

ity specified in subsection (d) to fix the rate of basic pay for positions described in subsection (c) in order to assist the Office of the Secretary of Defense and the military departments in attracting and retaining high-quality acquisition and technology experts in positions responsible for managing and developing complex, high-cost, technological acquisition efforts of the Department of Defense.

(b) APPROVAL REQUIRED.—The program may be carried out only with approval as follows:

(1) Approval of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, in the case of positions in the Office of the Secretary of Defense.

(2) Approval of the service acquisition executive of the military department concerned, in the case of positions in a military department.

(c) POSITIONS.—The positions described in this subsection are positions that—

(1) require expertise of an extremely high level in a scientific, technical, professional, or acquisition management field; and

(2) are critical to the successful accomplishment of an important acquisition or technology development mission.

(d) RATE OF BASIC PAY.—The pay authority specified in this subsection is authority as follows:

(1) Authority to fix the rate of basic pay for a position at a rate not to exceed 150 percent of the rate of basic pay payable for level I of the Executive Schedule, upon the approval of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment or the service acquisition executive concerned, as applicable.

(2) Authority to fix the rate of basic pay for a position at a rate in excess of 150 percent of the rate of basic pay payable for level I of the Executive Schedule, upon the approval of the Secretary of Defense.

(e) LIMITATIONS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—The authority in subsection (a) may be used only to the extent necessary to competitively recruit or retain individuals exceptionally well qualified for positions described in subsection (c).

(2) NUMBER OF POSITIONS.—The authority in subsection (a) may not be used at any one time with respect to—

(A) more than five positions, in total, in Department of Defense Field Activities and Defense Agencies;

(B) more than five positions in the Office of the Secretary of Defense; and

(C) more than five positions in each military department.

(3) TERM OF POSITIONS.—The authority in subsection (a) may be used only for positions having terms less than five years.

(Added Pub. L. 116-283, div. A, title XI, §1114(a), Jan. 1, 2021, 134 Stat. 3894; amended Pub. L. 117-263, div. A, title VIII, §831(b), Dec. 23, 2022, 136 Stat. 2711.)

Editorial Notes

REFERENCES IN TEXT

Level I of the Executive Schedule, referred to in subsec. (d), is set out in section 5312 of Title 5, Government Organization and Employees.

AMENDMENTS

2022—Subsec. (e)(2). Pub. L. 117-263 amended par. (2) generally. Prior to amendment, text read as follows: “The authority in subsection (a) may not be used with respect to more than five positions in the Office of the Secretary of Defense and more than five positions in each military department at any one time.”

§ 1702. Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment: authorities and responsibilities

Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of Defense, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment shall carry out all powers, functions, and duties of the Secretary of Defense with respect to the acquisition workforce in the Department of Defense. The Under Secretary shall ensure that the policies of the Secretary of Defense established in accordance with this chapter are implemented throughout the Department of Defense. The Under Secretary shall prescribe policies and requirements for the educational programs of the defense acquisition university structure established under section 1746 of this title.

(Added Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, §1202(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1638; amended Pub. L. 103-160, div. A, title IX, §904(d)(1), Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1728; Pub. L. 105-261, div. A, title VIII, §815, Oct. 17, 1998, 112 Stat. 2088; Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title X, §1048(b)(2), (3)(A), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1225; Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title IX, §902(11), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1544.)

Editorial Notes

AMENDMENTS

2019—Pub. L. 116-92 substituted “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment” for “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics” in section catchline and in text.

2001—Pub. L. 107-107 substituted “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology, and Logistics” for “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology” in section catchline and in text.

1998—Pub. L. 105-261 inserted at end “The Under Secretary shall prescribe policies and requirements for the educational programs of the defense acquisition university structure established under section 1746 of this title.”

1993—Pub. L. 103-160 substituted “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Technology” for “Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition” in section catchline and in text.

Statutory Notes and Related Subsidiaries

QUICK-REACTION SPECIAL PROJECTS ACQUISITION TEAM

Pub. L. 107-314, div. A, title VIII, §807, Dec. 2, 2002, 116 Stat. 2608, as amended by Pub. L. 116-92, div. A, title IX, §902(12), Dec. 20, 2019, 133 Stat. 1544, provided that:

“(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment shall establish a team of highly qualified acquisition professionals who shall be available to advise the Under Secretary on actions that can be taken to expedite the acquisition of urgently needed systems.

“(b) DUTIES.—The issues on which the team may provide advice shall include the following:

“(1) Industrial base issues, including the limited availability of suppliers.

“(2) Technology development and technology transition issues.

“(3) Issues of acquisition policy, including the length of the acquisition cycle.

“(4) Issues of testing policy and ensuring that weapon systems perform properly in combat situations.

“(5) Issues of procurement policy, including the impact of socio-economic requirements.

“(6) Issues relating to compliance with environmental requirements.”

[§ 1703. Repealed. Pub. L. 108-136, div. A, title VIII, § 831(a), Nov. 24, 2003, 117 Stat. 1549]

Section, added Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, § 1202(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1639; amended Pub. L. 103-160, div. A, title IX, § 904(d)(1), Nov. 30, 1993, 107 Stat. 1728; Pub. L. 107-107, div. A, title X, § 1048(b)(2), Dec. 28, 2001, 115 Stat. 1225, related to Director of Acquisition Education, Training, and Career Development.

§ 1704. Service acquisition executives: authorities and responsibilities

Subject to the authority, direction, and control of the Secretary of the military department concerned, the service acquisition executive for each military department shall carry out all powers, functions, and duties of the Secretary concerned with respect to the acquisition workforce within the military department concerned and shall ensure that the policies of the Secretary of Defense established in accordance with this chapter are implemented in that department.

(Added Pub. L. 101-510, div. A, title XII, § 1202(a), Nov. 5, 1990, 104 Stat. 1639.)

§ 1705. Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account

(a) ESTABLISHMENT.—The Secretary of Defense shall establish an account to be known as the “Department of Defense Acquisition Workforce Development Account” (in this section referred to as the “Account”) to provide funds, in addition to other funds that may be available, for the recruitment, training, and retention of acquisition personnel of the Department of Defense.

(b) PURPOSE.—The purpose of the Account is to ensure that the Department of Defense acquisition workforce has the capacity, in both personnel and skills, needed to properly perform its mission, provide appropriate oversight of contractor performance, and ensure that the Department receives the best value for the expenditure of public resources.

(c) MANAGEMENT.—The Account shall be managed by a senior official of the Department of Defense designated by the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment for that purpose, from among persons with an extensive background in management relating to acquisition and personnel.

(d) ELEMENTS.—The Account shall consist of amounts appropriated to the Account by law.

(e) AVAILABILITY OF FUNDS.—

(1) IN GENERAL.—(A) Subject to the provisions of this subsection, amounts in the Account shall be available to the Secretary of Defense for expenditure, or for transfer to a military department or Defense Agency, for the recruitment, training, and retention of acquisition personnel of the Department of Defense for the purpose of the Account, including

for the provision of training and retention incentives to the acquisition workforce of the Department and to develop acquisition tools and methodologies, and undertake research and development activities, leading to acquisition policies and practices that will improve the efficiency and effectiveness of defense acquisition efforts. In the case of temporary members of the acquisition workforce designated pursuant to subsection (g)(2), such funds shall be available only for the limited purpose of providing training in the performance of acquisition-related functions and duties.

(B) Amounts in the Account also may be used to pay salaries of personnel at the Office of the Secretary of Defense, military departments, and Defense Agencies to manage the Account.

(C) Amounts in the Account may be used to pay the expenses of the public-private talent exchange program established under section 1599g of this title.

(2) PROHIBITION.—Amounts in the Account may not be obligated for any purpose other than purposes described in paragraph (1) or otherwise in accordance with this subsection.

(3) GUIDANCE.—The Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment, acting through the senior official designated to manage the Account, shall issue guidance for the administration of the Account. Such guidance shall include provisions—

(A) identifying areas of need in the acquisition workforce for which amounts in the Account may be used, including—

- (i) changes to the types of skills needed in the acquisition workforce;
- (ii) incentives to retain in the acquisition workforce qualified, experienced acquisition workforce personnel; and
- (iii) incentives for attracting new, high-quality personnel to the acquisition workforce;

(B) describing the manner and timing for applications for amounts in the Account to be submitted;

(C) describing the evaluation criteria to be used for approving or prioritizing applications for amounts in the Account in any fiscal year;

(D) describing measurable objectives of performance for determining whether amounts in the Account are being used in compliance with this section; and

(E) describing the amount from the Account that may be used to pay salaries of personnel at the Office of the Secretary of Defense, military departments, and Defense Agencies to manage the Account and the circumstances under which such amounts may be used for such purpose.

(4) LIMITATION ON PAYMENTS TO OR FOR CONTRACTORS.—Amounts in the Account shall not be available for payments to contractors or contractor employees, other than for the purposes of—

(A) providing advanced training to Department of Defense employees;

(B) developing acquisition tools and methodologies and performing research on acqui-