



# BIOGRAPHY



## UNITED STATES AIR FORCE

### LARA C. SAYER

Ms. Lara Sayer, a member of the Senior Executive Service, is the Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Budget and Appropriations Liaison, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, the Pentagon, Arlington, Virginia. Ms. Sayer serves as the Department of the Air Force's primary liaison to congressional members and staff serving on the House and Senate Appropriations and Budget Committees. She leads a staff of military, civilian and contracted professionals to coordinate a cohesive financial management strategy to align Department of the Air Force priorities with congressional processes and timelines to support legislative action.

Ms. Sayer began her federal career as a Department of the Air Force Palace Acquire intern. She has more than 25 years of acquisition and financial management experience and has held positions of increased responsibility in the areas of budget execution and formulation, resource management and program control supporting the Air Force, Navy and United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM). She has served as the Comptroller for Commander, Navy Installations Command (CNIC) and Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command (NAVFAC), as the Comptroller for the Office of Naval Research, and as the Deputy Chief Financial Officer for USSOCOM. Her experience spans several appropriations and functional areas, including budget, earned value management, cost and acquisition. Prior to her current assignment, Ms. Sayer served as the Executive Director for the Commission on Planning, Programming, Budgeting and Execution (PPBE) Reform where she was responsible for leading the Commission's research and analysis, and for developing recommendations for improving the Department of Defense's resourcing process to speed the delivery of capability to the warfighter.



### EDUCATION

- 1995 Bachelor of Music Degree, Vocal Performance, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio
- 1997 Master of Business Administration, Wright State University, Dayton, Ohio
- 2010 Air Command and Staff College, Maxwell AFB, Ala., by correspondence
- 2013 Masters in National Resource Strategy, the Eisenhower School at National Defense University, Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
- 2019 Leadership at the Peak, Center for Creative Leadership, Colorado Springs, Colo.

### CAREER CHRONOLOGY

1. 1998 – 1999, Budget Analyst, Financial Analysis, Operations & Maintenance Division, Space & Missile Systems Center, Air Force Material Command, Los Angeles Air Force Base (AFB), Calif.
2. 1999 – 2003, SBIRS High Financial Manager, Space Based Infrared Systems, SMC, Air Force Space Command, LA AFB, Calif.
3. 2003 – 2005, SBIRS AF Financial Team Lead, Space Based Infrared Systems, SMC, AFSPC, LA AFB, Calif.
4. 2005 – 2005, TSAT and Polar EHF Financial Team Lead, MILSATCOM, SMC, AFSPC, LA AFB, Calif.
5. 2005 – 2006, Executive Officer to the Executive Director, SMC, AFSPC, LA AFB, Calif.
6. 2006 – 2007, Research and Development, Test & Evaluation (RDT&E) Appropriation Manager, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.

7. 2007 – 2009, Chief of Program Control, Development Planning, SMC, AFSPC, LA AFB, Calif.
8. 2009 – 2012, Chief of Program Control, Launch and Range Systems Directorate, SMC, AFSPC, LA AFB, Calif.
9. 2012 - 2013, Student, Eisenhower School for National Security and Resource Strategy (formerly ICAF), Fort Lesley J. McNair, Washington, D.C.
10. 2013 – 2017, Assistant for Special Programs, Budget Investment Directorate, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, Washington, D.C.
11. 2017 – 2019, Deputy Chief Financial Officer/Comptroller, Center for Financial Management, USSOCOM, MacDill AFB, Fla.
12. 2019 – 2021, Comptroller, Office of Naval Research, Arlington, Va.
13. 2021 – 2022, Comptroller, Commander, Navy Installations Command and Naval Facilities Engineering Systems Command, Washington, D.C.
14. 2022 – 2024, Executive Director, Commission on PPBE Reform, Arlington, Va.
15. 2024 – Present, Deputy Assistant Secretary for Congressional Budget and Appropriations Liaison, Office of the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for Financial Management and Comptroller, Headquarters U.S. Air Force, the Pentagon, Arlington, Va.

## **MAJOR AWARDS AND DECORATIONS**

- 2024 Department of Defense Medal for Distinguished Public Service
- 2022 Department of Navy Superior Civilian Service Award
- 2021 Department of Navy Meritorious Civilian Service Award
- 2019 Joint Meritorious Civilian Service Award
- 2019 Burkhol Leadership award, USSOCOM
- 2016 Air Force Meritorious Civilian Service Award
- 2014 Outstanding Contribution to Financial Management & Comptroller (Air Staff Level)
- 2013 Air Force Meritorious Civilian Service Award
- 2012 American Society of Military Comptrollers Meritorious Award –Acquisition/Cost
- 2006 Exemplary Civilian Service Award
- 2000, 2005 Letter of Commendation
- 2002, 2009 Certificate of Achievement

## **PROFESSIONAL CERTIFICATIONS**

- DoD Financial Management Certification, Level III
- DAWIA Financial Management, Level III
- DAWIA Program Management, Level I
- Certified Defense Financial Manager with Acquisition Specialty  
(Current as of August 2024)