BEHIND THE FRONTLINES

Enabling the Warfighter

NEWSLETTER

U.S. ARMY ACQUISITION SUPPORT CENTER
DACM
Director, Acquisition Career Management Office

MONTHLY WRAP-UP
NOVEMBER | 2026

JIATF-401 LEADS A NEW ERA IN COUNTER-SUAS DEFENSE



The Joint Interagency Task Force 401 (JIATF-401) is leading the Department of War's efforts to counter the rapidly evolving threat from small unmanned aircraft systems. JIATF-401 serves as a centralized organization focused on delivering counter-UAS capabilities while improving policies, standards, partnerships and training. By bringing together stakeholders across government, industry and the joint force, JIATF-401 is helping create a more integrated approach to homeland defense and warfighter readiness.

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FIELD TRAINING TEAMS ACCELERATE THE MOBILE TACTICAL CANNON PROGRAM



Established through a congressional mandate, Warfighting Acquisition University's Field Training Teams embed experienced acquisition professionals with organizations and program offices. They provide tailored training, coaching, consultation and complex problem-solving to advance mission objectives. The XM1776 Mobile Tactical Cannon program demonstrates how the teams support rapid prototyping of the Army's newest wheeled self-propelled howitzer prototype, intended to replace the M777 in select formations.

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HIRING CONTRACTING SPECIALISTS, THE SMART WAY



The 1102 contract specialist series have two problems: insufficient staffing and an aging workforce. Generating a pipeline of young talent with analytical, scientific and artificial intelligence skills to steward the profession is the solution. Promoting programs like Science, Mathematics and Research for Transformation (SMART) Scholarship-for-Service Program and the Defense Civilian Training Corps, will strengthen federal procurement and the defense of our Nation.

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Highlighting the Army Acquisition Workforce and their contributions.



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CPE ST3

ADDITIONAL PROFILES ON PAGE 2

BEYOND THE BLUEPRINT: WHY YOUR CONTRACTING CERTIFICATION CAN'T WAIT

The acquisition environment moves fast, and the learning curve does not level out after graduation; it steepens. Navigating these high-tempo operational requirements reinforced a foundational truth about our career field: Professional readiness directly dictates operational success. One 51C contracting officer recommends graduates of the Army Acquisition Transition Course schedule and pass the Contracting Professional Certification Exam as soon as possible after completing the course.

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Highlighting the Army Acquisition Workforce and their contributions.



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