

## CREDIT FOR EXPERIENCE IN CERTAIN POSITIONS

Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, § 1209(i), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1667, as amended by Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, § 704(b)(3)(D), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 119, provided that: "For purposes of meeting any requirement under chapter 87 of title 10, United States Code (as added by section 1202), for a period of experience (such as requirements for experience in acquisition positions or in critical acquisition positions) and for purposes of coverage under the exceptions established by section 1724(c)(1) and section 1732(c)(1) of such title, any period of time spent serving in a position later designated as an acquisition position or a critical acquisition position under such chapter may be counted as experience in such a position for such purposes."

**[§ 1725. Repealed. Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title VIII, § 832(a), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1550; amended Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title X, § 1084(f)(1), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2064]**

Section, added Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, § 1202(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1643, related to Office of Personnel Management approval.

## EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title X, § 1084(f), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2064, provided that the amendment made by section 1084(f) (amending section 832(a) of Pub. L. 108-136, which repealed this section, and sections 1742 and 2611 of this title) is effective as of Nov. 24, 2003, and as if included in Pub. L. 108-136 as enacted.

## SUBCHAPTER III—ACQUISITION CORPS

## Sec.

1731.	Acquisition Corps: in general.
1732.	Selection criteria and procedures.
1733.	Critical acquisition positions.
1734.	Career development.
1735.	Education, training, and experience requirements for critical acquisition positions.
[1736.	Repealed.]
1737.	Definitions and general provisions.

## AMENDMENTS

2001—Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title X, § 1048(e)(6)(B), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1227, struck out item 1736 "Applicability".

**§ 1731. Acquisition Corps: in general**

(a) ACQUISITION CORPS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that an Acquisition Corps is established for the Department of Defense.

(b) PROMOTION RATE FOR OFFICERS IN ACQUISITION CORPS.—The Secretary of Defense shall ensure that the qualifications of commissioned officers selected for the Acquisition Corps are such that those officers are expected, as a group, to be promoted at a rate not less than the rate for all line (or the equivalent) officers of the same armed force (both in the zone and below the zone) in the same grade.

(Added Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, § 1202(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1644; amended Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title VIII, §§ 832(b)(1), 833(1), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1550.)

## AMENDMENTS

2003—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-136, § 833(1)(A), struck out "each of the military departments and one or more Corps, as he considers appropriate, for the other components of" after "established for" in first sentence, and struck out last sentence which read "A separate Acquisition Corps may be established for each of the Navy and the Marine Corps."

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 108-136, § 833(1)(B), substituted "the Acquisition Corps" for "an Acquisition Corps".

Subsec. (c). Pub. L. 108-136, § 832(b)(1), struck out heading and text of subsec. (c). Text read as follows: "The Secretary of Defense shall submit any requirement with respect to civilian employees established under section 1732 of this title to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management for approval. If the Director does not disapprove the requirement within 30 days after the date on which the Director receives the requirement, the requirement is deemed to be approved by the Director."

## PROMOTION RATE FOR OFFICERS IN AN ACQUISITION CORPS

Pub. L. 105-85, div. A, title VIII, § 849, Nov. 18, 1997, 111 Stat. 1846, as amended by Pub. L. 106-65, div. A, title IX, § 911(a)(1), title X, § 1067(4), Oct. 5, 1999, 113 Stat. 717, 774, directed the Secretary of a military department, upon approval, to submit to the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics a copy for review of the report of a selection board which had considered members of an Acquisition Corps of a military department for promotion to a grade above O-4, directed such Under Secretary to submit to committees of Congress a report containing the Under Secretary's assessment of the extent to which each military department was complying with the requirement set forth in section 1731(b) of this title, and provided that this section would cease to be effective on Oct. 1, 2000.

**§ 1732. Selection criteria and procedures**

(a) SELECTION CRITERIA AND PROCEDURES.—Selection for membership in the Acquisition Corps shall be made in accordance with criteria and procedures established by the Secretary of Defense.

(b) ELIGIBILITY CRITERIA.—Except as provided in subsections (c) and (d), only persons who meet all of the following requirements may be considered for service in the Corps:

(1) The person must meet the educational requirements prescribed by the Secretary of Defense. Such requirements, at a minimum, shall include both of the following:

(A) A requirement that the person—

(i) has received a baccalaureate degree at an accredited educational institution authorized to grant baccalaureate degrees, or

(ii) possess significant potential for advancement to levels of greater responsibility and authority, based on demonstrated analytical and decisionmaking capabilities, job performance, and qualifying experience.

(B) A requirement that the person has completed—

(i) at least 24 semester credit hours (or the equivalent) of study from an accredited institution of higher education from among the following disciplines: accounting, business finance, law, contracts, purchasing, economics, industrial management, marketing, quantitative methods, and organization and management; or

(ii) at least 24 semester credit hours (or the equivalent) from an accredited institution of higher education in the person's career field and 12 semester credit hours (or the equivalent) from such an institution from among the disciplines listed in clause (i) or equivalent training as prescribed by the Secretary to ensure proficiency in the disciplines listed in clause (i).

(2) The person must meet experience requirements prescribed by the Secretary of Defense. Such requirements shall, at a minimum, include a requirement for at least four years of experience in an acquisition position in the Department of Defense or in a comparable position in industry or government.

(3) The person must meet such other requirements as the Secretary of Defense or the Secretary of the military department concerned prescribes by regulation.

(c) EXCEPTIONS.—(1) The requirements of subsections (b)(1)(A) and (b)(1)(B) shall not apply to any employee who, on October 1, 1991, has at least 10 years of experience in acquisition positions or in comparable positions in other government agencies or the private sector.

(2) The requirements of subsections (b)(1)(A) and (b)(1)(B) shall not apply to any employee who is serving in an acquisition position on October 1, 1991, and who does not have 10 years of experience as described in paragraph (1) if the employee passes an examination considered by the Secretary of Defense to demonstrate skills, knowledge, or abilities comparable to that of an individual who has completed at least 24 semester credit hours (or the equivalent) of study from an accredited institution of higher education from among the following disciplines: accounting, business, finance, law, contracts, purchasing, economics, industrial management, marketing, quantitative methods, and organizational management.

(d) WAIVER.—(1) Except as provided in paragraph (2), the Secretary of Defense may waive any or all of the requirements of subsection (b) with respect to an employee if the Secretary determines that the employee possesses significant potential for advancement to levels of greater responsibility and authority, based on demonstrated analytical and decisionmaking capabilities, job performance, and qualifying experience. With respect to each waiver granted under this subsection, the Secretary shall set forth in a written document the rationale for the decision of the Secretary to waive such requirements.

(2) The Secretary may not waive the requirements of subsection (b)(1)(A)(ii).

(e) MOBILITY STATEMENTS.—(1) The Secretary of Defense is authorized to require civilians in the Acquisition Corps to sign mobility statements.

(2) The Secretary of Defense shall identify which categories of civilians in the Acquisition Corps, as a condition of serving in the Corps, shall be required to sign mobility statements. The Secretary shall make available published information on such identification of categories.

(Added Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, §1202(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1644; amended Pub. L. 102-484, div. A, title VIII, §812(e)(1), Oct. 23, 1992, 106 Stat. 2451; Pub. L. 103-89, §3(b)(3)(B), Sept. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 982; Pub. L. 105-261, div. A, title VIII, §811, Oct. 17, 1998, 112 Stat. 2086; Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title VIII, §824(b), title X, §1048(e)(4), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1185, 1227; Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title VIII, §§831(b)(2), (3), 832(b)(2), 833(2), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1549, 1550; Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title VIII, §812(a)(1), title

X, §1084(d)(14), (h)(2), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2013, 2062, 2064; Pub. L. 109-163, div. A, title X, §1056(c)(3), Jan. 6, 2006, 119 Stat. 3439.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2006—Subsec. (c)(1), (2). Pub. L. 109-163, §1056(c)(3)(A)(i), substituted “(b)(1)(A) and (b)(1)(B)” for “(b)(2)(A) and (b)(2)(B)”.

Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 109-163, §1056(c)(3)(A)(ii), struck out par. (3) which read as follows: “Paragraph (1) of subsection (b) shall not apply to an employee who—

“(A) having previously served in a position within a grade referred to in subparagraph (A) of that paragraph, is currently serving in the same position within a grade below GS-13 of the General Schedule, or in another position within that grade, by reason of a reduction in force or the closure or realignment of a military installation, or for any other reason other than by reason of an adverse personnel action for cause; and

“(B) except as provided in paragraphs (1) and (2), satisfies the educational, experience, and other requirements prescribed under paragraphs (2), (3), and (4) of that subsection.”

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 109-163, §1056(c)(3)(B), substituted “(b)(1)(A)(ii)” for “(b)(2)(A)(ii)”.

2004—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-375, §1084(h)(2), amended directory language of Pub. L. 107-107, §1048(e)(4). See 2001 Amendment note below.

Subsec. (b). Pub. L. 108-375, §812(a)(1), redesignated pars. (2) to (4) as pars. (1) to (3), respectively, and struck out former par. (1) which read as follows:

“(1)(A) In the case of an employee, the person must be currently serving in a position within grade GS-13 or above of the General Schedule.

“(B) In the case of a member of the armed forces, the person must be currently serving in the grade of major or, in the case of the Navy, lieutenant commander, or a higher grade.

“(C) In the case of an applicant for employment, the person must have experience in government or industry equivalent to the experience of a person in a position described in subparagraph (A) or (B).”

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 108-375, §1084(d)(14), substituted “the decision of the Secretary” for “its decision” before “to waive such requirements.”

2003—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-136, §833(2), substituted “the Acquisition Corps” for “an Acquisition Corps”.

Subsec. (b)(1)(C). Pub. L. 108-136, §831(b)(2)(A), struck out “, as validated by the appropriate career program management board” after “subparagraph (A) or (B)”.

Subsec. (b)(2)(A)(ii). Pub. L. 108-136, §831(b)(2)(B), substituted “possess” for “has been certified by the acquisition career program board of the employing military department as possessing”.

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 108-136, §832(b)(2), struck out at end “The Secretary of Defense shall submit examinations to be given to civilian employees under this paragraph to the Director of the Office of Personnel Management for approval. If the Director does not disapprove an examination within 30 days after the date on which the Director receives the examination, the examination is deemed to be approved by the Director.”

Subsec. (d)(1). Pub. L. 108-136, §831(b)(3)(A), substituted “the Secretary of Defense may waive any or all of the requirements of subsection (b) with respect to an employee if the Secretary determines” for “the acquisition career program board of a military department may waive any or all of the requirements of subsection (b) with respect to an employee of that military department if the board certifies” in first sentence, substituted “the Secretary” for “the board” in second sentence, and struck out third sentence which read “The document shall be submitted to and retained by the Director of Acquisition Education, Training, and Career Development.”

Subsec. (d)(2). Pub. L. 108-136, §831(b)(3)(B), substituted “The Secretary” for “The acquisition career program board of a military department”.

Subsec. (e). Pub. L. 108-136, §833(2), substituted “the Acquisition Corps” for “an Acquisition Corps” in pars. (1) and (2).

2001—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 107-107, §1048(e)(4), as amended by Pub. L. 108-375, §1084(h)(2), struck out at end “Such criteria and procedures shall be in effect on and after October 1, 1993.”

Subsec. (c)(2). Pub. L. 107-107, §824(b), inserted a comma after “business”.

1998—Subsec. (c)(3). Pub. L. 105-261 added par. (3).

1993—Subsec. (b)(1)(A). Pub. L. 103-89 substituted “Schedule” for “Schedule (including any employee covered by chapter 54 of title 5)”.

1992—Subsec. (b)(2)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 102-484 inserted before period at end “or equivalent training as prescribed by the Secretary to ensure proficiency in the disciplines listed in clause (i)”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 2004 AMENDMENT

Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title X, §1084(h), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2064, provided that the amendment made by section 1084(h)(1) is effective as of Dec. 28, 2001, and as if included in Pub. L. 107-107 as enacted.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-89 effective Nov. 1, 1993, see section 3(c) of Pub. L. 103-89, set out as a note under section 3372 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### EQUIVALENT TRAINING UNDER SUBSECTION (b)(2)(B)(ii)

Pub. L. 102-484, div. A, title VIII, §812(e)(2), Oct. 23, 1992, 106 Stat. 2451, provided that: “The Secretary of Defense shall prescribe equivalent training for purposes of clause (ii) of section 1732(b)(2)(B) of title 10, United States Code (as amended by paragraph (1)), not later than 120 days after the date of the enactment of this Act [Oct. 23, 1992].”

### § 1733. Critical acquisition positions

(a) REQUIREMENT FOR CORPS MEMBER.—A critical acquisition position may be filled only by a member of the Acquisition Corps.

(b) DESIGNATION OF CRITICAL ACQUISITION POSITIONS.—(1) The Secretary of Defense shall designate the acquisition positions in the Department of Defense that are critical acquisition positions. Such positions shall include the following:

(A) Any acquisition position which—

(i) in the case of employees, is required to be filled by an employee in a senior position in the National Security Personnel System, as determined in accordance with guidelines prescribed by the Secretary, or in the Senior Executive Service; or

(ii) in the case of members of the armed forces, is required to be filled by a commissioned officer of the Army, Navy, Air Force, or Marine Corps who is serving in the grade of lieutenant colonel, or, in the case of the Navy, commander, or a higher grade.

(B) Other selected acquisition positions not covered by subparagraph (A), including the following:

(i) Program executive officer.

(ii) Program manager of a major defense acquisition program (as defined in section 2430 of this title) or of a significant nonmajor defense acquisition program (as defined in section 1737(a)(3) of this title).

(iii) Deputy program manager of a major defense acquisition program.

(C) Any other acquisition position of significant responsibility in which the primary duties are supervisory or management duties.

(2) The Secretary shall periodically publish a list of the positions designated under this subsection.

(Added Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, §1202(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1646; amended Pub. L. 102-484, div. A, title X, §1052(22), Oct. 23, 1992, 106 Stat. 2500; Pub. L. 103-89, §3(b)(3)(C), Sept. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 983; Pub. L. 104-201, div. A, title X, §1074(a)(9)(C), Sept. 23, 1996, 110 Stat. 2659; Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title VIII, §833(2), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1550; Pub. L. 108-375, div. A, title VIII, §812(a)(2), Oct. 28, 2004, 118 Stat. 2013.)

#### AMENDMENTS

2004—Subsec. (b)(1)(A)(i). Pub. L. 108-375 substituted “in a senior position in the National Security Personnel System, as determined in accordance with guidelines prescribed by the Secretary,” for “in a position within grade GS-14 or above of the General Schedule.”.

2003—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 108-136 substituted “the Acquisition Corps” for “an Acquisition Corps”.

1996—Subsec. (a). Pub. L. 104-201 substituted “A critical” for “On and after October 1, 1993, a critical”.

1993—Subsec. (b)(1)(A)(i). Pub. L. 103-89 substituted “Schedule” for “Schedule (including an employee covered by chapter 54 of title 5)”.

1992—Subsec. (b)(1)(B)(ii). Pub. L. 102-484 substituted “1737(a)(3)” for “1736(a)(3)”.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE OF 1993 AMENDMENT

Amendment by Pub. L. 103-89 effective Nov. 1, 1993, see section 3(c) of Pub. L. 103-89, set out as a note under section 3372 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

#### EFFECTIVE DATE FOR REQUIREMENT FOR CORPS MEMBERS TO FILL CRITICAL ACQUISITION POSITIONS

Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, §1209(f), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1666, as amended by Pub. L. 102-25, title VII, §704(b)(3)(C), Apr. 6, 1991, 105 Stat. 119; Pub. L. 103-160, div. A, title IX, §904(f), Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1729, provided that the Secretaries of the military departments were to make every effort to fill critical acquisition positions by Acquisition Corps members as soon as possible after Nov. 5, 1990, and that for each of the first three years after Nov. 5, 1990, the report of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology to the Secretary of Defense under section 1762 of this title was to include the number of critical acquisition positions filled by Acquisition Corps members.

#### PUBLICATION OF LIST OF CRITICAL ACQUISITION POSITIONS

Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, §1209(g), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1666, directed the Secretary of Defense to publish the first list of positions designated as critical acquisition positions under subsec. (b)(2) of this section not later than Oct. 1, 1992.

### § 1734. Career development

(a) THREE-YEAR ASSIGNMENT PERIOD.—(1) Except as provided under subsection (b) and paragraph (3), the Secretary of each military department, acting through the service acquisition executive for that department, shall provide that any person who is assigned to a critical acquisition position shall be assigned to the position for not fewer than three years. Except as provided in subsection (d), the Secretary concerned may not reassign a person from such an assignment before the end of the three-year period.

(2) A person may not be assigned to a critical acquisition position unless the person executes a written agreement to remain on active duty (in