

# Optimizing Air Force and Department of Defense Review of Air Force Acquisitions

The Air Force and Department of Defense (DoD) are constantly looking for ways to improve the acquisition process and ensure that they are getting the best possible value for their money. In recent years, there have been a number of initiatives to review and optimize the acquisition process, including the Air Force's own Air Force Acquisition Review (AFAR) and the DoD's Better Buying Power (BBP) initiative.

The AFAR was established in 2016 to review the Air Force's acquisition process and make recommendations for improvement. The AFAR team conducted a comprehensive review of the acquisition process, from planning and requirements definition to contract execution and closeout. The team identified a number of areas for improvement, including:



## Optimizing U.S. Air Force and Department of Defense Review of Air Force Acquisitions Programs by John M. Carey

★★★★☆ 4.7 out of 5

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- Streamlining the acquisition process
- Improving communication and coordination between stakeholders
- Increasing the use of data and analytics
- Enhancing the workforce's skills and knowledge

The AFAR team made a number of recommendations to improve the Air Force's acquisition process. These recommendations were incorporated into the Air Force's Acquisition Strategy, which was published in 2018. The Acquisition Strategy outlines the Air Force's goals for acquisition reform and provides a roadmap for achieving those goals.

The DoD's BBP initiative was launched in 2014 to improve the acquisition process across the Department of Defense. The BBP initiative focuses on five key areas:

- Improving requirements definition and planning
- Enhancing competition and reducing costs
- Increasing the use of innovation
- Improving oversight and governance
- Developing a skilled workforce

The BBP initiative has made significant progress in improving the acquisition process across the DoD. For example, the DoD has implemented a number of new policies and procedures to streamline the acquisition process and improve communication between stakeholders.

The DoD has also increased its use of data and analytics to make better informed acquisition decisions.

The Air Force's AFAR and the DoD's BBP initiative are two important examples of how the Air Force and DoD are working to optimize the acquisition process. These initiatives have made significant progress in improving the efficiency, effectiveness, and transparency of the acquisition process. As the Air Force and DoD continue to implement these initiatives, they will be better positioned to acquire the best possible equipment and services for the warfighter.

### **Benefits of Optimizing the Acquisition Process**

Optimizing the acquisition process can provide a number of benefits for the Air Force and DoD, including:

- Reduced costs
- Improved efficiency
- Increased transparency
- Enhanced capability
- Improved readiness

By reducing costs, the Air Force and DoD can free up resources that can be used for other priorities, such as readiness and modernization.

Improved efficiency can help the Air Force and DoD to acquire equipment and services more quickly and easily. Increased transparency can help to build trust between the Air Force and DoD and the public. And enhanced

capability and improved readiness can help the Air Force and DoD to better defend the nation.

Optimizing the acquisition process is essential for the Air Force and DoD to meet the challenges of the 21st century. By working together to improve the acquisition process, the Air Force and DoD can ensure that they are getting the best possible value for their money and providing the warfighter with the equipment and services they need to succeed.



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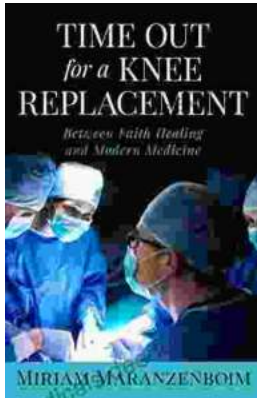
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