

## **Defense Emerging Leader Program (DCELP) Army Financial Management Cohort**

### **Frequently Asked Questions (FAQs)**

#### ***Where are the DCELP sessions held?***

DCELP resident course sessions are held at the DoD Executive Management Training Center in Southbridge, Massachusetts. Non-resident requirements will be coordinated via a web-based portal.

#### ***How many resident DCELP sessions are there?***

There are currently four resident courses associated with the DCELP program with program graduation at the end of the fourth course.

#### ***Are the four resident courses held consecutively?***

No, each of the four courses is one-week long and typically held about once every other month.

#### ***Are there multiple offerings of each resident course?***

There are two sessions offered for the first three courses. The fourth course only has one offering as it concludes with the DCELP graduation.

#### ***Are resident course sessions held in Calendar Year or Fiscal Year 2017?***

The program executes in FY 2017, but is primarily held in CY 2017. FY15 DCELP course sessions were held February to mid-September 2015 while FY16 DCELP went from April to early-September 2016.

#### ***Has the DCELP 2017 resident schedule posted?***

As of June 2016 the 2017 DCELP resident schedule has not yet posted; however, the structure of the schedule has been relatively standard. For reference, the 2016 DCELP resident schedule's as follows:

Orientation (Session 1): 11-15 APR 2016

Orientation (Session 2): 25-29 APR 2016

Second Seminar (Session 1): 16-20 MAY 2016

Second Seminar (Session 2): 6-10 JUN 2016

Third Seminar (Session 1): 11-15 JUL 2016

Third Seminar (Session 2): 1-5 AUG 2016

Fourth Seminar (Graduation): 29 AUG – 2 SEP 2016

#### ***Will non-resident requirements interfere with DCELP participant's job performance?***

Non-resident requirements are not intended to interfere with participant's work, although participants are expected to exhibit time management skills to balance completion of DCELP program requirements in accordance with their day-to-day tasks and responsibilities. Assignments may require engagement with colleagues or a task as it pertains to assignment topics.

#### ***Can participants miss a resident course session and still graduate?***

No. Participants will be assigned a Team number upon selection, which will have specific sessions assigned for them to attend. Any conflicts must be identified at that time. Initial team and session assignments are intended to be firm but alternate accommodations could potentially be coordinated.

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#### ***Are there any costs associated to the program that the Command would need to support?***

The program tuition and materials, TDY travel, lodging and per diem are centrally funded. Typically the only TDY expense that is Command funded is a rental car. Any Command funded expense would need to be coordinated prior to travel date and identified within the Defense Travel System (DTS).

#### ***I work for a Command/Organization that does not use DTS, if selected would I be able to travel?***

Yes. Participants that execute travel outside of DTS complete a DD Form 1610 associated with their TDY requirements and will execute travel in their local system. Vouchers are processed directly to DFAS.

#### ***There's an "Intern" box for type of employee on the Supervisor Assessment, are interns able to apply for this program?***

The "Intern" box is typically used for applicants who are local hire interns funded by the Command; however, a centrally-funded ACTEDS intern is eligible for nomination if they will be graduating prior to 30 SEP 2016, have the required 3 years of full-time federal service and notable FM work experience.

#### ***What is key to keep in mind when nominating and/or considering a candidate for nomination?***

It's important for nominees to have a working knowledge of Financial Management concepts, policies, and procedures to adequately contribute to the DCELP curriculum. The program is intended to enhance Leadership skills and competencies, and adds depth to assignments and discussions by expanding on the participants FM knowledge and relevant experience. Strong performance record and the ability to multi-task is also important as participants will need to maintain time management skills to balance work, program, and life requirements.

#### ***The eligibility requirements list General Schedule (GS) levels, are non-GS or GS-equivalent employees able to apply?***

The GS pay plan is the baseline; however, GS-equivalents and applicants in other pay plans may apply. Applicants in other pay bands should notate their GS equivalent in their application materials for clarity.

#### ***Is an employee who is a GS-12 step 4 able to apply for DCELP?***

Yes. The 2017 cohort expanded the program to include applicants up through GS-12; previously the maximum grade level was GS-11. NOTE: If the applicant is selected then promoted to GS-13 prior to the start of the program, their program eligibility will be forfeited.

#### ***I'm a CP-11 careerist but my position is coded Acquisition, am I able to apply for the Army FM Cohort?***

No. DCELP has an Acquisition Cohort that encompasses all Acquisition coded personnel regardless of Career Program. Each DCELP Cohort has their own respective nomination processes and procedures that applicable personnel must route through. The applicant would need to contact the DCELP Acquisition Cohort Program Manager to apply for the program.

#### ***Is DCELP open to military applicants?***

No, DCELP is currently open to civilian careerists within the Department of Defense services.