



THE UNDER SECRETARY OF DEFENSE
3010 DEFENSE PENTAGON
WASHINGTON, DC 20301-3010

March 21, 2023

ACQUISITION
AND SUSTAINMENT

MEMORANDUM FOR SERVICE ACQUISITION EXECUTIVES
COMPONENT ACQUISITION EXECUTIVES
UNITED STATES SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND
ACQUISITION EXECUTIVE
DIRECTORS OF THE DEFENSE AGENCIES AND FIELD
ACTIVITIES

SUBJECT: Call for Nominations for the 2023 Defense Acquisition Workforce Awards

Today, our workforce faces a confluence of unprecedented challenges. The multi-domain, pacing threat posed by China and the need for materiel in support of our allies, requires uncommon effort and skill to produce capability relevant to the high-end fight, at scale. In this dynamic landscape, people are our most critical asset and the key to driving our competitive advantage.

I applaud the tremendous efforts of all our acquisition professionals to ensure our warfighters, allies, and partners remain ready to deter aggression and defend democracy around the world. In recognition of those efforts, I am proud to announce this year's call for nominations for the annual Defense Acquisition Workforce Awards.

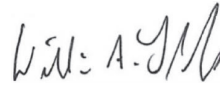
I invite you to nominate those acquisition professionals and teams in your organizations who made significant contributions across the Department to build enduring advantages and preserve our competitive edge. Nominations will be accepted in five Defense Acquisition Workforce Award categories:

- David Packard Excellence in Acquisition;
- Individual Achievement;
- Workforce Development Innovation;
- Flexibility in Contracting; and
- Software Innovation Team Achievement.

Eligibility criteria, submission guidance, and the nomination templates for each award category are provided in Attachments TAB 1-5, respectively. Candidate nominations must be endorsed by the Service or Component Acquisition Executive and are due no later than August 31, 2023. I ask that you disseminate this memorandum throughout your acquisition commands to ensure the most deserving individuals and teams are appropriately considered.

The Office of the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment will recognize the winners during a ceremony in early 2024. Ceremony details will be provided at a later date.

Thank you for your continued dedication to defense acquisition and your support of the men and women who are moving the enterprise forward.



Digitally signed by
LaPlante.William.A.1294140642
Date: 2023.03.21 08:16:12 -04'00'

William A. LaPlante

Attachments:

- TAB 1 – 2023 David Packard Excellence in Acquisition Award
- TAB 2 – 2023 Acquisition Workforce Individual Achievement Award
- TAB 3 – 2023 Acquisition Workforce Development Innovation Award
- TAB 4 – 2023 Flexibility in Contracting Award
- TAB 5 – 2023 Software Innovation Team Award