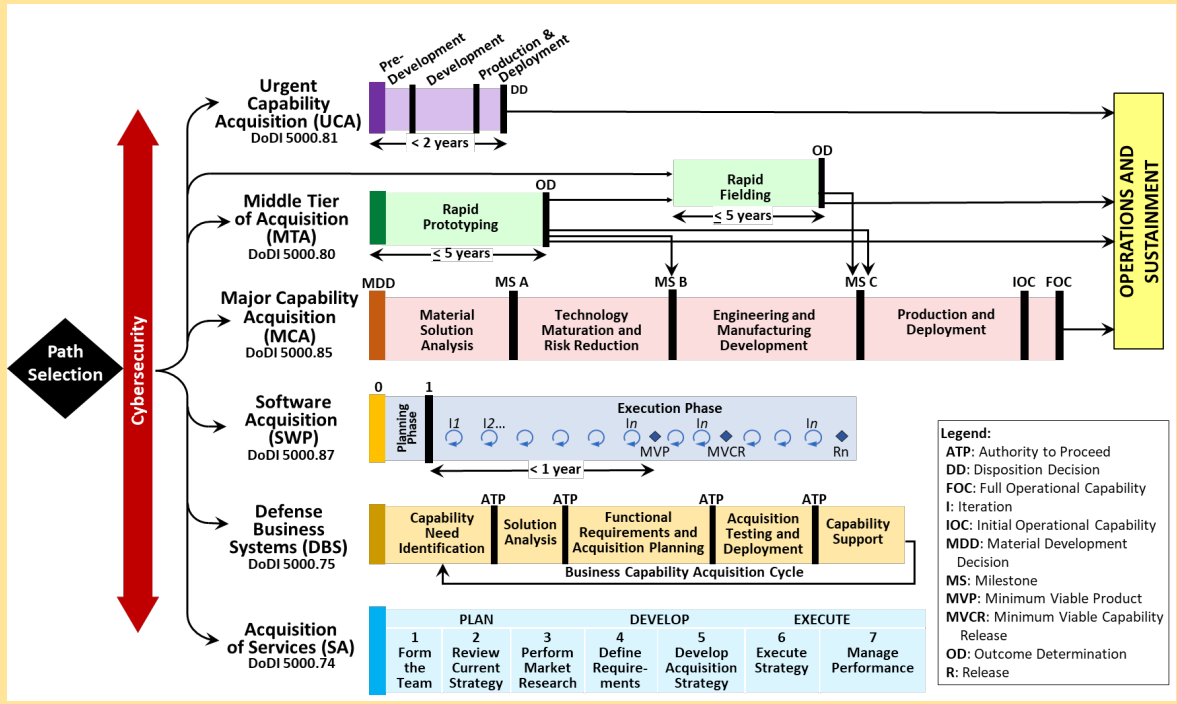


# Adaptive Acquisition Framework (AAF) Quick Reference Card

**AAF Site**  
<https://aaf.dau.edu/>



**Tailoring In.** MDAs/DAs will tailor program strategies and oversight, phase content, timing and scope of decision reviews, and decision levels based on characteristics of the capability being acquired to satisfy user requirements.

**Multiple Pathways.** PMs, with MDA/DA approval, may combine pathways to provide value not available through use of a single pathway. PMs will: Define transition points from one pathway to another; anticipate, develop, and coordinate information requirements required at the new pathway entry point; identify regulatory and statutory information requirements; and ensure a smooth transition.

**Acquisition Guidebooks**

- [Agile 101 Primer](#)
- [AoA Cost Handbook](#)
- [Cloud Acquisition](#)
- [Cybersecurity Best Practices](#)
- [Cybersecurity T&E](#)
- [Cybersecurity in the AAF](#)
- [DevSecOps Strategy](#)
- [Digital Capabilities](#)
- [Engineering of Defense Systems](#)
- [Human Systems Integration](#)
- [International Acq & Exportability](#)
- [Intel Support to AAF](#)
- [Mission Engineering](#)
- [Modernized SAR Prep & Review](#)
- [Other Transactions](#)
- [Performance Based Logistics](#)
- [PM Business Processes](#)
- [PM Knowledge, Skills & Practices](#)
- [Product Support Manager](#)
- [Risk, Issue, & Opportunity Mgmt](#)
- [Systems Engineering](#)
- [Source Selection](#)
- [Test & Evaluation Enterprise](#)
- [Technology & Pgm Protection](#)

	FY20 \$ Thresholds	Timeframe	Purpose	Requirement	Program Start	Transition/Disposition
<b>UCA</b>	NTE ACAT I threshold: RDT&E \$525M or Procurement \$3.065B	≤ 2 Years	Provide capabilities to fulfill JUON, JEON, Component UON and other quick reaction capability requirements	Validated JUON, JEON, UON or other urgent warfighter issue identified by the Warfighter SIG	Course of Action decision by the Milestone Decision Authority (MDA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Terminate</li> <li>• Sustain for current contingency</li> <li>• Transition to Program of Record</li> </ul>
<b>MTA</b>	NTE ACAT I threshold: RDT&E \$525M or Procurement \$3.065B, unless approved by USD(A&S)	≤ 5 Years	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Develop fieldable prototypes to demonstrate new capabilities</li> <li>• Field production units with proven technologies that require minimum development</li> </ul>	Approved requirement document w/in 6 months of operational need identification	ADM signed by the Decision Authority (DA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• RP: Transition to new or existing program via RF or another pathway</li> <li>• RF: Transition to O&amp;S</li> </ul>
<b>MCA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• ACAT I, ≥RDT&amp;E \$525M or Proc \$3.065B</li> <li>• ACAT II, ≥RDT&amp;E \$200M or Proc \$920M</li> <li>• ACAT III &amp; IV: Component Policy</li> </ul>	N/A	Acquire and modernize military unique programs that provide enduring capability	Validated Initial Capabilities Document(ICD)/ Capability Development Document	Program Initiation: MDA approval of APB (MS B)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Transition to O&amp;S</li> <li>• Modifications/Upgrades to improve capability</li> </ul>
<b>SWP</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Embedded: See pathway</li> <li>• Application: Component policy</li> </ul>	≤ 1 Year	Timely acquisition of custom software capabilities developed for the DoD. Two paths: Application and Embedded	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Joint - Software ICD</li> <li>• Other - Capability Needs Statement</li> </ul>	DA approval to enter Planning Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Application: Annual capability releases</li> <li>• Embedded: Annual upgrades IAW hardware pathway</li> </ul>
<b>DBS</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• BCAT I, Total BA over FYDP &gt;\$250M</li> <li>• BCAT II, Total BA over FYDP &gt;\$50M</li> <li>• BCAT III, Does not meet BCAT II criteria</li> </ul>	N/A	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Acquire information systems that support DoD business operations.</li> <li>• May be used to acquire non-developmental, software intensive programs that are not DBS</li> </ul>	DBS capability need identification & approved functional requirement	DA approval to enter Solution Analysis Phase	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Continuous improvement throughout life cycle</li> <li>• Re-initiation of BCAC process may be required for major changes or to integrate new capabilities</li> </ul>
<b>SA</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• S-CAT I, Total Value (TV) ≥\$1B, or in any one year &gt;\$300M</li> <li>• S-CAT II, TV ≥\$250M</li> <li>• S-CAT III, TV ≥\$100M</li> <li>• S-CAT IV, TV ≥\$10M</li> <li>• S-CAT V, TV &lt;\$10M, &gt;SAT threshold</li> </ul>	N/A	Acquisition of services from private sector entities by or for the DoD with a total estimated acquisition value in current year dollars at or above the SAP threshold, except those excluded by DoDI 5000.74. See DoDI 5000.82 for Information Technology services	Functional Services Manager developed services requirement	Services Requirements Review Board Approval	Complete in accordance with the Contract

## AAF Pathway Policy Instructions

- Urgent Capability Acquisition** ---(UCA) [DoDI 5000.81](#). To field capabilities to fulfill urgent existing and/or emerging operational needs or quick reactions in less than 2 years, and do not exceed the ACAT I RDT&E and Procurement thresholds.
- Middle Tier of Acquisition** -----(MTA) [DoDI 5000.80](#). To field a prototype that can be demonstrated in an operational environment and provide for a residual operational capability within 5 years of MTA program start date. To use proven technologies to field production quantities of new or upgraded systems with minimal development, begin production within 6 months and complete fielding within 5 years of MTA program start date.
- Major Capability Acquisition** ---(MCA) [DoDI 5000.85](#). To acquire and modernize military unique programs that provide enduring capability.
- Software Acquisition** -----(SWP) [DoDI 5000.87](#). To facilitate rapid and iterative delivery of software capability to the user. Applies to application software running on commercial hardware and software embedded in weapon systems.
- Defense Business Systems** -----(DBS) [DoDI 5000.75](#). To acquire business information systems that are operated by, for, or on behalf of the DoD, including: financial systems, financial data feeder systems, contracting systems, logistics systems, planning and budgeting systems, installations management systems, human resources management systems, and training and readiness systems. May also be used to acquire other non-developmental, software intensive programs when approved in program acquisition strategies.
- Acquisition of Services** -----(SA) [DoDI 5000.74](#). To acquire services from the private sector entities by or for the DoD with a total estimated acquisition value in current year dollars at or above the simplified acquisition threshold, as defined in Subpart 2.101 of the Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR), except those excluded by DoDI 5000.74.

### Acquisition Websites

- DAVE** – Defense Acquisition Visibility Environment  
(CAC access) <https://dave.acq.osd.mil/login>
- DAU** – Defense Acquisition University  
<https://www.dau.edu>
- AAF** – Acquisition Policies  
<https://aaf.dau.edu/aaf/policies>
- AAF** – Acquisition Guidebooks & References  
<https://aaf.dau.edu/guidebooks/>

## Overarching Policies

- |  |   |   |
|--|---|---|
| <a href="#">DoDD 5000.01</a> – The Defense Acquisition System                  | <a href="#">DoDD 7045.14</a> – Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Execution | <a href="#">DoDI 8510.01</a> – Risk Management Framework for DoD Systems  |
| <a href="#">DoDI 5000.02</a> – Operation of the Adaptive Acquisition Framework | <a href="#">DoDD 8000.01</a> – Management of DoD Information Enterprise       | <a href="#">CJCSI 5123.01</a> – Charter of the JROC and Implementation of Joint Capabilities Integration & Development System (JCIDS) |
| <a href="#">DoDD 5000.71</a> – Rapid Fulfillment of Urgent Operational Needs   | <a href="#">DoDI 8330.01</a> – Interoperability of IT Including NSS           | <a href="#">JCIDS Manual</a> – (CAC access)   |
| <a href="#">DoD 7000.14-R</a> – DoD Financial Management Regulation            | <a href="#">DoDI 8500.01</a> – Cybersecurity                                  |   |

## Service Acquisition Policies

- |  |  |   |
|--|--|---|
| <a href="#">AR 70-1</a> – Army Acquisition Policy                            | <a href="#">Air Force AFI 63-101/20-101</a> – Integrated Life Cycle Management | <a href="#">USSOCOM Directive 70-1 – Acquisition Management System Policy</a> (SIPRNet) |
| <a href="#">Army Pamphlet 70-3</a> – Army Acquisition Procedures             | <a href="#">Air Force Pamphlet 63-128</a> – Integrated Life Cycle Management   |   |
| <a href="#">Navy SECNAVINST 5000.2G</a> – Defense Acquisition System and AAF |  |   |

## Functional Policies

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <a href="#">DoDI 5000.60</a> – Industrial Base Assessments           | <a href="#">DoDI 5000.89</a> – Test and Evaluation (T&E)                                | <a href="#">DoDI 5000.97</a> – Digital Engineering   |
| <a href="#">DoDI 5000.73</a> – Cost Analysis Guidance and Procedures | <a href="#">DoDI 5000.90</a> – Cybersecurity for Acquisition Decision Authorities & PMs | <a href="#">DoDI 5010.44</a> – Intellectual Property   |
| <a href="#">DoDI 5000.82</a> – Acquisition of Digital Capabilities   | <a href="#">DoDI 5000.91</a> – Product Support Management                               | <a href="#">DoDI 5200.39</a> – Critical Program Information (CPI) Identification & Protection Within RDT&E |
| <a href="#">DoDI 5000.83</a> – Technology and Program Protection     | <a href="#">DoDI 5000.92</a> – Innovation & Technology to Sustain Materiel Readiness    | <a href="#">DoDD 5200.47E</a> – Anti-Tamper  |
| <a href="#">DoDI 5000.84</a> – Analysis of Alternatives              | <a href="#">DoDI 5000.93</a> – Use of Additive Manufacturing                            | <a href="#">DoDD 3000.09</a> – Autonomy in Weapon Systems  |
| <a href="#">DoDI 5000.86</a> – Acquisition Intelligence              | <a href="#">DoDI 5000.94</a> – Use of Robotic Systems                                   |  |
| <a href="#">DoDI 5000.88</a> – Engineering of Defense Systems        | <a href="#">DoDI 5000.95</a> – Human Systems Integration                                |  |

## Acronyms

- |  |  |  |
|--|--|--|
| <b>ACAT</b> – Acquisition Category (MCA)                         | <b>FY</b> – Fiscal Year  | <b>RF</b> – Rapid Fielding (MTA)                   |
| <b>ADM</b> – Acquisition Decision Memorandum                     | <b>JCIDS</b> – Joint Capabilities Integration & Development System | <b>RP</b> – Rapid Prototyping (MTA)                |
| <b>APB</b> – Acquisition Program Baseline                        | <b>JROC</b> – Joint Requirements Oversight Council                 | <b>SAP</b> – Simplified Acquisition Process        |
| <b>BA</b> – Budget Authority                                     | <b>JUON</b> – Joint Urgent Operational Need (UCA)                  | <b>SAR</b> – Selected Acquisition Report           |
| <b>BCAC</b> – Business Capability Acquisition Cycle (DBS)        | <b>JEON</b> – Joint Emergent Operational Need (UCA)                | <b>SIG</b> – Senior Integration Group (UCA)        |
| <b>BCAT</b> – Business Category (DBS)                            | <b>NTE</b> – Not to Exceed   | <b>SAT</b> – Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SA) |
| <b>CJCSI</b> – Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff Instruction | <b>O&amp;S</b> – Operations & Sustainment                          | <b>S-CAT</b> – Service Acquisition Category (SA)   |
| <b>DoDI</b> – Department of Defense Instruction                  | <b>Proc</b> – Procurement  | <b>UON</b> – Urgent Operational Need (UCA)         |
| <b>DoDD</b> – Department of Defense Directive                    | <b>RDT&amp;E</b> – Research, Development, Testing & Evaluation     |  |