

# TROOPS TO TEACHERS

❖ JEFFERSON CITY OFFICE  
**877.530.2765**

❖ ST. LOUIS OFFICE  
**314.467.5080**

❖ KANSAS CITY OFFICE  
**816.241.1705**



## WE ARE MOVING!

The new home for our St Louis office will be in the Lindbergh School District.

### OUR NEW ADDRESS IS:

Veterans Education and Training

Truman Middle School:

12225 Eddie and Park Road, Room 22, St. Louis, MO 63127-1413 | Office Direct: (314) 729-2444 Fax Direct: (314) 729-2495



From left to right: Mike Bitzenburg: Supervisor, Suzanne Adam: Secretary, John Parker: Supervisor (top), John Hose: Assistant Director



TROOPS TO TEACHERS



SCAN CODE AND BE THE FIRST ONE TO LEAVE A MESSAGE. MENTION THAT YOU USED THIS CODE AND RECEIVE A FREE GIFT.

TO FIND OUT IF YOU ARE ELIGIBLE FOR GI BILL EDUCATION AND TRAINING BENEFITS, CALL 888.442.4551

## INTERESTED IN BECOMING A TEACHER? THE TROOPS TO TEACHERS PROGRAM CAN HELP.

We offer guidance and counseling to navigate the certification and hiring process. We can help in all US states and territories.

First, get to [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com) and get registered. Check to see if you are eligible and then register with the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) program in Pensacola, FL. Depending on your situation, financial assistance may be available. Your exact situation will be reviewed and the National office will determine eligibility.

**Remember, to receive the financial benefits, you have to be registered!**

Next, go to our website and check out the information you will find there. (Visit our website: [www.troopstoteachers.mo.gov](http://www.troopstoteachers.mo.gov)). Go to the TTT Information and registration packet and check out the FAQ section. It is very informative.

To help you find a teaching position, we will add you to a "HOT LIST" that is distributed to school district hiring personnel. We need to know the area your degree(s) are in, what grade level and subject area you are certified (or becoming certified) in and any additional duties you want to be involved with (volley ball, golf, chess club...) to effectively represent you. Fill out and return the form located on our website (On-Line HOT LIST Form). You may update your information this way, too!

Remember, you have to be registered in order to qualify for the benefits of the TTT program. Contact us if we can be of any service. If you have any questions, we should be your first call. DANTES is the office or primary responsibility for the TTT program. If needed, the toll free number at DANTES, that number is 1-800-231-6242.

The easiest way to register is on-line. It is quick and simple. You can register on-line on the DANTES web site, [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com). I would encourage you to avail yourself of this option. Most people, by using this option, can be registered within 24-36 hours.

If you are eligible for the G.I. Bill you may be able to receive on-the-job training benefits once hired by a school district in MO. Call Veterans Affairs (VA) toll free 888-442-4551 for more eligibility information.

### STATE TEACHER JOB VACANCY SITES

**Looking for a new job?** These are some links that may prove useful for finding certified and substitute teaching jobs. For a more complete listing go to our website:

[TROOPSTOTEACHERS.MO.GOV](http://TROOPSTOTEACHERS.MO.GOV)

IA: <http://www.iowaeducationjobs.com/>

KS: <http://www.kansasteachingjobs.com/>

MO: <http://www.moteachingjobs.com/>

NE: <http://www.nebraskaeducationjobs.com/>

### MISSOURI/KANSAS/ NEBRASKA/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

p: 877.530.2765

fax: 573.526.5710

e-mail: [chad.schatz@dese.mo.gov](mailto:chad.schatz@dese.mo.gov)

### TEACHER CERTIFICATION CONTACT INFORMATION

#### IOWA

Dr. Mary Lou Nosco

p: 515.725.2146

e-mail: [marylou.nosco@iowa.gov](mailto:marylou.nosco@iowa.gov)

#### MISSOURI

Debbie Butcher

p: 573.751.7863

e-mail: [debbie.butcher@dese.mo.gov](mailto:debbie.butcher@dese.mo.gov)

#### KANSAS

Sungti Hsu

p: 785.291.3573

e-mail: [shsu@ksde.org](mailto:shsu@ksde.org)

#### NEBRASKA

p: 402.471.0739

e-mail: [nde.tcertweb@nebraska.gov](mailto:nde.tcertweb@nebraska.gov)

website: <http://www.education.ne.gov/tcert>

### PARTICIPANT LIFE CYCLE

Determine Eligibility

Register

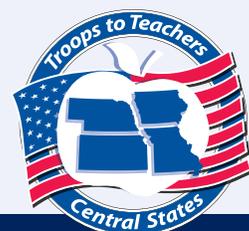
Bachelors Degree

Teacher Certification

Job Search

Get Hired

Be a Mentor



# VETERAN'S EDUCATION & TRAINING SECTION

## MISSOURI STATE APPROVING AGENCY



### STAFF

#### JEFFERSON CITY

**Chad Schatz:** Director

**John Hose:** Assistant Director

**Ron Marsch:** Supervisor

**Debbie Butcher:** Teacher Certification Supervisor

**Loretta Fennewald:** Administrative Assistant

#### ST. LOUIS

**John Parker:** Supervisor

**Mike Bitzenburg:** Supervisor

**Robert Hummel:** Approval Developer

**Suzanne Adam:** Secretary

#### KANSAS CITY

**Turner Shipman:** Supervisor

**Leo Blakley:** Approval Developer

**Sharon Sawyer:** Secretary

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**Veterans Education & Training  
Section Department of Elementary  
and Secondary Education**

P.O. Box 480

Jefferson City, MO 65109

**Veterans Education & Training  
Section c/o Penn Valley Community  
College Pioneer Campus**

Room 256

2700 East 18th St.

Kansas City, MO 64127

**Veterans Education & Training  
Section c/o Mehlville School  
District**

Room 110

3100 Lemay Ferry Road

St. Louis, MO 63125

### SWEET DREAMS PILLOW

The Sweet Dream Picture Pillows are available to the children of any family whose father or mother is on active duty and will be absent from their family for at least three months.

Visit our website at:

<http://www.pillowprojectusa.com>

## LEARN TO USE YOUR GI BILL BENEFITS

<http://www.military.com/education/gi-bill/learn-to-use-your-gi-bill.html?comp=1198882862970&rank=4>

There are several GI Bills to choose from. Knowing which one you qualify for and how to apply can help you make sure you get the benefits you need to reach your education goals.

The GI Bill has several programs and each is administrated differently -- depending on a person's eligibility and duty status.

### GI BILL USER'S GUIDES BY STATUS

To learn more about how to use your GI Bill benefits click on the link below or go to the url mentioned in the title above, then select one of the following duty status categories:

- New "Post-9/11 GI Bill"
- New Post-9/11 GI Bill Payment Calculator
- Active Duty Montgomery GI Bill User's Guide
- Veterans Montgomery GI Bill User's Guide
- National Guard and Air Guard MGIB-SR User's Guide
- Selected Reserve MGIB-SR User's Guide

### GI BILL INFORMATION BY TOPIC

To learn more about how to use your GI Bill benefits click on the link below or go to the url mentioned in the title above, then select one of the following duty status categories:

- New Post-9/11 GI Bill Details
- Post 9/11 GI Bill Payment Calculator
- Comparing the GI Bill Programs
- MGIB Eligibility Details
- Additional MGIB Features and Details
- VA Form 22-1990
- Tutorial Assistance Program
- Work Study Program
- Apprentice and On-The-Job Training Program
- GI Bill Top-Up
- MGIB "Buy-Up"
- MGIB Licensing and Certification Benefits
- Veterans Education Assistance Program - VEAP
- Reserve Education Assistance Program - REAP
- Montgomery GI Bill FAQ
- Post 9/11 GI Bill FAQ
- New Rules for Flight Training



## THE MISSOURI STATE APPROVING AGENCY DIRECTORY

Features all schools and colleges approved for the GI Bill. Request a copy by calling **877.530.2765**

### The Department of Elementary & Secondary Education

We 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:

**Jefferson State Office Building,  
Civil Rights Compliance  
(Title VI/Title IX/504/ADA/Age Act)  
205 Jefferson Street  
Jefferson City, MO 65102-0480  
p: 573.526.4757  
or Relay Missouri p: 800.735.2966.**

A dedicated toll-free hotline is now available **FOR SCHOOL CERTIFYING OFFICIALS (SCOS) ONLY.**

**Toll-free hotline number 1 (855) 225.1159**

The hotline is available from 7:00 am to 5:00 pm, Central Time. SCOs must provide the school's facility code and be listed as a designated VA school certifying official to receive assistance through the dedicated hotline.

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.



**SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER** This newsletter is being e-mailed to one Certifying Official at each school. Please share this newsletter with all other Certifying Officials, the Bursar's or Comptroller's Office, Financial Aid Office and other interested individuals at your school/business. It is extremely important that the information in this newsletter receives the widest dissemination in order that veterans receive the GI Bill and other educational benefits to which they are entitled.

# IOWA

## REQUIREMENTS FOR LICENSES AND INSTRUCTIONS FOR COMPLETING APPLICATION

<http://www.boee.iowa.gov/require.html>

Non-Iowa Institution - Complete Section I, Section II and send all transcripts.



### INITIAL

Valid for 2 years

Renewable under prescribed conditions

- 1] Baccalaureate degree from a regionally accredited institution.
- 2] Completion of an approved teacher preparation program.
- 3] Completion of an approved human relations component.
- 4] Completion of requirements for a teaching endorsement.
- 5] Completion of the mandated tests in the state in which the applicant is currently licensed (graduates before Jan. 1, 2013) OR Completion of the Iowa mandated tests (graduates after Jan. 1, 2013). New testing requirements can be found on the Department of Education Practitioner Preparation & Teacher Education page.
- 6] Meets the recency requirement of 6 college credits or teaching experience – either within the last 5 years.

### STANDARD

Valid for 5 years

Renewable under prescribed conditions

- 1] Completion of requirements 1-6 for the initial license.
- 2] Evidence of two years successful teaching experience in a public school in Iowa or three years in any combination of public, private, or out-of-state.

# MISSOURI

## NEW ASSESSMENTS FOCUS ON PREPARING FUTURE TEACHERS FOR THE CLASSROOM

The State Board of Education reviewed Missouri's progress on implementing new assessments to help prepare future teachers for the classroom. The new assessments for the state's educator preparation programs are being phased in over the next two years for prospective teachers, as well as guidance counselors, librarians and school administrators.

"These assessments are designed to help new teachers and school leaders become effective educators," said Chris L. Nicastro, commissioner of education. "Quality educators are the most important factor in providing students with the knowledge and skills they need for college, other postsecondary training and a career."

Preparing, developing and supporting effective educators is a primary goal of the Department of Elementary and Secondary Education's Top 10 by 20 initiative, which calls for education in Missouri to rank among the top 10 performing states in the nation by the year 2020.

The new assessments are aligned to the new standards and are part of the Missouri Educator Gateway Assessment (MEGA) program and include:

- Missouri General Education Assessment: This test for admission into undergraduate professional educator preparation programs includes sections on English language arts, writing, mathematics, science and social science. The assessment will begin in September 2013 and will replace the current College BASE (CBASE) test.
- Missouri Educator Profile (MEP): This new assessment is designed to measure a person's work style as it relates to the field of education. The MEP is set to begin in September 2013 and will assess the characteristics of individuals pursuing certification as a teacher, counselor, librarian and school leaders, including principals and superintendents.
- Content Specialty Assessments: These exit exams must be completed by prospective educators, including teachers, counselors, librarians, principals and superintendents, for all areas of certification they are seeking. The assessments are aligned with state and national standards and will begin in September 2014. They will replace the current Praxis test.
- Missouri Standards-Based Performance Assessments: These new assessments for prospective teachers, counselors, librarians, principals and superintendents will measure their performance in content, coursework and clinical experiences, including student teaching and internships.

### THE ASSESSMENTS ARE SET TO START IN SEPTEMBER 2014.

The work the Department is doing will help to address some of the concerns voiced in the NCTQ Teacher Prep Review released by the National Council on Teacher Quality (NCTQ) and U.S. News & World Report. The Review evaluates more than 1,100 educator preparation programs nationwide, providing prospective students, parents and school districts with information about the quality of available programs. Missouri's new certification and testing requirements through the MEGA program will raise the bar in a number of areas, including increasing the admission and licensing standards, aligning teacher preparation with the Common Core State Standards, improving clinical preparation and holding preparation programs accountable for student success.

More information about educator preparation in Missouri can be found at [dese.mo.gov/eq/ep/](http://dese.mo.gov/eq/ep/).

# KANSAS

The two-year budget that Gov. Sam Brownback signed into law Saturday under-funds Kansas public schools by an estimated \$657 million in the second year, according to an analysis by the Kansas State Department of Education.

That's the difference between how much the legislature approved in various categories of K-12 education spending for fiscal year 2015 and how much is supposed to be spent according to formulas outlined in current law.

Deputy Education Commissioner Dale Dennis's written report to the state board was included in the board's agenda packet. The report puts into perspective one of the key questions that the Kansas Supreme Court will be asked to resolve later this year when it hears an appeal in the current school finance lawsuit, *Gannon vs. Kansas*.

In January, a three-judge panel that presided over the trial in that case ruled that the legislature had failed to meet its constitutional duty to provide suitable funding for public schools, and it ordered the legislature to increase funding in several categories. Attorneys for the state, however, have argued that the cuts enacted in recent years were necessary because of the downturn in the economy, and that the funding levels are still sufficient for schools to provide all the services required by law.

## ACCORDING TO THE REPORT THE BIGGEST PART OF THE SHORTFALLS ARE IN THE FOLLOWING AREAS:

- Base state aid: \$433.3 million. That's the additional amount it would take to fund the base formula at \$4,492 per pupil, the amount required under current law, compared to the estimated \$3,852 per pupil approved in the fiscal year 2015 budget.
- Local option budget equalization: \$113 million. That's money the state provides to subsidize the local option budgets of less wealthy districts so they don't have to impose significantly higher property taxes to raise the same amount of money as a wealthier district. The fiscal year 2015 budget only provides about 75 percent of the money needed to fully fund the equalization formula in current law, so districts that qualify for the aid receive a pro-rated amount.
- Special education: \$72.2 million. Current law says the state is supposed to fund 92 percent of the "excess costs" associated with special education. The 2015 budget provides \$427.7 million, which is only 78.7 percent of the excess costs.
- Capital outlay equalization: \$25.2 million. That's money the state spends to subsidize the capital outlay budgets of poorer districts. Capital outlay expenses are typically big-ticket purchases such as computers, heating and air conditioning equipment, building repairs and other capital purchases not funded with bond proceeds. The legislature has not funded any capital outlay equalization since 2010, which the *Gannon* court ruled unconstitutional.

Dennis outlined other shortfalls in smaller categories such as professional development, school lunches, the mentor teacher program and pre-kindergarten pilot programs.

State board chairwoman Jana Shaver said, "All I know is we have been asked for several years to do more with less, and we've about reached the point where we're going to have to do less with less".



# NEBRASKA

## STATE ED BOARD SEEKS PUBLIC COMMENT ON NEXT COMMISSIONER, EDUCATION

The Nebraska State Board of Education has launched an online survey for public comment on the characteristics important for the next Commissioner of Education and on the strengths and challenges of public education statewide. The survey results will guide the State Board of Education's search for the next Commissioner of Education and provide information on the Nebraska Department of Education as well as public education statewide. State Board President Pat Timm of Beatrice encouraged the public to participate in the survey. "We're interested in hearing from public and nonpublic school teachers and administrators, our stakeholders, the (state education) department's employees and the general public," Timm said. The survey may be accessed on the Nebraska Department of Education's website at <http://www.education.ne.gov/> and will be open to the general public and educators until July 29, 6 p.m. CDT.



For more information about the Missouri Learning Standards and the Common Core State Standards visit:  
[dese.mo.gov/divimprove/curriculum/Common\\_Core.html](http://dese.mo.gov/divimprove/curriculum/Common_Core.html)