

DEFENSE CIVILIAN EMERGING LEADER PROGRAM Points of Contact/Suspense Date for Applications & Proposed Training Schedule

*Component/Agency Representatives

Air Force –
Contact your Command Training
Representative to apply.

Army –
Contact your Command Training
Representative to apply.

**Defense Intelligence and
Security Enterprises** –
sharon.m.mcmahon4.civ@mail.mil .

**OUSW, DoW Field
Activities (DoWFA)** –
[DCELP Inbox](#) .

Navy/USMC –
Contact your Command Training
Representative to apply.

**Selected Outside Federal
Agencies** –
Contact your agency Training
Coordinator to apply.

** Prospective applicants must use these systems/points of contact to apply for DCELP. Should you have difficulty using the suggested component system, please contact your local training office for assistance.*

All DCELP applications must first be vetted through the respective Components and organizations: Air Force, Army, Defense Intelligence and Security Enterprises, OUSW, DoW Field Activities, Department of Navy, and selected outside Federal interagencies (i.e, Department of Homeland Security, Department of Justice, and Department of State).

Applications for the first cohort – consisting of personnel from the Acquisition, Financial Management, and Human Resources functional communities – will be reviewed at the Component level and final selections will be made at the OUSW Functional Community Manager level.

Applications for the second cohort – consisting of personnel from all career fields and selected interagency partners – will be reviewed and selections will be made at the Component/interagency level prior to submission to the DCELP staff.

Suspense Dates for Applications

Applications from OUSW Functional Community Managers, Component Representatives (Army, Navy/USMC, Air Force, and the Defense Intelligence and Security Enterprises), and selected outside Federal interagencies must be submitted to the DCPAS Talent Development Directorate NLT
September 8, 2026.

Applications from Training Coordinators for the OUSW, DoW Field Activities must be submitted through the DCPAS Talent Development Directorate and are due NLT **July 6, 2026.**

Please Note: As each Component/organization has additional application requirements, all interested applicants should contact their Components Representatives or Training Coordinators for specific instructions *prior to starting the application process*. **Unfortunately, DCELP cannot accept individual applications that do not have the full endorsement of the applicant's Component Representative or Training Coordinator.**

Proposed Training Schedule

DCELP operates using a four-team configuration with up to 37 participants assigned to each team. The first cohort (March to May 2027) will include up to 144 participants from the Acquisition, Financial Management, and Human Resources functional communities. The second cohort (June to August 2027) will include up to 146 participants from all functional communities and selected outside Federal interagencies. Each Seminars 1 - 4, are one week-long during the cohort. A seminar schedule will be provided to the OUSW Functional Community Managers, Component Representatives, OUSW, DoW Field Activity Training Coordinators, selected Federal interagency Training Coordinators, and participants when available.