



DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE  
OFFICE OF THE CHIEF OF STAFF  
WASHINGTON, DC



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MEMORANDUM FOR ALMAJCOM/FOA/DRU/CV  
DISTRIBUTION C

FROM: HQ USAF/CV  
1670 Air Force Pentagon  
Washington, DC 20330-1670

SUBJECT: Acquisition Position Revalidation

For the past several years, Congress has been concerned with the quality and the size of the DoD acquisition workforce. In 1990, Congress enacted the Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA). The Act intended to provide necessary education, training and experience requirements for individuals involved in the Defense acquisition mission. The Defense Authorization Act of 1996 required a 15,000 personnel reduction in the acquisition workforce in FY96. The Act also required a plan detailing how the DoD would reduce the workforce 25% over five years beginning 1 Oct 95. Rather than making wholesale cuts to meet our share of the reduction, we need to preserve the quality acquisition workforce we have worked so hard to build and take action to methodically identify, revalidate, and protect those positions vital to accomplishing the Air Force's acquisition mission.

It has been six years since DAWIA was implemented which called for the identification and coding of acquisition positions throughout DoD. Initial Air Force DAWIA position coding instructions were published without the benefit of fully developed OSD guidance. Today, the instructions and guidance have matured allowing us the opportunity to take a fresh look at our acquisition workforce by conducting a comprehensive revalidation effort for all positions coded as acquisition. To this end, you are empowered to revalidate and designate your positions as acquisition. The executive summary (Atch 1) captures the salient points of the revalidation effort. The detailed instructions (Atch 2) are provided to guide your staff in conducting this important revalidation.

As an element of this revalidation, we intend to tie all coded positions to the FYDP using Program Element Codes (PEC) to help the Air Force better manage these positions. This will provide the acquisition community the ability to track, monitor, and report to Congress the results of any manpower/cost savings resulting from acquisition reform initiatives. The personnel assigned to these revalidated positions tied to PECs will continue to be afforded the DAWIA based education, training, and career management opportunities. However, unlike before, mandated acquisition workforce reductions will now be linked to the acquisition positions identified in the FYDP.

We ask your help in conducting this revalidation effort by 1 December 1997. We consider this effort vital to help explain our posture to the Congress, and to develop a flexible, responsive, and innovative workforce for the future.



RALPH E. EBERHART  
General, USAF  
Vice Chief of Staff

Attachments:

1. Executive Summary
2. Revalidation Instructions