

DANTES INFORMATION BULLETIN



SEPTEMBER 2012
NUMBER 427

WORLDWIDE EDUCATION SUPPORT TO THE
DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

WWW.DANTES.DODED.MIL

GED® TESTING PROGRAM

Serving the U.S. military since 1942



Can I take the test online? You can test on paper or on computer, but only in an official testing center.
www.gedtestingservice.com/testers/ways-to-take-the-test

Where's the closest official testing center? Enter your zip code and find out.
www.gedtestingservice.com/testers/locate-a-testing-center

What kinds of questions are on the test? Try sample test questions.
www.gedtestingservice.com/testers/sample-questions

How do I request a transcript? Use the online form.
gedtestingservice.com/testers/dantes

Who can I contact to ask more questions? Contact your GED Administrator™ for the DANTES program.
www.gedtestingservice.com/testers/ged-testing-administrator



What's Inside?

Examinations	2
Counseling / MOU	3
Strategic Planning	4
Worldwide 2012	5
SEA	6
RCA	7
External	8
Testing Calendar/Contacts	9



Where do I start?

The GED test is a life-changing decision. Getting good information from the beginning can guide your study efforts and make for a smooth testing experience.

- 1. Prepare for the test.** Service members are required to achieve a passing score of 450 on each of the sections of the Official GED Practice Test™ prior to scheduling the official GED test and should retain their copy of the practice test score report.
- 2. Talk to the DANTES Test Control Officer.** The Test Control Officer at your base Education Center can administer the practice test for free, assist with online registration and scheduling, and help you identify official GED testing centers where you can take the GED test.
- 3. Complete the test.** The GED test consists of five content areas, each requiring a minimum score of 410 and an average of 450 across all five content areas (a cumulative 2250 score). After testing, Service members should retain a copy of their official GED test score report.
- 4. Add test results to your service records.** The Service member may pay to order a duplicate official transcript if applicable and should consult their personnel officer to confirm the proper steps toward having GED test score data entered into their service records.

Refer to your DANTES Examination Program Handbook for additional guidance.

For more information, visit the GED Testing Service Web site at www.GEDtestingservice.com.

GED Testing Service has plenty of easy-to-use resources on its Web site. Use the links in the box on the left to find answers to some of the most frequently asked questions

GED® and GED Testing Service® are registered trademarks of the American Council on Education. Used under license. Copyright © 2012 GED Testing Service LLC. All rights reserved. 0726

TCOs: return FY12 ACT exams

Test Control Officers (TCOs) are reminded that October is the last month to administer the FY12 ACT Test Form 64F. DO NOT administer ACT Form 64F after Oct. 31, 2012.

Obsolete (64F) test booklets must be returned to the testing agency postmarked no later than Oct. 31, 2012. See the DANTES Education Programs Handbook (DEPH) II-2-11 for the return address. TCOs anticipating administration of the FY13 ACT Test Form 68E in November should return the ACT Form 64F as early in October as possible.

Per ACT revision, DEPH Part II, it is the TCO's responsibility to ensure the obsolete and unused answer folders are destroyed according to Service destruction guidelines.

ACT will not ship the new test form (68E) until the test center's entire inventory of FY12 ACT test booklets are received and inventory is reconciled. DANTES stocking test sites must amend their inventories to reflect the return of testing materials.

Send questions about the ACT to exams@navy.mil.

FY13 DEPH available Oct. 1

The FY13 DANTES Examination Program Handbook (DEPH), Parts I and II, will be available online Oct. 1, 2012, to DANTES testing personnel with access to the Test Control Officer (TCO) Portal. Users can view, search, or download the DEPH as well as utilize the calendar of national test dates and forms such as the online Document Receipt Form and Annual Testing Facilities Review form.

For questions or comments concerning electronic DEPH publications, contact the DANTES Examinations Program at exams@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.

Need help establishing a base-sponsored NTC?

Have you ever wondered if there was really anyone available to assist in starting up a National Test Center (NTC) at your DANTES test site? Or, you may have missed the NTC panel discussion at Worldwide 2012. Well, you don't have to go through the process alone! Help is available from: Demetra Malone, DANTES Exams Program Manager; Patrick Cheicante, Prometric; and Marie Maher, College Board.

The number of NTCs continues to grow as more bases convert to computer-based testing (CBT). With the simple, standard start-up process in place (MOU between base and school and a written agreement between the school and the testing agencies), DANTES encourages all bases to explore this opportunity and reach out to the school on or near the base to sponsor iBT DSST and CLEP eCBT testing. Sample forms, guidance and technical support are available via:

- » DANTES (exams@navy.mil)
- » Prometric (pnj-dsst@prometric.com),
- » College Board (clep@collegeboard.org)
- » DANTES Web site (www.dantes.doded.mil)



Pictured above at the DoD Worldwide Education Symposium held in July (l-r): Patrick Cheicante, Prometric; Demetra Malone, DANTES Exams Program Manager; and Marie Maher, College Board.



COUNSELING NEWS

Save – Save – Save!

The DISCOVER® program will retire Sep. 30, 2012. Counselors, take this time to connect with your clients and remind them to save all DISCOVER data on a CD, DVD, or hard drive for future use. Once the program retires, no further access will be authorized to retrieve data.



For more information, contact counseling@navy.mil.

School year 2012-2013 begins

Classes are beginning for the 2012-2013 school year so take advantage of the counselor tools and resources available on the DANTES Web site. The recently developed Education Counselor's Tool Box is a list of links to a variety of helpful information, including:

- » academic accreditation
- » education organizations
- » how to search for the right college
- » virtual libraries and free online books
- » college financial aid (scholarships, grants and loans)
- » specific academic/college information for military members
- » information on hard copy books and booklets of various education topics

To view the Education Counselor's Tool Box, go to www.dantes.doded.mil/Sub%20Pages/Resources/Resources_Main.html#Toolbox.

For more information, contact refpubs@navy.mil.

MOU NEWS

DoD MOU update

The DoD MOU implementation date has not been established yet. What does this mean? All institutions providing high school completion and post secondary education programs through the DoD Tuition Assistance (TA) Program are authorized to accept military TA funding for courses beginning prior to the DoD MOU start date.

For more information, view www.dodmou.com or email voledconcerns@navy.mil.

Mystery Quote:

"An investment in knowledge always pays the best interest."

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.

Mark J. Rix, Education Services Specialist
86 FSS/F5DE, Ramstein AB, Germany

was the first to identify the author of last month's quote as Diogenes Laertius.

Great job!

Other VoEd news in the world...

NAF Misawa CPO selected for Advanced Education Voucher Program

www.dvidshub.net/news/92766/naf-misawa-cpo-selected-advanced-education-voucher-program

Marines train their brains at LRCs

www.dvidshub.net/news/92734/marines-train-their-brains-lrcs

Earn your degree on the Army dime with Warrior University

www.dvidshub.net/news/93159/earn-your-degree-army-dime-with-warrior-university

DLIFLC's accreditation is reaffirmed

www.dvidshub.net/news/93360/dliflcs-accreditation-reaffirmed

'Seps, Taps' makeovers

www.dvidshub.net/news/93026/seps-taps-makeover

50 years and \$70 million later the MCSF is still helping families

www.dvidshub.net/news/92358/50-years-and-70-million-later-mcsf-still-helping-families

DANTES forges way ahead with strategic plan

By Ed Barker, Naval Education and Training Command Public Affairs

The Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) focused on the future of education in the Department of Defense (DoD) at a strategic planning offsite Aug. 13-15.

Rear Adm. Don Quinn, commander of the Naval Education and Training Command (NETC), spoke during the conference kick-off and addressed the importance of strategic assessment.

"I am a huge fan of strategic planning because it forces you to work through your assumptions and focus on what's important," said Quinn. "What DANTES provides is crucial to our military's success, and education is more important than ever. Training prepares you for the known, but education prepares you for the unknown - it gives you the ability to adapt and change with your environment."

DANTES Director Dr. Carol Berry challenged her team to identify opportunities for improving the DANTES business model and refining the mission and vision for military voluntary education.

"This is our first strategic plan, which allows us to establish our long-range goals and publicize our programs," said Berry. "We focused on how to execute our strategy, mission and vision so we can reach not only our customers at the services and base educational centers, but also the end user - the service members whose future depends on it."

Deliverables from the conference included proposed mission and vision statements based on DANTES core values and guiding principles.

"We have a great foundation from which we can build," said Berry. "In the coming weeks, we will refine these inputs into an executable strategic plan that will guide us today, tomorrow and into the future, serving our military and enabling profound changes one Service member at a time."

View the full article at: www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=69039



Rear Adm. Don Quinn, commander of NETC, makes opening remarks to DANTES personnel.

To have the DANTES Information Bulletin (DIB) sent monthly to your e-mail, click on the icon or send an e-mail to pubs@navy.mil.



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



Attendees at WW12 get their triennial dose of 'Team SPIRIT'

Along with providing professional development and the chance to hear from leading organizations and innovators, the 2012 DoD Worldwide Education Symposium, held in July, exposed a competitive nature in many attendees. The Worldwide Team SPIRIT competition is designed to promote team building and its games challenge attendees to engage in all aspects of the conference.

The friendly rivalry that began in 2006 between VolEd professionals of each Armed Service continued in Las Vegas. Team Marine Corps repeated their 2009 strategy of robust collaboration on site and took home this year's Team SPIRIT trophy.

The Marines arrived in Las Vegas as runner-up in the preliminary trivia contest, which allows even those who do not attend to get in on the action. Team Coast Guard took first place in the trivia event.

Once on site, it was all Marine Corps, however. They swept the Exhibition Scavenger Hunt, Buzzword Bingo, and Joint Force Jeopardy contests, taking first place in each. The National Guard placed second in Bingo, Team Navy placed second in Jeopardy, and the Air Force had a respectable bonus point showing by submitting the most evaluations.

Once again, the team to beat in 2015 is Team Marine Corps. Way to go, Marines! Oorah!

DoD Worldwide 2012 presentations

PowerPoint presentations and handout documents provided by July's 2012 DoD Worldwide Education Symposium speakers are now available to subscribers and registrants for individual review at the WW12 Web site <https://www.ww2012.com>.

From the "Conference" dropdown menu, select "Document Repository." Users are then prompted to log in using their symposium account ID and password. Please note, not all speakers released presentations for post-conference review.

Is there a topic you would like to see covered in the DIB?

Do you have a question about DANTES?

If so, let us know at pubs@navy.mil.



Team Marine Corps, proudly represented at WW12.

Photo by Senovia Robinson



Team Marine Corps celebrates victory at the WW12 Award Presentation.

More than just Labor Day

Mention September and most of us think of Labor Day, which falls on the third this year. Labor Day became a Federal holiday in 1894 and celebrates the economic and social contributions of workers. But, September is also the month to celebrate other less well known holidays, such as:

- 6 - Read A Book Day
- 8 - International Literacy Day
- 11 - Patriot Day
- 13 - International Chocolate Day
- 17 - Citizenship Day
- 19 - [Talk Like A Pirate Day](#) Arrrggghhh Maties!
- 21 - POW/MIA Recognition Day
- 24 - National Punctuation Day
- 25 - National Comic Book Day
- 28 - Ask a Stupid Question Day

FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR



HMCM (FMF/SW) David Acuff
Senior Enlisted Advisor

You asked for it — you got it! One of my primary responsibilities as DANTES Senior Enlisted Advisor (SEA) is to provide feedback and concerns of Service members from the Fleet, Field, and Air to both the Director of DANTES (Dr. Carol Berry) and the Inter-Service Voluntary Education Board (IVEB). A common request from many of you has been to include

an additional component to the Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) to make it available in a “stand-alone-mode” for use by members serving on military platforms without Internet capabilities. This month I am happy to report that the new DANTES subscription of OASC beginning in October 2012 will include CDs available for multiple users to download the OASC program. They can then work on and eventually, when Internet connectivity is available, upload their course data to the OASC web version.

What is OASC? A self-paced on-line skills assessment and builder, developed by Peterson’s, that can help participants improve math, reading comprehension and vocabulary skills, which may then lead to professional and/or academic advancement. The OASC normally retails for \$195 per individual subscription but is available free of charge to Service members, Department of Defense civilians, and family members.

Participants start by taking pre-tests which measure their current skill level. Next, the course builds a learning path tailored for them, providing just the lessons needed to improve their skills. Each lesson is supported by quizzes; interactive exercises such as drag-and-drop matching, video-game-style multiple choice or dynamic flash cards; and practice problem sets that help gauge how well they are mastering the material.

One benefit of the OASC is that it can help Service members needing to increase their Armed Services Vocational Aptitude Battery (ASVAB) score in order to qualify for specific job specialties. Downsizing has forced some career Service members to consider switching to a military job specialty that is undermanned but requires a higher ASVAB score. OASC

can help members achieve the minimum ASVAB score required for the new military job specialty, which they would otherwise not be considered for.

A recent study has shown that students who score above 72 on verbal, 63 on math, and 70 on reading, were able to successfully raise their Armed Forces Qualification Test (AFQT) after completing the OASC program. While there is no actual “certificate of completion” Service members can print out an overview of results from the OASC screens to show their progress and accomplishments.

How does it work? Getting registered to begin the coursework is easy. Simply go to OASC (www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantes/) and follow the on-screen instructions to sign up. NOTE: For all active duty Army personnel, contact your nearest Army Education Center before registering for OASC. Once participants have accessed the content (whether or not any work is started or completed), they have one year to use it. How long it takes to actually complete it, however, is up to the individual. The program is self-paced and the timeline for completion can be lengthened or shortened depending upon the participant’s unique needs. After registration for the program, participants are prompted to take two pre-tests in order to establish a baseline. These tests, covering verbal and math comprehension, contain 50 questions apiece. The pre-tests determine existing strengths and weaknesses in the content areas. Once those are established, the OASC then develops a customized learning path for students to follow to improve the weak areas.

The verbal section of the course is designed to improve vocabulary and reading abilities, useful skills to have in taking standardized tests. To help improve verbal prowess basic, medium and challenge word flash cards are available.

The math section is constructed to help brush up on the basic skills by reviewing arithmetic, algebra and geometry lessons. As students go through the customized lessons, additional practice test sets and quizzes are available to test their growing comprehension of the material.

Once students finish all of the lessons, practice tests and quizzes, they take a post test to see how much understanding has improved since the pre-test.

Interested? For additional OASC information, visit www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantes/.

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

Education promotes equality

Two significant activities took place at the end of August – Women’s Equality Day (August 26) events were held across the Department of Defense and children across the nation went back to school. In support of the latter event, DANTES sponsored a back-to-school drive to provide basic school supplies

for local children in need. I couldn’t help thinking, as we dropped off the educational resources for the kids, that Service members (regardless of gender) have also been provided resources (such as tuition assistance) that could not only make them more proficient in current military positions, but could also lead to equity in pursuit of their dream career.

As your children (or grandchildren) go back to school, why not go with them? If a traditional college degree or certificate program is not of interest, consider one of the many programs available to veterans. For example, the University of Syracuse introduced programs developed by its Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) at the recent DoD Worldwide Education Symposium. The IVMF has developed an Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV) and the Veteran Women Igniting the Spirit of Entrepreneurship (V-WISE) programs, dedicated to providing cutting-edge entrepreneurial training for veterans. These programs are excellent examples of the many new federally-funded programs available to veterans and their families. Classes are offered quarterly (www.whitman.syr.edu/vwise/).

Why does education (in any form) matter? Because it is something that will always be with you. Budgets can be cut, but your personal knowledge and intellect can never be taken away. The proposed \$486 billion is not the only current threat to the DoD budget. Consider the additional potential impact of sequestration. Army Mil.com (www.military.com/daily-news/2012/05/18/odierno-sequestration-could-hollow-army.html) reported that, according to the Chief of Staff of the Army, Gen. Raymond Odierno, the Army could be cut to 400,000 if the sequestration option outlined in the Budget Control Act of 2011 goes into effect. Current drawdown cuts will already reduce 80,000 soldiers from

the force over the next five years, but sequestration could mean the loss of an additional 100,000 soldiers. No one knows who those Service members would be... yet another reason to go back to school.

“If we have sequestration, it will affect both the active and reserve component,” said Gen. Odierno. “It depends on what balance we pick. But what I talk about a lot is: 70,000 out of the active; 30,000 out of the reserve; 80,000 out of the active; and 20,000 out of the reserve. Some number around there is what we would expect.” Every branch of Service will be impacted.

Sequestration is a battle military leaders currently fight on behalf of Service members, but you can fight on your own behalf now by going back to school this fall. Recognize that the same reasons a parent has for wanting their child to go to school (such as a good job and a better future) applies to you as well. Your ability to care for your family will be directly impacted if you are a casualty of the drawdown.

I know that a Service member’s time, energy and resources can be limited. We all have to do more with less. However, if you wait to go to school, the limitations of time, energy and resources could be exacerbated if you also bear the additional burden of seeking employment. Consider the school supplies DANTES gathered for local students...what would you do if tuition assistance was no longer supplied? Would you regret not taking advantage of that benefit, as so many others facing transition have shared with me as I conduct educational briefings across the country?

Please, remove all opportunity for doubt. No one knows what military programs may be forced to be sacrificed as a result of sequestration. This fall, schedule a meeting with an education services officer (ESO) to identify a degree or credential program. Remember, education can level the employment playing field – ensure you are as prepared as possible for your future career of choice. Your ESO can help you map out an education plan based on the required educational criteria necessary to achieve your employment goal.

Interested in educational encouragement? Follow me on @how2edu and send comments to rca@navy.mil. For more information regarding educational resources available from DANTES, access the “How Leaders Can Help” e-book at www.epubbud.com/book.php?g=6MFKDSH5.

CCME announces call for 2013 award nominations

The Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) has called for 2013 CCME military education awards nominations. According to Joycelyn Groot, CCME President, "We are encouraging everyone in the military education community to nominate individuals and organizations that meet the criteria of the CCME awards. Traditionally this has been a great opportunity to recognize the very best serving our military's education needs." Recipients of any CCME Award in the past 5 years are ineligible. Nominations for the following awards are solicited:

John Brian Service and Leadership Award

- » nominee must be an employee of any branch of the United States Armed Services and must be directly involved in the delivery of voluntary off-duty education programs on a military installation
- » nominee must have worked at least two years at the office level as an education services officer, education specialist, education counselor, or education technician

William E. Kennedy Award

- » nominee must be an employee of an institution offering a program of instruction at one or more military installations
- » provisions of voluntary off-duty education programs must govern the program of instruction offered by the employing institution
- » nominee has been employed directly in the promotion and delivery of voluntary off-duty education programs for a period of at least three years

CCME Corporate Award

- » nominee must be an organization directly involved in the support of voluntary off-duty education to the armed forces

CCME Institution Award

- » nominee must be an institution directly involved in the support of voluntary off-duty education to the armed forces

Barry Cobb Government Organization Award

- » nominee must be a government organization directly involved in the delivery of voluntary off-duty education programs to the military

CCME President's Award

- » the Awards Committee will determine whether there is a nominee (individual or organization) who has made a significant contribution that has advanced the cause of military education; CCME members are encouraged to make nominations for this award
- » nominee can come from any sector - public or private - at the local, state, or national level, and does not have to be a member of CCME to be eligible for this award

Detailed information can be found at www.ccmeonline.org/awards or via e-mail at awardapplications@ccmeonline.org.



Sept. in U.S. history:

- 2, 1945:** President Harry Truman declared V-J Day.
- 3, 1783:** Treaty of Paris signed, formally ending the American Revolutionary War.
- 5:** DIB Editor born
- 5, 1774:** First Continental Congress assembled in Philadelphia with 56 delegates.
- 9, 1776:** The Continental Congress changed the name of the new American nation from the United Colonies to the U.S.
- 11, 2001:** The worst terrorist attack in U.S. history occurred as four passenger jets were hijacked then crashed, killing nearly 3,000 persons.
- 13, 1814:** Francis Scott Key observed the Battle of Fort Henry, inspiring him to write the verses which became the U.S. National Anthem in 1931.
- 15, 1857:** William Howard Taft, 27th U.S. President, born.
- 16, 1620:** The Mayflower left England, bound for America.
- 17, 1787:** U.S. Constitution ratified.
- 18, 1947:** The U.S. Air Force was established as a separate military service.
- 24, 1957:** President Dwight Eisenhower ordered the National Guard to enforce racial integration of schools in Little Rock, Arkansas.
- 24, 1936:** Puppeteer Jim Henson, creator of the Muppets, born.
- 27, 1964:** The Warren Commission Report was issued stating a lone gunman was responsible for the assassination of President John F. Kennedy on Nov. 22, 1963.
- 29, 1789:** Congress created the U.S. Army, consisting of 1,000 enlisted men and officers.

TESTING CALENDAR

No testing scheduled

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

DANTES
6490 SAUFLEY FIELD ROAD
PENSACOLA, FL 32509-5243
<http://www.dantes.doded.mil>

The DANTES Information Bulletin is published online monthly to inform education personnel about DANTES programs.

Send all inquiries and letters to Code 01F at the above address. Reproduction in whole or in part is permitted for any purpose of the United States Government, except that copyrighted materials cannot be reproduced without written permission from the copyright owner. The appearance of external hyperlinks does not constitute endorsement by DANTES of the linked Web sites, or the information, products or services contained therein. The Secretary of the Navy has determined this publication necessary in the transaction of business required by law of the Department of the Navy.

Carol A. Berry, Ed.D., Director
 Nancy L. Hamilton, Editor
pubs@navy.mil

DANTES telephone numbers are:
DSN 922-1111 (plus extension); CML (850) 452-1111 (plus extension)

Office	Ext.	Fax	E-mail
Director's Office	3150	1159	dantes@navy.mil
Enlisted Advisor	3153	1159	ea@navy.mil
Reserve Advisor	3127	1159	rca@navy.mil
DANTES Publications/ DIB	3120	1162	pubs@navy.mil
Web Site	3120	1162	dantes_webmaster@navy.mil
European Advisor	011-49-6221-17-9654 DSN: 314-373-9654		dantes@eur.army.mil
Pacific Advisor	850-452-1111 ext 3150 DSN: 922-1111 ext 3150		dantes@navy.mil
Troops to Teachers	3141	1096	ttt@navy.mil
Education Support	3133	1162	
Distribution Center	452-1082	1140	dist@navy.mil
Education Outreach	3126	1162	dantes_outreach@navy.mil
Reference Resources	3131	1588	refpubs@navy.mil
WW Symposium	3126	1162	dantesww@navy.mil
Education Programs	3245	1161	
Counseling	3132	1161	counseling@navy.mil
Distance Learning	3129	1161	DantesDL@navy.mil
DoD MOU	3175	1161	voledconcerns@navy.mil
Examinations	3245	1160	exams@navy.mil
Military Evaluations	3213	1005	DANTES_ace@navy.mil
SOC	3121	1161	DANTES_SOC@navy.mil
Third-Party Review	3121	1161	DANTES_thirdparty@navy.mil
Training	3181	1161	dantestraining@navy.mil