

Defense Assisted Acquisition Cell

Fact Sheet



Following the Department of Defense's acquisition support to the Department of Health and Human Services (HHS) and the Federal Emergency Management Agency (FEMA) during the COVID-19 pandemic, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition and Sustainment established the Defense Assisted Acquisition Cell (DA2) as a permanent policy and oversight office under the Joint Rapid Acquisition Cell (JRAC). Led by Mr. Brent Ingraham, the JRAC Executive Director, DA2 includes acquisition professionals and medical experts from the military departments and DoD agencies and serves as the single entry point for interagency requests to the DoD acquisition enterprise.

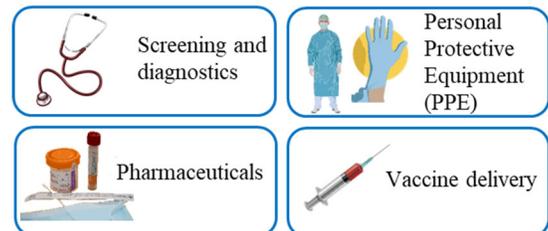
Built on the Urgent Acquisition Capability that JRAC executes on behalf of DoD during wartime, DA2 acquires goods and services as rapidly and effectively as possible during national emergencies for the Federal Government in support of the American public. Leveraging existing DoD authorities, tools, and skillsets, DA2 supports the Interagency with acquisition assistance when the magnitude of the government's procurement requirements overwhelms the agency leading the national crisis response.

Outside a crisis response, the long-term strategic goals of the DA2 are to

- coordinate and consolidate supply information of critical resources from the military services and DoD agencies to respond quickly to demands from HHS, FEMA, USAID, or any other interagency partner;
- utilize DoD's expertise, in conjunction with interagency partners, to forecast gaps and identify and execute opportunities for domestic industrial base expansion; and
- prioritize solutions from industry to connect suppliers to meet interagency demand.

DA2 is currently organized by product line based on the requirements and priorities set by HHS during the COVID-19 pandemic. The current DA2 product lines (as of May 2021) are

- screening and diagnostics equipment and materials,
- pharmaceuticals,
- personal protective equipment, and
- vaccine delivery solutions.



These product lines have evolved as the response to COVID-19 evolved.

Using established DoD forums, DA2 coordinates and prioritizes the execution of authorities, communicates with industry, connects potential suppliers with high-priority interagency requirements, and proposes potential industrial base expansion efforts. DA2 also uses various authorities and frameworks to execute its assisted acquisitions mission, including the following:

- [Defense Production Act Title III](#) provides the President broad authority to ensure essential domestic industrial resources are available to support national defense and homeland security requirements.
- The DoD's [Adaptive Acquisition Framework](#), acquisition workforce, and rapid contracting mechanisms.
- Research and development capabilities for leveraging non-traditional manufacturing capabilities (such as additive manufacturing).
- Organic industrial capabilities at DoD labs and depots to meet demand and forecast supply needs.

DA2 continues to execute requirements to effectively defeat the COVID-19 pandemic and will remain prepared to support the Nation's next emergency. To learn more, visit: [DA2](#) or [U.S. Department of Defense](#).