

INFORMATION BULLETIN

WORLDWIDE EDUCATION SUPPORT TO THE DEPARTMENT OF DEFENSE

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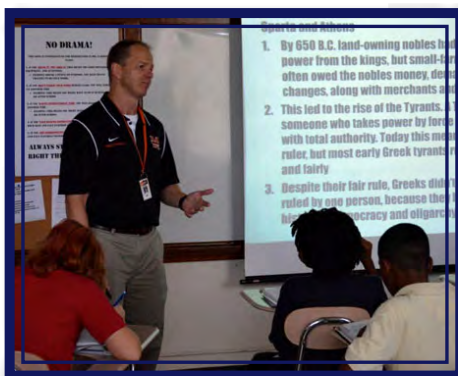
Troops to Teachers John Cummins — a profile of success

Cliff Yager, Tennessee Troops to Teachers

Petty Officer John Cummins has excelled as a Navy Reservist and chooses to “proudly serve again” at Madison Middle School in Nashville, Tenn., as a science and social studies teacher. When other teachers can only read about history from textbooks, Cummins can provide his students a first-person experience, thanks to his military Service.

Many military Service members do not find their passion to teach until they are back home, but Cummins knew early on, saying, “While on orders to Afghanistan, it hit me. I only had one life to live, and if I was going to teach, it was time to quit talking, and make it happen.”

Contacting the state manager where he wished to reside when his Service was over was the first step. Cliff Yager, Tennessee Troops to Teachers (TTT), gave him the encouragement and guidance he needed to obtain his teaching license. Three days after returning from his military deployment to Kandahar, Afghanistan, Cummins was sitting in a classroom en route to a master’s degree in teaching. Local TTT state offices will help find the program that best meets the need of the candidate; in this case, a weekend and evening



John Cummins (standing): sixth grade science and social studies teacher, Madison Middle School, Metro Nashville Public Schools; Navy Reservist.

teacher certification program that allowed Cummins to continue to work and support his family in the state of Tennessee.

Tennessee, like many states, allows eligible veterans salary credit for active-duty experience. “In my case, I was able to start teaching with five years of experience, due to the amount of active-duty time I had. This meant, basically, a \$10,000 increase in my starting salary,” says Cummins. When he graduated in May 2012, he already had job offers from a couple of different school systems. Cummins currently teaches in a low economic, high-needs

school. “It can get pretty crazy around here some times, but my military background helped prepare me for that. My absolute worst days here are nothing compared to fire fights in Iraq or the daily rocket attacks at KAF,” he recalls.

Cummins says the rewards for teaching are unlike any other. “Anyone can earn a big paycheck, but not many can say, ‘I taught and helped prepare the next generation of kids, I made a difference.’”



What's Inside?

Examinations / Counseling	2
DANTES Partnerships	3
Reference Publications	4
SEA	5
RCA	6
External Stories	7
Testing Calendar/Contacts	8



Kuder® Journey Account Statistics

Service	Registrations	Kuder Career Interests Assessment (KCIA)	Kuder Skills Confidence Assessment (KSCA-A)	Kuder Work Values Assessment (KWVA)
Air Force	1980	1543	844	798
Army	9923	5870	3023	2799
Coast Guard	106	85	46	42
Marine Corps	8867	7766	3076	3183
Navy	3593	2406	1209	1154

Kuder Journey statistics are based on the number of assessments taken from January 1 - November 4, 2013.

EXAMINATIONS NEWS

Contractor Incident Report Form now on the TCO Portal

Test Control Officers (TCOs) can now utilize the new Contractor Incident Report Form (CIRF), available on the TCO portal, for any problem or issue not resolved with testing agencies. CIRFs will only be accepted for the following authorized testing agencies pertaining to DANTES-funded test administrations: Prometric, College Board, ACT and GEDTS.

This form is used for any issue that cannot be resolved after the first attempt of communication with the testing agency. TCOs must attempt to resolve the issue before submitting this form to DANTES. A qualifying issue is any action defined in the DANTES Examinations Program Handbook (DEPH) where a DANTES test site is authorized to communicate directly with the testing agency and any others related to the DANTES Examinations Program as listed on the incident report form under "Classification."

TCOs must read the instruction sheet included with the CIRF before completing the form. Submit the CIRF to the Examinations Program, DANTES Code 20C, by email (exams@navy.mil) or fax (850-452-1160, DSN 459-1160). A response to the reported issues and/or resolution will be received by DANTES from the testing agencies within 10 business days of submission. This response will be forwarded to the TCO.

THIS FORM SHOULD NOT BE SUBMITTED DIRECTLY TO THE TESTING AGENCIES!

Email the DANTES Examination Program at exams@navy.mil or call 850-452-1111 ext. 3128 concerning any questions.

NTCs – part of our technological future

Currently, there are 191 base-sponsored National Test Centers (NTCs) at military education centers worldwide with other locations making progress toward becoming an NTC. It is a win-win situation for the institution if they already have a computer lab, as it maximizes the use of their computers and generates funding to maintain and operate their facility. It is also a win-win situation for the education center as it allows the TCO and other testing staff to focus on the administration of other exams and eliminates the tracking requirement of a large volume of paper exam inventory. The advantages of having an NTC are many:

- » the base-sponsored NTC format provides convenient access to Service members
- » all CLEP and DSST test titles are available
- » computer-based testing reduces administrative work associated with paper-based test administration
- » DANTES funds the test examination fee
- » Service members pay nothing while testing and receive instant score results

How does an education center get started in becoming an NTC? The education center needs to identify an institution (college or university) on or near the base that is willing to perform as an NTC, and complete a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the base and the school. Specific steps to get the NTC started are found on the DANTES Web site at www.dantes.doded.mil/Programs/Docs/ntc.pdf.

For more information about how to establish an NTC, contact DANTES at exams@navy.mil.

COUNSELING NEWS

Kuder Journey™ pilot program expires soon - register now!

Counselors (education, family support, and transition centers) assisting active duty, Guard, and Reserve personnel with their education and transition goals - your assistance is needed with promoting Kuder Journey to your local Service members.

The DANTES-sponsored Kuder Journey 1-year pilot program expires Dec. 31, 2013. The remaining Journey accounts must be activated by that date, so encourage your local Service members now to self-register for their free, lifetime account. They don't have to complete the assessments at this time, but the registration must be activated prior to Jan. 1, 2014.

Service members, to get started go to www.dantes.kuder.com and register as a new

user (remember to always select Adult job seeker or career changer, I'm a veteran or active member of the military). Tutorials are also available: User Registration, Overview, How to Take the Assessments, and Job Search Tool (optional).

Retirees, family members, and civilians may purchase a lifetime Journey access code for \$35 by contacting Kuder Customer Support at support@kuder.com or 877-999-6227.

For more information and program updates, visit the DANTES Counselor Support Web page www.dantes.doded.mil/Programs/CounselorSupport.html or contact DANTES Counseling Support at counseling@navy.mil or 850-452-1111 ext. 3133.

SOC Degree Network School Student Agreements

A Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Degree Network School (DNS) Student Agreement is an official evaluation of the student's prior learning and shows his or her remaining degree requirements in a format that is standardized across the military Services. Student Agreements serve as a contract for degree between the home college and the student, thereby facilitating a seamless path to degree completion. Only institutions that participate in the DNS are required to produce a Student Agreement.

Why are Student Agreements important?

For the Service branches:

- » provide data to document cost savings for tuition assistance dollars through non-traditional credit
- » identify enrollment trends by degree area/network
- » document enrollment patterns by college, installation/location, and MOS/rating
- » serve as a degree-counseling tool for Education Services Officers

For the institution:

- » serve a number of data-compilation and analysis functions, including:
 - » assist in identifying military students attending the institution
 - » indicate trends in degree enrollments that are of interest to military students

- » identify enrollment patterns by military installation, location, and MOS/rating
- » articulate the number of credits awarded through prior learning assessment, transfer credits, and military credit recommendations
- » possible integration with other institutional student information systems

For the student:

- » protection from changing degree requirements
- » specify transfer credit awarded for prior learning, including traditional and non-traditional credit (e.g., credit-by-exam and military credit)
- » prevent taking unnecessary coursework by clearly outlining remaining degree requirements
- » identify course options through the SOC DNS Course Category Codes, allowing the student to explore course enrollment at other SOC DNS schools that will fulfill degree requirements
- » serve as a degree map/tool for measuring progress toward degree completion

Learn more about Student Agreements by reviewing chapter four of either the SOC Degree Network System-2 or -4 Handbook under specific Service DNS links at www.soc.aascu.org, or call SOC at 1-800-368-5622. Service members should first contact their Education Services Officer for more information.

ACE needs you! ... as an academic credit evaluator

American Council on Education (ACE) invites professors in a current teaching status or instructors with a minimum of five years teaching experience to join their team. If you are actively teaching college-level courses and are receptive to recommending academic credit for learning in an extra-institutional setting, ACE invites you to join their pool of faculty evaluators. According to ACE, the Evaluator's Program benefits include:

- » networking and collaborating with peers
- » service to community
- » financial compensation
- » helping students complete degrees
- » promoting consistency in awarding credit and aligning degree programs at academic institutions

DANTES recognizes the importance of evaluators meeting the requirements to review military courses that place many Service members and veterans in degree programs at institutions of higher learning, and also invites potential qualified professors and instructors to join ACE's Evaluator Program.

ACE recently created a faculty evaluator's page on their Web site (www.acenet.edu/news-room/Pages/Faculty-Recruitment-Testimonials.aspx). Professors and instructors use the page to provide their experience as an evaluator of military courses and occupations on reviews that take place on military installations throughout the country each year. For additional information on the DANTES Military Evaluations Program (MEP), call (850) 452-1111, ext. 3213, or email ace@navy.mil.

Is there a topic you would like to see covered in the DIB?
Do you have a question about DANTES?
If so, let us know at pubs@navy.mil.

REFERENCE PUBLICATIONS NEWS

Be thankful – for education opportunities

Within DANTES, we have several staff working toward graduate level degrees. This may not have been the case a century ago. In the beginning of the 20th century there were fewer than 1,000 colleges and 160,000 students in the U.S. Also, the student population at that time was very homogeneous. However, even then educators used the arguments that higher education would improve citizenship, and produce the managerial and professional leadership for a rapid economic growth in modernization. Even today leaders argue the importance of education and training.



It wasn't actually until the Higher Education Act of 1965 that federal assistance was provided through student loans, scholarships, better academic libraries and other important academic institutions (e.g. technical colleges).

However, support of higher education in the U.S. has always been led by societal needs. Many events and programs spurred on the expansion and support of higher education to include: The Morrill Act and the establishment of land grant colleges, the GI Bill, the creation of community colleges, the intensified commitment to science education following the advent of Sputnik, and the Education Amendments of the early 1970s.

For those that want to seek out and pursue higher education and knowledge, be thankful we live in the 21st century where educational opportunities abound.



Nov. in U.S. history:

2, 1795: James K. Polk, 11th President, born

3, 1948: Chicago Tribune proclaimed "Dewey Defeats Truman"

6, 1860: Abraham Lincoln elected 16th U.S. President

7, 1944: President Franklin D. Roosevelt elected to an unprecedented fourth term

10, 1775: U.S. Marine Corps established as part of the U.S. Navy

11: Veterans Day (formerly called Armistice Day)

15, 1777: Articles of Confederation adopted by Continental Congress

19, 1863: President Abraham Lincoln delivered the Gettysburg Address during ceremonies dedicating 17 acres of the Gettysburg Battlefield as a National Cemetery

19, 1831: James A. Garfield, 20th President, born

20, 1962: The Cuban Missile Crisis concluded as President John F. Kennedy announced he had lifted the U.S. Naval blockade of Cuba

22, 1963: President John F. Kennedy assassinated in downtown Dallas

23, 1804: Franklin Pierce, 14th President, born

24, 1784: Zachary Taylor, 12th President, born

25, 1783: The last British troops left New York City at end of the Revolutionary War

26, 1789: President George Washington proclaimed the first American holiday - Thanksgiving Day, a day of prayer and public thanksgiving in gratitude for the successful establishment of the new American republic.

30, 1835: Author Mark Twain born

Reference Publications CORNER

New eGuides – download to your Smartphone

Stock #2422 "MGIB – Chap 30"

Stock #2423 "Post 9/11 GI Bill"

Stock #3121 "DANTES – What We Offer"

Military Education Centers Order your downloads now
– will receive cards with individual download codes
Limit: 25 per 3 months

Email dist@navy.mil
Provide your DANTES ID#, Stock #2422/#2423/#3121, and quantity

FROM THE DESK OF THE SENIOR ENLISTED ADVISOR



HMCM (FMF/SW) David Acuff
Senior Enlisted Advisor

Happy Thanksgiving! In 1863, President Abraham Lincoln declared Thanksgiving a national holiday. President Lincoln was able to see the value of a day that celebrates our togetherness and invites us to think about the things we are thankful for. Our country has a number of great traditions and Thanksgiving is definitely one of them. To help celebrate, I wanted to highlight

some important DANTES educational programs that as a Service member I am thankful for.

Credit by exam/academic testing

Tests are fully funded for active duty, Guard, Reserve, and Coast Guard. Academic exams such as: high school equivalency, College Level Examination Program (CLEP) and DSST, undergraduate/graduate admission exams, and teacher certification are all covered by this program. Over 117,00 credits were earned through testing last year, equating to over \$26M in tuition assistance (TA). Save yourself both time and money by taking DSST and CLEP tests to help reduce the number of classes you may need for your degree program. Earn college credit for what you already know by earning qualifying scores on introductory-level college subject examinations. Just remember, the first test is fully funded; if you fail the test YOU pay for any retests of that subject.

Online Academic Skills Course (OASC) and College Placement Skills Training (CPST)

Both OASC and CPST are designed for individuals who want and need to build their reading comprehension, vocabulary, and math skills to pass exams, excel in jobs, advance careers, or continue education. The courses are self-paced and customized based upon a pre-test. Individual lessons are designed to increase proficiency in each of these academic areas. Participants may also choose an abbreviated review with shortened lessons. Lessons are supported by interactive exercises such as drag-and-drop matching, video-game-style multiple choice or dynamic flash cards. Quizzes and practice problem sets also help students gauge how well they are mastering the material. CPST and OASC not only offer skills-building lessons, quizzes and tests, but they also provide helpful articles and offer detailed tips and strategies for doing well on college entry and testing exams. Active duty Service members can access these programs via their Service portals. Because both courses are self-paced and on-line, you have access 24/7 whether you're in the Fleet,

Field, Air, or even in the comfort of your own home! All you need is an Internet connection and the desire to get started! Register and log in at www.nelnetsolutions.com/dantes/.

Joint Service Transcript (JST)

This is another important resource that I am thankful for. Check out your JST to see what American Council on Education (ACE) recommended college credits you may qualify for from your military training and experience. Last year, over 725,000 credits were applied to Service members' degree plans, for a TA cost avoidance of over \$150M. 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.

Kuder® Journey career guidance system

This program is available to all active duty, Guard, and Reserve personnel, paid for by DANTES, that normally costs \$35 per account for civilians. It is a valuable resource during the military-to-civilian transition process as well as finding a post military career. It offers assessments, tailored career guidance, and aids with an occupation search which narrows down a list of compatible occupation fields. From those occupations, it will list the education needed to pursue that career as well as information on financial aid and job search and placement tools. The current Kuder Journey accounts will expire if not activated by Dec. 31, 2013. Service members don't even have to complete the assessments at this time; just activate the free, lifetime account. Activation takes less than 30 minutes. DANTES encourages all Service members to take advantage of this free career guidance system. Go ahead and give it a try at www.dantes.kuder.com.

These are but a few of the many educational programs and services that DANTES offers that I am thankful for as a Service member. What are you thankful for? As you celebrate Thanksgiving whether at home or while serving in the Fleet, Field or Air, know that all Americans can give thanks that our freedom and way of life are defended by the strongest, most skilled, and educated military force in the world. I salute each of you for your patriotism, your sacrifice, and your dedication. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving and know that we have a great deal to be thankful for.

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.



Lt Col Eurydice Stanley
Reserve Component Advisor

Education matters: an interview with retired Brig. Gen. Gary Profit

In honor of Veteran's Day, I'd like to recognize a veteran who has taken the time to give back to the Service community. Retired Army Brig. Gen. Gary Profit was known for pushing education while mentoring as he served for more than 31 years in the

Army. Now, as Senior Director of Military Programs at Walmart, Profit knows the importance of education and experience on a candidate's resume.

Profit is in charge of leading the world's largest retailer in its goal to hire 100,000 veterans over the next five years by Memorial Day 2018, in addition to the 100,000 already on the payroll. "Education and training are key components of a solid job portfolio," says Profit. "Regardless of what chapter of life you're in, both complement one another whether you're continuing in active or Reserve military Service or considering a new career."

Profit was commissioned through the Eastern Michigan University Reserve Officer Training Corps (ROTC) in 1974 and never stopped learning. He further earned a Master of Business Administration from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, and a Master of Science in National Security and Strategic Studies from the College of Naval Warfare, Naval War College. "I believe the nation's commitment to the growth and development of soldiers, sailors, airmen, and Marines is an institutional strength, and military tuition assistance (TA) represents an important part of a portfolio of programs. I was grateful for and was able to use TA in a portion of my graduate work."

As a senior executive with Walmart, Profit is able to work closely with a number of organizations supporting military families. Supporting the military is nothing new for the company. It was founded by a veteran (Sam Walton), and is currently led by a veteran (Walmart US CEO Bill Simon).

Recently the company donated five million dollars to Goodwill Industries International towards a workforce development pilot program called "Operation Good Jobs." Through education and training, Walmart and Goodwill are working together to help provide career resources to Service members returning from

deployments and facing the unemployment line (www.goodwill.org/press-releases/5-million-walmart-foundation-grant-helps-goodwill-connect-veterans-and-their-families-with-job-success-and-support/). Profit noted, "The nation makes a huge investment in education and training for those who serve and we know firsthand the value veterans and military families bring to our business. We seek transitioning military and veterans to help run our business because they're morally and ethically fit, quick learners and team players with a record of performance."

There are many programs sponsored by Walmart available to all Service members and veterans. Some are state-centric, but the majority are national. For example, remember in December 2012 when I wrote about underemployment? Underemployment is when someone is working in a position that does not fully use their skills and abilities, or is only part-time. Without the proper education or credentialing, a Service member could find themselves underemployed and not meet the needs of his or her family. To that end, the Walmart Foundation has donated \$750,000 to establish a new Texas veterans program with the National Veterans Outreach Program, Inc, to help Texas veterans age 34 years old or under who are unemployed or underemployed (www.agif-nvop.org/).

Perhaps you're interested in starting your own business? Training is still necessary to be a successful "veteranpreneur." The new "Veteran Fast Launch" initiative with the SCORE Foundation helps accelerate a veteran's ability to start a new business and succeed as a small business owner (www.score.org/node/3363168/). The Entrepreneurship Bootcamp for Veterans with Disabilities (EBV) Program through the Institute for Veterans and Military Families (IVMF) at Syracuse University will send 300 veterans with disabilities to entrepreneurship bootcamp at one of seven major university partners (www.whitman.syr.edu/ebv/).

Service members and veterans, heed Profit's advice and take the time NOW to learn. Use your education benefits and enroll in a degree or certification today. Whether you are in the Service, in a corporation, or in business for yourself, education can help you attain your personal and professional goals.

I look forward to hearing from you at rca@navy.mil.

EXTERNAL NEWS

ACE presents free webinar in November: "Prior Learning Assessment: From Piecemeal to a Systems Approach"

Across the country, U.S. higher education institutions are developing more effective postsecondary pathways for post-traditional learners. Prior learning assessment (PLA) and credit for prior learning are critical components of these strategies.

To help showcase some of these effective strategies, the American Council on Education (ACE) will host a free webinar Nov. 14, 2013, 1400 (2 p.m.) EDT, that will show how three diverse higher education systems are building integrated policies and programs that advance quality PLA practices. The webinar will showcase success stories from the University System of Georgia, Washington State's higher education institutions, and the University of Wisconsin System.

Speakers will discuss the prior learning assessment strategy on his or her campus before engaging in conversation with ACE's Mary Beth Lakin. All speakers will answer questions from attendees throughout the webinar.

To register, or for a list of confirmed speakers and further information, go to www.acenet.edu/events/Pages/Prior-Learning-Assessment-Webinar.aspx. Or, email PMuelenbeck@ACENET.EDU for information or answers to questions.

Other VoEd news in the world...

CSS Civilian of the Quarter touts Planning, Preparation for post-Navy Success

www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=77386

JKO Offers Sailors on Remote Duty Transition GPS Class

www.navy.mil/submit/display.asp?story_id=77358

2 NCOs recognized for excellence in educational leadership

www.army.mil/article/113910/2_NCOs_recognized_for_excellence_in_educational_leadership/

New virtual curriculum assists separating troops

www.af.mil/News/ArticleDisplay/tabid/223/Article/467270/new-virtual-curriculum-assists-separating-troops.aspx

Marine college graduate offers lesson on commitment

www.quantico.marines.mil/News/NewsArticleDisplay/tabid/10834/Article/151557/marine-college-graduate-offers-lesson-on-commitment.aspx

CCME award nominations deadline extended

The Council of College and Military Educators (CCME) has extended the deadline for acceptance of award nominations until Nov. 15, 2013. The awards will be presented during the 2014 CCME Symposium banquet, recognizing outstanding contributions and accomplishments of its members.

Information and the nomination form can be found at www.ccmeonline.org/awards.



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

Click **HERE** to view archived DIBs.



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 Youtube <http://www.youtube.com/channel/UCAD8yGhGBeDAtIPMW7Eu-sA>

DANTES Twitter https://twitter.com/DoD_DANTES

TESTING CALENDAR

No testing scheduled

Notes:

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

*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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The DANTES Information Bulletin is published online monthly to inform education personnel about DANTES programs.

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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
Reference Resources	3131	1588	refpubs@navy.mil
WW Symposium	3126	1162	dantesww@navy.mil
Education Programs	3245	1161	
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	dantesttraining@navy.mil