

Frequently Asked Questions

Q1: What do you mean by the Profession of Arms?

The Army is an American Profession of Arms, a vocation comprised of experts certified in the ethical application of land combat power, serving under civilian authority, entrusted to defend the Constitution and the rights and interests of the American people.

Q2: What do you mean by a Professional Soldier?

An American Professional Soldier is an expert, a volunteer certified in the Profession of Arms, bonded with comrades in a shared identity and culture of sacrifice and service to the nation and the Constitution, who adheres to the highest ethical standards and is a steward of the future of the Army profession.

Q3: Why are we doing a review?

After more than nine years of persistent conflict, the Army is in transition and needs to reflect on where we are as a profession and how we are going to adapt to remain successful as we continue to serve this nation in a complex operating environment.

Q4: What is expected of me?

As a Professional Soldier, Family Member or DA Civilian, you are encouraged to take the time to read the Profession of Arms pamphlet and White Paper, watch the videos on the profession, which are all available on the Profession of Arms Campaign website, and provide your feedback by taking surveys, providing candid comments in the many blogs and forums provided, and if possible attending events and providing your comments in person.

Q5: How is this part of the campaign of learning?

Professionals are life-long learners, and the TRADOC campaign of learning promotes life-long learning. Likewise, professions are learning organizations, routinely examining themselves and the environment they operate within in order to continuously improve themselves and their members. This is what strong healthy professions like the military do, and why this is part of the TRADOC campaign of learning (learning professionals that make up a learning profession).

Q6: What is the outcome?

A better understanding of where we are as a profession and what comprises a member of the Profession of Arms. Possible revised doctrine (e.g. revisions to FM 1 and FM 6-22) and a better prepared force ready to fight and win our nation's wars. Additionally, relevant Army DOTMLPF systems, processes and policies will be revised to reinforce the Profession of Arms into the future.

Q7: Why are we doing this now? Did something happen?

Self-reflection and continuous improvement are what "healthy" professions such as the United States Army do on a periodic basis. The Army is not reacting to a specific problem, although weak and certain strong signals exist that now is an appropriate time for this review – to get out front - the Army is an institution endeavoring to proactively strengthen its profession.

Q8: How long will review last?

The first Army-wide review will begin on 1 Jan 11 and end in Dec 11. The results of this initial review may sponsor future year's reviews of the profession.

Q9: What does it consist of? (Plan/Phases)

First, we will conduct dialog across the entire Army in OPD, NCOPD, and CPD sessions about the strengths and weaknesses of our Profession and feed that input up into TRADOC and the Campaign. Second, there will be a Community of Practice consisting of key experts in the Profession of Arms to oversee the review of archived research and history, centrally manage the execution of surveys to the Total Army and manage focus groups and forums. The results of this will provide an interim report due in Jun 11 leading to further discussion and a final report due in Dec 11.

Q10: Who is in charge of this review?

This review is part of the Commanding General, U.S. Army Training and Doctrine (TRADOC) Command's "Campaign of Learning" and will be led by the TRADOC Commander.

Q11: How can I join the dialog?

You can take a survey or join the discussion online at the CAPE's website <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/611545>. Additional forums are available through the Army's Knowledge Center.

Q12: Are there conferences/forums/events that I can participate?

There will be several conferences and forums during this year-long review. The first will be the Unified Quest, 11-13 Jan 11 in Washington DC. Additional events will be posted on the CAPE website at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/611545>.

Q13: Who directed the review?

In the Terms of Reference dated 27 Oct 10, the Secretary of the Army and the Chief of Staff of the Army directed the CG, TRADOC to conduct this review.

Q14: What is the White Paper?

The White Paper is a compilation of research on the Profession of Arms designed to set the framework for this discussion. It will be refined during the year based on what we learn during the campaign. The White Paper is available for download on the CAPE website at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/611545>.

Q15: What products are available and how can I get them?

The CAPE has many resources available. All of the publications are available for download on the CAPE website. The VEILS simulations can be loaded from the CAPE website also. Products can be shipped to your location. Please call the CAPE Administration Officer at (845) 938-0467 for more information.

Q16: What is/are cohort(s)? Who are they?

Cohorts are the different groupings of Army members. Reference this review; the five primary cohorts will be commissioned officers, warrant officers, noncommissioned officers, Soldiers and DA civilians.

Q17: How can my unit get engaged?

Each unit will be provided resource materials to fuel the discussion. All units down to the lowest levels are encouraged to conduct OPDs, NCOPDs, and CPDs and provide recommendations and feedback on the five attributes and eight questions posed. For more information on the Campaign and additional resources please visit the Campaign website at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/611545>.

Q18: What is the CAPE?

CAPE is assigned to the Combined Arms Center (CAC), TRADOC and is a tenant organization located at West Point, New York. CAPE is the Army Force Modernization Proponent for the Army Profession, its Ethic, and Character Development with full Doctrine, Organization, Training, Material, Leadership and Education, Personnel and Facilities (DOTMLPF) responsibility. CAPE's four broad objectives are:

1. Assess, study, and refine the Profession of Arms, the Army Ethic and culture
2. Increase Army members' understanding and internalization of what it means for the Army to be a Profession of Arms and to be a Professional
3. Accelerate professional and character development in individuals, units, and Army culture through training, education, and leader development
4. Lead DOTMLPF initiatives to reinforce the Profession of Arms, Army Ethic, and culture

Q19: I am a family member/retired soldier/Army civilian employee/Veteran; can I participate in the assessment?

Yes, feedback from all members of the Profession of Arms and Family Members is critical to the successful implementation of this review. Visit the CAPE website at <https://www.us.army.mil/suite/page/611545> to learn how you can provide feedback.