

MILPERSMAN 1301-236

OFFICER SPECIAL ASSIGNMENTS - AVIATION ACQUISITION PROFESSIONAL (AP) UNRESTRICTED LINE (URL) MAJOR PROGRAM MANAGER ELIGIBLE (MPM-E) CAREER PATH

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References	(a) CNO WASHINGTON DC 291651Z May 09 (NAVADMIN 165/09) (b) ASN (RD&A) DON DAWIA Operating Guide of 07 Jul 2022 (c) ASN (RD&A) DATM APM Policy Memo of 20 Apr 2022 (NOTAL) (d) NAVPERS 15839I, Manual of Navy Officer Manpower and Personnel Classifications
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1. **Purpose.** This article addresses the need to maintain a sufficient pool of aviation acquisition professional (AP) unrestricted line (URL) officers qualified to lead major acquisition programs.

2. **Background.** The aviation AP URL major program manager (MPM) eligible (MPM-E) career path was established per reference (a), to develop a select group of AP URL aviators to achieve statutory requirements for MPM selection. Direct association with a major acquisition program, statutory Defense Acquisition Workforce Improvement Act (DAWIA) certification and experience requirements outlined in reference (b), and selection as an AP member, per [MILPERSMAN 1301-700](#) and reference (c), are prerequisites for career progression and ultimately for selection as an MPM. In particular, statutory acquisition experience and advanced program management defense acquisition qualifications requirements require structured career patterns different from aviation URL officers who serve exclusively in their primary warfare specialties.

3. **Aviation AP URL MPM-E Career Path Selection.** Selection for the aviation AP URL MPM-E career path is accomplished by administrative board convened by Commander, Naval Air Systems Command (COMNAVAIRSYSCOM) and announced via naval administrative (NAVADMIN) message, on the official COMNAVAIRSYSCOM Web site at <https://www.navair.navy.mil/Acquisition-Slate-Boards> or other official correspondence. The selection board will typically be held semi-annually, at times concurrent with the COMNAVAIRSYSCOM MPM slating panel. Boards will select between six and nine officers per year. Eligible aviation URL officers must submit a signed application per COMNAVAIRSYSCOM AP URL MPM-E annual charter requirements to be considered. Selection does not obligate officers to enter the aviation AP URL MPM-E career path. The COMNAVAIRSYSCOM Aviation AP URL Officer Community Manager (OCM) manages the selection board and post-selection career paths in conjunction with Navy Personnel Command (NAVPERSCOM) Aviation Officer Distribution Division (PERS-43).

4. **Eligibility Guidelines**

a. Aviation command screen board selected.

b. Acquisition professional additional qualification designator (AQD) awarded (AP member) or able to achieve acquisition professional qualifications within 24 months of assignment to a post-command acquisition billet per reference (c).

c. Officers selected as MPM-E should be able to achieve 24 months of program office-experience and 96 months of total acquisition-experience prior to 26 years of commissioned service to meet acquisition category (ACAT) 1 MPM experience and tenure requirements and or constraints. While a candidate with career timing to meet ACAT 1 MPM requirements is preferred, candidates who only have sufficient career timing to meet ACAT 2, 3, or 4 or MPM equivalent minimums are also eligible.

Note: Officers should attain acceptance into the aviation AP URL MPM-E career path prior to their post-commander command detailing negotiating window to ensure proper coordination and assignment to acquisition positions. Officers completing operational training (OP-T) or special mission (SM) commander command must remain competitive for O-6 pay grade selection, which may require sea duty or sea duty-equivalent orders prior to acquisition coded billet assignment.

5. Assignment Policy

a. Officers must notify the aviation AP URL OCM and PERS-43 of their intent to apply for the aviation AP URL MPM-E career path. The OCM and respective detailer will discuss the post-command detailing process with officers and should cover information contained in subparagraphs 5b through 5f.

b. Officers who are selected must accept entry into the aviation AP URL MPM-E career path by official correspondence to the Aviation AP URL OCM and PERS-43. Accepted officers will be designated via AQD per reference (d) ("A2E" is the assigned AQD for aviation AP URL MPM-E career path officers). Once acceptance is received by PERS-43, detailers will add a personal correspondence note to the officers' record.

c. Accepted officers will be assigned to acquisition billets to compete for major acquisition command and will not compete on the Aviation Major Command Screen Board (AMCSB) for aviation major operational command.

d. For accepted officers, joint specialty officer (JSO) and or joint qualified officer requirements for appointment to pay grade O-7 will be waived in line with the Science and Technology waiver per [MILPERSMAN 1301-700](#) for officers not able to complete JSO requirements due to acquisition-related experience requirements.

e. Officers who are selected, but do not accept, will not be considered for future acceptance into the aviation AP URL MPM-E career path, but may continue to apply for acquisition billets through the normal PERS-43 detailing process.

f. For accepted officers, withdrawal from the aviation AP URL MPM-E career path must be done by official correspondence and will only restore the officer's eligibility for aviation major operational command if executed in advance of the officer's in-zone AMCSB look. Additionally, withdrawal will return the officer to the normal PERS-43 detailing process.