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12 April 2004

MEMORANDUM FOR DoD PURCHASE CARD AGENCY PROGRAM COORDINATORS

SUBJECT: Continuous Learning Points for General Services Administration (GSA) SmartPay Conference

Acquisition workforce members who attend the GSA SmartPay Conference scheduled for August 24-26, in New Orleans, LA can earn Continuous Learning point credits for attending. This GSA sponsored annual A/OPC training is for all SmartPay Government Card products, (Travel, Fleet, and Purchase Cards).

As the Director of the *Purchase Card Joint Program Management Office (PCPMO),* I direct that this training is ***MANDATORY*** for ALL Department of Defense (DoD) Agency Program Coordinators (A/OPCs).

GSA scheduled training during the three-day conference is currently 20 hours in length, but Service-unique sessions are also planned, and can be used for additional credits. Supervisors may grant up to 22 Continuous Learning Points to acquisition personnel who participate in the entire conference.

I know that TDY dollars are scarce these days, particularly toward the close of the fiscal year. However, the participation of all Departmental A/OPCs at this event is critical from a couple of standpoints. First, these sessions present a singular opportunity for the program managers of the Component purchase card programs to communicate new policy or procedural guidance and otherwise exchange ideas with their community regarding the state of their card program. Secondly, it is imperative that the people responsible for their organizations implementation are afforded the kinds of training, education, and professional development for them to perform more proficiently.

For additional guidance on establishing point values, the continuing learning policy can be reviewed at www.acq.osd.mil/ar/doc/contlear.pdf.

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