

DANTES INFORMATION BULLETIN



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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

WWW.DANTES.DODED.MIL

Tools for selecting a college and comparing costs

Finding the right school that fits your needs can be a confusing and complicated process. Where can you get the most for your education dollars? Which school gives you the most flexibility in your chosen field of study? Does the school offer financial aid that you can use? What about transfer credits, ACE recommended credits, or credit-by-exam credits? Does it all make your head spin? Don't worry, help is just a click away - tools that can help manage the overwhelming information and get answers to your questions. Here are a few:



College search made easy

Have you heard of the Department of Education's (ED) College Affordability and Transparency Center's College Scorecard (<http://collegecost.ed.gov/scorecard/>)? The College Scorecard is a very user friendly way to search for a college that is a good fit for you, just search the college name of choice and press enter. The system will populate the scorecard with typical attendance costs, graduation rate, loan default rate, amount borrowed for undergraduate study, and employment options upon graduation. Your search can also be customized based on selected options, such as college location, type of college, and areas of interest.

Cost of an education

Did you know? In 2011, the Consumer Financial Protection Bureau partnered with the ED to launch the "Know Before You Owe: student loans project."

After releasing a prototype of a model financial aid offer form to the public and reviewing the process improvement feedback, a financial aid shopping sheet was created. The ED Financial Aid Shopping Sheet (www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/guid/aid-offer/annotatedshoppingsheet.pdf) is a standardized form that participating institutions will use to assist prospective students and their families better understand the costs of attending an institution before making the final decision on where to enroll. The Shopping Sheet will be available for use beginning in the 2013-2014 award year. To learn more about the Financial Aid Shopping Sheet and see a list of institutions that have adopted the shopping sheet, go to www2.ed.gov/policy/highered/guid/aid-offer/index.html.

Comparing schools

The Financial Aid Comparison Shopper worksheet (www.consumerfinance.gov/paying-for-college/compare-financial-aid-and-college-cost) was created to help students make college comparisons tailored to their individual circumstances. The Web site allows prospective students to enter the names of three schools and receive detailed financial information on each one. The site also provides the first-year sticker price for each school as well as the average grants and scholarships packages and the total borrowing per year based on these figures. Once the prospective student enters additional financial aid award information or personal contributions, the program calculates the student's projected financial burden, along with an estimate of any possible monthly student loan payments once the student has graduated.

Take a few minutes to explore these tools and find out more about a college's affordability and value so you can make more informed decisions about which college to attend.



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DSST operations moves to state-of-the art facility in Maryland

Prometric is pleased to announce the opening of a state-of-the-art, global operations hub located in White Marsh, Md., adding 100 new jobs for the region. All operational functions required to support the DSST program were transitioned to White Marsh in June, following a comprehensive implementation plan. The Prometric Operations Center (POC) is a 60,000 square foot facility transforming the way Prometric conducts global test development and delivery. It is estimated that the POC will save \$30 million over the next five years by making significant improvements in the processes that support more than 10 million certification exams per year over a network of 8,200 test sites in more than 160 countries.



New Prometric Operations Center located in White Marsh, Md.



Prometric staff is excited about the new White Marsh facility; (l-r) Neal Baer; Krystal Hampton; Shane King ; Lubna Chahal; James Lee; and Kristie Burnap.

Specific functions managed out of the new White Marsh facility include oversight of Prometric’s global test center network, its global help desk, all contact centers, on-demand testing and candidate support. Test Control Officers (TCOs) can contact the POC for DSST related support at 1-866-693-2267.

“This change will significantly strengthen our performance and the support services we provide across computer-based, paper-based and Internet-based testing,” said Michael Brannick, Prometric’s President and CEO. “At Prometric, we believe and commit to changing lives one exam at a time. It’s inspiring work, and some of the world’s most highly regarded companies, governments and organizations trust us to provide secure and reliable test development and delivery.”

Reminders for all DANTES Test Sites

DSST paper exams

June 30, 2013, was the last date to order DSST paper exams (stocking and non-stockng). This includes the Principles of Public Speaking exam. The last date to administer DSST paper exams is Aug. 31, 2013.

Prometric has moved!

The new address is 7941 Corporate Drive, Nottingham, MD 21236. Exam forms have been updated in the Test Control Officer (TCO) portal to include the new address. We are currently in the process of updating the DANTES Document Receipt Form,

1560/14 which will be available on the TCO portal soon. TCOs can continue to use the current form.

NTC Helpdesk

Prometric has established a new National Test Center (NTC) Helpdesk for TCOs with NTC technical issues. The phone number for this Helpdesk is 1-866-794-3497.

DEPH

The 3rd quarter DANTES Examination Program Handbook (DEPH) has been updated and is currently available in the TCO portal (<https://dantestcoportal.prometric.com/Login/Login.aspx>).

DANTES Social Media

Join us for up-to-date information, conversations, or just let us know how your education journey is going!

DANTES Pulse blog <http://doddantespulse.blogspot.com/>

DANTES Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD>

DANTES Twitter https://twitter.com/DoD_DANTES

DANTES Youtube <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAD8yGhGBeDAIPMW7Eu-sA>

REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS NEWS

OASC — now one URL for all Services

As of June 21, 2013, active duty Army personnel will no longer be required to contact their ESO/Military Education Center prior to registration for the DANTES Online Academic Skills Course (OASC). ALL military branches, to include National Guard and Reserve, can now access OASC via one URL: www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantes/.



Army students: current and new

Active duty Army Service members currently using the course will continue to use their current username and password at the DANTES OASC URL. New active duty Army Service member registrants no longer need an access code to complete their registration — just select Army as the Service branch and specific installation at the registration on the DANTES OASC Web page.

Army OASC administrators

Active duty Army OASC administrators are encouraged to review the OASC administrator computer based training at www.nelnetsolutions.com/admincbt/. All previous information and reports on active duty Army personnel registered in OASC have been rolled over to the DANTES OASC site and can be viewed as before, at the Army site.

For questions on OASC, contact the DANTES OASC Program Manager at 850-452-1111 ext. 3131.

Reference Publications

Military Education Centers
Order your copies NOW!

Limit: 100 per 3 months

Email: dist@navy.mil

Provide your DANTES ID#, Stock #2424, and quantity

STOCK #2424

Happy Summer!

QUICK STUDY UNDERSTANDING ACCREDITATION

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

DANTES PARTNERSHIPS NEWS

SOC input asked for

DANTES is seeking input from the military education community regarding the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Program, the SOC Degree Network System, and SOC codes. If you work in an education office or for an institution, or you are a Service member, we want to hear:

- » your ideas on how we can best engineer the program to serve our Service members
- » which items/services are most useful to you
- » what service(s) would you like to see added or expanded

The survey will be open until Aug. 22, 2013. To complete the survey, go to www.surveymonkey.com/s/HSZXCSB.



To receive email notification when the DIB is posted to the Web site, click on the icon or send an email to pubs@navy.mil.

Connect to clients and get social

In FY09, there were 263 military education centers worldwide (excluding the Coast Guard). By FY12, that number was reduced to 204. There are fewer offices and, in some Services, fewer counselors to serve military members. In FY12, less than 27 percent of active duty military members were engaged in undergraduate and graduate coursework. To help Service members prepare for career transitions due to scheduled troop reductions, education service officers (ESOs) and counselors must strive to reach more potential students with less of a physical footprint.

Traditionally, many counselors have been able to recruit students through command visits, education fairs, briefings, and word of mouth. However, fewer offices and field personnel make some of these outreach activities difficult and, at times, impossible. Perhaps it is time to consider further leveraging the power of word of mouth education outreach through social media. Social media outreach has grown exponentially in both business and government sectors over the last few years. While it will not (and should not) replace current education outreach efforts, it is a tool that some education centers are using to ensure that Service members are informed of their education benefits.

Although social media can be used to recruit new Service members to participate in voluntary education, it is also a good way to give students continued support and answer frequently asked questions (FAQs).

Recently, DANTES embarked on a renewed effort to engage Service members and the military education community through social media. For current and potential military students, DANTES created the blog DANTES Pulse (www.doddantespulse.blogspot.com).

[com/](http://www.doddantespulse.blogspot.com/)), home to many articles specifically for Service members and veterans. With over 13,000 hits in the first four months alone, the blog has been providing information on preparing for college, tuition assistance alternatives, earning college credit, leveraging education during military transition, and more. The blog has been featured on sites such as Military.com and continues to grow with audiences worldwide (i.e. Germany, Japan, and the Middle East). Join the conversation and share:

- » answers to FAQs
- » Service member success stories
- » tips from successful education centers that can be shared with other centers across the Services
- » other relevant topics

To be a guest blogger, submit articles to dantes_outreach@navy.mil.

To help counselors and ESOs connect to each other and share best practices across the military Services, DANTES created the Military Education Counselor group on LinkedIn (www.linkedin.com/groups?gid=5095593&trk=myg_ugrp_ovr). This group is a subgroup of DoD DANTES and is a private group only for professional education service specialists, transition counselors, military career counselors, and veteran education counselors. This network will serve as a one-stop shop to share information on education programs, policy developments, school programs, new tools, and much more. Stay tuned and connect with others by joining the group.

Get social and follow DANTES:

- » Facebook: www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD
- » Twitter: https://twitter.com/DoD_DANTES
- » Google+, Pinterest, and YouTube: DoD DANTES

DANTES Pulse

The official PULSE of education for the military community.

Recent posts:

Back to school series

www.doddantespulse.blogspot.com/2013/07/back-to-school-explore-and-narrow-your.html

Graduate student funding opportunities

www.doddantespulse.blogspot.com/2013/07/graduate-student-funding-opportunities.html

Internships become possibility for military students

www.doddantespulse.blogspot.com/2013/07/internships-become-possibility-for.html

Connect to your military education center online

www.doddantespulse.blogspot.com/2013/07/connect-to-your-military-education.html

Former Navy commander and TTT mentor to head new STEM magnet school in Connecticut

By Troy M. Gipps, Coordinator, Troops to Teachers, New England

There is often a moment when military members know they want to become teachers after leaving the Service. For Joseph “Jay” Lipp, that moment came while serving in the Navy’s Nuclear Submarine Force.

“It was there, while leading shipboard training as a junior officer, that I knew I wanted to be an educator,” said Lipp. Going on to serve as a construction engineer with USS Tucson (SSN 770), he gained the experience he needed to become an educational leader.

“Starting up and testing a new reactor and taking the submarine to sea with very few people who had any of that class experience made me a focus of the fundamentals and safety,” he said. “I was as much an educational administrator as an engineer.”

Upon retiring from the Navy in 2004, Lipp launched his second career as a high school physics teacher in Stratford, Conn. He then chaired the science department at Norwalk High School in Norwalk, Conn. and taught physics courses as part of the University of Connecticut’s Early College Experience program.

In May of this year, Lipp was named as the first principal of the new Physical Sciences, Engineering & Aerospace/Hydrospace Science High School in Bridgeport, Conn. In this Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) -based school, students learn the practical application of science and math to solve problems.

For Lipp, the appointment represents the culmination of a lifetime of service. It is also a unique opportunity to help Bridgeport regain prominence as a leading industrial and manufacturing city.

“Singer Sewing Company, Remington Arms, Bridgeport Machine and General Electric small motors are just a few of the former companies that built America right here in Bridgeport,” said Lipp. “We want to bring back good paying, high tech jobs to the city and surrounding communities. Improving educational opportunities is the first and most vital step.”

Lipp’s vision for the new school will enable graduating seniors to be almost a year ahead of conventional high school graduates when they start college.

Like many veterans, Lipp points to traits honed during military Service as key to his success in the



Joseph “Jay” Lipp, visits the construction site of his new high school. Jay was chosen recently as the first principal of this inter-district magnet school in Bridgeport, Conn.

classroom. Effectively conveying his passion for science has also helped Lipp succeed.

“Bringing (unclassified) real world experience into the classroom and then explaining the science and its applications is a very important aspect of the learning process,” he said. “Students need to feel connected to the material.”

Looking back on his own transition from military Service to the classroom, Lipp offers these words of advice: “The transition is a little rough, but the rewards of shaping our country’s future are well worth the effort. Work with your state to determine the best course for certification. Some states are much harder than others. When you are first hired, be sure your new employer gives you credit for the years of teaching you have done in the military. This can mean thousands of dollars of additional pay each year for the rest of your teaching career.”



FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR



HMCN (FMF/SW) David Acuff
Senior Enlisted Advisor

Summer break has come to an end and school is resuming. Children are filling back packs, parents are scrambling to find all of the school supplies and schools are hosting “Open Houses.” It seems that mail boxes and newspapers are overflowing with advertisements, sales and coupons for “back to school” supplies and college dorm-room essentials. “Going Back to School” events

have become a tradition and a rite of passage in our country focused on children, teenagers, parents, and college students. This is also a perfect time for military members to use this season as a springboard to start or restart going to college.



Open houses are being offered at schools all over the United States, and your base education office/virtual education centers are no different. Education Services Officers (ESOs) are standing by to give tours of the services offered to military members, both face-to-face and virtually. While taking a tour, be sure to sign up for a Career Interest Inventory, one of your military benefits that can help determine the fields of interest and study that may best suit you. Kuder® Journey provides reliable tools to assess your interests and suggest education and career options. Go ahead and give it a try at www.dantes.kuder.com.

Still another “house” that is open 24/7 for military members can be found on the DANTEs Web site (www.dantes.doded.mil). Here Service members can learn about the services and programs available

for pursuing educational goals. The site can also help identify exams (DSST/CLEP) members can take to help reduce required credits for school. These tests are provided free to Service members the first time they are taken and can significantly reduce the time, money, and number of college credit needed to achieve an education goal.

Service members preparing for college will also want to request a Joint Service Transcript (JST) reflecting American Council on Education (ACE) recommended college credit they may qualify for from previous military training and experience. The JST is available online for personal use or may be officially sent to accredited colleges and universities at the student’s request. The JST is available at no charge to the Service member from the JST Web site <https://jst.doded.mil>. Note: the Air Force will continue to make its records available through the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) and the Air Force Virtual Education Center; subsequently, Air Force records are not reflected on the JST.

So, don’t let this summer go by without jump-starting your college education. Go to your own “Open House” and see an education counselor today to learn more about the numerous opportunities available for pursuing your educational goals. Don’t have a counselor??? Contact DANTEs or myself and we will get you pointed in the right direction. Don’t delay – enroll in a college course today.

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.



Other VoIEd news in the world...

AF financial managers get certification program
www.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123355662

Deployed soldier receives doctorate
www.dvidshub.net/image/971144/deployed-soldier-receives-doctorate

MARCENT (Fwd) Marine receives diploma in Bahrain
www.dvidshub.net/news/109541/marcent-fwd-marine-receives-diploma-bahrain

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

Have a question
about DANTEs?

Let us know at
pubs@navy.mil.



Lt Col Eurydice Stanley
Reserve Component Advisor

You can obtain your degree while serving!

In honor of Women's Equality Day, Aug. 26, 2013, I'd like to introduce a Service member who used education to level the playing field for her future. Kimberly McClain, Ph.D., is a major in the United States Air Force Reserves and serves as an adjunct professor of international business for Northcentral

University. She currently teaches doctoral courses in international business, global marketing environment, cultural environment of global business and international business strategic management. While McClain is well-accomplished in her own right, she also is currently assigned to the Pentagon as Chief of Operations, Policy Integration Division, Headquarters Air Force Studies and Analyses, Assessments and Lessons Learned.

McClain began her career as an enlisted Service member, went to OTS, became an officer and attended flight school. She did all of this as a single mother. She has flown more than 1,600 hours in E-3 AWACS aircraft, and has served as a pilot for the Commander in Chief. She went back to school to get a degree, and you can too! She holds a bachelor's degree in psychology from the University of Texas, a master's degree in human relations and international business from Amberton University, and a doctorate of philosophy in international business from Northcentral University.

In a candid interview, McClain shared insights regarding her path to educational success.

What has been your "path of service" in the military?

My path in the military has been non-traditional. I joined the military in 1991 after failing miserably at college the first three times. I loved school, but only when it was sunny. The result after my first few semesters was a whopping 1 point something. Not good.

What made you pursue your Ph.D.?

My son Darrien. I wanted to inspire him to drive towards excellence or at least give it his best shot in school. Simply put, I wanted to teach and lead by example.

How did you balance schoolwork with family and work responsibilities?

Very carefully. I can't say that I do it well all the time, but I try. It has taken a few years and a lot of heart-ache, but I have come to realize that I cannot compare myself to anyone else. Once I stopped comparing how I balance my life and priorities, balancing work and life became easier. Everybody has a different way of balancing life. For our family, I maintain a "Team McClain" calendar that has everyone's schedule. This helps me keep from over-committing myself and feeling overwhelmed. Even more importantly, I am very blessed to have a supportive husband and family. My husband and children keep me grounded and focused.

Why is it important for military personnel to pursue their education?

It is important to have the educational foundation and credentials to support your experience. Getting a degree not only provides you with a personal sense of accomplishment, but shows potential employers that you can see things through to completion. It shows them commitment. This summer I will be headed back to school at the National Intelligence University for the Master of Science in Strategic Intelligence program. This professional military education (PME) program is an amazing opportunity for me to gain additional experience that I will be able to use in my post-military career in public service.

Should military personnel own their own businesses?

If they have a business, product, or service they are passionate about, then absolutely. I would encourage people to do their research on their industry of interest and then contact the Small Business Association (SBA) for assistance on starting a veteran owned business.

Any words of wisdom for Service members considering going back to school?

Most military members will be too young to completely retire. We (military members) have obtained a lot of skills during our careers that can translate into second careers. Find your passion and pursue it with the same vigor that you employed in your military career. While that may sound trite, it is very true.



TRANSITIONS



Challenge of going from combat to campus

Excerpts reprinted with permission from *Diverse Issues in Higher Education*, www.diverseeducation.com

Transition, according to Merriam Webster, is “passage from one state, stage, or place to another.” Essentially, transition is change from what was to what is. Many colleges and universities around the country have witnessed an increase of 12 percent in the Fall 2012 enrollments (470,000), of military, veterans, and dependents over the previous year’s Post 911 GI Bill enrollments. The VA expects the trend to continue to increase as more and more military transition to civilian status.

“Military veterans face challenge of going from combat to campus” by Clarence V. Reynolds is an online *Diverse Issues in Higher Education* article posted March 20, 2013. The article addresses many concerns of present and former military members who attend an institution of higher learning. These students must deal with how to maneuver the sometimes lengthy GI Bill process. They also worry about the possibility of out-of-pocket expenses due to schools requiring a determination of in-state vs. out-of-state tuition. Other major concerns include their attempt to understand and believe institutions are “military friendly” along with dealing with any post-traumatic stress issues from combat while assimilating into campus life.

The following resources may assist military and veterans with transitioning from Service to successful students:

- » Student Veterans of America (SVA): chapters in all 50 states offer several programs, such as the Yellow Ribbon Scholarship (www.gibill.va.gov/benefits/post_911_gibill/yellow_ribbon_program.html) that works with institutions to offer additional available funds for military or veteran students
- » Iraq and Afghanistan Veterans of America (IAVA): an organization that connects veterans with health, education, and employment resources (www.iava.org/)
- » The Pat Tillman Foundation: an advocacy organization for veterans (www.pattillmanfoundation.org/)

According to Michael Dakduk, Executive Director of the SVA, veterans’ experiences can benefit institutions. He states, “They are able to enrich student life because of the world experiences they have had. Some student vets have been on the “ground” and they have communicated with foreign people to understand their plights and their situations. They also tend to have a better, more holistic appreciation for world affairs and world cultures.” Dakduk suggests that universities visit the American Council on Education’s Veterans Friendly Toolkit (www.vetfriendlytoolkit.org/), to find out all aspects institutions utilize to support veterans success and needs.

Resources exist that can assist military and veterans successfully transition into colleges and universities resulting in degrees and or other recognized accomplishments such as professional certifications or licenses.

To view the entire article “Military veterans face challenge of going from combat to campus,” go to www.diverseeducation.com/article/52070/.

Resume info

For a different take on how to approach your resume, check out this PBS article: www.pbs.org/news-hour/rundown/2013/04/how-to-transition-from-military-to-civilian-work-without-a-resume.html.

Check out those transcripts!

Service members (except Air Force) - don’t forget to access your transcript at <https://jst.doded.mil> to see how your military experience and training can help you attain post-career education goals. College credits earned during your Service can mean significant financial and time savings.

Air Force personnel - order your transcript via the Community College of the Air Force (CCAF) Web page www.au.af.mil/au/ccaf/transcripts.asp.

TESTING CALENDAR

No testing scheduled

Notes:

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

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

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/Programs/Docs/exams_calendar.pdf

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<http://www.dantes.doded.mil>

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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