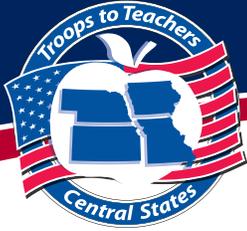


TROOPS TO TEACHERS



✦ JEFFERSON CITY OFFICE
877.530.2765

✦ ST. LOUIS OFFICE
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✦ KANSAS CITY OFFICE
816.241.1705

GOV. NIXON APPOINTS NEW STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION MEMBER

Gov. Jay Nixon has appointed John Martin, Ph.D, to the Missouri State Board of Education.

Dr. Martin has an extensive background in education. He previously served as a teacher, principal and assistant superintendent in the University City School District before moving to Virginia where he was an assistant superintendent in the rural Montgomery County School District from 1990-1997. Dr. Martin returned to Missouri and served as the superintendent of the Grandview C-4 School District from 1997-2006, and the deputy superintendent of the St. Louis Public School District in 2006 and 2007. He most recently served as the interim superintendent of the Kansas City Public School District in 2008.

"We are excited to have Dr. Martin join the State Board," said Missouri Commissioner of Education Chris L. Nicastro. "He brings a wealth of experience in education that includes time spent in St. Louis and Kansas City. He will be an invaluable member of the team."

Dr. Martin earned a bachelor's degree from Harris Teachers College (now Harris-Stowe State University) and a master's degree from Washington University. He completed his doctorate at Virginia Polytechnic.

The appointment is subject to confirmation by the Missouri Senate, but he will begin serving immediately. The Governor has appointed him for a term ending July 1, 2014.

JOE DRISKILL APPOINTED TO STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Gov. Jay Nixon has appointed Joe Driskill to the State Board of Education.

Driskill, a Jefferson City resident, has a history of public service throughout the state. He served as a member of the Missouri House of Representatives from 1983-1993 and was Missouri's Director of Economic Development from 1993-2003. He currently serves as the executive director of the Leonard Wood Institute and the Sustainable Ozarks Partnership at Fort Leonard Wood. He has been involved with numerous professional organizations, including time as a member of the Missouri Children's Trust Board.

"Joe has been a great public servant to the state," said Missouri Commissioner of Education Chris L. Nicastro. "His knowledge of business operations and community service will be a great asset to the State Board. We look forward to working with him."

Driskill graduated from the University of Missouri with a bachelor's degree in political science and a master's degree in public administration.

Driskill, whose nomination must be approved by the Missouri Senate, has been appointed for a term ending July 1, 2021. He is the second member to be appointed to the State Board of Education this week. Earlier this week, Gov. Nixon appointed Dr. John Martin to the State Board.



TROOPS TO TEACHERS



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

REGISTRATION

• Returning User. If you started but did not complete your online registration, [click here](#) to go to the TTT Online Registration Login page to complete and submit your registration. If you need assistance with or have forgotten your username or password, contact one of our counselors at ttt@navy.mil or phone 1-800-231-6242 ext. 3224 or 3157.

• First-Time User.

IMPORTANT: If you do not have an e-mail account, you cannot register online and will need to submit a paper registration. [Click here](#) to download the registration package (.PDF 206 KB) containing instructions and registration form. The completed and signed registration can be submitted by:

Mail: DANTES, Troops to Teachers,
6490 Saufley Field Rd, Pensacola, FL 32509-5243

Fax: 850-452-1194

Scan/E-mail: TTTRecord@navy.mil

Online registration for the program will include the following steps:

- 1] Create a username and password.
- 2] Login using your new username and password.
- 3] Complete the online registration which will require the following information:

- Vocational interests, certification program and/or licensure information, if applicable
- Personal and contact information
- Military service information
- Teaching and educational background information
- Pre-K through 12 referral preferences

NOTE: Fields marked with an asterisk (*) are required to submit your application. Your information will be saved as you complete each step; however, your information will not be submitted to TTT for review until completion of Step 4.

- 4] Review/validate the information you entered and authorize the release of personal information.

NOTE: Your registration will not be submitted to TTT unless you accept the terms outlined in the "Registration Validation/Release of Information Agreement" section.

- If you have not previously registered with TTT [click here](#) to register online.



*"Education is not the
filling of a pail, but the
lighting of a fire."*

- W.B. Yeats

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

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

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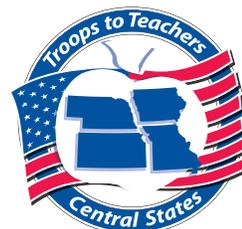
e-mail: shsu@ksde.org

NEBRASKA

p: 402.471.0739

e-mail: nde.tcrtweb@nebraska.gov

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



VETERAN'S EDUCATION & TRAINING SECTION

MISSOURI STATE APPROVING AGENCY



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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

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

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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 22

12225 Eddie and Park Rd.

St. Louis, MO 63127

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>

Tutorial Assistance

Tutorial assistance is available to help you pay for tutoring necessary to advance your education.

Type of Assistance

This is a supplement to your regular education benefit. Tutorial assistance is available if you are receiving VA educational assistance at the half-time or greater rate and have a deficiency in a subject, making tutoring necessary.

Available Benefit And Eligibility

The monthly rate of tutorial assistance may not exceed the cost of tutoring or \$100. The maximum amount payable is \$1,200. There is no entitlement charge for the first \$600 under the Montgomery GI Bill. There is no entitlement charge under the Post-9/11 GI Bill or DEA.

Eligibility

All of the following criteria must be met for a student to be eligible for tutorial assistance:

- The student must be in a postsecondary program half time or more. For the Post-9/11 GI Bill, rate of pursuit must be at least 50 percent.
- The student must have a deficiency in a course that is part of his or her approved program.
- The student must be enrolled in the course during the quarter, semester, or term in which the tutoring is received for the course. Tutoring may not occur between quarters or semesters.

Note that this benefit is not available under REAP.

Apply

The student, tutor, and certifying official must complete VA Form 22-1990t, Application and Enrollment Certification for Individualized Tutorial Assistance. The application may be submitted at the end of each month or combination of months. The application must be signed and dated on or after the date of the last tutoring session certified.

More Information for Schools

When a certifying official signs an Application and Enrollment Certification for Individualized Tutorial Assistance, he or she certifies the following:

Tutoring is essential to correct a deficiency. A letter from the course instructor should be put in the student's VA file stating that the student is deficient in the course and that individual tutoring is required to correct the deficiency.

The tutor meets the college's qualifications. Ideally, the school maintains a list of approved tutors. The list should indicate the subjects a tutor is qualified to tutor and the hourly charge. Students should be assigned a tutor from the approved list. A tutor may not be a close relative of the student.

The charges do not exceed the usual charges for tutoring.

New Toolkit for Veteran Friendly Institutions Available SCHOOL CERTIFICATION OFFICIALS:

The American Council on Education (ACE) has launched an enhanced online Toolkit for Veteran Friendly Institutions featuring blogs and interactive discussion forums for participating institutions and furthering ACE's mission of supporting higher education programs that ensure veterans are college and career ready. [Click here](#) for more information.

FRAUD ALERT

Veterans should be aware of a marketing scam targeting callers trying to reach the GI Bill Call Center and VA National Call Center. Two fraudulent numbers that differ from the official VA call center numbers by one digit are being used to gain access to personal and financial information, including credit card information, from Veterans that call in. Please note that VA will never ask you for a credit card number or banking information over the phone. Be cautious giving personal sensitive information over the phone and make sure that you dial the correct number when trying to reach us.

The fraudulent numbers are:

- 800-872-1000 (the CORRECT VA National Call Center number is 800-827-1000)
- 888-442-4511 (the CORRECT VA GI Bill Call Center number is 888-442-4551)

Chad Schatz (R), Director of the Veterans Education and Training Section, conducts a technical assistance visit at the International Brotherhood of Electrical Workers Local Union 95. The union is located at 3316 South Main Joplin MO 64804.



Joplin, due to the catastrophic tornados, is a site of growth and there is much new construction. Now would be the time to look into an Apprenticeship/OJT program if you are interested.

TTT recently attended a job fair for Offutt AFB in Omaha Nebraska. If you have any need for help, please contact Community Readiness Consultant Airman & Family Readiness Center, Offutt AFB, NE, Comm: (402) 294-4329 DSN: 271-4329



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 do 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.

KANSAS

TEACHER LICENSURE AND ACCREDITATION

The Teacher Licensure and Accreditation (TLA) team is responsible for issuing educator licenses, facilitating the review of educator training programs at all Kansas institutions of higher education and coordinating a process for those institutions that leads to accreditation by the Kansas State Board of Education. The Teacher Licensure and Accreditation team also oversees the accreditation process of Kansas schools through the current Quality Performance Accreditation (QPA) system.

Licensure

- License Applications
- License Requirements
- License Look-up
- Order Fingerprint Cards
- Online Emergency Substitute License
- Substitute License
- Highly Qualified
- Regulations and Standards
- Teaching Jobs
- Accreditation Waiver Requests
- Licensed Personnel
- Status Definitions



Educator Evaluation

- Kansas Educator Evaluation Project (KEEP)

More information about educator preparation in Kansas can found at www.ksde.org

NEBRASKA

BLOMSTEDT NAMED NEBRASKA EDUCATION COMMISSIONER

The Nebraska State Board of Education today named Matthew Blomstedt of Central City the new Nebraska Commissioner of Education. Blomstedt was selected from a field of four finalists. Blomstedt currently is executive director of the Nebraska Educational Service Unit Coordinating Council. He received a Ph.D. in Educational Leadership and Higher Education from the University of Nebraska – Lincoln; a Master of Community and Regional Planning from UN-L; and, a Bachelor of Arts in Political Science from UN-L.

The State Board of Education voted unanimously today for Blomstedt. The four finalists were interviewed Wednesday by the State Board of Education and also met with Nebraska Department of Education staff, legislative staff and representatives of Nebraska's education partners and policy makers.

Several State Board of Education members noted Blomstedt's experience with members of the education community statewide and, specifically, his experience working with rural Nebraska schools and developing statewide education and finance policy.

State Board President Pat Timm said the Board's goal is to work in partnership with Blomstedt to ensure all students learn at high levels and the achievement gap among groups of students is narrowed. The Board's focus will include the development of a new state accountability system focused on continuous improvement. The overarching goal, Timm said, is to ensure all Nebraska students graduate college and career ready. A national search was conducted after former Commissioner of Education Roger Breed announced his retirement in July.

For more information about Blomstedt, visit <http://www.education.ne.gov/>.



More information about educator preparation in Nebraska can found at www.education.ne.gov/tcert

MISSOURI

MISSOURI SCHOOLS WIN FEDERAL SCHOOL IMPROVEMENT GRANTS

The U.S. Department of Education has awarded \$7.5 million in grant money to Missouri's lowest-achieving schools. This is the fifth consecutive year the grants have been awarded to Missouri, one of seven states receiving a total of more than \$43 million in 2013. The funds from this continuation award will go to schools identified by the Department as priority schools:

In the St. Louis Public School District

- Dunbar and Branch
- Laclede Elementary
- Roosevelt High School
- Meramec Elementary
- Earl Nance, St. Elementary
- Yeatman-Liddell Middle School
- Oak Hill Elementary
- Sumner High School

In Riverview Gardens School District

- Lewis and Clark Elementary
- Lemasters Elementary
- Meadows Elementary
- Moline Elementary

Grants were also awarded to Martin Luther King Elementary in Kansas City 33 and Frederick Douglass High School in Columbia Public Schools.

The U.S. Department of Education expects the grant money to be used for the implementation of one of four rigorous school intervention models: turnaround, restart, school closure or transformation in each identified school. Missouri schools that have received grants have typically used the money for additional staff such as instructional coaches or college and career readiness counselors; technology; implementation of reading and math programs; extended learning opportunities such as Saturday school, extended days, or classes during spring and winter break; improving graduation rates; and professional development for teachers and staff.

Preparing, developing and supporting effective educators is one of the key goals of Missouri's Top 10 by 20 campaign, which aims to place Missouri's student achievement among the top 10 academically performing states in the U.S. by 2020.



More information about educator preparation in Missouri can found at dese.mo.gov/eq/ep/.

IOWA

WHAT IS THE COMMON CORE?

As Iowa worked to develop and implement the Iowa Core, a consortium of states across the nation formed to develop common standards for English/language arts and math. This effort is called the Common Core State Standards. The Common Core was designed for states through an initiative launched by state education chiefs and governors nationwide.

The Common Core builds on the best state-developed academic standards, as well as the academic standards of top-performing school systems around the world. In Iowa, the State Board of Education voted in 2010 to blend the Iowa Core with the Common Core through authority vested in the board by the Iowa Legislature. This was an easy decision since the Iowa Core was already similar to the Common Core but embodied some higher academic standards. The overarching goal is to make sure Iowa students meet high state academic standards so they're ready for college or career training after high school.

For more information on the Iowa Common Core status, visit <https://www.educateiowa.gov/iowacore>



More information about educator preparation in Iowa can found at <http://educateiowa.gov/>