The Value of Self-Awareness Facilitator Guide

Leader Professional Development United States Army Center for Army Leadership



This page intentionally left blank.

Table of Contents

Introduction	2
Who is CAL	2
Intent of the Leader Professional Development Kits	2
Contact Details	2
Overview	3
Purpose of This Session	3
Target Audience	3
Recommended Materials	3
Agenda	4
Preparing for Your LPD Session	4
How to Use This Guide	5
How to Facilitate This LPD Session	6
Opening Segment – Slide 1	6
Army Leadership Requirements Model (LRM) – Slide 2	7
Session Objectives – Slide 3	8
The Importance of Self-Awareness – Slide 4	9
What Is Self-Awareness? – Slide 5 1	0
Discussion – Slide 6 1	1
The Benefits of Self-Awareness – Slide 7 1	2
The Dangers of Not Being Self-Aware – Slide 8 1	3
Discussion – Slide 9 1	4
Determining Your Level of Self-Awareness – Slide 10 1	5
The Six Signs of Self-Awareness – Slide 11 1	6
Discussion – Slide 12 1	8
Strategies to Improve Your Self-Awareness – Slide 13 1	9
Observe Others' Actions and Reactions Around You – Slide 14	20
Identify Your Strengths and Developmental Needs – Slide 15	21
Use the Johari Window – Slide 16	22
Bridge the Gap Between Your Actual and Desired Self – Slide 17	23
Discussion – Slide 18	24
Want to Learn More? – Slide 19	25
After Action Review – Slide 20	26
Let's Connect – Slide 21	28

Introduction

WHO IS CAL

The Center for Army Leadership (CAL) is the Army's designated action agent for Leader Development and Leadership in the areas of research, assessment, doctrine, initiative management, and quality assurance to sustain excellence in the Army's core competency of growing leaders.

INTENT OF THE LEADER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT KITS

Leadership is the unifying and multiplying element of combat power (ADP 6-0). Leader development programs are a proven method organizations can use to ensure regular improvement and refinement of critical leadership skills. In 2022, CAL began the design and development of a collection of ready-made Leader Professional Development (LPD) kits that you can use to deliver professional development sessions. These LPD sessions are designed to address topics of need; educate you on the Army Leadership Requirements Model (ADP 6-22); generate group discussion by asking thought-provoking questions; help you identify gaps in your unit, team, or organization; and determine actions leaders can take to improve the gaps.

It takes a lot of effort to create slides and briefing materials. Knowing that every Soldier's time is valuable, CAL created a pre-packaged set of materials (slides, facilitator guide, etc.) with everything you need to conduct an LPD. Now you can focus on learning and presenting the materials. Use this LPD kit as an opportunity to have a leader development discussion with others. The intent isn't for you to lecture for an entire session or read slides verbatim. Instead, think about the content, put it in the context of your unit, and get your audience talking about how to improve as Army leaders and a team.

CONTACT DETAILS

If you have any questions about the LPD kits or have suggestions for additional topics, please contact CAL at <u>usarmy.leavenworth.tradoc.mbx.cal@army.mil</u>.

You can also connect with CAL in the following ways:

- On the web: <u>https://cal.army.mil/</u>
- On Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/USArmyCAL</u>
- On Instagram: <u>https://www.instagram.com/usarmycal</u>
- On Twitter: <u>https://twitter.com/USArmyCAL</u>
- On YouTube: <u>https://www.youtube.com/@USArmyCAL</u>

You can find the materials for this LPD, as well as others, at the CAL website at https://cal.army.mil.

Overview

PURPOSE OF THIS SESSION

The goal of this session is to teach Army leaders how to enhance their leadership capabilities by becoming more self-aware.

The specific learning objectives for this session include:

- Describe the importance of self-awareness.
- Identify the characteristics of a self-aware leader.
- Discuss strategies for improving your self-awareness.

TARGET AUDIENCE

The target audience encompasses all Army leaders.

The optimal facilitator-to-learners ratio for this LPD session is one facilitator to approximately 20 participants. If the anticipated audience is to be more than 20 participants, those organizing the session should consider having multiple facilitators.

NOTE: If the anticipated audience is greater than 50 participants, some features of this Facilitator Guide will have to be adapted. For example, instead of conducting whole group discussions, you may need to split the audience into smaller groups to ensure everyone has an opportunity to contribute. To facilitate group discussions, the allotted time may also need to be increased.

RECOMMENDED MATERIALS

The following table lists recommended materials and equipment for facilitating this session. While these are recommended, not all of the listed equipment is required. For example, if you deliver the session out in the field and do not have access to a computer, monitor, or projector, you can still facilitate the session using just this facilitator guide and participant packets.

Materials	Quantity
Quick Start Guide 1 per fa	
This Facilitator Guide	1 per facilitator
Participant Packet	1 per participant
The Value of Self-Awareness HandoutAfter Action Review Form	
PowerPoint Slides	1 per facilitator
PC Computer or Laptop	1 per facilitator
Monitor or Projector and A/V cables	1 per room
Screen (if projecting) 1 per room	
Chart Paper and Markers or White Board and Dry Erase Markers 1 per room	

Documents can be accessed on the CAL website here: https://cal.army.mil

Agenda

The session is designed to be presented in a 42-minute block of time. Later in this guide, you will see the suggested timing for each individual slide, from which the below duration times were calculated.

Segments	Duration
Session Opening	2.5 minutes
The Importance of Self-Awareness	12.5 minutes
Determining Your Level of Self-Awareness	8.5 minutes
Strategies to Improve Your Self-Awareness 16 minutes	
Session Closing 3 minutes	
Total Duration	42 minutes

PREPARING FOR YOUR LPD SESSION

This facilitator guide aims to provide all of the information necessary to lead a successful session and discussion on this topic. To that aim, here are steps that you should take before the session.

- Read through this facilitator guide and review the PowerPoint slides. Make sure you feel comfortable speaking to the key points and leading the discussion(s). Based on the audience, prepare to modify discussion questions to ensure they are meaningful and apply to your specific unit/organization. The more you can get the audience discussing how they can improve the organization by applying the material, the better.
- Be prepared to include personal experiences related to the topic or familiarize yourself with examples you can reference throughout the session. Real-life examples help tie together the individual segments, engage the audience, and enable learners to connect the content to their day-to-day jobs. Feel free to add short video clips or other materials you think the audience would find engaging.
- 3. Familiarize yourself with the suggested timing of slides and discussion activities.
- 4. Determine the anticipated audience size. Recruit additional facilitators or plan for modifications to the session if the audience size exceeds 20 participants.
- 5. Invite the commanding officer or organization director to speak at the beginning of the session to introduce the purpose/intent of the session. This will increase audience engagement and attention.
- 6. Review the additional resources so you can direct the audience to the appropriate information. Share the resources electronically via email before the session. Print participant packets ahead of the session.

How TO USE THIS GUIDE

The facilitator guide contains PowerPoint slides embedded with facilitation notes and discussion questions to guide you through the session. The facilitation notes include icon cues that are designed to provide visual references for you as to the type of action required, operational instructions, or other special points (e.g., discussion). Each icon is described below.

Icons	Icon Name	Descriptions
ГЩТ.	Slide	This icon indicates that a slide should be presented. An image of each slide in the associated PowerPoint is provided. These slides help you identify which slide goes with each instructional strategy, duration, and key points.
Ō	Duration	This icon indicates the suggested amount of time to spend on each slide.
	Key Points	This icon indicates the key points that should be covered. Although you should not read the key points verbatim during the session, you can read through it beforehand to familiarize yourself with the content.
	Discussion	This icon indicates that a discussion should be facilitated.
0	Activity	This icon indicates that an activity should be facilitated.
	Resources	This icon indicates when any resource (handout, case study, example, article, etc.) should be used.

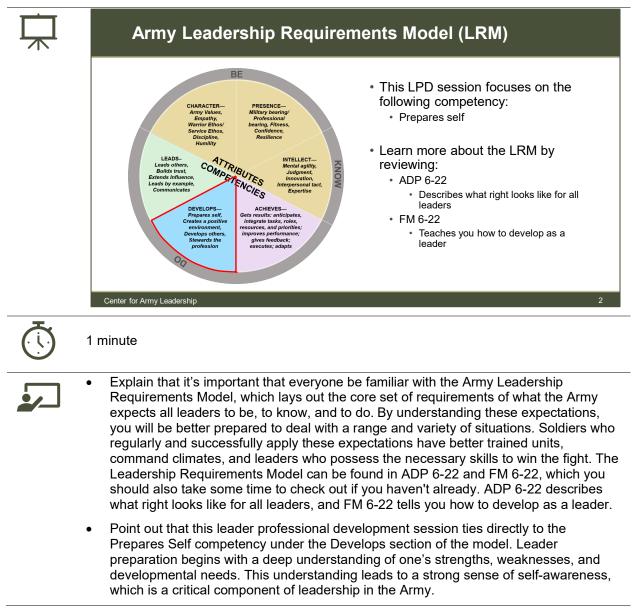
How to Facilitate This LPD Session

This section provides you with details on how to facilitate each slide in the session.

OPENING SEGMENT – SLIDE 1



ARMY LEADERSHIP REQUIREMENTS MODEL (LRM) – SLIDE 2



SESSION OBJECTIVES - SLIDE 3

Г Т	Session Objectives
	 Describe the importance of self-awareness. Identify the characteristics of a self-aware leader. Discuss strategies for improving your self-awareness.
	Center for Army Leadership 3
Ū	30 seconds
	 Explain that by the end of this session, you will be able to: Describe the importance of self-awareness. Identify the characteristics of a self-aware leader. Discuss strategies for improving your self-awareness. To help make this session as impactful as possible, encourage participants to contribute to the discussions with their own perspectives, reflections, and experiences.

THE IMPORTANCE OF SELF-AWARENESS – SLIDE 4





•

Explain that we will begin with a brief overview of what self-awareness is and why it's important for leaders to be self-aware.

WHAT IS SELF-AWARENESS? - SLIDE 5



What Is Self-Awareness?

Self-awareness is having a good knowledge and understanding of yourself including your own feelings, behaviors, and character.



Center for Army Leadership

1 minute

•

Point out that in order to discuss the importance of self-awareness, you must first understand what self-awareness is.

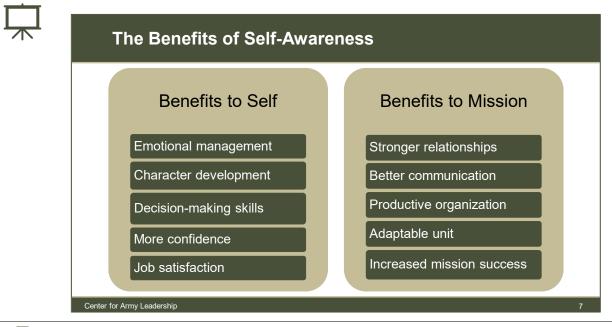
Explain that being self-aware is having a good knowledge and understanding of yourself including your own feelings, behaviors, and character. Leaders who are self-aware are better able to recognize and manage their own emotions, which can help them respond more effectively to difficult situations and conflicts. This, in turn, can improve their ability to lead and manage others as they're better able to react to challenges or change in positive, less disruptive ways.

DISCUSSION – SLIDE 6

	Discussion
	 What are the benefits of self-awareness to yourself? What are the benefits of self-awareness to the mission?
Ō	Center for Army Leadership 6 5 minutes
_	Ask participants:
	 What are the benefits of self-awareness to yourself?
	Answers will vary but may include:
	 Emotional management
	– Character development
	– Decision-making skills
	 Job satisfaction
	– More confidence
	What are the benefits of self-awareness to the mission?
	Answers will vary but may include:
	 Stronger relationships
	 Increased mission success
	 Better communication
	 Productive organization

- Adaptable unit
- Use the next slide to debrief this discussion question.

THE BENEFITS OF SELF-AWARENESS – SLIDE 7

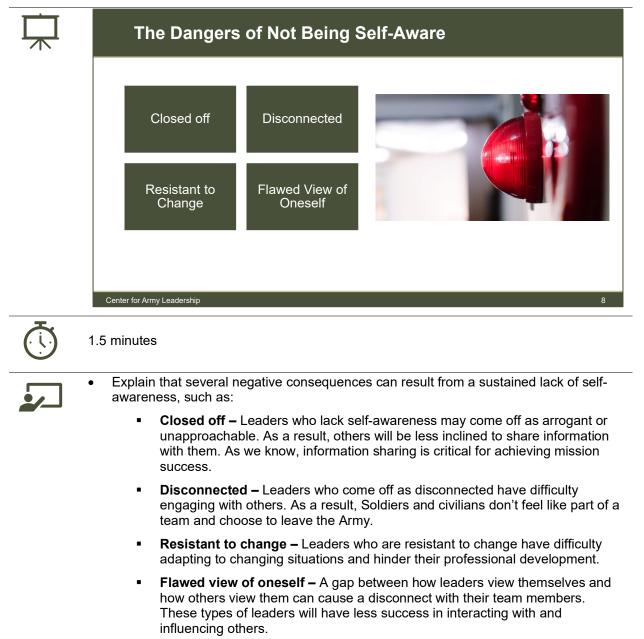




1.5 minutes

- Explain that self-awareness not only benefits the individual but also the larger Army mission.
 - The Self: When you look inward, you can better manage your thoughts, emotions, and behaviors and think critically. Self-awareness allows you to understand things from multiple perspectives and helps you become a better decision-maker. It gives you more self-confidence and, as a result, you communicate with clarity and intention. People with self-awareness are happier and have better relationships. They also experience a sense of personal and social control as well as higher job satisfaction.
 - The Mission: Self-awareness at the individual level also benefits the mission. Self-aware leaders build and maintain stronger relationships in their unit/organization. The resulting teamwork leads to better communication and a more productive organization that can readily adapt to changing situations. As a result, there is an increase in mission success.

THE DANGERS OF NOT BEING SELF-AWARE – SLIDE 8

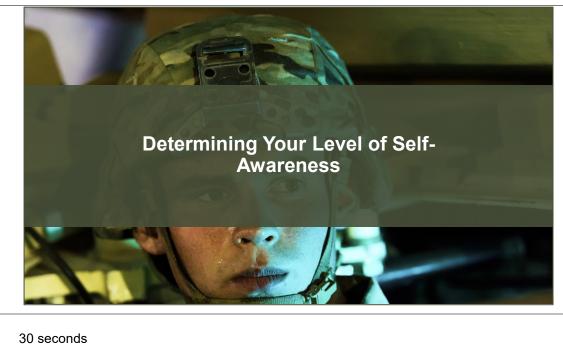


DISCUSSION - SLIDE 9

Ţ	Discussion
	• What are some key behaviors that can indicate that an individual lacks self-awareness?
	Center for Army Leadership 9
Ō	3 minutes
	Ask participants:
	 What are some key behaviors that can indicate that an individual lacks self- awareness?
	Answers will vary but may include:
	 They blame others for their failures.
	 They lack active listening skills.
	 They refuse feedback.
	 They have an arrogant approach to everything.
	 Their view of themselves does not match how others see them.

DETERMINING YOUR LEVEL OF SELF-AWARENESS – SLIDE 10





•

Explain that now that you understand the importance of being self-aware, let's discuss how to determine your level of self-awareness.

THE SIX SIGNS OF SELF-AWARENESS – SLIDE 11



3 minutes

- Explain that self-aware leaders have six key characteristics:
 - 1. You can sense how others will react to you. If you can often sense how others will react to your actions and decisions, you have some level of self-awareness. Self-aware leaders are good at knowing how their actions will be perceived and interpreted by others. They use this knowledge to clarify communications and better influence others.
 - 2. You know your strengths and limitations. Self-aware leaders leverage their strengths to offset their limitations. They also know when a task is outside their expertise and ask for assistance.
 - 3. You identify and adapt to changing situations. Self-aware leaders can accurately assess changes in their environment and determine their capabilities and limitations to operate in that environment. They translate their prior training to the new environment. They seek out information when the situation requires it.
 - 4. You routinely assess yourself. Self-aware leaders routinely assess themselves, including their actions, decisions, and capabilities. They're open to feedback and actively seek it. Their goal in obtaining feedback is to develop an accurate view of themselves by understanding other people's perceptions of them.
 - 5. You correctly anticipate the feedback you'll receive. Self-aware leaders are unlikely to be surprised by the feedback they receive from others. They tend to know themselves well, including their strengths, weaknesses, developmental needs, and effects on the environment and others. However, this doesn't mean that they avoid feedback. Self-aware leaders solicit input from others to check their understanding of a situation and themselves.
 - 6. Others view you as you view yourself. Greater self-awareness allows leaders to develop a view of themselves that closely aligns with how others perceive

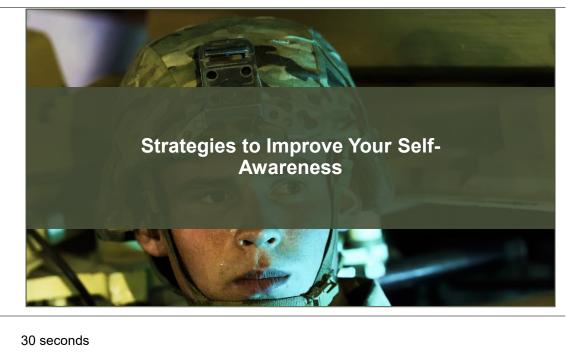
them. This alignment creates a connection between the leaders and others that can be used to motivate, influence, and communicate with their team members.

DISCUSSION - SLIDE 12

Ť	Discussion
	<image/>
Ū	5 minutes
F	 Ask participants: What characteristics of self-awareness have you observed in the leaders you interact with on a regular basis? Which characteristics do you see as more critical than others? <i>Answers will vary.</i>

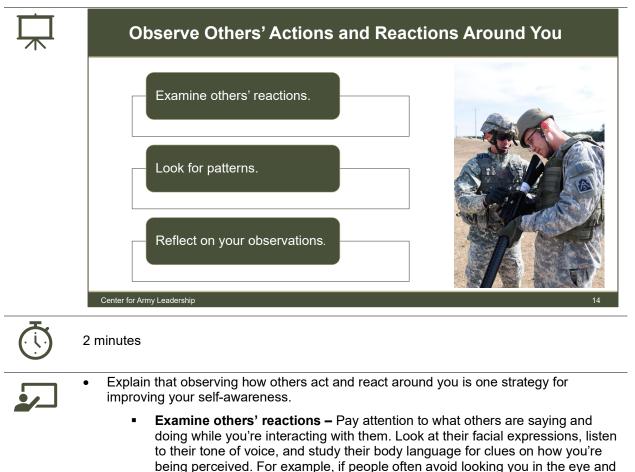
STRATEGIES TO IMPROVE YOUR SELF-AWARENESS – SLIDE 13





• Explain that in this next section, we will explore strategies for monitoring and improving your self-awareness.

OBSERVE OTHERS' ACTIONS AND REACTIONS AROUND YOU – SLIDE 14

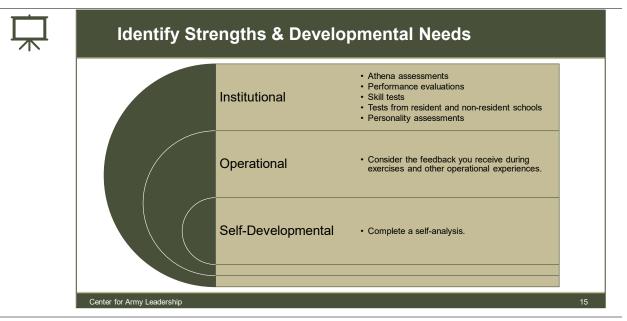


 Look for patterns – Patterns can be found in how one individual (e.g., subordinates or peers) or multiple people act around you. Look for patterns in their facial expressions, tone of voice, and body language. The more often you see patterns, the more attention you may want to give to the feedback you're receiving.

instead look down, it may be because they perceive you as intimidating.

- Reflect on your observations After interactions with others, ask yourself the following questions:
 - What were my actions?
 - How did I intend to come across?
 - How did the other person react?
 - Why might the person have reacted in that way?

IDENTIFY YOUR STRENGTHS AND DEVELOPMENTAL NEEDS – SLIDE 15



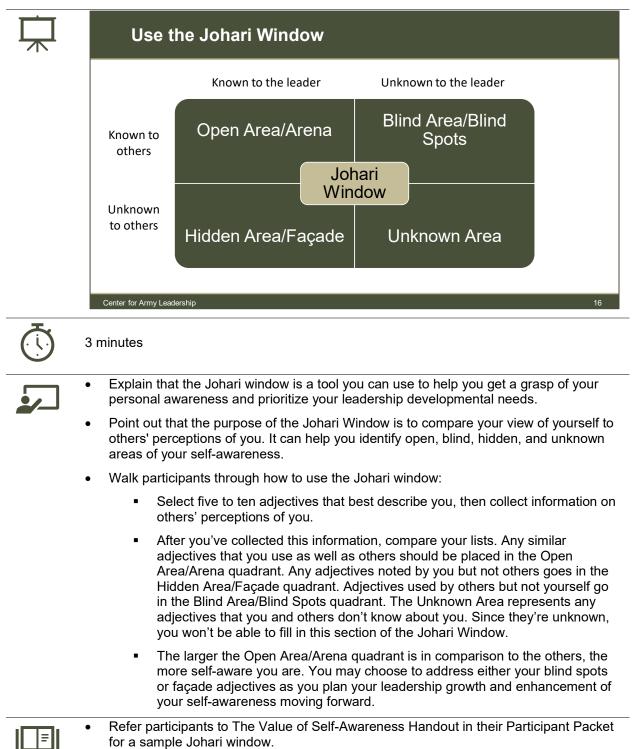
2.5 minutes

Explain that another strategy for enhancing your self-awareness is understanding your strengths and developmental needs. Three categories of identifying strengths and developmental needs are:

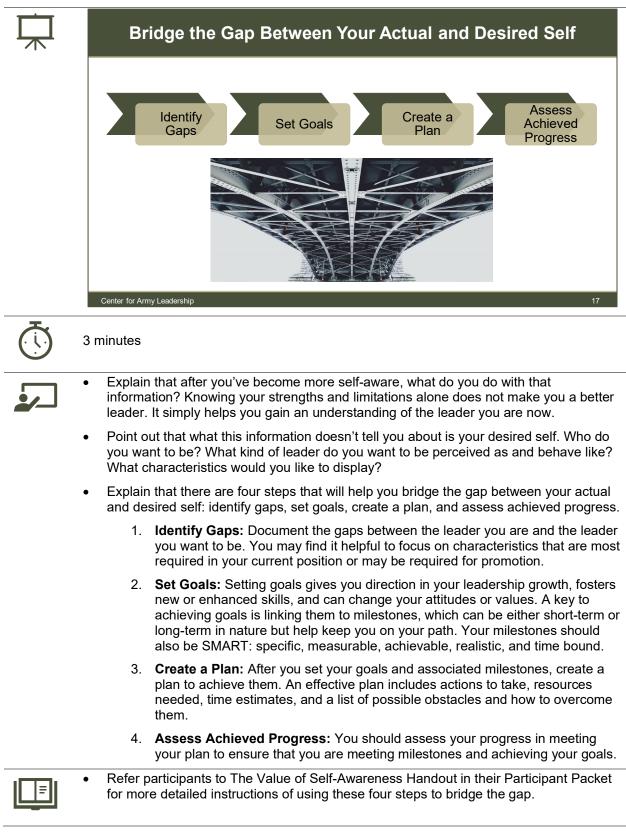
- Institutional The Army offers many opportunities for leaders to improve their self-awareness using formal means, such as Career Long Assessments: Athena (e.g., SAID-I, Leader180, or Leader360), performance evaluations, skill tests, tests from resident and non-resident schools, field performance evaluations, and personality assessments.
- Operational After an exercise, training event, briefing, or other operational experience, consider the feedback you received. It will help you determine what you're doing well (areas of strength) and what you need to work on improving (areas of developmental need). Also, ask yourself what you did that helped the situation and what can you do differently next time.
- Self-developmental Completing a self-analysis is another way of examining your strengths and developmental needs. Complete the following statements as they relate to any part of your life:
 - The skill or ability I am best at is...
 - The personal quality that I rely on most for my success is...
 - The activities I look forward to include...
 - A situation that causes me a lot of frustration is...
 - I am most hesitant when I try to...

Answers to the first three items provide insight into positive aspects or your strengths. Answers to the last two items provide insight into possible limitations or developmental needs.

Use the Johari Window – Slide 16



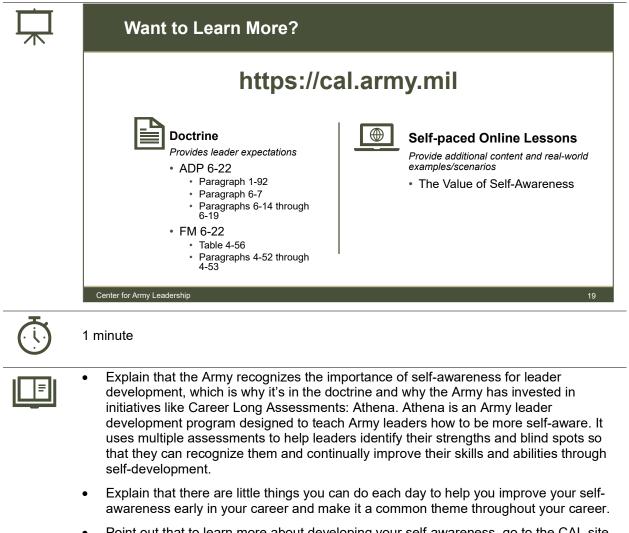
BRIDGE THE GAP BETWEEN YOUR ACTUAL AND DESIRED SELF – SLIDE 17



DISCUSSION - SLIDE 18

Ţ	Discussion
	• What are some strategies you've used or plan to use to build your self-awareness?
	Center for Army Leadership 18
Ū	5 minutes
	Ask participants:
	 What are some strategies you've used or plan to use to build your self- awareness?
	Answers will vary. Share a personal example if needed to get the conversation started.

WANT TO LEARN MORE? - SLIDE 19



 Point out that to learn more about developing your self-awareness, go to the CAL site and check out these resources.

AFTER ACTION REVIEW – SLIDE 20

Ť	After Action Review
	 Complete the AAR form in your Participant Packet and return it to the facilitator. The form allows you to provide feedback about this session. Your feedback will be used to improve future deliveries of this session.
	Center for Army Leadership 20
Ū	1 minute
	• At the end of the session, tell participants to complete the AAR form in their Participant Packet (also on the next page for your reference) and to return it to you before they leave.
	Tell participants that:
	 The form allows them to provide feedback about the session.
	 Their feedback will be used to improve future deliveries of the session.

The Value of Self-Awareness After Action Review Form

Purpose

The purpose of this After Action Review (AAR) is to help the your organization improve its Leader Professional Development program. Your feedback will help identify areas of this session that went well and areas that could be improved.

Session Goals

The goal of this session was to teach Army leaders how to enhance their leadership capabilities by becoming more self-aware.

After you participate in this session, it is expected that you will be able to:

- Describe the importance of self-awareness.
- Identify the characteristics of a self-aware leader.
- Discuss strategies for improving your self-awareness.

Your Feedback

Answer the following question below:

Question	Your Feedback
Were the goals of this session met? If not, explain why.	
What went well during this session?	
Are there any areas in which the session could be improved? If so, please specify.	

LET'S CONNECT - SLIDE 21

