

DCPAS Message 2026116

SUBJECT: Defense Senior Leader Development Program - Strategic Pause for Cohort 2027

ACTION: Disseminate to Department of War (DoW) Human Resources Managers and Practitioners, and Leadership Development Coordinators

REFERENCE: Deputy Assistant Secretary of War for Civilian Personnel Policy Memorandum, "Combined Call for Nominations for the Department of War Leader Development Programs," dated February 19, 2026 (Attached)

BACKGROUND: As described in the above reference, the DoW Defense Senior Leader Development Program (DSLDP) is part of the DoW Leader Development Programs. Due to current fiscal constraints, the January 2027 DoW DSLDP cohort has been cancelled, and future cohorts of the program are on a strategic pause until further notice.

DSLDP Cohorts 2025 and 2026 are NOT impacted by this decision and will continue to operate as planned. Cohort 2025 remains on track to graduate in April 2027, and Cohort 2026 will graduate in April 2028.

DoW remains fully committed to the professional development of the civilian workforce and will continue to send updates on future enterprise-wide civilian leader development programming opportunities.

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