DITAP Refresh Project: Consortium Kick-off

July 15-16, 2025 - Workshop Summary

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# Executive Summary

**DITAP Refresh Project: Consortium Kick-off Workshop  
Date:** July 15–16, 2025  
**Prepared by:** TandemGov

The DITAP Consortium convened key stakeholders—federal acquisition leaders, certified training vendors, agency representatives, and program alumni—for a strategic workshop to align on the future direction of the Digital IT Acquisition Professional (DITAP) program. The goal: to co-create a governance and operational foundation that supports continuous improvement, expands participation, and reinforces the program’s impact on federal digital acquisition capabilities.

## Workshop Objectives

* Formally convene the inaugural members of the Consortium
* Refine the Consortium Charter (mission, membership, governance)
* Review updated DITAP Core curriculum and new adaptation pilots
* Align on Year One priorities and goals

## Key Outcomes

* **Charter Refinement:** Participants emphasized clarity around decision-making vs. collaboration, expanded membership (including alumni and innovation labs), and transparent governance mechanisms.
* **Potential Year One Goals Identified**:
  1. Measure impact and effectiveness of DITAP graduates
  2. Successfully roll out the refreshed DITAP Core curriculum
  3. Identify and launch pilot cohorts for two DITAP MVP adaptation courses
  4. Build a moderated, purpose-driven alumni community
  5. Improve and embed shadowing experiences in training
  6. Ensure instructors have current federal procurement experience

## Strategic Themes

* **Program Impact:** Focus on measurable outcomes, learner success, and real-world application (e.g., through RFQ tracking).
* **Governance:** Need for structured yet flexible leadership, clarity on roles, and open access to communication channels (e.g., GitHub, Slack).
* **Community Building:** A coordinated alumni ecosystem is essential for peer learning and sustainable change.
* **Innovation Opportunities:** AI-assisted delivery, modular curriculum formats, and increased accessibility were surfaced as key levers for future growth.

## **Next Steps**

* Finalize and publish the Consortium Charter with agreed-upon revisions
* Develop a centralized communication and documentation hub
* Schedule the next Consortium meeting for October 2025
* Develop a preliminary agenda and action plan for year one activities

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# Workshop Summary

The DITAP Consortium is envisioned as a collaborative body to guide the continuous evolution of the DITAP program. Its mission is to enhance digital acquisition capabilities across government by improving curriculum delivery, engaging alumni, enabling agency adoption, and fostering ecosystem-wide knowledge sharing. The workshop convened certified training vendors, federal acquisition leaders, agency representatives, and alumni to co-develop a functional and forward-looking Consortium Charter.

# Workshop Agenda

## **Workshop Day 1: Charter Refinement**

Three focus groups worked on the core sections of the Consortium charter found here: <https://app.mural.co/t/subwithus9451/m/subwithus9451/1752244129819/e399f5f9568b5e5398ef9595de0848c6c5915cfb>

Feedback tools like “I like… / I wonder… / What if…” were used extensively to surface diverse perspectives, including:

* The need for **open communication tools** accessible to all.
* Suggestions to explore **post-DITAP tracking**, such as use of AI or RFQ sampling.

### **1. Mission & Membership**

Participants affirmed the mission’s emphasis on program improvement, stakeholder collaboration, and alumni engagement. Questions and suggestions emerged about:

* Clarifying **decision-making authority** vs. open collaboration.
* Expanding membership to include more **acquisition innovation labs** and alumni.
* Balancing **vendor independence** with coordinated improvement efforts.

### **2. Key Functions & Responsibilities**

Refinements centered on:

* Enhancing **feedback mechanisms** from alumni, agencies, and vendors.
* Expanding **program impact tracking**, including metrics and learner outcomes.
* Creating structured spaces for **knowledge sharing** and continuous learning.
* Providing **clear channels for contribution** without requiring IP-sharing.

### **3. Governance & Administration**

Themes included:

* Defining **leadership succession plans** (especially for USDS-led roles).
* Addressing **vendor conflicts of interest** and engagement boundaries.
* Increasing **transparency** via open notes and GitHub repo access.
* Clarifying **commitment expectations**, especially for working group participation.

## **Workshop Day 2: Year One Goals & Action Planning**

## **Opportunities & Challenges**

Participants mapped the *challenges* and *opportunities* around DITAP’s evolution:

### **Challenges included:**

* Participation barriers (cost, time, org support).
* Curriculum relevancy and outdated formats.
* Demonstrating post-program impact.
* Instructor qualifications and vendor saturation concerns.

### **Opportunities included:**

* Expanding cohort offerings and tailoring content.
* Using AI to modernize delivery and automate content.
* Creating modular or lightweight DITAP versions.
* Measuring real-world application (e.g., using SAM.gov RFQs).

The board synthesized input into **actionable Year One goals**, prioritized for feasibility and impact:

### **Top Goals Identified**

1. **Measure impact and effectiveness of DITAP graduates**
   * Action: Define success metrics, design surveys, conduct alumni and agency interviews.
2. **Successfully roll out the refreshed DITAP Core curriculum**
   * Action: Finalize, publish, and communicate curriculum updates.
   * Owners: Delivery providers, leadership agencies.
3. **Identify and launch pilot cohorts for two DITAP MVP adaptation courses**
   * Action: Prepare content, identify participants, test demand.
4. **Build a moderated, purpose-driven alumni community**
   * Action: Define community purpose, platform, and moderation model.
5. **Ensure instructors have current federal procurement experience**
   * Action: Tap into alumni, design renewal or “train-the-trainer” models.

## **Charter Refinement Highlights**

### **Mission**

* Emphasizes continuous improvement and collaboration.
* Focused on improving digital acquisition capabilities across the government.

### **Membership**

* Core members: USDS, OFPP, FAI, training vendors, agency labs.
* Additional members: Alumni, Acquisition Innovation Advocates, other federal labs.
* Key considerations: transparency, role clarity, inclusion of new vendors and alumni.

### **Key Functions**

* **Curriculum Oversight**: Feedback loops from vendors, alumni, and agencies.
* **Impact Tracking**: Define and measure success metrics.
* **Knowledge Sharing**: Guest speakers, best practices, and continuous learning.
* **Community Engagement**: Alumni networking and cross-agency learning.

### **Governance & Operations**

* Chaired by USDS; decisions remain with federal leadership.
* Vendors not required to share proprietary content.
* Quarterly meetings + annual strategic review.
* Participation is voluntary; communication via GitHub, Slack, and web conferencing.

## **Year One Consortium Goals**

| **Goal** | **Summary** | **Lead Stakeholders** |
| --- | --- | --- |
| **1. Core Curriculum Refresh Rollout** | Ensure successful delivery of updated curriculum across providers. | Delivery Providers, USDS, OFPP, FAI |
| **2. Launch Pilot MVP Adaptation Courses** | Test two new DITAP adaptations with select cohorts. | Vendors, Leadership Agencies |
| **3. Build Alumni Community** | Establish platforms and practices for ongoing alumni engagement. | FAI, USDS |
| **4. Improve Shadowing Experiences** | Standardize and enhance real-world exposure for participants. | Agencies, Vendors |
| **5. Measure Program Effectiveness** | Define KPIs and collect post-graduation impact data. | Vendors, USDS, Agencies |
| **6. Ensure Real-World Experience in Instruction** | Include federal procurement practitioners in course delivery. | Vendors, Alumni, USDS |
| **7. Expand Stakeholder Participation** | Engage broader acquisition ecosystem (legal, IT, program, finance). | Consortium Leadership |

# Workshop Takeaways

The workshop emphasized:

* A strong desire for **structured collaboration** without overburdening participants.
* The importance of **continuous iteration**, driven by data and feedback loops.
* A collective commitment to growing the **DITAP community and influence**.
* Recognizing the **balance between federal leadership authority** and vendor/agency contributions.

# Next Steps

* Finalize and publish the Charter with agreed-upon revisions.
* Stand up working groups aligned to year-one goals.
* Develop communication plan and GitHub documentation hub.
* Schedule first Consortium quarterly meeting and launch alumni engagement pilot.

# Attendees

| Name | Department / Company | Role | July 2025 |
| --- | --- | --- | --- |
| David Sette | USDS | DITAP Consortium Lead, Acquisition Strategist - USDS - Executive Office of the President | A |
| Joanie Newhart | OFPP | Associate Administrator of Acquisition Workforce Programs | A |
| Shawn Sandi | FAI | Learning and Development  Procurement Analyst | A |
| Jennifer Heno | FAI | Credential Manager | A |
| Michael Hartzel | FAI | DITAP COR | A |
| Michelle Kimberlin | [ICF](https://www.icf.com/) | Manager, Learning Solutions | A |
| Beth Blazek | [Management Concepts](https://www.managementconcepts.com/) | Executive Director, DITAP Program Manager | A |
| Jeff Auser | [Skylight](https://skylight.digital/) | Head of Contracts | A |
| Randy Zmuda | ASI | Director of Product | A |
| Farooq Zakhilwal | [CivicActions](https://civicactions.com/) | DITAP Program Manager, Associate Director | A |
| Chianti Lomax | [CivicActions](https://civicactions.com/) | Curriculum Development Lead | A |
| Sandra Schmidt | DHS Procurement Innovation Lab | Director - DHS Office of the Chief Procurement Officer | A |
| Gary Rauchfuss | DHS |  | A |
| Fletcher, Andrea (or alternative) | Digital Service @ CMS | Chief Digital Strategy Officer (CDSO) | A |
| Peterson, Timothy | Digital Service @ CMS | Acting Deputy Director, Applications Management Group | A |
| Patrick Trulock | Digital Service @ CMS | Senior Advisor, Digital Service at CMS | A |
| Trevor Wagner | Department of Commerce Lab | Director of the Lab | A |
| Cari Fraser |  |  | A |
| Aaron Pava - initial mtg only | CivicActions | Chief Experience Officer | A |
| April Cruz - initial mtg only | CivicActions | Presenter | A |
| Kristen Jernigan - initial mtg only | CivicActions | Presenter | A |
| Kathryn Mullins - initial mtg only | TandemGov | Initial Meeting Facilitator | A |
| Dave Zvenyach - initial mtg only | TandemGov | Initial Meeting Facilitator | A |
| Becky Vasquez - initial mtg only | TandemGov | Initial Meeting Facilitator | A |