

TROOPS TO TEACHERS

March 2011

MISSOURI/IOWA

Vol. 2-11



2011 Vet Rep of the Year Honored in Jefferson City

During a recent training session in Jefferson City, Ralph Rodabaugh was presented with the Missouri State Approving Agency's 2011 Vet Rep of the Year award. The award is given in recognition of outstanding service to veterans.

Pictured with Rodabaugh (center) are Chad Schatz (left), director of the Missouri State Approving Agency, and Shams Chughtai (right), veterans coordinator for the Division of Workforce Development.



Veterans representatives at the Division of Workforce Development provide a vital referral link to the Troops to Teachers program and GI Bill education services (especially on-the-job training). Rodabaugh's detailed work with TTT and on-the-job training has been exemplary and a benefit to veterans throughout the state.

STAFF

Jefferson City Office
877-530-2765

Chad Schatz
Director

John Hose
Assistant Director

Ron Marsch
Supervisor

Debbie Butcher
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Supervisor

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Approval Developer

Suzanne Adam
Secretary

Kansas City Office
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Turner Shipman
Supervisor

Leo Blakley
Approval Developer

Sharon Sawyer
Secretary

Do You Need a Teacher NOW or SOON?

Use the TROOPS TO TEACHERS HOT LIST

Are you trying to hire the best available candidates to meet your teaching needs? Then the Troops to Teachers "Hot List" might be exactly what you're looking for. If you have teaching vacancies at your public school (or are expecting vacancies to be opening soon), contact a TTT supervisor to get a copy of the "Hot List." This list provides information about veterans who have enrolled in the TTT program and are looking for teaching jobs in your area. (Veterans must be enrolled in TTT to be included on the list.) Call 877-530-2765 for more information.

TO FIND OUT IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GI BILL EDUCATION AND TRAINING BENEFITS, CALL 888-442-4551.

A staff meeting for the Missouri State Approving Agency was held Feb. 9 in Jefferson City. Pictured from left to right are Turner Shipman, Kansas City office; Ron Marsch, Jefferson City office; Mike Bitzenburg, St. Louis office; and Steve Nelle, St. Louis office. (Not pictured are Leo Blakley, Kansas City office; Chad Schatz and John Hose, Jefferson City office; and Bob Hummel, St. Louis office. Staff members met prior to participating in the Division of Workforce Development's Vet Rep training at the Governor Office Building.



VA Medical Centers in Missouri

COLUMBIA
800 Hospital Drive
573-814-6000

KANSAS CITY
4801 Linwood Blvd.
816-861-4700 or
800-525-1483

POPLAR BLUFF
1500 N. Westwood Blvd.
573-686-4151

ST. LOUIS
Jefferson Barracks
Jefferson Barracks Drive
314-652-4100 or
800-228-5459

ST. LOUIS
John Cochran Division
915 N. Grand Blvd.
314-652-4100 or
800-228-5459

Are You Interested in Teaching? Then...



...the Troops to Teachers Program!

Contact the Missouri TTT office toll-free at **877-530-2765** (or **573-751-1250**) for information about this effective program. For information about pursuing teaching certification, call **573-751-7863**. Remember: you can draw VA education and training benefits concurrently with TTT stipend or bonus money.



Missouri/Iowa
Chad Schatz, Director
John Hose, Assistant Director

Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education
Veterans Education and Training Section
P.O. Box 480 • Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480
Phone: 877-530-2765 • Fax: 573-526-5710
E-mail: chad.schatz@dese.mo.gov

The national **Troops to Teachers** website is located at proudtoserveagain.com.

Teacher Certification Contact Information

Iowa
Geri McMahon
Phone: 515-281-5849
E-mail: geri.mcmahon@iowa.gov

Missouri
Debbie Butcher
Phone: 877-530-2765
E-mail: debbie.butcher@dese.mo.gov

In order to qualify for the Troops to Teachers program, a veteran must have at least six years of military service. Most have much more than that.

Often, a TTT veteran is a retiree with at least 20 years of service. This gives the school administrator a dependable teacher for today's challenging school environment.

The Department of Elementary and Secondary Education does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, disability, or age in its programs and activities. Inquiries related to Department programs and to the location of services, activities, and facilities that are accessible by persons with disabilities may be directed to the Jefferson State Office Building, Civil Rights Compliance (Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act), 205 Jefferson Street, Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480; telephone number 573-526-4757 or Relay Missouri 800-735-2966.

VETERANS EDUCATION & TRAINING SECTION

March 2011

MISSOURI STATE
APPROVING AGENCY

Vol. 2-11

Special Points of Interest

- State approving agencies are key partners in the administration of GI Bill benefits.
- Mark your calendar with upcoming job fairs and career events.

The **Missouri State Approving Agency Directory** features all schools and colleges approved for the GI Bill. Request a copy by calling **877-530-2765**.



State Approving Agencies: Partners in the GI Bill

This article was submitted by the National Association of State Approving Agencies

Mission

State approving agencies (SAAs) help make the GI Bill work by putting a "face" to the GI Bill in their respective states, ensuring that only high-quality, well-managed, ethically run programs are made available for veterans and their dependents to use their VA benefits. SAAs help veterans and others understand the benefits and how to apply for them. They help schools and training establishments understand and carry out their roles in providing and administering veterans education. SAAs work with schools and with the VA to prevent fraud, waste and abuse in VA education benefit programs.

Vision

SAAs will be seen as essential partners in creating and maintaining an effective and responsive veterans education benefit program where every eligible person knows about and can access education programs they can trust to help them reach their goals, and where all approved schools and training establishments understand and fulfill their role to support VA students and the GI Bill.

(Continued on the next page)

NASAA Winter Meeting: Reception on the Hill



William Stephens (right), president of the National Association of State Approving Agencies (NASAA), introduces Eric K. Shinseki, secretary of the Department of Veterans Affairs, to the gathering at the Hart Senate Office Building.



Sen. Daniel K. Akaka of Hawaii (left) receives a plaque honoring his service to the nation and on behalf of veterans from William Stephens, NASAA president. Akaka was the principal sponsor of the Post-9/11 GI Bill Improvement Act of 2010, now Public Law 111-377. Akaka is one of three World War II veterans currently serving in the U.S. Senate.

State Approving Agencies: Partners in the GI Bill *(Continued)*

What we value

SAA's value:

- Veterans, their families and the sacrifices they have made for us and for our nation.
- Education, training and the opportunities they provide.
- Responsible expenditure of tax dollars (state and federal).
- Free and fair access to education and training.
- The integrity of the GI Bill and the positive impact it makes on our nation.

Fundamental objectives

SAA's will carry out our mission and achieve our vision by accomplishing the following objectives that are fundamental to our success.

- **Approvals:** Only programs and facilities that are educationally sound, ethically administered, governed by policies that facilitate veterans' success in learning and meet requirements of the law will receive SAA approval.
- **Visits to schools:** SAA's will ensure that applicable standards are (and continue to be) met by making personal visits to facilities to assist with approval applications and to conduct on-site reviews.
- **Technical assistance:** SAA's will help ensure that facilities are able to successfully carry out their responsibilities for certifying and reporting by providing or assisting with training for certifying officials, and by answering technical questions about program approval and the certification of veterans.
- **Outreach:** SAA's will ensure that eligible individuals have the information they need to apply for and use their VA education benefits, and that schools and training facilities know about the GI Bill and how they can become approved to offer training.
- **Liaison:** SAA's will facilitate an increase in education and training opportunities for veterans through interactions with other education agencies, government agencies and professional associations.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- **March 22: Columbia**
MOJOE 2011 Job Fair
University of Missouri-Columbia
10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m., Hearnes Center
*(Wear interview attire and bring résumé copies.
Candidate orientation begins at 9:30 a.m.)*
- **March 30: Warrensburg**
Teacher Placement Day
University of Central Missouri
9:00 a.m.-Noon, Multipurpose Bldg. Arena
- **April 6: Kansas City**
23rd Annual Veterans and
Military Personnel Career Fair
10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m.
Ararat Shrine Temple
5100 Ararat Drive
Kansas City, MO 64129

TO FIND OUT IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR VETERANS EDUCATION AND TRAINING BENEFITS,
OR TO SEE HOW MUCH YOUR ENTITLEMENT IS, CALL 888-442-4551.