

DANTES



INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORLDWIDE EDUCATION SUPPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

SEPTEMBER 2014 NUMBER 446

WWW.DANTES.DODED.MIL

1974 - 2014: Celebrating 40 years of service!

Get DSST information here, there, everywhere!

Helpful DSST exam information is available both online and in print. To get started, go to the DANTES website (www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/prep-for-college/earn-college-credit/index.html) to find a DSST description, as well as a link to the getcollegecredit website (<http://getcollegecredit.com/>). Take a tour of the site to find valuable information to help military candidates Graduate Smart

– with the help of DSST exams!

Other tools and tips to help candidates save time, save money and graduate sooner:

» a video on how candidates can benefit from DSST exams: http://getcollegecredit.com/test_takers/

» stay up to date with the latest news and advice on DSST and DANTES at the News & Blog section: <http://getcollegecredit.com/blog/>

» Android smart phone or tablet users can download the new DSST app that encourages candidates to take a free practice quiz to assess their knowledge of each DSST subject; a perfect first step in preparing students for their actual DSST exams; download the free

DSST Android app at <https://play.google.com/store/apps/details?id=prometric.dsst>

» new marketing materials explaining the features and benefits of DSST: http://getcollegecredit.com/testcenters/resource_center/ (*Test Center authentication required)

» TCOs can also order free DSST marketing materials from the DANTES Catalog; go to <http://dantespulse.dodlive.mil/catalog/> to view publications and find ordering instructions



Above: DSST Graduate Smart brochure (DANTES Stock #1226) available to TCOs from the DANTES Catalog.

Right: New DSST Fundamental of Cybersecurity handout (DANTES Stock #1225) available to TCOs at the DANTES Catalog.



DANTES has the DSST information and resources that can help Service members reach their educational goals. For additional information or answers to questions, email exams@navy.mil.

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EXAMINATIONS NEWS

Check out the new Exams resource materials and order today!

Military Education Centers, when was the last time you placed an order for DANTES Exams Programs related materials? Exams Programs materials

are available for order in print and/or online formats. In fact, the all-inclusive listing for Examination Programs has several new materials available to order such as:

DANTES Stock #	Method	Title	Comments
1000	TCO Portal	CLEP Study Guides	Available only to TCOs
1211		9x18" CLEP poster (updated edition)	
1224		9x25" DSST Fundamentals of Cybersecurity poster	New
1225	Online	DSST Fundamentals of Cybersecurity handout	New
1226	Online	DSST Graduate Smart trifold brochure	New
1227	Online	Quick guide to DANTES Funding Guide (updated edition 3/2014)	New available soon
1228		18x25" DSST Graduate Smart poster	New
1230	Online	DSST Exam Scoring 101 (updated edition)	Available soon
1231	Online	DSST Exam List (updated edition 3/2014)	New available soon
1240	Online	2014 GED® Program: No better time to test with DANTES handout	
1272	Online	Achieve your Goals with CLEP (updated edition) trifold brochure	

For information on DANTES Education Programs materials, including the Examinations Program, go to the DANTES Pulse Digital Network "Catalog of

Materials" at <http://dantespulse.dodlive.mil/catalog/>. Instructions for ordering materials and requesting a DANTES ID# are also available.

DANTES announces new reimbursement exams and forms

Beginning Oct. 1, 2014, DANTES will fund the Praxis exam and the GRE Subject exam on a reimbursable basis. These exams are currently funded up-front.

To support this effort, the new DANTES Exams Reimbursement Request Form (1560/50) was developed for eligible Service members to use starting in October. This form consolidates all reimbursable exams on one form (GRE General and Subject, Praxis and GMAT). Service members will be required to pay these exams up-front, then complete the reimbursement form and submit to DANTES along with the official score report.

The new form will be available on the DANTES website beginning October 2014 and Service members will have the option to print the form and complete it or complete the form electronically utilizing drop down menus.

TCOs should continue to monitor the DANTES website, DEPH and DIBs for funding policy updates and testing support information for military and military-affiliated civilians. Email questions or concerns to exams@navy.mil or visit www.ets.org/praxis for information regarding registration and test dates at a National Test Center.



To receive email notification when the DIB is posted to the website, send an email to pubs@navy.mil.

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

DANTES PARTNERSHIPS NEWS

ACE updates USMC Occupations FAQ info

The American Council on Education (ACE) recently updated the Marine Corps Occupations section on their online Military Guide FAQs page (www.acenet.edu/news-room/Pages/Military-Guide-Frequently-Asked-Questions.aspx):

How does a student document MOS proficiency in a Marine Corps aviation MOS?

Right now, the Joint Services Transcript (JST) cannot validate a Marine's skill level of competence with the Individual Training Standards System (ITSS) Maintenance Training Management and Evaluation Program (MATMEP) system. Therefore, the JST presents the credit recommendations for both skill levels III and IV. The Marine will need to provide documentation to validate his/her skill level. The ITSS MATMEP system is now automated, and there are no print documents available to Marines. A memorandum of record, signed by the Marine's supervisor or commander, and including the details and dates when the Marine achieved the skill level and was awarded the responsibilities, is the recommended form of documentation. JST Operations is working with the Marine Corps to fix this process so the individual's ITSS MATMEP skill level appears on the JST.

In order for MATMEP Marines to request their certifications, they must follow these steps:

1. The Marine contacts Keyport ASM Customer Support Center (CSC) via email (amtcs.nuwckpt.ftc@navy.mil) or phone (360-315-7450) with training jacket request.
2. Keyport ASM Customer Support Center (CSC) sends the individual Marine the ASM Training Jacket Request Form to fill out. This requires personal information about the individual for Keyport to verify the individual before processing the request.
3. Keyport ASM Customer Support Center (CSC) verifies the individual, runs the report, encrypts and password protects the document, burns the document to a CD, adds an Unclassified label and turns it over to ASM Life Cycle Support Lead to mail to the individual.
4. When the individual Marine receives the CD, he/she is required to sign and date the receipt, scan and email it back to Keyport ASM Customer Support Center (CSC) for processing.

VEC - getting Veterans and jobs together

The Veterans Employment Center (VEC) is the first government-wide product that provides verified job seekers the tools to translate military skills into plain language and build a profile that can be shared instantly with public and private employers that have real job opportunities. Currently, there are over 1.5 million jobs listed on the VEC, and hundreds of employers have made commitments to fill more than 165,000 positions with Veterans, transitioning Service members, Guard and Reserve members, and their families. For more information, go to <https://www.ebenefits.va.gov/ebenefits/jobs>.

For questions or technical assistance with the site, contact the VEC support team at oeoecsupport.vbavaco@va.gov.

Missed a webinar? Find it online

The Internet is filled with webinars and podcasts providing information and insight into voluntary military education, as well as higher education in general. To keep up with what's new and informative in the higher education field, check these out:

Accelerating Degree Attainment — The Case for Credit for Prior Learning

www.insidehighered.com/audio/2014/08/06/accelerating-degree-attainment-credit-prior-learning

Non-traditional learners, including returning veterans, who receive credit for prior learning (CPL) are more likely to attain a degree than those who do not. In this interactive webinar, discover how CPL can be a strategy for accelerating degree completion.

Self-paced Learning: Why it Matters

www.pearsonlearningsolutions.com/blog/channels/online-blended-learning/self-paced-learning-what-is-it-and-why-do-we-care/

This Pearson Podcast discusses the shift to student-centric learning environments as evidenced by the rise in self-paced learning programs. Also on the Pearson Teaching and Learning Blog site are links to archived blogs.

Helping Prospective SARA Institutions Tighten Up their Complaint Process (Oct. 15, 1 pm CT)

www.mhec.org/sara-webinars
Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC) State Authorization Reciprocity Agreement (SARA) website contains links to the October webinar as well as 2014 archived SARA Webinars.

TROOPS TO TEACHERS NEWS

Native American Troops to Teachers

By Joey Strickland, Associate Regional Director of Native American Affairs

Troops to Teachers is celebrating their 20th anniversary this year. Recently, the program expanded to help attract Native American Veterans and other Veterans who desire to teach in reservation classrooms, with the adjunct of a Native American Affairs Division. The need is advocated by Tribal Education leaders across the country. In nearly all Bureau of Indian Affairs schools across the nation, teacher shortages are critical. According to Secretary of the Interior Sally Jewell, from a recent press release, "We believe strongly that American Indian children deserve an academically rigorous, culturally appropriate education. Beyond providing the skills to succeed economically, honoring tribal cultures and languages is vital to the longevity of tribal traditions, identity and self-confidence."

There is a critical need on the reservations for role models that native children can identify with and look up to, with the level of experience and maturity that Veterans can provide. Administration, students and parents respect Veterans, as they would warriors and leaders, and welcome them warmly. Due to chronic teacher shortages and turnover rates, reservation schools struggle to educate students to the par mandated by local state agencies. This is due to low family incomes, location of schools, and often times lower pay for their teachers. The benefits for teachers, however, may outweigh the disadvantages, including making a difference in the lives of Native American children, families and tribes; giving back to community; warmth and acceptance into a community; often times free housing; and benefits gained from working in a Title I school. Especially in need are people who know or are willing to learn the native language.

The Troops to Teachers Veteran electing to teach on an Indian Reservation is investing in the future of a tribe by educating the next generation of leaders to lead that tribe into the future; being a vital part of the tribal community; and shaping a reservation that means prosperity, job creation and leadership for a tribe now and into the future.

The returning Veteran taking a job teaching on the reservation should be under no illusion. Acclimation will take dedication, discipline, patience, and time, all traits learned in the military. There is no better teacher than the returning Veteran; no one better suited to nurture the dream of young natives to shape America into the country where, in their hearts, they know that anything is possible.

For more information on Troops to Teachers and, specifically, Indian Affairs, go to www.troopstoteachers.net/IndianAffairs.aspx.



Joey Strickland on Sacred Mountain in Navajo Nation, Ariz., in 2014.



Traditional Pow Wow at Dilkon on the Navajo Nation, Ariz., in 2014.



For general information on the TTT program:

- » Web sites:
 - www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/troops-to-teachers/index.html
 - www.proudtoserveagain.com/
- » email: ttt@navy.mil
- » Toll free: (800) 231-6242
- » DSN: 459-1320
- » Fax: (850) 452-1096

FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR



HMCM (FMF/SW) David Acuff
Senior Enlisted Advisor

Last month there were cover stories on the front of each of the Military Times newspapers regarding going back to college and promotions for Service members. One cover simply stated: “Get A Degree, Make Rate.” The military enlisted advancement and promotion system has many obvious benefits; increased privileges, job opportunities, positions of authority, and of course.... more money in the paycheck.

Ask any enlisted Service member who has spent a military career successfully rising through the ranks about the secret of their success, and you’re likely to get this answer: “Know how the promotion system works.” If you are among the thousands who want to advance up in rank, prepare now for promotion. Make sure you have every box checked. If your Service requires a test, make sure you pull the appropriate references to study. I never once advanced in rank without studying hard for a promotion test. The belief that your promotion will come after you have “done-the-time” is fool-hardy. Too many Service men and women are being released from active duty today because they are not advancing according to their Service’s established promotion criteria and timelines. Enlisted promotions are competitive. There are more people eligible for promotion than there are available positions.

The Services each have their own methods to choose the best, based upon points for specific achievements, promotion boards, and combinations of both. Due to the competitive nature of the military, it is sometimes tough getting enough promotion points to get promoted. If you are looking for more promotion points, consider enrolling in some college classes. Are you in the Army and consistently coming in under the cut-off score for promotion? Do you know you can earn up to 100 promotion points in the civilian education category? The Marines call these “Self-Education Promotion Points” and grant up to 75 points toward promotions. Although the Air Force and Coast Guard don’t allow specific points toward promotion, a Service member’s education level is taken into consideration for promotion boards and special assignments. Having a degree can make the difference when it comes to getting that dream assignment or promotion. In line with the Navy’s continued emphasis on education, you

can earn two points for an associate’s degree and four points for a bachelor’s degree. The military recognizes the importance of civilian education in teaching critical thinking skills. By adding promotion points for education the military encourages service members to continue their education while still serving.

By leveraging all of the educational benefits provided by the military, you can keep your out-of-pocket expenses to a minimum. DANTES sponsors several credit-by-exam programs that can save you tuition, book costs and - most of all - a lot of your time. By studying for and taking exams through the CLEP and DSST exam programs, you can complete most if not all of your general education requirements. By using these testing programs, your Service-provided Tuition Assistance program and, as needed, your 9/11 GI Bill, earning a college degree can be well within your financial reach.



Go see your education counselor today and learn about the numerous opportunities available in 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 and increase your opportunity for promotion. Until next time, keep up with DANTES on Facebook, www.facebook.com/DANTES.DoD, or contact me at ea@navy.mil. I would enjoy hearing from you.

Do you have an education-related story to share?

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

Do you have a question about DANTES?

If so, send submissions to pubs@navy.mil.

DANTES salutes Andrea Baridon's 35-year SOC career



On Sept. 5, 2014, Andrea “Andie” Baridon retired from the American Association of State Colleges and Universities (AASCU) as the Associate Director of Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC). For nearly 35 years, she served as the rock that brought stability and continuity to the SOC staff.

Baridon served all four SOC Directors by overseeing the administrative and fiscal responsibilities of the contract and leading program innovations and policy changes that have kept SOC relevant to military needs and cost-effective in terms of budget and finance.

After earning her Bachelor of Arts degree from American University (AU), Baridon began her professional career as a college administrator and grants project director at AU. She held a few other positions in the publishing industry before she joined AASCU as a member of the SOC staff in November 1979.

From the very beginning, Baridon's primary responsibility was the administrative and fiscal management of the SOC program, including budget development, expenditure monitoring, and oversight of contract deliverables. Baridon managed the SOC Consortium database that consisted of fewer than 300 institutions when she assumed that responsibility in 1979; that membership now numbers approximately 1900 colleges and universities. Every two years when SOC institutional membership was renewed under her supervision, she produced a new edition of the SOC Consortium Guide, which is used widely by both military and college personnel around the world.

Baridon was a leader in developing the format and content of the SOC Degree Network System Handbooks (SOCAD, SOCNAV, SOCMAR and SOCCOAST). She was responsible for producing the SOC Degree Network System Credit Evaluation Supplement, which contains tables designed to match SOC Course Categories to subject area terms contained in military Service school and occupational exhibits in the American Council on Education (ACE) Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services and ACE-recommended credit for nationally recognized testing programs, Community

College of the Air Force (CCAF) courses, and DANTES Independent Study Catalog codes/subject areas.

In recognition of her exemplary service, AASCU twice awarded her its Gold Star Award for extraordinary performance that has contributed to the success of a team, and the Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) presented her with the 2014 CCME Lifetime Achievement Award honoring her distinguished career.

During her retirement ceremony, Baridon received the James F. Nickerson Medal of Merit, awarded to public leaders, educators and armed services representatives who advocate voluntary education opportunities for military personnel.



Andie Baridon with the James F. Nickerson Medal of Merit, that was awarded during her retirement ceremony.



Photo courtesy of Kathy Snead

The entire DANTES family appreciates Andie's most faithful dedication to SOC and to military voluntary education, and wishes her a most happy retirement, which she so richly deserves.



In recognition of her retirement, DANTES gifted Andie, an ardent baseball fan, with a copy of “The Kid,” a biography of Ted Williams.
Photo courtesy of Kathy Snead

DANTES Social Media

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

DANTES Twitter https://twitter.com/DoD_DANTES

DANTES Pulse blog <http://dantespulse.dodlive.mil>

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

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

TESTING CALENDAR

http://www.dantes.doded.mil/_content/Exams_Calendar.pdf

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

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

DANTES telephone numbers are:

DSN 459-1111 (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			Currently Vacant
DANTES Publications / DIB	3120	1162	pubs@navy.mil
Web Site	3120	1162	dantes_webmaster@navy.mil
Outreach	3120	1162	dantes_outreach@navy.mil
European Advisor	011-49-6302-67-5814 DSN: (314) 496-5814		usarmy.badenwur.usareur.mbx.dantes-euro@mail.mil
Troops to Teachers	3141	1096	ttt@navy.mil
Education Support	3133	1162	
Distribution Center	452-1082	1140	dist@navy.mil
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Education Programs	3245	1161	
Counseling	3132	1161	counseling@navy.mil
Distance Learning	3129	1161	DantesDL@navy.mil
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