

DANTES
DOD VOLED PROGRAMS

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More than Testing... DANTES Programs Overview

By Taheesha Quarells, Director, Communications Division

For over 40 years, DANTES has provided a variety of educational opportunities and programs to help Service members achieve their education goals, advance in their military careers and successfully transition into the civilian workforce. In addition to our Credit-by-Exam testing program, DANTES manages a portfolio of Defense education programs that support the Voluntary Education (VoEd) community. They also help Service members prepare for college, access options for obtaining college credits, complete degree requirements, and transition into the civilian workforce. Access to programs and services is available

at <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>. DANTES programs are divided into the following major areas:

College Readiness programs enable access to quality educational opportunities that prepare a Service member for college entrance and a successful learning experience.

- **Career & Education Planning** is available through the Kuder Journey program which assesses a Service member's interests and aptitudes in order to recommend appropriate education and career paths. <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/rep-for-college/kuder.html>

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- **Academic Preparation** is available through the Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) and College Placement Skills Training (CPST) improving academic readiness in Math and English. <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/prep-for-college/oasc-cpst.html>
- **Distance Learning Readiness Self-Assessment (DLRSA)** helps determine a Service member's readiness for education outside of the traditional classroom setting. <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/prep-for-college/dlrta.html>
- **The College Comparison Tool**, launched in 2015 as TA DECIDE, allows Service members to compare educational programs and assists with choosing the right academic institution. <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/choose-a-school/ta-decide.html>
- **College Entrance Exams** at the undergraduate and graduate level assist Service members with college admission and application to officer accession programs. <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/examinations/college-admissions/college-admissions-guide.html>
- **College Credit-by-Examination** allows Service members to earn college credit for knowledge they've already acquired. <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/ta-alternatives/clep-dsst.html>
- **24/7 Tutor Services** provide on-demand academic assistance anywhere, anytime by experienced education professionals through Tutor.com. <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/prep-for-college/tutor.html>
- **Academic Institution Partnerships** maximize post-secondary educational opportunities for Service members through the DoD Voluntary Education Partnership Memorandum of Understanding (DoDMOU) and Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC). <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/choose-a-school/choose-a-dod-mou-school.html> and <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/choose-a-school/choose-a-soc-dns-school.html>
- **Outside Continental US (OCONUS) Education Center Contract Support** offers education center support to Service members around the world in forward deployed areas.

Educational Opportunities expand options for obtaining college credits and completing degree requirements leading to success in higher education.

- **Military Training and Experience Evaluation** translates training courses and occupations into recommendations for college credit on the Joint Services Transcript (JST). <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/ta-alternatives/jst-recommended-college-credit.html>
- **Transcript Services** deliver Service member testing transcripts to colleges and universities for the award of credits that satisfy degree requirements. <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/>

VolEd Community Support equips education counselors with tools and resources to assist Service members with individualized guidance and face-to-face interaction.

Transition Support assists Service members during their transition into the civilian workforce.

- **Teacher credentialing** through the Troops to Teachers program fosters continued service in America's classrooms. <http://www.dantes.doded.mil/examinations/teacher-certification/teacher-certification-guide.html>. 🎓



Education Center Spotlight



Pictured above is the staff of the Fort Hood Education Services Division. On April 13th and 14th the staff hosted its annual College Fair at the Fort Hood Soldier Development Center attracting more than 1,400 Service members, veterans, DoD Civilians, and family members to access representatives from 72 colleges, universities, military and career skills programs.

Counselor Tools & Resources

Need Help with Education Outreach?

DANTES can help with a variety of outreach efforts to assist the military services by increasing awareness of Defense education programs.

Education Fairs - Let us know about your upcoming education, college, or career fairs. We may be able to support staffing a booth, provide promotional materials, or assist in marketing the event.

Monthly Newsletter - Are you doing something innovative in education you would like to share with the VoEd Community? Tell us! Email dantes@navy.mil to be featured in the DANTES Information Bulletin.

Videos - Explore and share videos about Defense education programs available on the DANTES YouTube Channel. <https://www.youtube.com/DoDDANTES>

Graphic Support - Need pictures or graphics for your outreach efforts? Education and family support center personnel, career counselors, and transition advisors can request copies of graphics, pictures, and other items developed to support DANTES sponsored programs. Email us at dantes@navy.mil.

Social Media - Supplement your social media efforts by sharing content from the official DANTES pages on Twitter and Facebook. Each day content is posted to increase awareness of education programs and benefits that are available.

Publications - Are you looking for additional Service member handouts or education reference material? DANTES "Clearance" items are now available to all Military Education Centers and Family Service Centers. To request copies send an email to refpubs@navy.mil with Stock #, quantity and your DANTES ID.



Hot News

Limited DANTES-Sponsored Voucher for the GED®

Do you know a Service member who needs to complete the GED test? Hurry, while supplies last and order the DANTES-sponsored voucher. The voucher payment method is available for eligible Service members to redeem during registration and use to complete the computer-based GED at official GED Test Centers.

Use the following guidelines to order a DANTES-Sponsored voucher:

1. Email Code N32A, at exams@navy.mil with the following information:
 - TCO name and DANTES Test Site ID number
 - Examinee Name
 - Pay Grade
 - Verification that the Service member has been counseled about GED Preparation resources (i.e., adult education programs, the GED Ready™, free Quarter Length Practice Test or Sample Questions)
2. Include a justification statement with the reason(s) the GED is required. Also, include any additional information that will support the need for the GED.

All DANTES candidate's registration and scheduling must be confirmed under the DANTES/Armed Forces jurisdiction for credentialing purposes. Military family members and supported civilians are not eligible for the voucher payment.

3. TCOs and Education Center Personnel should reference the DANTES Examination Program Handbook (DEPH), Chapter 1, with regard to TCO Responsibilities and advise the Service member appropriately regarding Examinee Responsibilities.

For more information, email exams@navy.mil with "DANTES-sponsored Voucher Code" in subject line.

Academic Institutions Required to Use Online Portal for Navy Base Access

The Navy has partnered with the Air Force and is using its Air Force Automated Education Management System (AFAEMS) and Academic Intuitions (AI) Portal as the Navy's new Voluntary Education base access request and processing system. The portal can be found on the internet via: <https://aiportal.acc.af.mil/aiportal/>. Additional information may be found on the Navy College Program website's "Base Access" page at: https://www.navycollege.navy.mil/base_access_info.html

General questions on the new procedure can be answered by your local NCO Director or via email: virtualncodirector@navy.mil. 🎓

Troops to Teachers (TTT) is a DANTES-managed Department of Defense program that can help Veterans begin a new career as a public school teacher – giving them the opportunity to use their leadership skills, knowledge and experience to have a positive effect on our nation’s youth. For more information on the Troops to Teachers program, visit www.proudtoserveagain.com.



Marine Corps Corporal Returns to Puerto Rico to Teach with the Assistance of Troops to Teachers

By Kimberly Hiebert in cooperation with Nicole Gonzalez Marquez

Marine Corps Corporal Nicole Gonzalez Marquez grew up in Puerto Rico, completed four years of active duty service stationed in Okinawa, Japan and in Yuma Air Force Base Arizona, and returned post service with a renewed sense of self to give back to her community on the island.

Gonzalez Marquez proudly served long hours in culinary management learning commitment, organization, independence, leadership, and inner-strength. She says she felt a little more challenged being a Latina, female and of smaller stature.

Knowing the importance of her education, Gonzalez Marquez continued her education and fine tuning her needs of discipline, respect, honor and self-improvement, training her body and mind. “I learned teamwork and drive. My memories and dreams to always progress, drive for the next rank became very real. My commanding officers needed me to move to another unit, the brig, which is military confinement or prison. There I worked with and made many friends, picked up my corporal rank and understood the value of liberty and justice. I had time to reflect on my personal life, future, returning home and transitioning to life as a civilian,” she says.

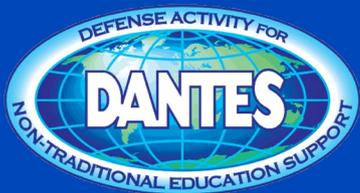
Gonzalez Marquez learned about Troops to Teachers through a Transition Assistance Program (TAP) in Yuma and noted that, “The staff and TTT offered me great advice and guidance to transition into civilian life and into a career in teaching.” By offering counseling and referral services to Gonzalez Marquez, she was able to find an education program to

further her goals of attaining her degree and work towards her teaching credentials. When she completes her degree, TTT will assist in preparing her for job placement with application, interview and job search skills to find the right school to begin her second career.

In 2014, she separated from the service and returned to Puerto Rico where she is finishing her degree in early childhood education with Grand Canyon University through their online education program. “The reality of teaching and the opportunity to proudly serve again, to give back to my community and use the skills and knowledge I gained while serving with the Marines is empowering. I approach advocacy projects and my studies with motivation and dedication,” Gonzalez Marquez says.

“Puerto Rico’s citizens are bilingual and a mix of Spaniards, Blacks and Tainos. The locals love music, festivals, movies and the tourist trade,” says Gonzalez Marquez. “My desire is to develop my skills and mindset to teach the young, assist those in need, empower the minds of the next generation with the same spark that I have and to fulfill my lifelong purpose of making greater citizens that will serve our country for years to come.”

Teaching in Puerto Rico requires a Puerto Rico teaching license through their Department of Education. Ron Burton, Region Director for Florida and the Caribbean Region has more information and can be reached at rburton@troopstoteachers.net to assist those desiring to teach in those areas. 🎓



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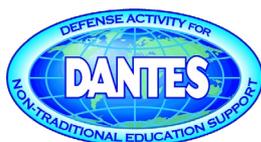
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DANTES INFORMATION BULLETIN

DANTES Information Bulletin

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