

Troops to Teachers: myth vs fact



The following list provides a number of the most common misconceptions about the Troops to Teachers (TTT) program and the appropriate 'truth'. As with many large programs, the longer it is available and the number of changes to the program that occur, the greater the number of misconceptions that may develop.

Myth	Fact
TTT provides classes and programs that lead to teacher licensing.	TTT does NOT teach classes. TTT helps troops to find state-approved licensure programs.
TTT awards teaching licenses.	TTT does NOT issue teaching licenses. Most TTT advisors are not licensing specialists; however, they are familiar with state licensing requirements. Each state has specific licensure requirements.
TTT forces troops to teach in a particular school.	Troops must obtain employment in a school that qualifies as 'Stipend/Bonus Eligible' only if they accept TTT funds. The troop decides where to teach.
Once a troop registers, they must teach for 3 years.	REGISTRATION does NOT obligate a troop to teach for 3 years. An obligation is only incurred once a troop accepts funding.
It takes YEARS to earn a teaching license.	Obtaining a license does NOT require years of preparation. There are various fast-track alternative programs; some as short as 10 weeks.

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TTT helps eligible military personnel begin a new career as teachers in public schools where their skills, knowledge and experience are most needed. For more information, to check eligibility or to register, go to www.dantes.doded.mil/Sub%20Pages/TTT/TTT_Main.html or www.proudtoserveagain.com.

EXAMINATIONS NEWS

2012 deadlines for OCONUS CLEP paper-based testing

July 1	FINAL date for stocking and non-stocking DANTES-sponsored test sites in OCONUS to order CLEP paper-based exams and optional essays
September 30	FINAL date for DANTES test sites in OCONUS to administer CLEP paper-based exams
October 5	FINAL deadline for postmarked administered exams to be returned for scoring and for unused exams to be returned
November 15	FINAL date for the testing agency to score completed exams

TRAINING NEWS

Education outreach and social media--The “new” world mailbox

Billions of people have broadened their social and business footprint through the use of social media, morphing traditional cultural outlets such as coffee shops, class reunions, barber shops and hair salons into a dynamically updated and continuous deluge of electronic thoughts and opinions that cross the planet at light-speed. However, the benefits and implications of this kind of information exchange has not been fully realized within the professional service community, creating a fundamental disconnect between service users and service providers.

As Department of Defense education professionals, we endeavor to provide tailored opportunities and services to Service members. Although many of these education opportunities have assured higher education for soldiers, sailors, marines, and airmen for many years, many are still unaware or uninformed of their education entitlements — they simply are not getting the message.

Therefore, to ensure the broadest dissemination, we must recognize that our “education audience” has redefined what they deem valuable information exchanges. They have replaced traditional methods of delivery (mailboxes) with a mixture of Instant Messaging, “Posts,” “Tweets,” and “Status Updates.”

To connect with, inform, and motivate our Service population, we must continuously:

- » learn to communicate in the social media vernacular — reformat and repackage our messages to gain our audience’s attention and create action
- » discover and employ a wide variety of information delivery modalities — readdress our products to increase the probability of receipt
- » deliver our “mail” — flood all available media markets simultaneously

For many, “social networking” emerged as a means of endemic socialization and entertainment; however, given the advances in personal bandwidth, connectivity, and mobile applications, it has also become a pandemic portal to the world’s “mailbox.”



ALERT: AARTS e-mail address change

The Army transcript service, Army/American Council on Education Registry Transcript System (AARTS), has a new e-mail address: usarmy.knox.hrc.mbx.tagd-aarts@mail.mil. Be sure to update your address book! For more information go to their Web site at <http://aarts.army.mil/>.

Third-party educational assessments – one near you?

In August of 2011, Department of Defense selected Management and Training Consultants Incorporated (MTCI) as the contractor to conduct third party educational assessments. The purpose of the third-party assessments of institutions is to evaluate the quality of off-duty post-secondary education programs and services used by Service members regardless of location or duty assignment and to assist in the improvement of these education programs.

The Plan

- » each year, four assessments will take place on designated installations (one per Service), to include all institutions on that installation
- » each year, four assessments will take place at designated off-base institutions, which will be chosen by the Service Chiefs
- » each year, two assessments will take place at designated distance learning (only) institutions, which will be chosen by Service Chiefs

These assessments will be different than assessments conducted in the past. They are designed to be a simpler, more streamlined assessment. Installation assessments will focus on the services and the relationships between the installations and educational institution at those installations. Distance learning and off-installation assessments will focus on entire institutions and the quality of education received by the Service member.

The 2012 installation schedule is:

April 30 - Air Force

Altus Air Force Base, Oklahoma

May 21 - Navy

Naval Station Great Lakes, Illinois

July 9 - Marines

MCAS Beaufort, South Carolina/MCRD Parris Island, South Carolina

August 20 - Army

Ft Benning, Georgia

For more information, the third-party assessment process is located at www.mtci.us.

Military Evaluation Program working meeting held

Recently a Joint-Service working meeting for the Military Evaluation Program was held at DANTES headquarters at Saufley Field, Pensacola, Fla. The meeting required Service POCs to form a standard operating procedure (SOP) for identifying, scheduling, and arranging American Council on Education (ACE) course reviews at military schoolhouses or learning centers. The event proved successful with development of the SOP first draft. This was the first time all Services assembled to develop a documental procedure for all stakeholders whose courses are reviewed by ACE.

One other major undertaking of the working meeting was to tackle how each Service will handle the large number of end-dated courses. Some Services had already developed an approach, while others needed assistance. Participants offered assistance across Services on how to resolve the problem.

The finalized Joint-Service Military Evaluation Program SOP is anticipated by the end of March 2012.

For additional information on the Military Evaluation Program, contact DANTES Code 20D at 850-452-1111, ext. 3213.



Participants of the recent Military Evaluation Program working meeting: Standing (l-r): Michele Spires, ACE; Laurine Anderson, SMART; Veronica Fields, USAR; and Mike Hepburn, USMC. Seated (l-r): Roland Perez, USN; Dr. Sandra Winborne, DANTES; and Cassandra Coney, USMC.

Discover® contract extended through September 2012

The Discover contract has been extended to Sept. 30, 2012. Be proactive and take full advantage of the remaining seven months of the Discover program. As Lt. Col. Eurydice Stanley stated in her January 2012 DIB [Reserve Component Advisor article](#), "Like the eventuality of death and taxes, transition from the Service (either through drawdown or retirement) is guaranteed."

The Discover program can help Service members, both active duty and those transitioning to civilian life, to:

- » build an education plan
- » learn about themselves
- » select career direction
- » develop job-seeking skills
- » manage an individual career portfolio
- » explore occupations, majors, and school

While no changes were made to the program itself, there was a major change in how education centers retrieve tokens. Based on past history usage of the Discover program, only site licenses for education centers with active participation were retained.

Education centers can verify site license status and ordering service Point of Contact information by checking the lists located on the DANTES Counselor Support Web page www.dantes.doded.mil/sub%20pages/Counselor_Support/DISCOVER.html.

For more information, e-mail counseling@navy.mil.

Making the right career and education decisions

DAN TES has a limited supply of the following assessments:

- » Campbell™ Interest & Skills Survey® (CISS)
- » Career Assessment Inventory® (CAI)
- » Holland Self-Directed Search® (SDS)

These assessments are valuable instruments which assist Service members make the right career and education decisions.

Check out the DAN TES Counselor Support Web page www.dantes.doded.mil/Sub%20Pages/Counselor_Support/Counselor_Support_Main.html for delivery mode and ordering instructions.

For more information, e-mail counseling@navy.mil.

To e-read or not to e-read

Have you joined the growing ranks of the e-reader movement? These handy electronic gizmos have increasingly become an integral part of many personal libraries. And not just for the thousands of books, magazines and newspapers that can be stored in a device about the size of a paperback. What about your latest college textbook; or reference material for that history paper you are working on; or the entire works of Shakespeare that you used to lug around for a quick read while standing in line at the Post Office? Well, maybe not that last item. But you get the picture.

The possibilities are endless as to how to use this newest tool in the educational arsenal. The Services are in the forefront of providing extensive e-resources for Service members, as well as schoolwork resources for their children. For example, the Navy Knowledge Online (NKO) site has an extensive E-library containing e-books and audio books on a wide variety of subjects:

- » professional
- » general (health, legal, computers, education, etc.)
- » journals and magazines
- » children and young adults
- » tutoring for Service members and family members
- » student resources
- » research/reference libraries

To find out more, go to your Service's Web site:

- » Navy, Marine Corps and Coast Guard: www.nko.navy.mil
- » Army: <https://www.us.army.mil/>
- » National Guard: <https://gko.ngb.army.mil>
- » Air Force: www.my.af.mil

Most devices also display .PDF documents, which opens a whole other function of the device. Whether for college education or work, many documents are available in .PDF files. This makes it convenient to study that course when you have a few spare minutes or provide ready references in a meeting without having to go search for an instruction binder in your office.

There are many Web sites that provide free e-books, but be aware of potential copyright issues and hidden costs. A Web search for free e-books will provide links to specific devices such as Kindle, Nook and Sony. As well, there will be a link to Project Gutenberg offering over 38,000 e-books and audio books with expired U.S. copyrights.

So, even if you consider yourself a book-in-the hand reader, you may want to give this alternative technology a spin. There are many resources out there to help you advance your education and your profession. Plus, it can make that wait in the Post Office line seem to go a little bit quicker.

Say goodbye to a longtime education resource

The Accredited Institutions of Postsecondary Education (AIPE) has long been a reference guide for education counselors. Counselors often thought of this as “the source” to find information on academic institutions’ accreditation status.

This annual began with the 1976-77 issue and now comes to the end of an era with the last printed edition in 2011. The online version of the AIPE ended Sept. 30, 2011.

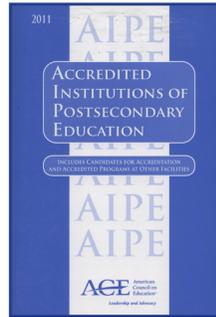
The AIPE provided a quick guide for accreditation status of colleges, along with contact information on the colleges to include: addresses, phone numbers and Web sites. The book was published annually by the American Council on Education (ACE). Information was compiled from the accrediting agencies and from the U.S. Department of Education (DoE) and the Council for Higher Education Accreditation (CHEA).

Unfortunately, hard-copy books are a dying breed and many personnel now turn to technology for information on accreditation.

U.S. accreditation online resources

As of January 2005, the DoE began publishing a database of “Postsecondary Educational Institutions and Programs Accredited by Accrediting Agencies and State Approval Agencies Recognized by the U.S. Secretary of Education.” The database, available at www.ope.ed.gov/accreditation/, lists approximately 6,900 postsecondary institutions and programs.

A second online database is maintained by CHEA at www.chea.org/search/default.asp. This database



lists more than 8,200 degree-granting and non-degree-granting institutions and more than 20,000 programs accredited by accrediting organizations that have been recognized by CHEA, the DoE, or both.

History on U.S. Accreditation for Higher Education Institutions

In 1952 the U.S. federal government determined a need for higher education accreditation to ensure quality in college courses and college programs for the Korean War veterans receiving the reauthorized GI Bill.

In the U.S., the accrediting agencies are private, nongovernmental organizations created for the specific purpose of reviewing higher education institutions and programs for quality. In most other countries, accreditation (or quality assurance) is carried out by government organizations.

A hard-copy accreditation resource

“Understanding Accreditation – The Quick Series” (DANTES Stock #2424) is a handy pocket guide that explains:

- » accredited Postsecondary learning institutions
- » benefits of an accredited degree
- » verifying a school’s accreditation
- » unaccredited Postsecondary learning institutions
- » downfalls of an unaccredited degree
- » spotting the signs of an unaccredited institution
- » diploma mills
- » reliable Web sites for additional information

Military Education Centers: ORDER this DANTES resource from the DANTES Distribution Center by e-mail to dist@navy.mil. Include your DANTES ID#, DANTES Stock #2424, and quantity (limit is 100 per 3 months).

Have a story to share?
Send VolEd-related stories and/
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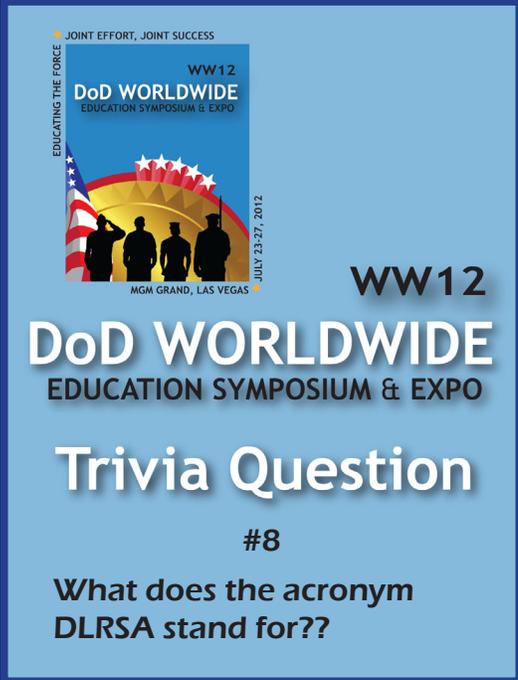
WW12 Team SPIRIT Trivia #8

Congratulations to Lisa Teeling, NASO Dam Neck Annex, and Team Navy! She broke the Coast Guard's winning streak and was first to answer correctly that DoD military members completed 9,503 baccalaureate degrees in FY11, according to DoD Voluntary Education Fact Sheets (www.dantes.doded.mil/Sub%20Pages/Resources/Resources_Main.html#FactSheets).

The point standings as of Feb.. 21, 2012:

- » 1350 USCG
- » 770 Navy
- » 540 Army
- » 510 Air Force
- » 230 USMC
- » 120 National Guard

DoD Worldwide has long been credited as being a catalyst for creative thought, as well as a venue for announcing and promoting new tools and innovations for "Educating the Force." In November 2011, DANTES announced an innovation they'll discuss at WW12 called the "DANTES DLRSA."



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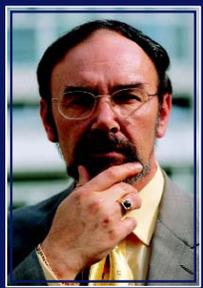
Trivia Question

#8

**What does the acronym
DLRSA stand for??**

Submit answers to dantesww@navy.mil. First correct answer wins 150 points and subsequent answers earn 10. Visit the [WW12 Web site](http://www.dantes.doded.mil) for complete contest rules.

Meet the speaker. . . A monthly preview of WW12 speakers



William J. Rothwell,
Ph.D., SPHR

William J. Rothwell is Professor of Learning and Performance in the Workforce Education and Development program, Department of Learning and Performance Systems, at The Pennsylvania State University, University Park campus. He heads up a top-ranked graduate program in learning and performance and has authored, co-authored, edited, or co-edited 300 various works — including over 73 books.

Rothwell is president of his own consulting firm, Rothwell & Associates, Inc. Before arriving at Penn State in 1993, he had 20 years of work experience as a training director and HR professional in government and in business. He has worked as a consultant for more than 40 multinational corporations, including Motorola, General Motors and Ford.

Other VoEd news in the world...

Killing time: hitting the books

www.dvidshub.net/news/83138/killing-time-hitting-books

Navy tuition assistance policy updated

www.navy.mil/search/display.asp?story_id=64984

Tuition assistance picks up scuba tab

www.dvidshub.net/news/83434/tuition-assistance-picks-up-scuba-tab

An open book, a world of knowledge

www.dvidshub.net/news/83552/open-book-world-knowledge

FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR



HMCN (FMF/SW) David Acuff
Senior Enlisted Advisor

The time to take action is NOW if you or Service members you know are in need of a high school equivalency credential known as General Educational Development (GED). The current GED Testing Service® (GEDTS) contract managed by DANTEs is scheduled to renew this October with a significant change: GED exams will be administered solely

via Computer Based Testing (CBT). While this will be a better vehicle for taking the GED, access to this exam for Service members will be much more limited. Currently, military members may take the GED at stateside and overseas base education centers where DANTEs-sponsored Test Sites are located. Starting Oct. 1, 2012, the only military installations where a Service member will be able to take the GED in the continental United States will be Camp Robinson, Ark., and Great Lakes, Ill. In addition, DANTEs is working with GEDTS to make the GED available at all community-based GEDTS Test Centers.

In the February 2012 DANTEs Information Bulletin (DIB), Demetra Malone (DANTEs Examinations Program Manager) discussed how preparation is an important step in taking the GED. "Service members are required to take the GED Practice Test and score 450 or better; resources are available to help them prepare for the practice test and the GED. The GED

practice test battery is available at base education centers where DANTEs-sponsored Test Sites are located. Another resource for free GED prep materials is the MWR Library at www.nelnetsolutions.com/dod/DODHubPage.aspx?sponsor=12894&HubPage=10103." Malone further added, "Whether Service members without a high school diploma are thinking in terms of employment after leaving the military, continuing education, or personal achievement, a GED is an essential step in the process."

Bottom line: Service members will have limited access to military sponsored GED testing after Oct. 1, 2012. Isn't NOW the time for you to get that high school equivalency credential? Go today to your local base education office or contact your virtual education center for more details.



Until next time, keep up with DANTEs on Face Book at www.facebook.com/DANTEs.DoD or contact me at ea@navy.mil. I would enjoy hearing from you.

Mystery Quote:

"A human being is not attaining his full heights until he is educated."

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.

Robert J. King, DAF Chief, 436 FSS/FSD
Dover AFB, DE

was the first to identify the author of last month's quote as James A. Garfield.

Great job!

Reference Publications CORNER

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FAFSA on the Web Worksheet



Lt Col Eurydice Stanley
Reserve Component Advisor

“Hammering Home” the need for education

I have the opportunity to meet many people during my travels, and recently struck up a conversation with the spouse of a Service member who overheard me talking about the drawdown. She told me that her husband had been alerted that he would be released from active duty in September 2012. She was

visibly upset, and I requested the opportunity to speak with him. I’m sharing his story because I can tell that several of the blank stares in the audience during our “The Handwriting on the Wall” educational awareness briefings believe that the drawdown will not affect them. However, no one is immune from the impact of a drawdown. Meet one Service member (we’ll just use “Sailor X” for anonymity) that has had the wake-up call of his life and is leveraging education to ensure that he will be ready for transition to the civilian workforce.

How did this happen? When notified that Sailor X would go before a retention board, he and his peers assumed that those impacted would be Service members with PT failures or disciplinary actions, but that wasn’t the case. “Twenty eight percent of the personnel within my military occupational specialty in my year group were cut due to being over strength,” he said. Sailor X was both surprised and not by the news – he saw the direction the military was taking with the drawdown, but at the time, he didn’t know it would impact to him!

“I have two children under the age of 12, a wife and a mortgage. When I leave, I’ll have 14 years of service, so I’m ineligible for any benefits,” Sailor X said. Although Congress approved temporary early retirement authority (TERA) to help Services manage troop cuts, it requires at least 15 years of Service according to Army Times – and not every Service will participate. Given the facts presented, Sailor X immediately started planning, asking several critical questions: “What are my resources? What are my options? How much time do I have? And most importantly, what do I want to do with the rest of my life now that I won’t reach 20 years in the military?”

“The day I found out, I applied for Tuition Assistance (TA),” he said. Sailor X is now enrolled in an accelerated BS degree with Southern Illinois University

in Workforce Education and Development. They accept up to 30 semester hours for work experience, military and corporate training and other non-graded training and education. With his transferred credits and the school’s accelerated pace, it will take a year to complete his degree, but it will not be completed before he is separated. Sailor X plans to use his Post 9/11 GI Bill after losing TA when he leaves active duty, and hopes to become a vocational educational teacher after completing his degree.

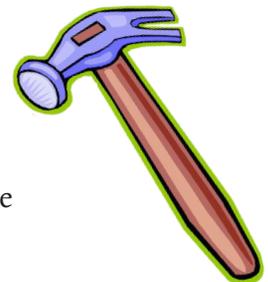
“Without a degree to back me, it’s all just experience – no FCC license, no A and P (airframes and powerplants) license and no private sector experience. Then, of course, it comes down to who you know and that leaves it all too much to chance,” he said. Sailor X continues to try to get into the Reserves, but has to be assessed each month for transfer to a different field. The results are released every month until he separates, and he remains hopeful while pursuing other opportunities.

Hopefully, this experience will shed some light on the fact that the drawdown can impact anyone. Sailor X continues to mentor other Service members. “At my schoolhouse, we constantly tell the ‘kids’ (new sailors) the same thing – doing your job is not enough anymore, and it will never be again.” However, our case study, ever the consummate Service member, says nothing has changed for him. “What will I do except my job until I separate? Until then, I carry on!”

Of course, he has done a lot. He took the bull by the horns, immediately identified a degree program and pushed full-throttle for completion, although he will be the first to note that he did it because he had to. “If I already had a degree in hand, I’d probably already have job offers. As it is, I’m scrambling, and I’ll probably swing a hammer for awhile until I can finish my degree and then apply it to my resume.”

If you know you would be in the same situation under similar circumstances, let this Service member’s experience hammer home the need for you to identify and complete a degree or certificate program ASAP. Time waits for no one!

Please contact me at rca@navy.mil.



Graduation day at JBLM for 170 students

It was a full house when Joint Base Lewis-McChord (JBLM) held a ceremony Feb. 3 to award 170 diplomas during the first JBLM combined Army-Air Force graduation. The band played for the 170 Army, Air Force and civilian graduates of on- and off-base programs who walked across the stage to receive their degrees.

The ceremony replaced separate ceremonies previously held prior to joint basing. But the sentiment of the event was the same as it has always been — to recognize the commitment Service members make to education in spite of the difficulties of military service.

“Perseverance is the key to all completed endeavors,” I Corps Rear Command Sgt. Maj. Daniel Verbeke told the graduates. He spoke from personal experience. He spent 12 years earning his bachelor’s degree while on active duty and knows firsthand the effort it takes to complete a degree while facing deployments and family difficulties.

Read the full story at www.nwguardian.com/2012/02/09/12233/its-graduation-day-at-last.html.

2012 CCME Symposium huge success

Story by Jeffrey P. Cropsey, CCME Public Affairs

Approximately 1000 representatives from the military, government and higher education communities concluded the 2012 Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) Symposium in Orlando, Fla., Feb. 17. The highlights of the conference included a keynote address by Sir John Daniel on “Higher Education in a Decade of Disruption”; a closing address by Dan Clark on “Forgotten Fundamentals”; and dozens of joint and concurrent sessions on a full range of topics regarding military civilian education programs. Each of the top officials from the Army, Marines, Navy, Air Force, National Guard and Coast Guard gave presentations on the state of education programs in their various Services.

Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Military Community and Family Policy, Robert L. Gordon III, told the symposium that the Department of Defense (DoD) is committed to continuing to provide the highest quality opportunities for Service members and their families to advance their

civilian education in the future. DoD realizes the great importance of these programs for recruitment, retention and readiness and that they are vital to our national defense.

Over 150 exhibitors participated, showcasing their programs for supporting military education.

CCME sponsored a “CCME Cares” event preparing packages for our deployed Service members. During the Symposium over 1000 “care packages” were completed and approximately \$14,000 was raised by CCME to support “Operation Gratitude” which provides these comfort packs to our military and their families.

CCME continues its proud tradition as being the premiere professional organization serving military civilian education community. Join them next year for the CCME 40th anniversary symposium Feb. 25-28, 2013, in San Diego, Calif.

For more information, go to www.ccmeonline.org/ or contact Jeff Cropsey at PublicAffairs@ccmeonline.org or 816-914-3859.

March in U.S. history:

1, 1781: Formal ratification of the Articles of Confederation was announced by Congress
1, 1961: President John F. Kennedy established the Peace Corps
4, 1789: The first meeting of the new Congress under the new U.S. Constitution took place in New York City
6, 1836: Fort Alamo fell to Mexican troops led by General Santa Anna; “Remember the Alamo” became a rallying cry for Texans fighting for independence from Mexico
10, 1880: The Salvation Army was founded in the U.S.
15, 1767: Andrew Jackson, the 7th U.S. President, born
16, 1751: James Madison, the 4th U.S. President, born
16, 1968: New York Senator Robert Kennedy announced his intention to run for the Democratic presidential nomination
18, 1837: Grover Cleveland, the 22nd and 24th U.S. president, born
19, 2003: The U.S. launched an attack against Iraq to topple dictator Saddam Hussein from power
19, 1848: Wyatt Earp, Wild West lawman, born
23, 1775: Patrick Henry ignited the American Revolution with a speech before the Virginia convention in Richmond, stating, “I know not what course others may take; but as for me, give me liberty, or give me death!”
29, 1790: John Tyler, 10th U.S. President, born
30, 1981: President Ronald Reagan was shot in the chest in Washington, D.C.; a 22-caliber bullet was removed from his left lung.

TESTING CALENDAR

April 2012

22-28 GRE Subject*

28 Apr - Praxis

2 May

June 2012

11 LSAT (50 United States, Canada, Caribbean)

12 LSAT (Europe, Middle East, Africa, South America)

25 LSAT (Asia, Australia, New Zealand)

July 2012

21-25 Praxis*

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/Sub%20Pages/Exams/Docs/exams_calendar.pdf

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Troops to Teachers	3141	1096	ttt@navy.mil
Education Support	3133	1162	
Distribution Center	452-1082	1140	dist@navy.mil
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Reference Resources	3131	1588	refpubs@navy.mil
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