

DoD holds its very first Voluntary Education Virtual Education Fair; will you “be” there?

It's never too early for Service members to start planning for their future. Going back to school for a postsecondary degree or certification will certainly support their future career success. The Department of Defense (DoD) is committed to making higher education accessible for Service members.

In support of that commitment, the DoD Voluntary Education Program will host its first Virtual Education Fair on Nov. 19. Service members, Veterans, and their family members will be able to participate from anywhere in the world to get information they need to help reach their education goals.

Representatives from participating schools will be available via live chat from 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (EST) to accommodate different time zones. The fair offers an informative, pressure-free experience where Service members can learn about the following:

- » schools having a signed agreement with the DoD to provide a quality education to Service members and military spouses
- » financial aid options to help defray the cost of education
- » degree and certificate program offerings
- » cost of tuition and fees
- » Post 9/11 GI Bill® benefits
- » Troops to Teachers program information

Information from the participating schools will be accessible online after the event as well.

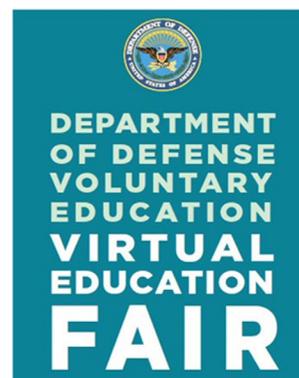
During and after the fair, participants will be able to access the following prerecorded sessions:

- » “Top High-Growth Career Fields and Degrees”
- » “Resources for Choosing a School”
- » “Bridging Education and Credentialing”

Education personnel should encourage attendance at the DoD's Voluntary Education Virtual Education Fair to help Service members make informed choices about their postsecondary education and future. Use the flyer on the following page to help get the word out to local military members and their families.

Service members — this is your opportunity to get the information needed to move forward with your higher education plans, no matter where in the world you are stationed. To view participating schools and additional information, go to www.DoDEducationFair.com today! Registration begins Nov. 1, 2015.

“See” you there!



Nov. 19, 8 a.m. to 6 p.m. (EST)

- search for a school
- learn which schools have signed DoD agreements
- find out about financial aid
- chat live with school reps
- and so much more...

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DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE VOLUNTARY EDUCATION VIRTUAL EDUCATION FAIR

Thursday, Nov. 19, 2015

- › **Search for a school to meet your education or career needs.**
- › **Learn about schools that have a signed agreement with the Department of Defense to provide you with a quality education.**
- › **Find out about financial aid options to help you reach your educational goals.**
- › **Chat live with representatives from participating schools.**
- › **Get the information you need without the pressure.**

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY.

Find out more at <http://www.dodeducationfair.com>.

Registration begins on November 1, 2015.

EXAMINATIONS NEWS

DAIMS is now available!

The DANTES Academic Information Management System (DAIMS) is now live and available for use by currently appointed DANTES Test Control Officers (TCOs). DAIMS replaced the TCO portal, providing access to Test Site information, Service member data, and exam forms and documents. Beginning in January 2016, TCOs will be able to obtain volume and pass rate reports for their specific test site and branch of Service and have access to the TCO Training course. Alternate and Interim Test Control Officers (ATCOs and ITCOs) and Test Examiners will not have access to DAIMS until January 2016.

In order to access DAIMS, currently appointed TCOs must register in DAIMS using their Common Access Card (CAC) at <https://daims.doded.mil>.

IMPORTANT: TCOs should click on the "Use My CAC" button. Do not click on "Register Username and Password" links.

Once registered, DANTES will activate the account and the TCO will receive an account activation email. Once the account is active, DAIMS can be accessed.

FY16 DEPH available online

The FY16 DANTES Examination Program Handbook (DEPH), Parts I and II, is now available online to DANTES testing personnel with access to the DANTES Academic Information Management System (DAIMS). Users can view, search and download the DEPH and other forms used by TCOs. The revised DEPH includes condensed, uniform information for the GRE General, GRE Subject, GMAT and Praxis chapters. These programs are now managed via Service member reimbursement and no longer require testing personnel action. Due to the discontinuation of paper-based CLEP and DSST exams, the CLEP and DSST chapters are also condensed due to the removal of the inventory and shipping guidelines. As a result of these changes, DANTES now publishes the DEPH every six months, vice quarterly.

CLEP exam title change

The College Board recently made a title change to one of their exams: Information Systems & Computer Applications has been changed to Information Systems.

Direct questions to the DANTES Exams team at exams@navy.mil.

Exam Reimbursement Form available online

Service members taking GRE General, GRE Subject, GMAT, or Praxis exams now have direct access to the online Reimbursement Form to submit a reimbursement request. A link to the form is available on the DANTES website at www.dantes.doded.mil under the Examinations header and requires a military common access card (CAC) to log in.

Service members should read ALL instructions before completing the online form and be prepared to upload all official score reports and receipts. After completing the Reimbursement Form, they will digitally sign it using their CAC ID.

The DANTES Academic Information Management System (DAIMS) will verify reimbursement eligibility and route the request electronically to the Exams team for processing.

DSST Fact Sheets provide valuable study aid

By Dawn Draper-Jackson/DSST

Proper test preparation is the key to earning a passing grade, and DSST exams are no exception. Service members should take advantage of the DSST Exam Fact Sheets that are provided on the website at http://getcollegecredit.com/exam_fact_sheets. Each DSST exam has its own Fact Sheet which includes a brief explanation of the exam, a content outline, references, sample questions and answers, and credit recommendations.

Exam Content Outlines allow Service members to understand the type of information that will be presented on the test, and how it will be organized. Outlines help Service members create a study plan that allows them to identify which topics they may need to brush up on.

References offer Service members additional study resources. Each DSST Exam Fact Sheet has three or more references that were either used to create the exam itself or are from textbooks used in college courses of the same or similar title.

Sample Questions provide Service members with potential content questions that would appear on a real DSST exam. Each Fact Sheet lists 5-10 sample questions to help Service members understand how actual exam questions may be worded.

DSST Exam Fact Sheets are available for all titles at http://getcollegecredit.com/exam_fact_sheets.

Teaching on an Indian reservation: A rewarding, unique experience

By Kimberly Hiebert, TTT Associate Director Native American Affairs

Teaching on an Indian reservation can be rewarding, but equally challenging. With it, comes extremes not seen in many other schools or school districts. These include remoteness, poverty and extreme culture vs “outside” world influences. The rewards can be life changing with new perspectives, culture exposure, understanding, family and tribe connectedness, elder experiences, as well as teaching students a single subject or having the opportunity to teach multiple subjects as well as coach a sport. A few things may need modified in the teaching approach, as well as curriculum which a teacher may be familiar with. But, that teacher may also learn much, such as learning a new language like Navajo or Arapaho.

School districts within reservation boundaries have their own conferences to assist educators with these diverse challenges. One such conference was held in Wyoming. The Wyoming Indian Education Conference brought together educators from five school districts within the Wind River Reservation in Central Wyoming, including one school operated by the Bureau of Indian Education (BIE). Wind River is the seventh largest reservation in the United States by area. It is home to the Northern Arapaho and Eastern Shoshone Indian Tribes. The conference focused on education and retention of Native American youth while maintaining the culture of the tribe.

Three types of schools can be found on reservations mostly west of the Mississippi River: tribal schools; public schools; and BIE schools. The name “reservation” can be used loosely as “nations” or “rancherias” in other parts of the country.



St. Stephens, BIE school, on Wind River Reservation

Each school type has its own hiring methods:

- » a public school, which is operated similarly to any other public school off reservation, has teacher licensing requirements mandated by the state where it resides; this includes hiring practices and notices of open positions
- » a BIE school has licensing requirements similar to the state of residence, but hiring must take place through their procedures; the difference between the two is that part of the BIE mission is “to provide quality education opportunities from early childhood education (ECE) through life in accordance with a tribe’s needs for cultural and economic well-being”
- » a tribal school empowers Indian school boards, permits local hiring of teachers and staff, and establishes a direct line of authority between the Education Director and the Assistant Secretary-Indian Affairs in Washington, D.C.

The vast span of land within many reservations is challenging for students as well as staff, including lack of technology advances or conveniences found in city schools. Most schools also qualify for Title I funding.

Continued on page 5



Arapaho students from Wind River Reservation, dance at a welcoming ceremony.



Rewarding, unique experience

Continued from page 4

What teachers will find, however, is extreme pride, family values, respect from the community, support and unique learning opportunities. Navajo elders have said that they respect and honor military teachers more because of their “warrior” spirits.

Under the Indian Preference Act, applicants that can claim tribal membership are given preferential hiring benefits in BIE schools, over equally qualified candidates, although non-native teachers are in high demand as well.

Teaching on an Indian reservation: A rewarding, unique experience.

If you have considered teaching with Native American youth and would like to know more about the Troops to Teachers program with Native American Affairs, contact:

- **Director Joey Strickland at jstrickland@troopstoteachers.net**

or

- **Associate Director Kimberly Hiebert at khiebert@troopstoteachers.net**

They can provide specific qualifications, information on the reservations, and opportunities to teach. They also have reservation characteristics, personal contacts, and school information to help find the best fit for the military member and the school's needs.

For general information on the TTT program:

» websites:

www.dantes.doded.mil/troops-to-teachers/troops-to-teachers.html

www.proudtoserveagain.com/

» email: ttt@navy.mil

» Toll free: (800) 231-6242

» DSN: 459-1942

» Fax: (850) 452-1960

**Have a question or a VoEd story to share?
Send it to pubs@navy.mil.**

OTHER VOLED NEWS

Navy COOL launches new website

www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=91612

ACE Military Evaluations awarded new contract, will expand work with DANTES

www.acenet.edu/news-room/Pages/ACE-Military-Evaluations-Work-to-Expand-With-Awarding-of-New-Contract.aspx

AUABC program helps Airmen earn baccalaureate degree

www.dvidshub.net/news/179378/auabc-program-helps-airmen-earn-baccalaureate-degree#.Vip77H6rSM8

Non-traditional college students are the new normal

The landscape of higher education is changing. But, maybe some of these changes were designed to address what might be the biggest change of all: the change in the students themselves.

www.payscale.com/career-news/2015/10/nontraditional-college-students-are-the-new-normal

New project tackles alternative credit

www.ecampusnews.com/top-news/alternative-credit-project-893/

U.S. Department of Education announces two final regulations to protect students and help borrowers

www.ed.gov/news/press-releases/us-department-education-announces-two-final-regulations-protect-students-and-help-borrowers



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Click [HERE](#) to view archived DIBs.

Happy
Thanksgiving



FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR



CMSgt Adalberto Velez
Senior Enlisted Advisor

Operational Security (OPSEC) continues to be important and no matter the situation—always keep it on your mind. You may be asking yourself what this has to do with Voluntary Education (VolEd). There are many opportunities to breach OPSEC while pursuing your educational goals.

Face-to-face teaching in a classroom environment provides numerous opportunities for personal interaction between faculty and students. Military members may be inclined to share with both their professors and classmates the times and dates that they will be unavailable to participate in the class, or times they need to reschedule exams or request project deadline extensions due to military operational commitments. It could become tempting for Service members to offer their professors an explanation for project delays and test rescheduling due to military commitments since this may tend to lend more credibility to a member's request.

With Distance Learning (DL) there may be even more opportunities to breach OPSEC. In DL courses, there are often requirements to monitor and post online to message boards or threaded discussions. A Service member may feel the need to let the professor



or other class mates know that they will have little or no internet connectivity for a period of time due to an upcoming deployment or other item. It's possible a Service member is on a ship and will be out to sea until a certain time but they assure their classmates and professor that they will reconnect with the

class once they hit a port and actually name where they are going. Imagine what an intelligence operative or terrorist could do with that information!

Most online classes begin with classroom introductions where students post to the rest of the class a brief personal history and their work and career backgrounds. Be careful not to reveal too much

personal and career information. This can also serve as an alert to personnel who don't have a need to know. Many of the colleges that military members attend are considered in VolEd to be "military friendly" and work with Service members and the challenges that are presented by military life. As Service members we are trained and should always practice good OPSEC. We have to be careful not to become too



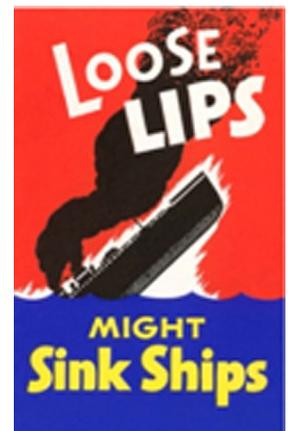
comfortable talking about what each of us does in our specialty and support for our country.

Access and use of DoD computers and equipment must always be safe-guarded. The use of a common access card (CAC) to log onto DoD resources is a sacred trust between the DoD and its Service members. While the assumption may be that DoD computers have the most stringent and best anti-virus and fire-wall protections, be aware there is always a risk when navigating away from the DoD arena. Be sure to check in regards to the utilization of DoD resources in the pursuit of VolEd.

The old saying "Loose Lips Might Sink Ships" is no less valid today than it was in WWII. Only today an unwise word or unprotected password could cause widespread damage across the Internet, or worse. The key is to be aware and thoughtful!

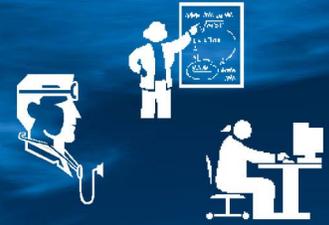
Until next time, keep up with DANTES on Facebook at www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD or contact me at ea@navy.mil. I would enjoy hearing from you.

Remember to always be vigilant and always practice good OPSEC!





TRANSITIONS



DoD TAP can help your transition

The DoD Transition Assistance Program (TAP) provides information, tools, and training to ensure Service members and their spouses are prepared for the next step in civilian life whether pursuing additional education, finding a job in the public or private sector, or starting their own business. This redesigned TAP is the result of an interagency collaboration to offer separating Service members and their spouses better, more easily accessible resources and information to make their transitions more successful.

From this site, Service members can:

- » learn about the Transition GPS (Goals, Plans, Success) curriculum
- » determine how and where to start preparing for their transition to civilian life
- » discover a host of online resources regarding VA benefits, financial planning assistance, and assessing and documenting their skills for transition to civilian life

Military members can also find links to Service-specific websites for additional information.

www.dodtap.mil/index.html

Getting out of the military

The G.I. Jobs website contains articles and “to-do” lists that provide transitioning Service members and their families valuable information. Resources are available to help military members prepare for their next change in career.

www.gijobs.com/getting-out-of-the-military/

More helpful links...

www.militaryonesource.mil/deployment-and-transition/separating-from-the-military

www.cnic.navy.mil/ffr/family_readiness/fleet_and_family_support_program/transition_assistance/transition-gps-for-service-members.html

www.goarmy.com/benefits/after-the-army.html

<http://warriorcare.dodlive.mil/>

www.clearpath4vets.com/

www.usajobs.gov/

www.uschamberfoundation.org/hiring-our-heroes

www.dantes.doded.mil/troops-to-teachers/troops-to-teachers.html

The VA is here to help

The Department of Veterans Affairs (VA) website is one go-to place when preparing to transition from military to civilian life. The website is continually updated with new benefits and changes to old ones, affecting Service members, Veterans, and their families. Just some topics include:

- » pre-discharge
- » compensation
- » education and training
- » vocational rehabilitation and employment (VR&E)
- » home loans
- » life insurance
- » pension
- » applying for benefits
- » events, news, and resource publications

The VR&E Program can be exceptionally helpful, as it is a national employment resource for Veterans with service-connected disabilities and employers. Businesses need a skilled workforce and are often willing to pay to train their employees. These programs make hiring a veteran a good business proposition. Three helpful VR&E services are:

- » On The Job Training Program
- » Special Employer Incentive Program
- » Non-Paid Work Experience Program

Don't think that the VA only helps Service members after they have left Service. VA programs can help plan for transition, long before the actual date. And the VA is there to help after active service is over. Veterans, family members, and potential employers can all find help, resources and support at the VA's website.

www.benefits.va.gov/benefits/

DANTES Social Media

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

DANTES Twitter

www.twitter.com/DoD_DANTES

DANTES Pulse blog

www.dantespulse.dodlive.mil

DANTES Facebook

www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD

DANTES Youtube

www.youtube.com/channel/UCAD8yGhGBeDAtIPMW7Eu-sA



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