

# 1 EDO Study Guide

## 1.1 Acquisition Policy

- Refs:** [0] “3.3.1. Acquisition Policy and Players” Mar. 26, 2025.
- [0] *DoDD 5000.01*, Sep. 9, 2020.
- [0] *DoDI 5000.02*, Aug. 31, 2022.
- [0] *DoDI 5000.85*, Aug. 6, 2020.
- [0] “Federal Acquisition Regulation (FAR)” 2025.
- [0] “Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement (DFARS)” 2025.
- [0] *SECNAVINST 5000.2G*, Apr. 8, 2022.
- [0] *SECNAVINST 5400.15D*, Jan. 19, 2021.
- [0] “Navy Marine Corps Acquisition Regulation Supplement (NMCARS)” 2025.
- [0] *DoD Acquisition Guidebook*.
- [0] “Adaptive Acquisition Framework” 2025.

### 1.1.1 Summary

**Statute drives authority.** Title 10 charges the Military Departments to equip the force, while each annual [National Defense Authorization Act \(NDAA\)](#) refreshes acquisition authorities and reporting duties—know the latest delegation trail before advising a board [0].

**Policy = DoD 5000 series.** DoDD 5000.01 establishes acquisition principles and senior roles; DoDI 5000.02 operationalizes the [Adaptive Acquisition Framework \(AAF\)](#) pathways; DoDI 5000.85 prescribes [Major Capability Acquisition \(MCA\)](#) execution details [0, 0, 0].

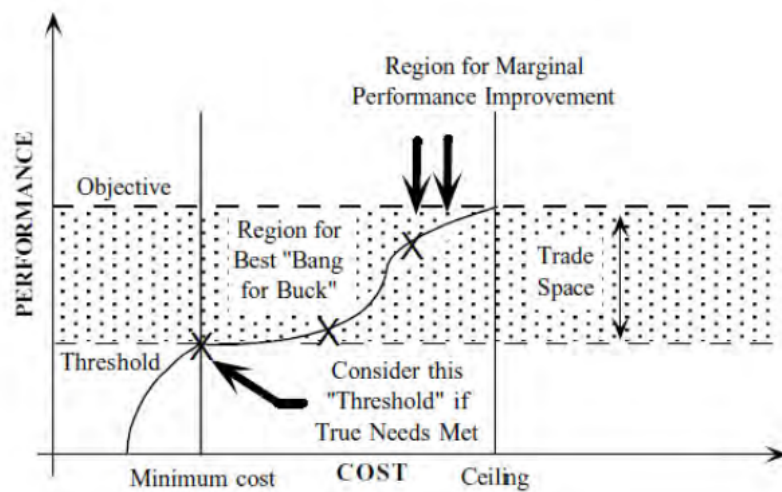
**Regulation stack.** [Federal Acquisition Regulation \(FAR\)](#) > [Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement \(DFARS\)](#) > [Navy Marine Corps Acquisition Regulation Supplement \(NMCARS\)](#) translates statute and policy into enforceable

contracting rules; SECNAVINST 5000.2G tailors the acaaf for acdon programs and makes Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition (ASN(RD&A)) the Service Acquisition Executive (SAE) [0, 0, 0].

The main drivers that a Program Manager (PM) must balance is cost, schedule, and performance as shown in Figure 1.1. The trade space for performance versus cost is shown in Figure 1.2, which shows the relation of performance and cost with the threshold and objective requirements.



**FIGURE 1.1:** The cost, schedule, and performance triangle that must be balanced and traded. Source: 3.3.1. Acquisition Policy and Players, 2025 [0].



Graphic from Selected Topics in Assurance Related Technologies (START)  
Volume 5, Number 2

*The “knee of the curve” helps answer this question:  
“Is the additional performance worth the additional investment?”*

### 3.3.1 Acquisition Policy and Players

**FIGURE 1.2:** Trade space of performance v.s. cost showing the range of viable options with the region of best “value.” Source: 3.3.1. Acquisition Policy and Players, 2025 [0].

### 1.1.2 Practitioner Steps (Board Prep Focus)

1. Confirm statutory authority and delegation: identify the [Defense Acquisition Executive \(DAE\)](#) (USD(A&S)) or delegated [Milestone Decision Authority \(MDA\)](#), the [SAE \(ASN\(RD&A\)\)](#), and the resource sponsor accountable for the requirement [0, 0, 0].
2. Select the correct [AAF](#) pathway (or hybrid) and align entry/exit criteria, statutory reports, and decision forums (MS A/B/C, [Materiel Development Decision \(MDD\)](#), [Business Case Analysis \(BCAs\)](#), Congressional notices) [0, 0].
3. Map contracting rules to the pathway: [FAR/ DFARS](#) clauses, competition requirements, and Tailored Acquisition Strategy approvals [0, 0, 0].
4. Crosswalk Navy overlays: SECNAVINST 5000.2G, SECNAVINST 5400.15D organization responsibilities, and [Program Executive Office \(PEO\)/ Direct Reporting Program Manager \(DRPM\)](#) charters for technical authority touchpoints [0, 0].
5. Prepare decision documentation: update the Acquisition Strategy / [Systems Engineering Plan \(SEP\)](#) / [Test and Evaluation Master Plan \(TEMP\)](#), ensure statutory certifications (Clinger-Cohen, [Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Execution \(PPBE\)](#) affordability caps) are current, and pre-brief the chain (Program Office → [PEO](#) → [ASN\(RD&A\)](#)) [0, 0].

### 1.1.3 Policy Stack and Authorities

**Title 10, U.S.C.** Establishes Service responsibilities (Subtitle C for [Department of the Navy \(DON\)](#) organization, Subtitle A Part V for acquisition management) and empowers annual [NDAAs](#) to adjust acquisition thresholds or pilot authorities [0].

**DoD Directives/Instructions.** DoDD 5000.01 sets acquisition principles, governance forums, and senior leader responsibilities; DoDI 5000.02 implements the [AAF](#) with six scalable pathways; DoDI 5000.85 gives [MCA](#)-specific statutory requirements ([Joint Requirements Oversight Council \(JROC\)](#), cost reporting, baseline control) [0, 0, 0].

**Regulations.** [FAR](#) and [DFARS](#) governs all federal contracting; [DFARS](#) adds [Department of Defense \(DoD\)](#)-specific clauses (e.g., earned value, data rights, cybersecurity); [NMCARS](#) adds [DON](#) policy and [ASN\(RD&A\)](#) approval levels [0, 0, 0].

**Service overlays.** SECNAVINST 5000.2G tailors milestone documentation, Naval [Systems Command \(SYSCOM\)](#) oversight, and Naval Accelerated Acquisition; SECNAVINST 5400.15D assigns [PEO](#) and [SYSCOM](#) responsibilities for acquisition program execution [0, 0].

**Advisory guidance.** The [Defense Acquisition Guidebook \(DAG\)](#) captures best practices—it is not directive authority, but boards expect you to know how it informs planning reviews and tailoring memoranda [0].

**Info**

Boards expect you to quote the controlling document *and* state who owns the decision. Memorize the policy ladder:  
 Statute → Directive → Instruction → Regulation → Service overlay.

**1.1.4 Acquisition Players and Decision Forums**

**DAE.** USD(A&S) chairs the [Defense Acquisition Board \(DAB\)](#), is [MDA](#) for ACAT ID/IAM programs unless delegated, and approves key acquisition policies [0, 0].

**SAE.** [ASN\(RD&A\)](#) serves as the [DON SAE](#); appoints [PEOs](#), assigns [MDA](#) for ACAT II and below, and ensures Navy acquisition compliance with [DoD](#) policy [0, 0].

**Chief of Naval Operations/Resource Sponsor.** Validates requirements and [PPBE](#) resourcing, provides integrated warfare/community priorities to [ASN\(RD&A\)](#) and the [PEOs](#) [0].

**PEO/DRPM.** Executes programs within delegated authorities; maintains acquisition baseline control, briefs [ASN\(RD&A\)](#) and [DAB](#)-level forums, and ensures [SYSCOM](#) technical authority integration [0, 0].

**PM.** Accountable for cost, schedule, performance; leads the [Integrated Product Team \(IPT\)](#), maintains statutory certifications, and readies milestone documentation [0, 0].

**Governance forums.** Milestone Decision Reviews, the [DAB](#), Configuration Steering Boards, Overarching [IPTs](#), and Navy Program Executive Council reviews provide structured oversight and risk adjudication [0, 0, 0].

**Note**

Edge case: Rapid acquisition authorities (e.g., [Undefinitized Contract Action \(UCA\)](#)) compress governance. Ensure delegation letters document any waived statutory certifications before you recommend skipping a [DAB](#) or [ASN\(RD&A\)](#) review [0].

**1.1.5 Adaptive Acquisition Framework Pathways**

The [AAF](#) can be visualized in Figure 1.3

**Major Capability Acquisition.** Default for weapon systems; milestone-driven with statutory reports ( [Selected Acquisition Report \(SAR\)](#), [Defense Acquisition Executive Summary \(DAES\)](#)) and Live-Fire/ [TEMP](#) requirements [0].

**Middle Tier of Acquisition.** Rapid prototyping ( $\leq 5$  years to field) and rapid fielding pathways; report to USD(R&E)/USD(A&S) and Congress semi-annually [0].

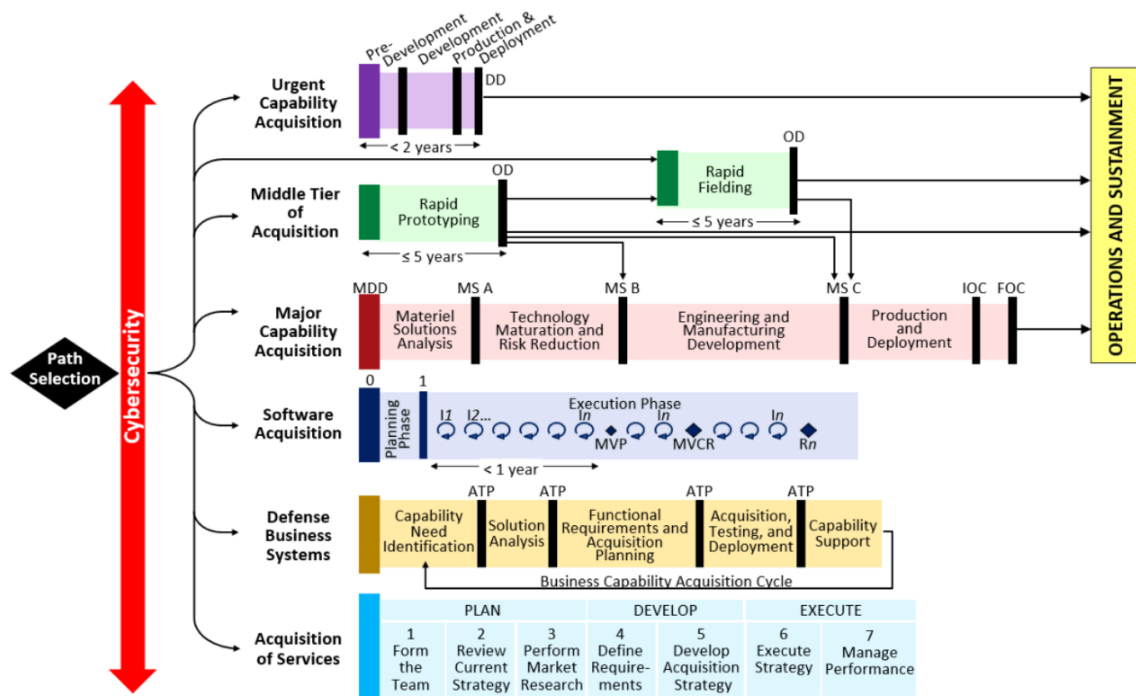


FIGURE 1.3: Adaptive Acquisition Pathways. Source: Adaptive Acquisition Framework, 2025 [0].

**Software Acquisition.** Iterative DevSecOps delivery, tailored documentation (Software Acquisition Strategy) and continuous Authority to Operate emphasis [0].

**Business Systems.** Focuses on business process re-engineering, investment review board certification, and Clinger-Cohen Act compliance [0].

**Defense Urgent Capability.** Immediate warfighter needs; compressed oversight but still documents affordability and sustainment plans [0].

**Services Acquisition.** Managed via DoDI 5000.74 (referenced in DoDI 5000.02) with governance through functional domain leads; consider when an availability or modernization effort is better treated as a service [0, 0].

#### Info

Pathways can be combined (e.g., prototype under Middle-Tier then transition to [MCA](#)). Boards ask why your chosen path best fits cost/schedule urgency.

### 1.1.6 Navy Overlays and Touchpoints

**SECNAVINST 5000.2G.** Implements [ASN\(RD&A\)](#) Program Decision Meetings, requires risk-based tailoring plans, and codifies [DON](#)-level documentation (Acquisition Plan, [Life-Cycle Sustainment Plan \(LCSP\)](#), POA&M) [0].

**SECNAVINST 5400.15D.** Aligns [PEOs](#) and [SYSCOMs](#), clarifies technical authority (NAVSEA 05, NAVWAR 5.0) integration, and designates Deputy [ASN\(RD&A\)](#) portfolio responsibilities [0].

**Resource Sponsor coordination.** [Office of the Chief of Naval Operations \(OPNAV\)](#) N9, N4, or equivalent sponsor must endorse requirements and [PPBE](#) positions before [ASN\(RD&A\)](#) decisions [0].

#### Note

When [Secretary of the Navy \(SECNAV\)](#) policy conflicts with older [DoD](#) memoranda, defer to the most current directive from the higher authority unless [ASN\(RD&A\)](#) grants written tailoring. Document the rationale in the Acquisition Strategy.

# Acronyms

Acronym	Definition
AAF	Adaptive Acquisition Framework
ASN(RD&A)	Assistant Secretary of the Navy for Research, Development and Acquisition
BCA	Business Case Analysis
DAB	Defense Acquisition Board
DAE	Defense Acquisition Executive
DAES	Defense Acquisition Executive Summary
DAG	Defense Acquisition Guidebook
DFARS	Defense Federal Acquisition Regulation Supplement
DoD	Department of Defense
DON	Department of the Navy
DRPM	Direct Reporting Program Manager
FAR	Federal Acquisition Regulation
IPT	Integrated Product Team
JROC	Joint Requirements Oversight Council
LCSP	Life-Cycle Sustainment Plan
MCA	Major Capability Acquisition
MDA	Milestone Decision Authority
MDD	Materiel Development Decision
NDAA	National Defense Authorization Act
NMCARS	Navy Marine Corps Acquisition Regulation Supplement
OPNAV	Office of the Chief of Naval Operations
PEO	Program Executive Office
PM	Program Manager
PPBE	Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Execution
SAE	Service Acquisition Executive

Acronym	Definition
SAR	Selected Acquisition Report
SECNAV	Secretary of the Navy
SEP	Systems Engineering Plan
SYSCOM	Systems Command
TEMP	Test and Evaluation Master Plan
UCA	Un definitized Contract Action