDT&E) or fielding and sustainment of medical capabilities or materiel. RDT&E is done by leveraging organic DoD laboratories, academic partners &/or commercial partners to provide the Warfighter operational capabilities to meet current and future mission requirements.

2. Acquisition training and certification

a. Acquisition officers can receive training, experience and certification in five of the DoD Acquisition Career Fields (ACF S): Program Management (ACF A); Contracting (ACF C); Science and Technology Management (ACF I); Information Technology (ACF R); and, Testing & Evaluation (ACF T).

b. Certification – the foundation of medical acquisition officer professional development is the experience, education and training required to obtain Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) certification for one or more ACF. Officers assigned to 8X positions are required to obtain a professional certification in accordance with statute and DoD directives/ instructions. Certification levels are assigned to each acquisition position and for military assigned as follows: CPT (minimum of Level I); MAJ (minimum of Level II); LTC/COL (Level III). The different levels of certification build upon acquisition skills/ competencies gained at each level which include education, training (institutional) and experience against established criteria. Information on current certification requirements can be located in the Defense Acquisition University (DAU) catalog at <http://icatalog.dau.mil/onlinecatalog/CareerLvl.aspx>.

c. Identification and Career Management – officers are identified as possessing the 8X SI upon initial assignment to an 8X coded position. For positions at the grade of MAJ/O-4 or below, officers have 24 months to obtain the required DAWIA certifications for that particular role. All positions coded at the grade of LTC/O-5 and above are Critical Acquisition Positions (CAP). In order to fill a CAP position, an officer is required to have level II DAWIA certification and be an Acquisition Corps member. Permanent award of the 8X SI is approved by HRC in consultation with the Medical Acquisition Consultant to The Surgeon General. Annotation of the 8X on an officer’s ORB helps to further refine the assignment process by designation of qualifications and specialty skills that can be matched with the needs of the Army. In order to retain the 8X SI as a field grade officer, the individual must earn 80 Continuous Learning Points (CLP) every two years from the date of entry into the acquisition workforce.

d. Professional/self-development requirements. The tool used to track and maintain self-development requirements is an Individual Development Plan (IDP). An IDP is a five-year living document between the officer and his/her rater that outlines specific objectives and training that an officer will accomplish during the course of their current assignment. Officers at all ranks are required to complete 80 Continuous Learning Points (CLPs) every two years in order to maintain their proficiency and professional development.

3. Acquisition Corps Membership

a. Acquisition Corps Membership: AMEDD Acquisition officers have the unique opportunity to apply for Acquisition Corps Membership while simultaneously retaining their AMEDD Corps status. Acquisition Corps Membership enables AMEDD officers to compete for Critical Acquisition Positions (CAPs) including selection to an acquisition Central Selection List-Key Billet (CSL-KB): Contingency Contracting Battalion Commander, DCMA Director, Product/Project Manager or Test Center Director.

b. Army Acquisition Corps membership shall be made in accordance with criteria and procedures established by the U.S. Army Director of Acquisition Career Management (DACM), ASAALT. Details regarding Army Acquisition Corps membership may be found in the Army Supplement at http://asc.army.mil/docs/pubs/Army_Supplement_DOD_Desk_Guide_ALT.pdf