

PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION PROGRAMS

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Non-Commissioned Officer Academy (NCO DLC)

Program Information: The Noncommissioned Officer Distance Learning Course (NCO DLC) provides an advanced PME program for NCOs to better prepare them for leadership responsibilities by expanding their leadership and managerial capabilities and their perspective of the military profession.

Eligibility

- **Air Force Active Duty:** No grade requirement; Completion of ALS
- **Civilians:** Civil service members in the grade of GS-5, or equivalent WG, WL, and WS must have verification from commander or supervisor stating the reason for course enrollment
- **Sister-services:** grade of E-5.

Duration: Students enrolled in NCO DLC will have 12 months to complete the course.

Senior Non-Commissioned Officer Academy (SNCO DLC)

Program Information: The Senior Noncommissioned Officer Distance Learning Course (SNCO DLC) provides an advanced PME program for SNCOs to better prepare them for leadership responsibilities by expanding their leadership and managerial capabilities and their perspective of the military profession.

Eligibility

- **Air Force Active Duty:** No grade requirement; Completion of NCOA – ILE
- **Civilians:** Civil service members in the grade of GS-6, or equivalent WG, WL, and WS must have verification from commander or supervisor stating the reason for course enrollment
- **Sister-services:** grade of E-7 and E-7 selects

Duration: Students enrolled in SNCO DLC will have 12 months to complete the course.

Squadron Officer College (SOS/PDE)

Program Information The Squadron Officer School (SOS) program is the Air Force's primary developmental education (PDE) distance learning (DL) program designed to advance the professional development foundation provided by the accessions programs. The SOS DL curriculum is based on Air Force and joint professional military education publications for subject matter content in leadership, communication, profession of arms, warfare, and international security areas of study. As an Air Force educational program, SOS DL seeks to provide an “air-minded” curriculum that prepares graduates for greater responsibilities at the squadron level while also building critical thinking skills in the application of airpower for national security goals and objectives.

Eligibility:

- **Air Force Active Duty** - The intent is for all active duty to attend SOS in-residence and the PDE/SOS DL program to serve as an alternative if an officer is unable to attend the in-residence program. Therefore the following restrictions apply for active duty officers:
 - Line-of-the-Air Force (LAF) captains are prohibited from enrolling in the PDE/SOS DL course until seven years TAFCS.
 - LAF-J, HC, and NC officers are prohibited from enrolling in PDE/SOS DL until three years' time-in-grade as a captain.
 - MSC and BSC officers are prohibited from enrolling in PDE/SOS DL until two years' time-in-grade as a captain.
 - MC and DC officers may enroll in PDE/SOS DL on or after their date of rank to captain.
- **Civilians** - DoD civilian employees in the grades of GS-9 to GS-12, DCIPS PB2, and NAF 3/4 and above who possess regionally-accredited baccalaureate degrees may enroll in PDE/SOS DL.
- **Sister-services** - Sister Service Officers in the grade of O-3 may enroll.

Duration:.

Air Command & Staff College (ACSC/IDE)

Program Information: The Air Command and Staff College (ACSC) distance learning (DL) intermediate developmental education (IDE) curriculum is designed to produce a more effective field-grade officer serving in operational-level command or staff positions. The IDE/ACSC DL program emphasizes applying airpower in joint campaign planning and the operational art of war. Students explore national security issues, strategy and war theory, airpower history and theory, expeditionary Air Force force-employment concepts, and the capabilities and limitations that the US Air Force and its sister services contribute to joint force commanders.

Eligibility:

- **Air Force Active Duty/Sister Services:** O-4 selects and above
- **Civilians:** DoD civilian employees in the grade of GS-11 thru GS-13, non-appropriated fund (NAF) 4/5, DR-I and DR-II with a bachelor's degree may also enroll.
 - Civilian employees in the grade of GS-11, or equivalent must have completed PDE/SOS by distance learning or in-residence before they are eligible to enroll in the IDE/ACSC DL program.

Duration: The program should take students approximately 7 to 12 months to complete. Students have a maximum of five years to complete the program.

Air War College (AWC/SDE)

Program Information: The Air War College distance learning (AWC DL) program is a senior developmental education (SDE) program. The SDE/AWC DL curriculum is based on the five core areas central to all levels of professional military education—leadership, profession of arms, warfighting, national/international

security, and communication studies. The SDE/AWC DL program provides a strategic, “air-minded” curriculum that prepares graduates to provide strategic leadership, appropriate expertise and critical thinking in support of national security objectives.

Eligibility

- **Air Force Active Duty/Sister Service:** O-5 selects and above
- **Civilians:** DoD civilian employees in the grades of GS 13/14/15, NH III or lab/demo employees in grades DRIII/IV are eligible to enroll.
 - Civilian employees in the grade of GS-13 or equivalent, must have completed ACSC (online or in-residence) before they are eligible to enroll in the SDE/AWC DL program.

Duration: A student can reasonably complete the program in six to eight months. Students can remain enrolled in the AWC DL program for up to 60 months.

Enrollment (All programs):

If you meet the program eligibility, you must create an AUSIS account before enrolling. A CAC card is required to create the account using the following method: Go to AF Portal and login. Under QUICK LINKS, scroll down to EDUCATION/TRAINING/FORCE DEVELOPMENT, and click on Air University Portal, go to the silver bar that reads "Click here to login or create a new account," and click on "Create Account." Once you follow the steps, go down to the menu bar on the left side of the AU Portal page and hover over "Distance Learning," then hover over "**THE APPLICABLE PROGRAM**" and select "AUSIS." From the AUSIS page, click on "Create Account."