Fiscal Year 2027 Budget Estimates

Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account



April 2026

Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account, Defense-Wide Summary ($ in thousands)

	FY 2025 Actuals	Price Change	Program Change	FY 2026 Enacted	Price Change	Program Change	FY 2027 Request
DAWDA	55,826	1,335	-6,315	50,846	1,018	-14,386	37,478

The FY 2027 President's Budget for the Defense-Wide Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account (DAWDA) supports the 10 U.S.C. 1705 statutory purpose and readiness of the warfighter acquisition workforce to ensure it has the capacity, in both personnel and skills, needed to properly perform its mission, provide appropriate oversight of contractor performance, and ensure the Department receives the best value for the expenditure of public resources. The FY 2027 request maintains the DAWDA's focus on acquisition capability by improving the warfighter acquisition workforce, reducing or eliminating capability gaps and addressing the Department of War (DoW) Acquisition Transformation Strategy to "Elevate and Empower the Acquisition Workforce to Rapidly Deliver Capability" and "Rebuild the Defense Industrial Base".

RECRUITING AND HIRING
($ in Thousands)

FY 2025 Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
5,044	2,770	2,868

Recruiting and Hiring: DAWDA recruiting incentives attract talented individuals to the Agencies' acquisition workforce to ensure the DoW has the workforce it needs to deliver results and meet the needs of the warfighter. Also, DAWDA recruiting and hiring initiatives actively support the Office of the Under Secretary of War for Acquisition and Sustainment Defense Civilian Acquisition Intern Program, preparing candidates for potential federal employment upon college graduation.

TRAINING AND DEVELOPMENT
($ in Thousands)

FY 2025 Actuals	FY 2026 Enacted	FY 2027 Request
50,382	47,646	34,210

Training and Development: Agency acquisition leaders are responsible for equipping acquisition workforce personnel with appropriate skills, qualifications and readiness to quickly deliver capability to the warfighter. DoW agencies leverage DAWDA to deliver comprehensive training for the warfighting acquisition workforce, with a focus on early and mid-career professionals. This training encompasses technical skills, leadership development, and other training that speeds delivery of capabilities and enhances acquisition productivity. DoW will continue utilizing DAWDA to support training events and joint exercises that enhance

expeditionary contracting and operational contractor support readiness. Additionally, Congress has granted the authority under Title 10, Section 1705 to employ DAWDA for various purposes to improve DoW acquisition capability such as conducting performance improvement studies and implementing tools that improve DoW speed and agility.

RETENTION AND RECOGNITION
($ in Thousands)

FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027
Actuals	Enacted	Request
400	400	400

Recognition and Retention: DoW agencies and field activities utilize DAWDA to recognize workforce excellence as well as for retention-type incentives targeted at sustaining the acquisition key performance objectives and the warrior ethos needed to support the warfighter.

II. Force Structure Summary:
Not Applicable.

III. Financial Summary ($ in Thousands):

		FY 2026				
			Congressional Action			
A. BA Subactivities	**FY 2025 Actuals**	**Budget Request**	**Amount**	**Percent**	**Current Enacted**	**FY 2027 Request**
1. Recruiting and Hiring	$5,044	$2,770	$0	0.00%	$2,770	$2,868
2. Training and Development	$50,382	$42,176	$5,500	13.04%	$47,676	$34,210
3. Retention and Recognition	$400	$400	$0	0.00%	$400	$400
Total	**$55,826**	**$45,346**	**$5,500**	**12.13%**	**$50,846**	**$37,478**

B. Reconciliation Summary	Change FY 2026/FY 2026	Change FY 2026/FY 2027
BASELINE FUNDING	**$45,346**	**$50,846**
Congressional Adjustments (Distributed)	5,500	
Congressional Adjustments (Undistributed)	0	
Adjustments to Meet Congressional Intent	0	
Congressional Adjustments (General Provisions)	0	
Fact-of-Life Changes (2026 to 2026 Only)	0	
SUBTOTAL BASELINE FUNDING	**50,846**	
Supplemental	0	
Reprogrammings	0	
Price Changes		1,018
Functional Transfers		0
Program Changes		-14,385
CURRENT ESTIMATE	**50,846**	**37,479**
Less: Supplemental	0	
NORMALIZED CURRENT ESTIMATE	**$50,846**	**$37,479**

FY 2026 President's Budget Request (Amended, if applicable)	**$45,346**
1. Congressional Adjustments	$5,500
a) Distributed Adjustments	$5,500
1) Classified ready employee workforce	$5,000
2) Fulbright icebreaker talent exchange	$500
b) Undistributed Adjustments	$0
c) Adjustments to Meet Congressional Intent	$0
d) General Provisions	$0
FY 2026 Appropriated Amount	**$50,846**
2. Supplemental Appropriations	$0
a) Supplemental Funding	$0
3. Fact-of-Life Changes	$0
a) Functional Transfers	$0
b) Technical Adjustments	$0
c) Emergent Requirements	$0

FY 2026 Baseline Funding	**$50,846**
4. Reprogrammings (Requiring 1415 Actions)	$0
a) Increases	$0
b) Decreases	$0
Revised FY 2026 Estimate	**$50,846**
5. Less: Item 2, Supplemental Appropriation and Item 4, Reprogrammings	$0
a) Less: Supplemental Funding	$0
FY 2026 Normalized Current Estimate	**$50,846**
6. Price Change	$1,018
7. Functional Transfers	$0
a) Transfers In	$0
b) Transfers Out	$0
8. Program Increases	$90
a) Annualization of New FY 2026 Program	$0
b) One-Time FY 2027 Increases	$90
1) Compensation and Benefits - Intern Program	$90

The OUSW(A&S) sponsored Defense Civilian Acquisition Intern Program is expected to gain at least 5 interns in FY 2027.
(FY 2026 Baseline: $2,770 thousand)

c) Program Growth in FY 2027 ..... $0

9. Program Decreases ..... $-14,475

a) Annualization of FY 2026 Program Decreases $0

b) One-Time FY 2026 Increases ..... $-5,616

1) Classified ready employee workforce ..... $-5,105

2) Fulbright icebreaker talent exchange ..... $-511

c) Program Decreases in FY 2027 ..... $-8,859

1) Efficiency - Contract Services ..... $-8,562
The reduction of funding for contract services is undertaken in direct support of the President's executive order, which prioritizes cost efficiency, transparency, and the consolidation of services. This measure represents a deliberate workforce optimization strategy designed to streamline resources while safeguarding against adverse impacts to modernization initiatives and overall mission effectiveness.
(FY 2026 Baseline: $10,365 thousand)

2) Efficiency – Travel Budget ..... $-297
Reduces discretionary travel funding to align with the Secretary of War's highest priorities to strengthen readiness, modernize capabilities, and sustain the Force.
(FY 2026 Baseline: $3,198 thousand)

FY 2027 Budget Request $37,479

IV. Performance Criteria and Evaluation Summary:

The Defense-Wide Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account provides funding for the Department of War, warfighting acquisition workforce to ensure it has the capacity, in both personnel and skills, needed to properly perform its mission, provide appropriate oversight of contractor performance, and ensure the Department receives the best value for the expenditure of public resources. Defense-Wide Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account funding to the warfighting acquisition workforce directly supports the Department of War Acquisition Transformation Strategy to “Elevate and Empower the Acquisition Workforce to Rapidly Deliver Capability” and “Rebuild the Defense Industrial Base”.

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V. Personnel Summary:

	FY 2025	FY 2026	FY 2027	Change FY 2025/ FY 2026	Change FY 2026/ FY 2027
Civilian End Strength (Total)	**210**	**200**	**200**	**-10**	**0**
U.S. Direct Hire	210	200	200	-10	0
Total Direct Hire	**210**	**200**	**200**	**-10**	**0**
Civilian FTEs (Total)	**46**	**36**	**36**	**-10**	**0**
U.S. Direct Hire	46	36	36	-10	0
Total Direct Hire	**46**	**36**	**36**	**-10**	**0**
Average Annual Civilian Salary ($ in thousands)	**109.7**	**76.9**	**79.7**	**-32.7**	**2.7**
Contractor FTEs (Total)	**130**	**127**	**127**	**-3**	**0**

Personnel Summary Explanations:

In FY 2026, 10 Acquisition Workforce Educational Partnerships FTEs were realigned to Warfighting Acquisition University. FY 2027 maintained at the FY 2026 final position.

VI. OP 32 Line Items as Applicable (Dollars in thousands):

			Change from FY 2025 to FY 2026			Change from FY 2026 to FY 2027		
		FY 2025 Program	Price Growth	Program Growth	FY 2026 Program	Price Growth	Program Growth	FY 2027 Program
101	EXEC, GEN'L & SPEC SCHEDS	5,044	65	-2,339	2,770	8	90	2,868
0199	**TOTAL CIVILIAN PERSONNEL COMPENSATION**	**5,044**	**65**	**-2,339**	**2,770**	**8**	**90**	**2,868**
308	TRAVEL OF PERSONS	5,784	145	-2,731	3,198	67	-297	2,968
0399	**TOTAL TRAVEL**	**5,784**	**145**	**-2,731**	**3,198**	**67**	**-297**	**2,968**
633	DLA DOCUMENT SERVICES	3	0	0	3	0	0	3
0699	**TOTAL OTHER FUND PURCHASES**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**3**	**0**	**0**	**3**
771	COMMERCIAL TRANSPORT	1	0	105	106	2	0	108
0799	**TOTAL TRANSPORTATION**	**1**	**0**	**105**	**106**	**2**	**0**	**108**
912	RENTAL PAYMENTS TO GSA (SLUC)	1	0	326	327	7	0	334
914	PURCHASED COMMUNICATIONS (NON-FUND)	522	13	-2	533	11	0	544
915	RENTS (NON-GSA)	1	0	43	44	1	0	45
920	SUPPLIES & MATERIALS (NON-FUND)	33	1	58	92	2	0	94
921	PRINTING & REPRODUCTION	76	2	0	78	2	0	80
922	EQUIPMENT MAINTENANCE BY CONTRACT	15,022	376	-13,610	1,788	38	0	1,826
923	FACILITIES SUST, REST, & MOD BY CONTRACT	67	2	-69	0	0	0	0
925	EQUIPMENT PURCHASES (NON-FUND)	1	0	862	863	18	0	881
932	MGT PROF SUPPORT SVCS	15,334	383	-5,352	10,365	218	-8,061	2,522
933	STUDIES, ANALYSIS & EVAL	6,637	166	-27	6,776	142	0	6,918
957	OTHER COSTS (LAND AND STRUCTURES)	0	0	276	276	6	0	282
987	OTHER INTRA-GOVT PURCH	533	13	13,010	13,556	285	-5,616	8,225
989	OTHER SERVICES	6,767	169	3,135	10,071	211	-502	9,780
0999	**TOTAL OTHER PURCHASES**	**44,994**	**1,125**	**-1,350**	**44,769**	**941**	**-14,179**	**31,531**
9999	**GRAND TOTAL**	**55,826**	**1,335**	**-6,315**	**50,846**	**1,018**	**-14,386**	**37,478**