

MOU Web site now open for business

The DoD VolEd Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) Web site is now live at www.dodmou.com. All schools participating in federal tuition assistance must have a signed MOU with the Department of Defense (DoD) under a new policy that will take effect Jan. 1, 2012.

Carolyn Baker, chief of voluntary education for DoD's military community family and policy office, explained that "The MOU articulates the commitments and agreements between an educational institution and DoD prior to an institution accepting funds via the tuition assistance program," adding that some schools have already begun the process of signing the memorandum.

The new Web site provides information on policies and guidelines for Voluntary Education, the latest news, participating institutions, and links to the VolEd and military Web sites (Fig. 1 and Fig. 2).

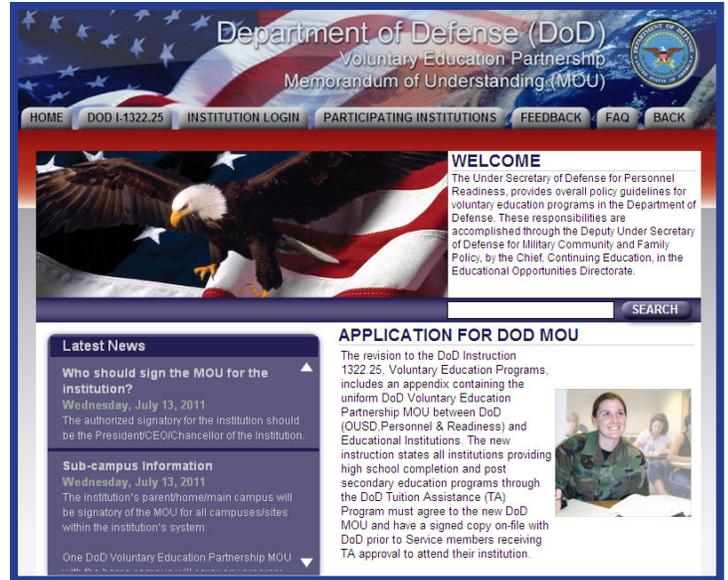


Fig. 1 (above): DoD VolEd Partnership MOU Web site home page.



Fig. 2 (left): Links to VolEd and military Web sites.

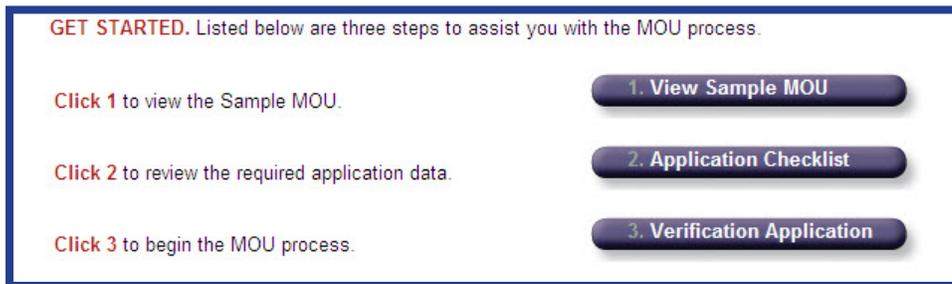


Fig. 3 (left): Links to institution information and application.

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Institutions can view Sample MOUs, review an Application Checklist, and complete the MOU application (Fig. 3). Once the MOU has been approved, the institution can logon to view the MOU and make updates as needed.



Demetra B. Malone
Examinations
Program Manager

EXAMINATIONS NEWS

Tips to prevent test scoring delays

It is always personally satisfying to provide testing to an individual who goes on to earn a degree. The reverse is true, however, when delays in the test scoring process create obstacles in the path to graduation. These delays occur for a variety of reasons, many that can be avoided with closer scrutiny during academic exam administration.

Prior to testing, it is essential that testing personnel determine whether or not potential examinees have previously tested on the same test title. Unfunded retest scores will not be received until the respective testing agency receives payment from the Service member. Also, retesting requires verification that enough time has elapsed since the previous administration on the same test title. Once sufficient time has passed, testing personnel should verify the examinee is given an alternate form of the exam according to each testing agency's policy guidelines outlined in the DANTES Examination Program Handbook (DEPH). Scores for examinees who have not satisfied the waiting period

requirement and did not test on an alternate form will be invalidated.

During testing, common causes of delayed test scores include:

- » Examinees not placing the military Service code in Block T on the ACT answer sheet
- » Examinees failing to sign answer sheets
- » TCOs failing to sign answer sheets, e.g. DSSTs/ CLEP
- » Examinees darkening the wrong oval(s) on data and test forms which then goes unnoticed by the examiner or TCO

To maintain the integrity of the DANTES-sponsored testing program, it is essential that testing personnel thoroughly review the examinee's paper-based answer sheets and associated exam forms before submitting the material for scoring. Exercising close screening to proactively prevent delays in scoring ensures that Service members are able to receive credit for the extensive hours given in preparation for academic exams.

Excelsior College Examinations Update

The last opportunity for candidates to take the Excelsior College English Composition (434) and Research in Nursing (537) exams in paper format with DANTES funding will be during the Aug. 19, 2011, National Test Date period. Request paper copies of these non-stocking exams through the established exam ordering process and return all copies of the exams and supporting materials to Excelsior College immediately at the conclusion of this testing period. Both exams will be available via computer-based testing (CBT) with full DANTES funding through Sept. 30, 2011.

Orders for paper objective Excelsior College Examinations

(ECEs) for DANTES sites outside CONUS must be received no later than Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2011, for shipment on Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2011. Orders for paper objective ECEs for DANTES sites within CONUS and Alaska must be received no later than Thursday, Sept. 15, 2011, for shipment on Friday, Sept. 16, 2011.

Effective Oct. 1, 2011:

- » DANTES will no longer fund exam fees for ECEs. Exams administered on or after this date must be paid in full by the Service member prior to testing, and will be administered only via CBT.
- » A paid official transcript request will be required to

transfer academic credit for an ECE to another institution or organization. Transcripts can be ordered online through MyExcelsior, or by faxing signed transcript instructions and payment information to the Excelsior College Bursar's Office (518-464-8700).

For more information, contact:

- » DANTES Examinations e-mail exams@navy.mil
- » Excelsior College commercial phone 888-647-2388 (enter 1-6-2- at the automated greeting)
- » Excelsior College international phone 518-464-8500
- » Excelsior College e-mail dfax@excelsior.edu

Is there a topic you would like to see covered in the DIB? Or, do you have a question about one of the DANTES programs? If so, let us know at pubs@navy.mil.



Kiwanis Short
Distance Learning
Program Manager

The DoD VoEd Partnership MOU and you

In the May issue of the DIB, DANTES published the particulars of the new policy governing the partnership between the DoD Office of the Under Secretary of Defense (OUSD) for Personnel and Readiness and educational institutions wishing to participate in tuition assistance. The revised DoD Instruction 1322.25, Voluntary Education Programs, establishing the new policy was signed and published March 15, 2011, and can be found on the DANTES Web site at www.dantes.doded.mil/Dantes_web/library/docs/mou/DODI_1322_25_March_15_2011.pdf. The signed Memorandum of Understandings (MOUs) will be effective Jan. 1, 2012.

This partnership will directly impact Service members, Education Services Officers, and institutions:

- » Service members using tuition assistance benefits should verify that the institution they plan to attend will be participating in the partnership, or else perhaps choose another institution or use another form of payment for classes
- » Education Services Officers can assist by ensuring that institutions available to Service members are aware of the new policy and direct them to the information that has been published
- » Institution representatives can review and sign the MOU at <http://apps.mhf.dod.mil/voled> or dodmou.com

For questions or further information, send an e-mail to VOLEDCONCERNS@navy.mil.

It is exciting that this new partnership will increase the quality of the tuition assistance program. The agreement targets the accountability and quality of education that Service members receive when using tuition assistance.

The Web site for institutions to submit the DoD Voluntary Education Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) is NOW OPEN at www.dodmou.com

New school affiliated with DANTES:

DANTES External Degree Catalog

Keiser University

1900 W. Commercial Blvd.
Suite 100

Ft. Lauderdale, FL 33309

954-351-4040

Tollfree: 888-4KEISER

Fax: 954-229-1695

E-mail: erickann@centralpenn.edu

Internet: www.keiseruniversity.edu



Accreditation:

Southern Association of Colleges and School,
Commission on Colleges

Associate degrees:

Health Services Administration
Homeland Security
Information Technology
Medical Assisting
Paralegal
Accounting
Aquatic Engineering
Business
Criminal Justice

Bachelor Degrees:

Health Sciences
Health Services Administration
Homeland Security
Information Technology Management
Interdisciplinary Studies
Legal Studies
Management Information Systems
Nursing
Public Safety
Accounting
Business
Criminal Justice

Master Degrees:

Business Management
Criminal Justice
Education

Doctorate Degree:

Philosophy in Educational Leadership



Candice Rice
Counselor Support
Program Manager

Navy counselors receive career development training

Well, my first month with DANTES has proven to be most rewarding! During the last week of June, HMCM (FMF/SW) David Acuff, the DANTES Special Enlisted Advisor, and I attended the 23rd Annual Navy Counselor Association (NCA) Professional Development and Training Conference held in Addison, Texas.

This year's conference, "Total Force Career Development Training," was attended by over 900 Navy career counselors, command master chiefs, recruiters, recruit division commanders, and other personnel (active duty and reservist) who received a full week of presentations and breakout sessions to aid in the career and education development of their Sailors.

Master Chief Acuff and I conducted a brief, distributed over 500 briefcases full of DANTES brochures, and answered education and counseling questions. This was a great venue to network with the career counselors, commands, and vendors, and provide them up-to-date information and guidance on DANTES programs.

To download the DANTES brief, and other presentations, go to the NCA home page at www.usnca.org/.



Representing DANTES at the 23rd Annual NCA Professional Development and Training Conference (l-r): HMCM (FMF/SW) David Acuff, DANTES Special Enlisted Advisor; and Candice Rice, DANTES Counselor Support Programs Manager.

Mystery Quote:

"Education is the key to unlock the golden door of freedom."

If you know who said this, let us know at pubs@navy.mil.

The first correct responder will get his or her name published in the next DIB.

Jamie Hembrough, Education Specialist, McConnell AFB, Kan., was the first to identify the author of last month's quote as Franklin Delano Roosevelt. Great job!

Other VoEd news in the world...

Bonhomme Richard Education Fair Offers Sailors Future Plans, Opportunities
www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=61786

Marines, sailors take advantage of growing education opportunities
www.dvidshub.net/news/74163/marines-sailors-take-advantage-growing-education-opportunities

Virtual Education Center Celebrates First Anniversary
www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=61639



Sharon Beaudoin
Education Outreach
Manager

Exhibit sales now open for WW12 Expo

Applications to exhibit at the DoD Worldwide Education Symposium and Expo are now being accepted.

Schools, vendors, and organizations interested in reaching the 2,500+ attendees expected at next summer's symposium may register and download an application online at www.ww2012.com. Booth spaces are offered at a discounted rate from now until Dec. 15, 2011. Sales will end on April 2, 2012.

The Expo coincides with the symposium to exclusively feature exhibits related to military and veteran's education from Monday, July 23 through Wednesday, July 25, 2012, at the MGM Grand's expansive Marquee Ballroom. The event's theme is "Educating the Force—Joint Effort, Joint Success."



Pictured left: The Department of Veterans Affairs exhibit from Worldwide 2009

DoD Worldwide Team SPIRIT Trivia contest begins!

It's a new era in military education! DoD Worldwide 2012 embraces new ideas and supports emerging trends in communication and technology. With this in mind, the first trivia question asks that you follow "DoDWW2012" on Twitter.

The first correct answer to arrive in the official contest inbox (dantesww@navy.mil) will earn that player's team 150 points toward a first place finish in the Trivia event of the 2012 DoD Worldwide Education Symposium's Team SPIRIT competition. Subsequent correct answers earn 10 points for the player's team. Questions expire 10 business days from their first posting.

Teams include: Army, Marine Corps, Navy, Air Force, Coast Guard, and National Guard. Your team is determined according to your e-mail address Service designation.*

DANTES employees and Worldwide Planning Committee members are not eligible to play, but can certainly cheer on their favorite team behind the scenes!

*If a player is not an employee or member of an Armed Service, they may designate one team that they wish their answer to credit. Non-Service entrants may earn a 10 point credit only.

CCME hosting MOU webinar

Join the Council of College and Military Education (CCME) and Military Educators Aug. 17 at 2:00 PM EDT for a webinar on the Department of Defense Voluntary Education Partnership Memorandum of Understanding with Educational Institutions.

Carolyn Baker, Chief of DoD Voluntary Education, will provide information and Carol Baker, Chief of DoD Continuing Education Programs, will conduct a Q & A session.

Visit the CCME Web page at www.ccmeonline.org on or after Aug. 8, 2011, for instructions on attending the webinar.

JOINT EFFORT, JOINT SUCCESS

EDUCATING THE FORCE

WW12

DoD WORLDWIDE

EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM & EXPO

JULY 23-27, 2012

MGM GRAND, LAS VEGAS

WW12

DoD WORLDWIDE

EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM & EXPO

Trivia Question

#1:

“What was the first “tweet” posted by DoD WW2012 on Twitter?”

Are you an OASC administrator?

Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) promotional items for administrators are now available from the OASC home page (www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantes). Active duty Army OASC administrators go to www.nelnetsolutions.com/skillscourse.

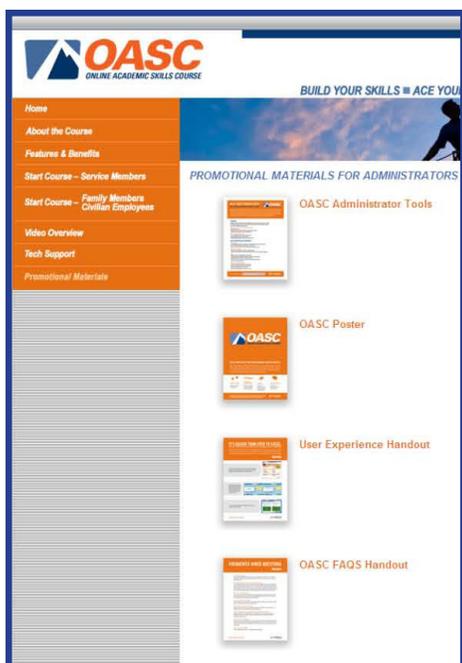


Fig. 2 (above): Available Administrator marketing materials

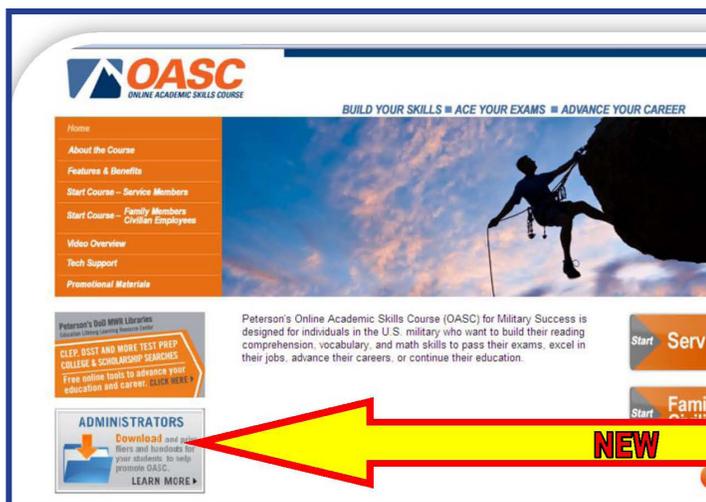


Fig. 1 (above): The new Administrator marketing materials icon on the OASC home page

Click on the new icon (Fig. 1) to see a listing of online items available for marketing OASC (Fig. 2).

Administrators will find the following OASC promotional items that they can download, e-mail and print:

- » OASC Administrators Tools
- » OASC Poster
- » User Experience Handout
- » OASC FAQs Handout.

For questions or concerns, contact the DANTES OASC liaison at:

- » E-mail: refpubs@navy.mil
- » Commercial: (850) 452-1111 x3131
- » DSN: 922-1111 x3131

Do you have a VoEd-related story to share? Click **HERE** to send a submission.

REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS CORNER

NEW "Military Family Education – Pocket Guide"
STOCK #2423

Military Education Centers
Order your copies now
Email: dist@navy.mil

Provide your DANTES ID#, Item Stock #, and quantity

Limit 100 per 3 months

Other Publications

POST CARD
STOCK #2448
"College Success Tips"

STOCK #2464
"Financial Aid for Veterans"

STOCK #2406

STOCK #2437

STOCK #2421
"Guide to Online Learning"

STOCK #2433

STOCK #2405

STOCK #2438
"Quick Guide to College Majors"

STOCK #2424
"Understanding Accreditation"

FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR



HMCN (FMF/SW) David Acuff
Special Enlisted Advisor

This month I want to talk about my recent trip to the 23rd Annual Navy Counselor Association (NCA) Symposium and Professional Development and Training Conference in “sizzling” Texas where the temperature averaged over 103 degrees daily... the armadillos and cacti were definitely happy!! I was accompanied on this trip by Ms. Candice Rice who recently

joined our DANTES team as the new Counselor Support Programs Manager. The conference was held at the Dallas Intercontinental Hotel with more than 900 in attendance. In addition to my presentation on DANTES programs and resources, we staffed an information booth where we got to meet the very “best-of-the-best” among the enlisted force as they prepare, train and equip Sailors for today’s and tomorrow’s challenges. The NCA objective is to enhance the knowledge of Navy Leaders and Career Counselors as they continue to sharpen their skills to navigate critical times in today’s military. We were immediately impressed with the sharp professionalism of the Navy Career Counselors we encountered and their dedication to career mentoring and counseling Sailors serving on many different sea and shore type platforms all over the world.

The conference theme was “Total Force Career Development Training”. One DANTES program that generated a lot of interest was the Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) designed to help military members wanting to build their reading comprehension, vocabulary, and math skills to improve ASVAB scores, excel in their jobs, advance their careers, or continue their education. Attendee interest dovetailed with the message delivered by Rear Adm. Donald P. Quinn, Commander, Navy Personnel Command, Deputy Chief of Naval Personnel, who presented a brief on “Stabilizing the Force” and spoke about how the Navy’s principles revolve around attracting and retaining the best talent, and safeguarding the careers of our top performers. Rear Adm. Quinn further stated, “Over the last year, we’ve used these principles to shape our policies and guide our decisions. We



must maintain a balanced force – seniority, experience, and skills matched to requirements. These principles will allow us to have better stability and predictability when delivering Sailors to the Fleet.” Considering the Admiral’s comments and the participants’ interest in OASC, I encourage Military members who need to improve their English, reading and math skills to do so by utilizing OASC as a tool to help maximize their career opportunities and potential. For more information or to begin your educational journey with OASC, go to www.dantes.doded.mil and click on the OASC logo in the bottom left corner.

By attending the 23rd NCA Symposium, we had the opportunity to meet with senior officer and enlisted deck-plate leaders. Our interaction with these leaders enabled us to better understand the needs of Sailors who pursue voluntary education, while giving Navy Counselors a chance to discuss with us DANTES programs and resources that they can use when advising their Sailors. Additionally, the visit to the Symposium was very helpful in understanding the challenges, programs and opportunities that Navy Counselors face when mentoring today’s Sailors. It was a great trip and we enjoyed interacting with the Navy Counselors who came from all over the world.



In closing, this column affords a unique opportunity to reach out to my fellow Service members concerning VolEd and DANTES programs. If there is an opportunity to visit or speak to NCOs, SNCOs, or at events at your military installation, please let me know, I would appreciate an invite. If you have a success story with military VolEd that you would like to share, send it to me and maybe you’ll see it published in this forum. Until next time, keep up with DANTES on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD or contact me at ea@navy.mil. I would enjoy hearing from you.



Lt Col Eurydice Stanley
Reserve Component Advisor

Are you SMART?

Recently, I attended a graduation at the Center for Information Dominance on Corry Station, Pensacola, Fla. While there, I noticed that there were Army Soldiers in the graduating class and I was reminded of a brief that I attended recently regarding the Navy Sailor/Marine American

Council on Education Registry Transcript (SMART). I quickly realized that these Soldiers probably had a SMART because they had attended a Navy course!

The SMART is a document that looks like a college transcript, reflecting credits recommended by the American Council on Education (ACE). ACE evaluates a Service member's military occupational experience and training and provides credit recommendations. In addition to ACE recommended credits, the SMART may also include other ACE evaluated learning experiences such as DLPT, CLEP, DSST and ECE examinations.

After the graduation, I gathered the Soldiers and told them that, by completing their Communications Signals Collection and Processing course, they may already have earned potential college credits toward their college degrees. They were ecstatic! They had completed a very daunting course, and now they knew that their pursuit of a college degree was well underway.

The ACE Military Guide recommends nine semester hours for their course, nearly a semester's worth of credit that might apply toward a college degree:

- » Electronic Communications (3 Lower Level)
- » Digital Communications (3 Lower Level)
- » Electronic Systems Troubleshooting and Maintenance (3 Lower Level)

Navy and Marine personnel have an added advantage of receiving credit under the SMART program for basic training and all courses taken during their Service.

A SMART is available to Navy and Marine Corps Active, Reserve, or separated personnel; and to other personnel (Army, Air Force, Coast Guard) who have attended Navy training.

Have you taken a Navy course? You may request official and unofficial transcripts via e-mail at sfly_smart@navy.mil. Transcripts are not currently available online for Army, Air Force or Coast Guard personnel. Official transcripts still require a signed release. There is a current initiative that will allow Navy and Marine Corps personnel to order their own official transcripts. The projected completion date for this initiative is Oct. 1, 2012.

To learn more about this program, visit the SMART Web site at <https://smart.navy.mil>. As our Service training becomes more joint, we have to become aware of opportunities available to our Service members. As we share information and leverage opportunities, we all become SMART!

Contact the DANTES RCA at rca@navy.mil.



Recent U.S. Army graduates of the U.S. Navy Communications Signals Collection and Processing course.

Missed a DIB
edition?
Click **HERE** to view
archived DIBs.

Click **here** to have the DIB
sent monthly to your e-mail.

Living the dream – finishing my degree and becoming an officer

By 2nd Lt Stuart A. Drash

As far back as I can remember, I wanted to become a commissioned officer in the United States Marine Corps. This came from a deep love for my country and the patriotic fervor that existed within my family. My father and sister both served in the Naval Services, inspiring me to carry on that tradition by enlisting in the Marine Corps Reserve in 1999, immediately after graduating from high school. My initial plan was to serve as an enlisted Marine while taking college courses in the hope that one day I could finish my degree and receive a commission. After completing all of my initial active duty training, I checked into my reserve unit, and enrolled in some courses.

It took me some time to appreciate my education benefits and become a serious student. In the beginning, my college work was less than adequate because I was more interested in having fun than in focusing on my future. The fun ended up with me dropping college classes, thus ending my chances at enrolling into an officer program. It is amazing what a war time deployment will do to open your eyes to the important goals in life. After my deployment to Iraq in 2003, and after being activated with my reserve unit, I decided to augment to active duty within the infantry and pursue a career as an enlisted Marine. I served with 1st Battalion, 1st Marines (1/1) for a few years, reenlisted, and became a combat instructor at the School of Infantry West at Camp Pendleton, Calif..

As soon as I graduated from Combat Instructor School in 2007, I immediately began classes with American Military University. Realizing I had wasted many years without furthering my education, I was finally ready to get serious. The Marine Corps Tuition Assistance Program is a valuable benefit and I was not going to waste such an opportunity. Other changes in my life served to motivate me. I now had a family. I wanted to make my wife and family proud. I wanted to serve as the best example possible to my sons. I was truly motivated to try to reach my original goal to become an officer.

While serving as a combat instructor, I registered for 8-week college classes consistently throughout my entire three year tour. I was working towards a bachelor's degree in military history. Before my tour was up, I was encouraged to apply for a commission by my command. I researched what programs were offered and came to

the conclusion that the Meritorious Commissioning Program (MCP) suited my credentials. This program allowed students with at least 75 traditional university credits, with other qualifying factors, a chance at Officer Candidate School in Quantico for 10 weeks, followed by finishing a degree at an approved Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps affiliated school. I put together my package with all supporting documents and endorsements and awaited the outcome.

The results of the MCP board were released in July 2010 and my name appeared on the roster. I completed my degree and, on May 29, 2011, I was commissioned as a 2nd Lt. in the Marine Corps.

There were many days that I wished I had not obligated so much time to classes, especially after coming home at 2200 and returning to work around 0400 the very next day. I could have dropped my classes and spent more time with my family, had more fun on the weekends, but I was determined to focus on the long-term strategy – benefitting the Marine Corps, my family and myself by becoming an officer. Not only am I living my dream, but I do not owe a single dollar for college to anyone because of the Marine Corps Tuition Assistance program. Another bonus - my G.I. Bill is untouched, which frees up those benefits for my two sons to utilize in their future academic endeavors.

I will never regret making the choice to finish my degree while on active duty, and I urge everyone else to do the same.



2nd Lt Stuart A. Drash and his proud family on commissioning day.

TESTING CALENDAR

August 2011

19 ECE Extended Response (Essay)

October 2011

4 LSAT (all locations)

16-22 GRE Subject*

November 2011

12-16 Praxis*

13-19 GRE Subject*

Notes:

- Overseas test sites send orders six weeks before the test date.
- CONUS test sites send orders four weeks before the test date.
- Contractors ship tests to arrive just before the planned test date.

*Choose only one day to administer. Submit separate Prometric order forms for GRE Subject and Praxis.

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/library/docs/examinations/exams_calendar.pdf

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PENSACOLA, FL 32509-5243
<http://www.dantes.doded.mil>

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Enlisted Advisor	3153	1159	ea@navy.mil
Reserve Advisor	3127	1159	rca@navy.mil
Web site		1322	dantes_webmaster@navy.mil
European Advisor	011-49-6202-80-6008		dantes@eur.army.mil
Pacific Advisor	808-449-8862		dantes.pacific@hickam.af.mil
Troops to Teachers	3141	1096	ttt@navy.mil
Education Support	3133	1162	
Military Evaluations/ SOC	3164	1162	ace-soc@navy.mil
WW Symposium	3126	1588	dantesww@navy.mil
Training	3135	1162	dantestraining@navy.mil
Counseling	3132	1162	counseling@navy.mil
Reference Resources	3131	1588	refpubs@navy.mil
DANTES Publications/ DIB	3120	1162	pubs@navy.mil
Education Outreach	3126	1588	dantes_outreach@navy.mil
Education Programs	3123	1161	
Examinations	3245	1160	exams@navy.mil
Distance Learning	3129 or 3121	1161	DantesDL@navy.mil
Tuition Assistance	3130	1161	tahelp@navy.mil
Credentialing/ Certification	3213	1005	certprog@navy.mil
Distribution Center	452-1082	1140	dist@navy.mil