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# DANTES INFORMATION BULLETIN



February 2011, Number 409

Worldwide Education Support to the Department of Defense

## President signs improved Post-9/11 GI Bill

On Jan. 4, 2011, President Obama signed S. 3447 into law. The “Post-9/11 Veterans Education Assistance Improvements Act of 2010” amends the Post-9/11 GI Bill and other veterans educational assistance programs.

These changes will streamline the payment process for the most generous education benefit for veterans since World War II. It still promises full tuition, plus a living stipend and book allowance, for full-time students taking undergraduate courses at four-year public colleges and universities. For many students, it also covers the full tuition and fees for graduate studies and for attending private colleges.

Some of the changes include:

### Effective Aug. 1, 2009, but not payable until Oct. 1, 2011

- » Certain National Guard members mobilized on Title 32 orders on-or-after Sep. 11, 2001, are now eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill and any qualifying Title 32 mobilization may be used to increase their percentage of eligibility
- » Also eligible are full-time Service members under the Active Guard and Reserve (AGR) program

### Effective Aug. 1, 2011

- » The Post-9/11 GI Bill will pay all public school in-state tuition and fees, including graduate training
- » Private and foreign school costs are capped at \$17,500 annually
- » Reimbursement will be available for multiple licensing and certification tests as well as fees paid

for national examinations for admission to education programs, such as the SAT, ACT, LSAT and GMAT

- » Veterans using the Post-9/11 GI Bill will see their monthly living stipends stopped between semesters or during times when not actually attending school (except in times of emergency circumstances)
- » Disabled veterans entitled to VR&E (Voc-Rehab) assistance, and are eligible for the Post-9/11 GI Bill, may elect to use the Post-9/11 GI Bill Housing stipend in place of the VR&E subsistence payment



### Effective Oct. 1, 2011

- » The \$1,000 per year book stipend will be payable to active-duty members and their spouses using transferred benefits. (Note: military spouses receiving transferred benefits of the Post-9/11 GI Bill will still not receive the monthly living stipend)
- » A housing allowance will be available for students enrolled in distance learning/online classes at the rate of one half the national average of BAH
- » On-the-job training, some flight training, and some non-degree programs, will be paid

The entire bill can be found at [www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-111s3447enr/pdf/BILLS-111s3447enr.pdf](http://www.gpo.gov/fdsys/pkg/BILLS-111s3447enr/pdf/BILLS-111s3447enr.pdf). For a VA overview, go to [www.va.gov/](http://www.va.gov/).

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Note: The Yellow Ribbon program of the Post-9/11 GI Bill will still be available for some private colleges to lessen the impact of tuition and fees that exceed the cap on GI Bill benefits. Up to half of the charges not covered can be waived and the VA will reimburse a matching amount. The Web site [www.gibill.va.gov/post-911/post-911-gi-bill-summary/yellow-ribbon-program.html](http://www.gibill.va.gov/post-911/post-911-gi-bill-summary/yellow-ribbon-program.html) lists participating schools.



Barry Nelson  
Exams  
Program Manager

## DSST Principles of Public Speaking IBT roll-out

Prometric is proud to announce the release of its Principles of Public Speaking (PPS) Internet-based test (IBT) exam format. After a successful six-month trial period, the exam will now be opened to all Base-Sponsored and On-Campus National Test Centers (NTCs). The roll-out began in January 2011 and will be conducted in a tiered approach, a few sites at a time.

Below are FAQs regarding this new exam format:

### How does the PPS IBT work?

The exam has been divided into two sections. Part 1 – Multiple Choice is equivalent to the current multiple-choice paper exam. Part 2 – Speech Portion is the speech component of the exam and replaces what is currently the taped speech.

### Are students required to take both parts of the exam in one sitting? Are they required to take the Multiple Choice part of the exam before taking the Speech Portion?

No, Part 1 – Multiple Choice and Part 2 – Speech Portion do not have to be taken successively, or in the same test appointment. The NTC can schedule each portion individually to match the candidate's schedule. Most NTCs schedule the Multiple Choice portion first, and then schedule the Speech portion at a later time or date, but this is not a requirement. Facilities that are large enough can usually accommodate more than one Speech exam delivery at the same time; however, on many occasions, the Speech portion is done individually on a first-come, first-served model.

### What are the advantages of delivering this exam on IBT?

The exam in its current form – paper and tape delivery – requires the DANTES Test Site Test Control Officer (TCO) to place a paper form order, wait for its arrival, use a tape recorder to record the candidate's speech, then send the paper form and tape back for grading. With the exam on the IBT platform, there are no materials to order or tape to handle. The exam is available at any time and the speech is captured directly onto the computer. From the candidate's perspective, today's exam results require a 6-8 week waiting period for grading and scoring. With IBT, Prometric has successfully decreased the wait time to approximately four weeks.

### What equipment is required to deliver the Public Speaking exam on IBT?

Each NTC will need to be equipped with the following:

- » A standard sound card installed in the computer
- » A stereo headset (Prometric will provide two headsets to each NTC at no charge)

Depending on the specific needs of each NTC, Prometric can potentially accommodate requests for additional headsets.

Prometric recommends having at least one additional headset as a backup in case of damage or malfunction, to prevent having to reschedule an exam.

### Why is this exam not accessible to all NTCs now?

The new methodology requires detailed instructions in order to operate the speech portion of the examination. Early trials proved that simple but appropriate training is necessary in order to understand how to operate the speech portion and aid the student through his/her examination. The testing contractor wants to ensure that each NTC goes through the one-hour training before launching the exam for the first time. The exam itself requires a special code to log in, which will not be provided to NTCs until all requirements have been met.

### When will the NTCs be allowed to offer this exam?

Prometric began contacting NTCs via e-mail in January 2011. Prometric expects to have all DSST NTCs able to offer the Principles of Public Speaking exam via IBT by the summer of 2011.

### When will DANTES Test Sites with Base-Sponsored NTCs be required to return PPS paper-based test material?

Prometric will notify DANTES when your Base-Sponsored NTC is ready to administer the PPS IBT exam. DANTES will direct the TCO to return test material to Prometric and provide firm shipping/tracking information for the returned exams. DANTES will then advise Prometric to allow PPS IBT administrations to begin.

In order to ensure continuous exam availability, Prometric requests that any paper test material be returned to Prometric in a timely fashion upon notification by DANTES.



Dr. Sandra Winborne  
Credentialing  
Program Manager

## CREDENTIALING NEWS

### CDFM vouchers and PCSS access

Many calls are coming in from military members experiencing trouble accessing the Personnel Certification Support System (PCSS) to sign up for the Certified Defense Financial Manager (CDFM) examination vouchers. Test Control Officers (TCOs), provide the following steps to military candidates requesting CDFM vouchers:

- » Access [pcss.dod.mil](http://pcss.dod.mil) - requires government Common Access Card (CAC)
- » Enter "All other components"
- » Click "OK" to acknowledge that you are entering the U. S. Government Information System
- » Enter the "Service Members" section
- » Select "DANTES" as your component (not your branch of Service)
- » Select "Non-IA"
- » Select "JASZ" as your IAM (Information Assurance Manager)
- » Answer financial management questions which screens candidates for taking the CDFM exam
- » Paperless vouchers arrive as a specific identifier to the Service member which expire after 90 days; unused vouchers automatically return to the PCSS to redistribute to other military candidates that are ready to take their credentialing exam
- » Locate a DANTES Test Site near your location and request the TCO to provide the administration; if the Test Site has the personnel to administer the exam, provide the American Society of Military Comptrollers (ASMC) with the TCO's name, test site address, telephone number, and prospective test date(s)

For additional assistance or information on the CDFM exam or the PCSS, contact the DANTES Credentialing Program at [certprog@navy.mil](mailto:certprog@navy.mil) or call 850-452-1111 Ext. 3213/DSN 922-1111 Ext. 3213.

**Missed a DIB edition?**  
Click [HERE](#) to view archived DIBs.

## EXAMINATIONS NEWS (CON'T)

### Excelsior College Examinations update

Effective Oct. 1, 2011, DANTES funding will no longer be available to pay exam fees for Excelsior College Examinations (ECEs). Only first attempts at ECEs administered on or before Friday, Sep. 30, 2011, will be eligible for processing with DANTES funding. Service members should consult with their respective Service for alternative sources for funding.

Effective Oct. 1, 2011, all Excelsior College Testing will be delivered in computer-based (CBT) format. All requests for paper ECEs must be received by the close of business on Tuesday, Aug. 30, 2011, for shipment on Wednesday, Aug. 31, 2011. All paper-based DANTES testing sites will be expected to return all ECE booklets and testing materials in their possession upon completion of testing on Friday, Sep. 30, 2011.

The last opportunity for candidates to take the English Composition or Research in Nursing ECEs in paper format will be during the Aug. 19, 2011, National Test Date period. Order the paper version of these non-stocking exams through the established exam shipment process and return all used or unused copies of the exam to Excelsior College immediately after this testing period. Both of these exams will be available via CBT with full DANTES funding through Sep. 30, 2011.

Contact Excelsior College at 888-647-2388 (enter 1-6-2- at the automated greeting) or 518-464-8500 (international), or email [dfax@excelsior.edu](mailto:dfax@excelsior.edu) with any questions about this change.

### Correction Notice

There was an error in the June 2010 DIB front page article titled "Retest funding discontinued." In the fourth paragraph, CLEP examinees were incorrectly directed to make payment either by certified check or money order made payable to Prometric. Payment must be, instead, made payable to the College-Level Examination Program. The June 2010 DIB has been corrected and may be viewed at [www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes\\_web/library/docs/bulletin/jun10.pdf](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/library/docs/bulletin/jun10.pdf). We apologize for any confusion this may have caused our readers.



Kathy Westlake  
Field Services  
Operations

## DISTANCE LEARNING NEWS

### DANTES External Degree Catalog

New school affiliated with DANTES:



#### Hudson Valley Community College

80 Vandenburg Ave.

Troy, NY 12180

518-629-4822

Toll free: 877-325-4822

Fax: 518-629-8094

E-mail: [registrar@hvcc.edu](mailto:registrar@hvcc.edu)

Internet: [www.hvcc.edu/](http://www.hvcc.edu/)

- » Accounting (certificate)
- » Computer Software Application Specialist (certificate)
- » Health Information Technician (certificate)
- » Information Systems (certificate)
- » Administrative Information Management and Technology (AAS)
- » Bus - Accounting (AAS)
- » Business Administration (AAS)
- » Business - Business Administration (AS)
- » Business - Marketing (AAS)
- » Computer Information Systems (AAS, AS)
- » Computer Information Systems: Web Design (AAS)
- » Health Information Management and Technology (AAS)
- » Individual Studies (AA, AS)



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Bulletin (DIB) sent  
monthly to your  
e-mail, click on the  
icon or send an  
e-mail to  
[pubs@navy.mil](mailto:pubs@navy.mil).

#### Feb. in U.S. history:

**1, 2003:** 16 minutes before it was scheduled to land, the Space Shuttle Columbia broke apart in flight over west Texas, killing all seven crew members

**2, 1848:** The war between the U.S. and Mexico ended with the signing of the Treaty of Guadalupe Hidalgo

**3, 1870:** 15th Constitutional Amendment ratified, guaranteeing all citizens the right to vote

**3, 1913:** 16th Constitutional Amendment ratified, granting Congress the authority to collect income taxes

**6, 1933:** 20th Constitutional Amendment adopted, setting Jan. 20 as the date for the Presidential Inauguration

**6, 1911:** Ronald Reagan, 40th U.S. President, born  
**7, 1795:** 11th Constitutional Amendment ratified, limiting powers of the Federal Judiciary over the states

**8, 1910:** Boy Scouts of America founded by William Boyce

**9, 1773:** William Harrison, 9th U.S. President, born

**10, 1967:** 25th Constitutional Amendment ratified, clarifying the procedures for presidential succession in the event of the disability of a sitting president

**12, 1809:** Abraham Lincoln, 16th U.S. President, born

**22, 1732:** George Washington, the first U.S. President, born

**27, 1950:** 22nd Constitutional Amendment ratified, limiting the president to two terms or a maximum of ten years in office

**27, 1991:** The 100-hour Desert Storm ground war ended as Allied troops entered Kuwait just four days after launching their offensive against Saddam Hussein's Iraqi forces

## Scholarships, scholarships and more scholarships

Financial Aid for Veterans, Military Personnel and Their Families (DANTES Stock #2464)

More than one-third of America's population today has either direct or indirect ties to the armed services. To assist this group, Gail A. Schlachter and R. David Weber put together a book describing 765 education funding programs designed to help veterans, military personnel, and their family members pursue studies at the undergraduate level in the United States.

Two scholarships listed specifically for veterans are:

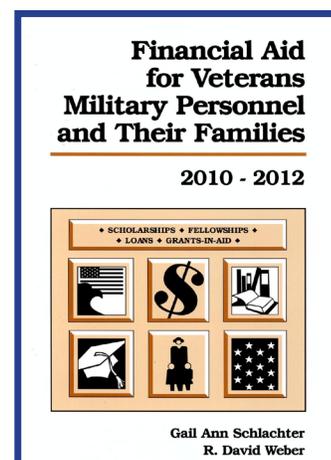
- » Disabled War Veterans Scholarship — open to active-duty Service members, honorably discharged veterans, Reservists, and National Guard members who are disabled because of wounds received during service in Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) or Iraqi Freedom operations; stipend is \$2,500 and deadline is March for next fall school year
  - » General Emmett Paige Scholarship — open to veterans, active-duty Service members, their spouses or dependents who are currently enrolled full time in an accredited 4-year college or university in the United States; stipend is \$2,000 per year and deadline is January of each year
- Scholarships for military family members include:
- » Arnold Sobel Scholarships — open to dependent children of U.S. Coast Guard enlisted members on active duty, retired, or deceased, and of Coast Guard Reserve enlisted personnel currently on extended active duty 180 days or more; stipend is \$5,000 per year and deadline is March of each year

- » Marine Corps Scholarships — open to the children of Marines on active duty or in the Reserves, and former Reserves; stipends are from \$500 to \$5,000 each and deadline is March of each year
- » Military Spouse Scholarships for All Military Spouses — provides financial assistance to spouses of active and retired military personnel for postsecondary study; stipend is \$1,000 and deadline is February of each year

For more information on scholarships, military specific Fellowships and Grants, other types of financial aid, and state specific scholarships, review this book at Military Education Centers.

Military Education Centers can order this free valuable resource (DANTES Stock #2464) from DANTES at [dist@navy.mil](mailto:dist@navy.mil). The new limit is 2 per every 6 months. Provide your DANTES ID # when requesting publications.

For additional information on dependent financial aid, go to [www.dantes.doded.mil/Dantes\\_web/library/docs/counselorsupport/fossm.pdf](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Dantes_web/library/docs/counselorsupport/fossm.pdf)

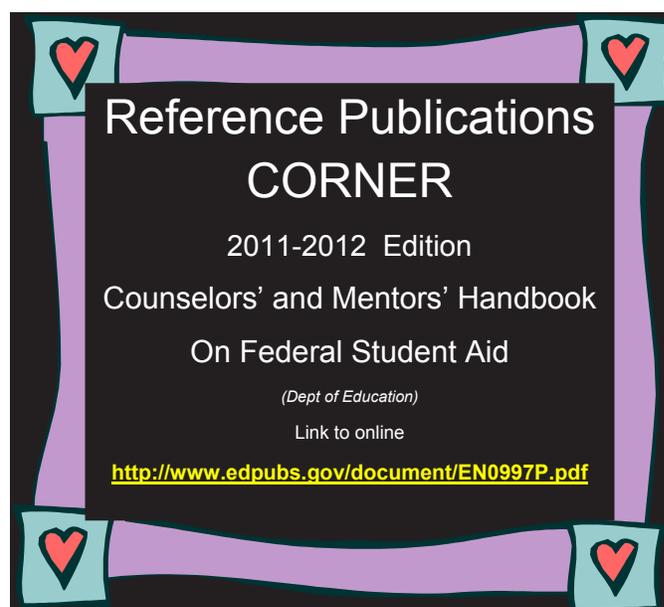


## Did you know?

A compilation of statistical information covering American education from prekindergarten through graduate school resulted in the following:

- » From fall 2003 to fall 2009, the number of instructional staff at public 4-year institutions increased from 370,000 to 438,000.
- » College enrollment was a projected 19.6 million in fall 2009. Between fall 2009 and fall 2018, enrollment is expected to increase by 9 percent.
- » Between 1999 and 2009, the percentage of adults with a bachelor's degree increased from 25 percent to 30 percent.

Curious? Check out the statistics at the National Center for Education Statistics ([www.nces.ed.gov/](http://www.nces.ed.gov/)) and the Digest of Education Statistics ([www/nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/](http://www/nces.ed.gov/programs/digest/)).



## 100,000th SOCNAV-2 Student Agreement

WW12

When twenty-five-year-old Air Traffic Controller Second Class Joshua Hight requested his SOCNAV-2 Student Agreement from Coastline Community College (CCC), he had no idea he was headed for notoriety. When his SOCNAV-2 Student Agreement arrived at Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) to be coded in the SOC Degree Network System data, it just happened to be number 100,000.

**"It was very convenient being able to take classes on my own time via the Internet while I was on the ship."  
AC2 (AW/SW) Hight**

Hight is pursuing an Associate of Arts degree in Supervision and Management and will finish his last two classes in March 2011. Now stationed at NAS Kingsville, Texas, he will be submitting his application for graduation this month. Upon graduation, he will become the first person in his family to obtain a college degree.

Hight first went to Navy College at NAS North Island while stationed on the USS Nimitz (CVN 68). He took a few

more classes through Central Texas College and the Navy College Program for Afloat College Education (NCPACE) while deployed.

Hight had completed his academic residency with CCC, received 16 hours in transfer credits and received another 17 hours of credit for Service School and Rating experience documented on his Sailor, Marine, American Council on Education Registry Transcript (SMART). He was over three-quarters of the way to his goal of an associate's degree when he requested his SOCNAV-2 Student Agreement from CCC and became part of SOCNAV history.

SOC was created in 1972 to provide educational opportunities to Service members who, because they frequently moved from place to place, had trouble completing college degrees. SOC functions in cooperation with 15 higher education associations, the Department of Defense, and Active and Reserve Components of the Military Services to expand and improve voluntary postsecondary education opportunities for Service members worldwide. For more information about SOC, go to [www.soc.aascu.org/](http://www.soc.aascu.org/).



AC2 (AW/SW) Joshua Hight in the control tower at NAS Kingsville, Texas

## Worldwide 2012 proposal request

The Department of Defense Worldwide Education Symposium 2012 is now accepting speaker information and proposals for top-notch break-out sessions until April 30, 2011, at [www.ww2012.com](http://www.ww2012.com).

During the Symposium, we plan to explore five broad tracks:

- » Outcomes, Quality & ROI
- » Innovations in Educating the Force
- » Best Practices in Education (Support)
- » New Counselor Development
- » Issues in a Joint Environment

This is your opportunity to participate in the most influential and collaborative training event in military education. "Worldwide 2012" is set for July 23-27, 2012, at the MGM Grand Hotel, Las Vegas, Nev. We expect to attract over 2,500 education professionals dedicated to accomplishing the Symposium's theme: "Educating the Force—Joint Effort, Joint Success."

We look forward to your input. For further information, email [dantes\\_outreach@navy.mil](mailto:dantes_outreach@navy.mil).

### Calling all writers and camera-bugs!

Ed Centers - do you have a VoEd-related story to share with other education professionals? If so, DANTES is waiting to hear from you.

Send submissions to [pubs@navy.mil](mailto:pubs@navy.mil). If sending photos, please include names and a description of the event.

# TESTING CALENDAR

## February 2011

- 11 ECE Extended Response (Essay)
- 14 LSAT (all nonpublished (DANTES) test centers)

## March 2011

- 24 ASE Registration Deadline

## April 2011

- 10-16 GRE Subject\*
- 15 ECE Extended Response (Essay)
- 30 Apr - 4 May Praxis\*

## May 2011

- 5, 10, 12 ASE (CONUS)
- 10, 11, 12 ASE (Overseas)

## June 2011

- 6 LSAT (50 United States, Canada and the Caribbean)
- 7 LSAT (Europe, Middle East and Africa)
- 11 ECE Extended Response (Essay)\*
- 27 LSAT (Asia, Australia and New Zealand)

### 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](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/dantes_web/library/docs/examinations/exams_calendar.pdf)

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Tuition Assistance	3130	1161	tahelp@navy.mil
Credentialing/ Certification	3213	1005	certprog@navy.mil
Distribution Center	<b>452-1082</b>	1140	<b>dist@navy.mil</b>