

DANTES
DOD VOLED PROGRAMS

Opening Doors To A World Of Possibilities...

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DoD Virtual Education Fair Questions Answered on Aug. 11

By Taheesha Quarells, Communications Division

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What if Service members had a no pressure online environment to get the education help they need from any where in the world? On Aug 11, 2016, the DoD Virtual Education Fair will be available from 8:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m. (EDT) providing one more way for Service members, veterans, and their family members to receive answers to their education questions. The event provides an opportunity to chat online with representatives from several schools and government education organizations about degree and certificate programs,

federal financial aid, tuition and fee costs, and Post 9/11 GI Bill benefits. Professional Voluntary Education counselors from each Service will be available to provide advice on college readiness programs, tuition assistance, prior learning assessment products, and other counseling-related aspects of the Service member's education experience. Participants are encouraged to use mobile devices, if unable to access the event via government computers. Registration is open at www.dodeducationfair.com.

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Why Go Virtual? Supporting the Services with DoD Virtual Education Fairs

It is always important to meet students where they are located. Across voluntary education platforms, military students are increasingly online. Last year, 85 percent of military tuition assistance funded enrollments were online post-secondary courses. Most Service Voluntary Education programs offer students a virtual education center where counselors are available to assist with their academic needs. Now, DoD is testing the possibility of augmenting base education center efforts with DoD Virtual Education Fairs as a commitment to making higher education accessible for Service members.

The value of virtual events rests in their unique ability to be expansive and inclusive enough to reach an unlimited number of people anywhere in the world on their computer or mobile device. While doing more with less is a reality of sequestration, virtual education fairs are the perfect tool to support military members wherever they may be serving with relevant information to complete their academic goals.

A perceived challenge of offering virtual education fairs is that the participant loses the personal touch of live, in-person education events. However, the reverse is true. Social networking has increasingly become how people around the world interact. People are often more comfortable engaging with others online than if they were sitting in a room together. The DoD Virtual Education Fair offers participants the ability to anonymously chat and ask

questions without any obligations or significant time investment. The use of videos, live or pre-recorded presentations and private or public chats give Service members the value of engaging in the event on their terms.

Each year, more than 200 education centers around the world organize and coordinate face-to-face education fairs where they provide the local base community with access to academic institutions and education programs. To support the Services' continuing education outreach, two pilots are being conducted to assess the feasibility of regular DoD-wide virtual education fairs. The first pilot event in November 2015 demonstrated that numerous and varied institutions and government entities could participate in a virtual event commensurate with the president's Executive Order for Principles of Excellence. It is designed to empower students and their families by ensuring they have the information needed to make informed educational choices, while holding institutions of higher learning to the highest standards. Unique to the second event on Aug. 11 will be the introduction of the new Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Career and Technical Education (CTE) certificate opportunities to help Service members acquire the necessary skills and education credentials for high demand career and technical fields while on active-duty. Participants will chat live with representatives and learn about the education opportunities available.

All are encouraged to help promote the upcoming event to Service members, veterans, and their family members. 🎓



What Are Service Members Asking?

Like any new program, a pilot was conducted as a proof of concept for virtual education fairs. The first pilot DoD Virtual Education Fair was held on Nov. 19, 2015. This event garnered interest from more than 1,000 registrants who were interested in finding education opportunities and looking for additional ways to fund their education.

The 10 hour event brought together 43 schools and seven government organizations who provided information on degree and certificate programs, financial assistance, tuition and fee costs, and a variety of Defense education programs.

Most Popular Questions for the Pilot Event

1. What degree programs are offered on-line?
2. What benefits help me pay for a graduate degree?
3. What is your school's accreditation?
4. Do schools offer discounts for military students, family members, or veterans?
5. Do your programs accommodate military students? What if I get deployed?
6. How do I apply for my GI Bill benefits?
7. What programs help me pay for school once my TA runs out?
8. How do I enroll?

Counselor Tools & Resources

Participate as A Counselor

Attention Education Counselors – Each Service's Voluntary Education program will be represented by a virtual booth. Each Service is asked to provide approximately 2-3 representatives to be available for the duration of the 10 hour event. For the previous pilot event, the Services used counselors in 1-4 hour time slots from different time zones. Talk to your Service's Virtual Education Fair Project Lead to find out more about participation.

Participate as a School Representative

Attention School Representatives – Only official employees of the institution are able to participate in the live chat sessions for the event. Use of current or former military or veteran students is strictly prohibited. Recommended personnel to staff event booths include official employees who are school recruitment, admissions, financial aid, and military/veterans representatives.

Promoting the Event

All education center and participating school personnel are encouraged to promote the event using the marketing materials provided through your organization's project lead or by contacting DANTES at dantes_outreach@navy.mil. Sample promotional emails, articles, social media posts, graphics, flyers, and videos are available. Also, please use these links to FOLLOW and LIKE this event:

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

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

Twitter: https://twitter.com/DANTES_DoD

LinkedIn: <https://www.linkedin.com/company/dod-virtual-education-fair---august-11>

Training

A live event run-through will occur a week before the event as a final check to ensure every representative is comfortable with their technology and able to assist Service members on the event day.



EDUCATION FAIR HIGHLIGHTS:

- Chat live with colleges and universities
- Connect with military education counselors
- Get questions answered by financial aid and Post 9/11 GI Bill experts
- Learn about Defense credentialing opportunities
- Watch videos on selecting education options and high growth career fields



GOVERNMENT PARTNERS:

- Air Force Voluntary Education
- Army Voluntary Education
- Marine Corps Voluntary Education
- Navy Voluntary Education
- Coast Guard Voluntary Education
- DANTES
- Troops to Teachers
- Dept. of Education Federal Student Aid
- Dept. of Veterans Affairs GI Bill & Education Services
- DoD Credentialing (COOL)

SOC CAREER & TECHNICAL CERTIFICATE AREAS:

- Business Management & Administration
- Health Sciences
 - Healthcare Practitioners & Technical Occupations
 - Healthcare Support Occupations
- Information Technology
- Law, Public Safety, Corrections & Security
- Science, Technology, Engineering & Mathematics
- Transportation, Distribution & Logistics





DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE VIRTUAL EDUCATION FAIR



YOUR EDUCATION YOUR CHOICE!

**REGISTER
TODAY!**

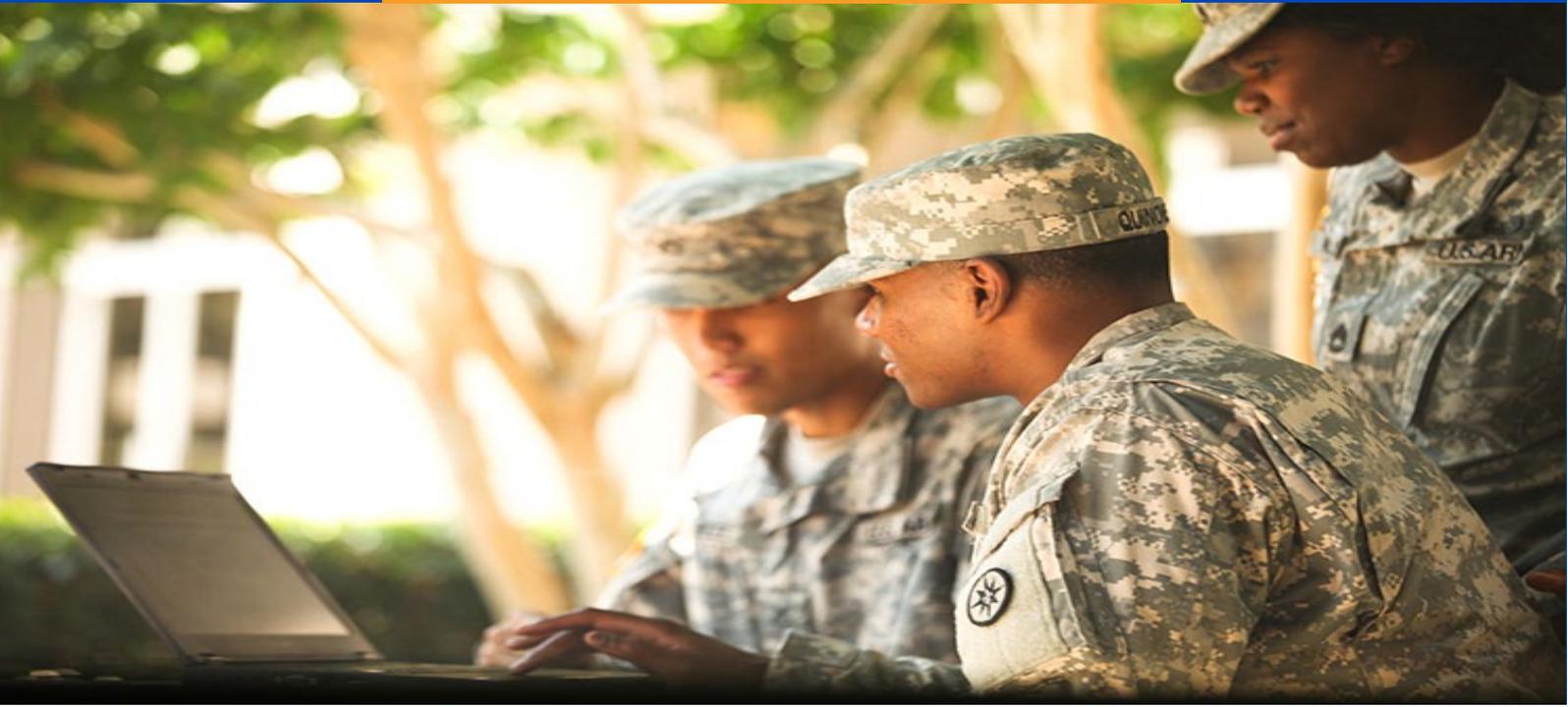
Thursday, August 11, 2016

- Chat live with education and benefit counselors
- Learn about schools that have a signed agreement with the Department of Defense to provide a quality education
- Find out about financial aid options to help you reach your educational goals
- Search for degree programs and career & technical certificate opportunities

DON'T MISS OUT ON THIS GREAT OPPORTUNITY

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

**Participants are encouraged to use mobile devices,
if unable to access the event on government computers.



Hot News

New Additions to the DANTES Electronic Reimbursements

Currently, DANTES funds the ACT and SAT tests through the DANTES sponsored examination program by contract with each of the testing agencies when the tests are taken at a DANTES Test Site. The ACT and SAT tests will continue to be available via paper-based at stocking and non-stocking DANTES test sites. DANTES does not fund the ACT Writing, SAT without Essay or the SAT Subject.

Beginning July 1, 2016, Service members will be reimbursed the test fee for ACTs and SATs taken at National and International Test Centers. Service members will be required to pay for the ACT and SAT tests up-front during registration.

Note: Service members will be required to follow the testing agencies policies and requirements for national and international registration, including adhering to the appropriate test calendar and registration timelines. DANTES does not fund or reimburse for the ACT Writing, SAT without Essay or the SAT Subject.

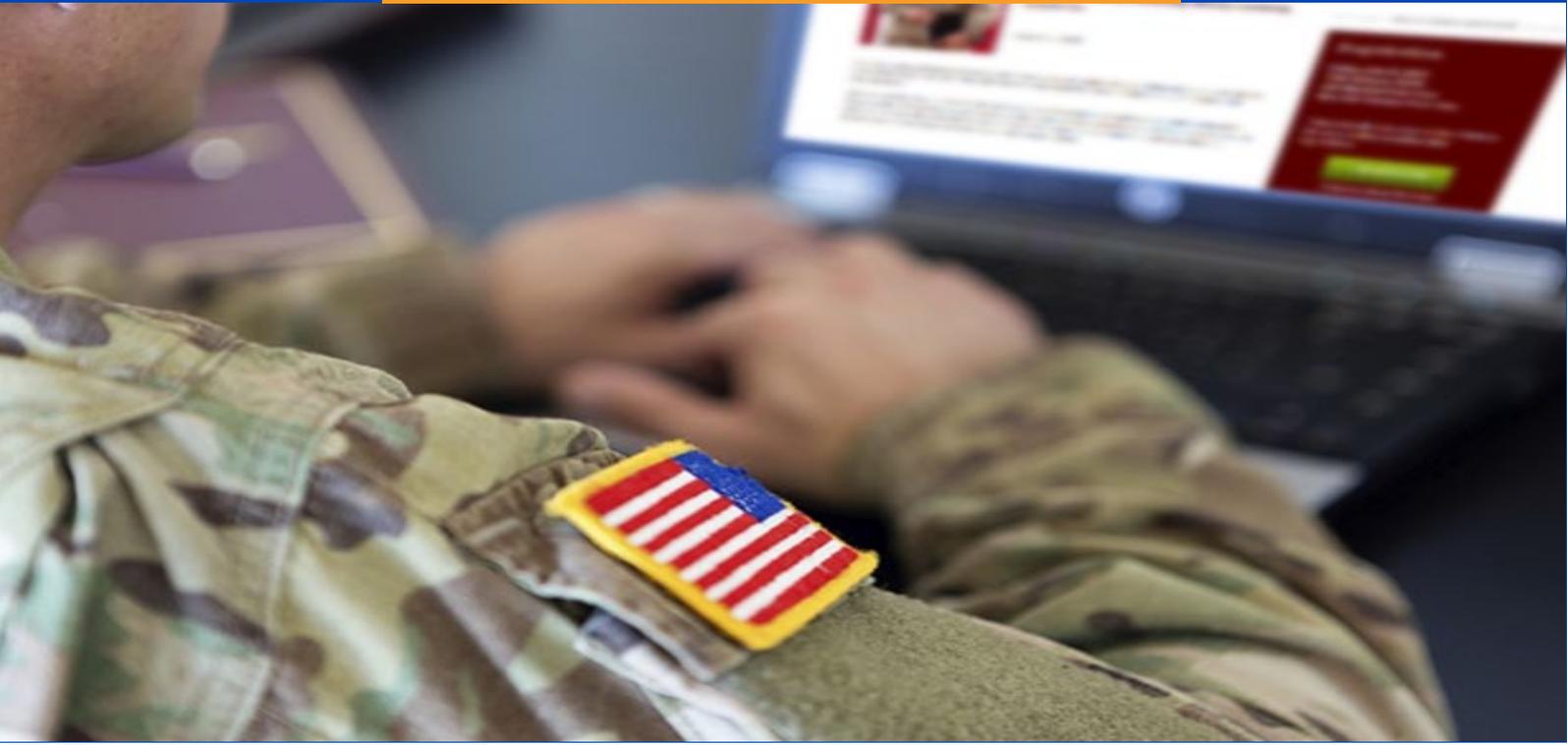
The “Electronic Reimbursement Form” is located on the DANTES website. Select Examinations, Reim-

bursement Eligibility, then read the instructions and click on the “Electronic Reimbursement Form.” A valid Uniformed Services CAC is required to access the Reimbursement Center. Service members are required to upload both the official score report and payment receipt with all reimbursement requests in order to receive approval.

Service members are eligible for the reimbursement of one GED, GMAT, GRE General, GRE Subject, Praxis Core (formerly Praxis I) and Praxis Subject Assessment (including the Principles of Learning and Teaching) while in service. Service members are eligible for the reimbursement of two ACTs, and two SATs during their lifetime in service. Questions may be directed to DANTES Exams at exams@navy.mil. 

Air Force JROTC Needs Instructors

Instructor vacancies exist across the United States for Service members and veterans who are motivated to pursue a second career in teaching today’s youth in Air Force Junior Reserve Officers’ Training Corps programs at local high schools. DANTES and Troops to Teachers may be able to help meet the education prerequisites. For more information, visit <http://www.au.af.mil/au/holmcenter/AFJROTC/Instructors.asp>, www.proudtoserveagain.com, and www.dantes.doded.mil



Hot News

continued

The Inside Track on Validating Military Learning Experiences

The American Council on Education (ACE) is hosting a MilEval Webinar on July 22, 2016 at 1:00pm EDT. This event is for college/university faculty, deans, chairs, admissions, registrars, campus and campus academic policy peers. Join this free webinar to learn more about ACE reviews of military training for college credit recommendations.

Are you curious about how the military services select the courses and occupations reviewed? Garner a better understanding of the integrity and rigor of the military evaluations process that has recommended credit for thousands of military courses since the early 1940s. Be a part of the conversation to learn the details and join more than 2,200 higher education institutions in maximizing your school's recognition of ACE course credit recommendations.

After the webinar, participants will be able to:

- Interpret the value of ACE Military Evaluations contract and the key strategic partnerships

with the Services

- Identify and discuss the integrity of the review process for both courses and occupations
- Compare the faculty's role in the evaluation review process and the measures used in determining credit recommendations
- Find and use the resources available to the higher education community 🎓

Benefits of Using ACE Military Evaluations:

Benefits for Academic Institutions

- Enhanced opportunities for new, highly motivated learners
- Promote consistency in the award of credit
- Align certificate and degree programs
- Translate military-specific language into academic terms on official transcripts

Benefits for Military Learners

- Increase access to postsecondary education
- Facilitate degree completion
- Provide avenues to attain civilian jobs and earn professional credentials

Benefits for Military Training Organizations

- Validate the quality of military training
- Conserve Department of Defense tuition assistance funds

Register for free at: www.acenet.edu/events

Troops to Teachers (TTT) is a DANTES-managed Department of Defense program that helps Service members and Veterans begin a second career as a teacher, in K-12 public, charter or Bureau of Indian Affairs schools – giving them the opportunity to use their leadership skills, knowledge and experience to have a positive effect on our nation’s youth.



www.proudtoserveagain.com



www.facebook.com/TTT.DANTES/



[Troops to Teachers - DANTES/DoD](#)



Ron Marsch attends IA State Veterans Conference

By Kimberly Hiebert, in cooperation with Ron Marsch



Ron Marsch, Central States Troops to Teachers Supervisor, recently attended the 6th annual Iowa Statewide Veterans Conference, held at Memorial Union, in Ames, Iowa.

Iowa State University was honored to be the host of this year’s conference with a theme of “Learning to Return Services.” Major General Timothy E. Orr, State Adjutant for Iowa, was this year’s keynote speaker. In support of this year’s conference, Troops to Teachers developed a resource guide with a brief description of the program and services provided to share with participants.

There were 300 veterans in attendance and Marsch had the opportunity to visit with many of them, share information about the Troops to Teachers program. “I had the opportunity to visit with and counsel around 40-50 veterans who stopped by my table and were seeking information about Troops to Teachers for themselves or for someone they knew. I felt it was a very productive day spent helping our veterans to get a start in another career and helping veterans get into our nation’s classrooms,” Marsch said.

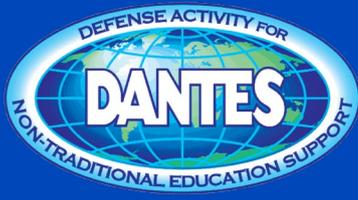
By providing businesses and attendees with information about the program, many will be able to more easily inform veterans of resources available to them if interested in education and teaching in our nation’s classrooms as a second career.

“I was also able to share a Troops to Teachers packet and information with a number of instructors who taught or worked at Iowa State University, which they could share and pass the information on to veterans with whom they came in contact with,” said Marsch.

Iowa Governor Terry Branstad signed a proclamation recognizing the Iowa Advisory Council on Military Education (IA ACME) Iowa Annual Statewide Veterans Conference as an official State of Iowa Veterans Conference supporting Iowa’s veterans and families.

“One of the interesting sessions during the veterans’ conference was a display and presentation by Native Americans who served as code talkers during WWI and WWII,” recalls Marsch. “Several of the participants that I visited with were very serious about getting into education and working with Troops to Teachers. Many had questions about the length and depth of getting teacher certification to get into the classroom. Officials from Iowa State University made the veterans feel welcome and important.”

For more information on teaching in Missouri, Kansas, Nebraska or Iowa, contact the Central States Troops to Teachers office at 877-530-2765 or you may reach Ron Marsch at rmarsch@troopstoteachers.net



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DOD VOLED PROGRAMS

DANTES
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W www.DANTES.DoDed.mil

B DANTESpulse.DoDlive.mil



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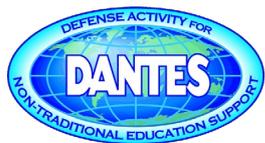


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[Youtube.com/DoDDANTES](https://www.youtube.com/DoDDANTES)

DANTES INFORMATION BULLETIN



DANTES Information Bulletin

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