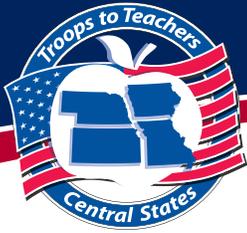


# TROOPS TO TEACHERS



✦ JEFFERSON CITY OFFICE  
**877.530.2765**

✦ ST. LOUIS OFFICE  
**314.729.2444**

✦ KANSAS CITY OFFICE  
**816.241.1705**



## JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS

JROTC- The Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) is a Federal program sponsored by the United States Armed Forces in high schools across the United States. The program was originally created as part of the National Defense Act of 1916 and later expanded under the 1964 ROTC Vitalization Act. The Mission is to; Develop citizens of character dedicated to serving their nation and community. The goal of JROTC is "to instill in students in secondary educational institutions (high schools) the values of citizenship, service to the United States, and personal responsibility and a sense of accomplishment." Additional objectives are established by the service departments of the Department of Defense. Contact your service organization to get more information.

The JROTC program needs the best Instructors possible to continue its historic success. If you are a Retiree and you think you up to the challenge and want to be a JROTC Instructor, please review the following web pages:

**Navy:** [www.njrotc.navy.mil](http://www.njrotc.navy.mil)

**Marine Corp:** [www.mcjrotc.org](http://www.mcjrotc.org)

**US Army:** [www.usarmyjrotc.com](http://www.usarmyjrotc.com)

**US Air Force:** <http://www.au.af.mil/au/holmcenter/afjrotc/>

## ATTENTION SUPERINTENDENTS, PRINCIPALS & HIRING OFFICIALS

Are you trying to hire the best available candidates to meet your teaching needs? If so, then the Troops to Teachers "Hot List" is exactly what you are looking for. The **Hot List** is a compilation of eligible veterans looking for teaching jobs in the Missouri/Kansas/Nebraska/Iowa region; it is a publication created and maintained by the Central States Troops to Teachers office with the Missouri Department of Elementary & Secondary Education.

Troops to Teachers (TTT) veterans are proven, professional team members who are dedicated, creative, mature, and prepared. Look here first when you need certified staff! Whether your school needs a special education teacher or a volleyball coach, a TTT candidate is your best choice for a productive and positive workforce.

This list provides information about veterans who have enrolled in the TTT program and are looking for teaching jobs in your area. If you have teaching vacancies at your school (or are expecting vacancies), contact a TTT supervisor to get your own copy of the Troops To Teachers "Hot List". We can be reached at: **877-530-2765** or send an e-mail to [dese.troopstoteachers@dese.mo.gov](mailto:dese.troopstoteachers@dese.mo.gov).



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

## WHY FORMER MILITARY MEMBERS MAKE GOOD TEACHERS

If you are asked during a job interview for a teaching position why a military member makes a good teacher, you have a great story to tell. A person fresh out of college lacks a certain amount of maturity and life experience. When a student asks why they have to learn algebra or physics, an ICBM officer or field artillery soldier can tell him in a real world, engaging way!

### LONG SERVING MILITARY MEMBERS OFFER THESE QUALITIES:

- **Maturity:** Troops to Teachers participants have learned many lessons about human relations, management, priority setting, leadership and sacrifice that can only be gained through experience. Most Troops to Teachers participants are in their early forties. This maturity is available to students for decades to come, while the cost to the district is equivalent to hiring a recent young college graduate.
- **Commitment:** The retention of Troops to Teachers participants far exceeds that of the average teacher. Longer retention is evidence of the commitment of Troops to Teachers participants to the children, school and administration and the decision to make teaching a professional career choice.
- **Diversity:** Those serving in the military work in an extremely diverse community. Military members learn very quickly to be sensitive to other cultures, backgrounds and beliefs. Moreover, a "troop" learns very quickly that what really matters is whether a teammate can produce under pressure when needed and not that teammate's race, ethnicity, religion or beliefs.
- **Proven team member:** All military experience demands that each individual work for the good of the team and not of the self.
- **Preparedness:** Troops to Teachers participants are prepared for lessons. An axiom of military operations is that you must always be prepared and have a good plan prior to starting any evolution. Troops to Teachers participants never enter a classroom unprepared and try to "wing it."
- **Caring:** In the military, a leader leads 24/7. The responsibility and caring for each individual "troop" are felt every day of the week. This same caring is evident in Troops to Teachers participants and in the deep concern they feel for the children in their class.
- **Dedication:** No one serves a career in the military for the pay - no one really works just for a paycheck. There is not enough money in the world to pay someone to do what is sometimes asked of our service members. However, they do it willingly because of an intense level of dedication. This same level is transferred to helping children.
- **Loyalty:** Service members have operated in a large bureaucracy and know that only through loyalty to the process and their leaders will the right things get done. Troops to Teachers members support principals and their authority.
- **Creativity:** Contrary to the misconceptions often portrayed in the media, a successful military career requires a service member to constantly be looking for a better way to do things. It is no accident that the military has always been on the leading edge of development in technology and personnel issues.
- **Unmatched work ethic:** The military has never been a 9-to-5 job. This strong work ethic that was developed to be successful in a military career has earned most Troops to Teachers participants the reputation as the first to arrive and the last to leave at their schools.

## 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:

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

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

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

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

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

## MISSOURI/IOWA/ NEBRASKA/KANSAS

Chad Schatz, Director

John Hose, Assistant Director

John Parker, Supervisor

Ron Marsch, Supervisor

### 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: [dese.troopstoteachers@dese.mo.gov](mailto:dese.troopstoteachers@dese.mo.gov)

## TEACHER CERTIFICATION CONTACT INFORMATION

### MISSOURI

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### IOWA

Dr. Mary Lou Nosco p: 515.725.2146

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

### NEBRASKA

Bethina Garrett p: 402.471.0739

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

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

### KANSAS

Susan Helbert p: 785.296.2289

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

## TROOPS TO TEACHERS MENTORS

We are pleased to have a list of mentors on our web site. These people have successfully been through the process from start to finish. They are offering their thoughts, insights, and encouragement to others pursuing their goals of becoming teachers.

### WANT TO BECOME A MENTOR?

The advice and guidance you will provide is invaluable to fellow veterans interested in starting careers as K-12 public school teachers.

### WOULD YOU LIKE TO VOLUNTEER TO BE A MENTOR?

Visit: [DESE.TroopsToTeachers@DESE.mo.gov](mailto:DESE.TroopsToTeachers@DESE.mo.gov) or

click here to join us: <http://dese.mo.gov/sites/default/files/TTT-MENTOR%20CONNECTION-%2006-14>

# VETERAN'S EDUCATION & TRAINING SECTION

## MISSOURI STATE APPROVING AGENCY



Joseph Wescott - President of NASAA, Senator Jay Rockefeller, (D-WV), Skip Gebhart, Legislative Director

## EXECUTIVE SUMMIT ON HOMELAND SECURITY

John Hose, Assistant Director of the Missouri State Approving Agency, provided a presentation on VA's License and Certification Test Benefit at the 22nd Executive Summit on Homeland Security in Tucson, Arizona on May 9, 2014. The Missouri State Approving Agency has approved a number of the certificate exams for reimbursement with GI Bill funds. The American Board for Certification in Homeland Security and the American College of Forensic Examiners Institute are located in Springfield, Missouri.

In addition to the presentation, an information table provided other GI Bill material from May 7-9. April Monthie of the Arizona SAA also participated. Over 300 professionals from around the country attended. Many received continuing education credits to gain or maintain certifications in their fields. Dr. Robert O'Block, CEO and founder of the American Board for Certification in Homeland Security, indicated more than 12,000 veterans are employed in occupations related to homeland security. For more information on VA's license and certification test benefits go to [www.benefits.gibill.gov](http://www.benefits.gibill.gov).



Darryl Kehrer, Author & Joseph Wescott, President of NASAA



John Hose, Assistant Director of the 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

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

P.O. Box 480

Jefferson City, MO 65109

573.751.3487

#### Veterans Education & Training Section C/O Penn Valley Community College Pioneer Campus

Room 256

2700 East 18th St.

Kansas City, MO 64127

816.241.1705

#### Veterans Education & Training Section C/O Truman Middle School

Room 22

12225 Eddie and Park Rd.

St. Louis, MO 63127

314.729.2444

CLICK HERE FOR SCHOOL CERTIFYING OFFICIAL TRAINING & INFORMATION RESOURCES

or go to: [http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/school\\_training\\_resources.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/school_training_resources.asp)



## IMPORTANT PHONE NUMBERS

- Education Benefits: **1-888-442-4551**
- Other VA Benefits (Local Regional Office): **1-800-827-1000**
- Monthly Verification of Enrollment & IVR (Interactive Voice Response System): **1-877-823-2378**
- Direct Deposit Enrollment (students): **1-877-838-2778**
- Overseas Schools and Students Living Overseas: **1-918-781-4379**
- Foreign Schools (Buffalo RPO): **1-716-857-3196**
- VA Debt Management Center: **1-800-827-0648**

### SCHOOL CERTIFYING OFFICIAL HOTLINE

School Certifying Officials now have a direct line of communication to contact VA for official inquiries on student issues. This line is staffed by Education Case Managers who have the expertise to answer and resolve most SCO questions. The hours of operation are 7:00a.m. to 5:00p.m. (CST), Monday through Friday. The toll free number can be obtained from your Education Liaison Representative.

School Officials must provide the school's facility code and will be validated as a certifying official through the Web Enabled Approval Management System (WEAMS). Routine questions should continue to go through the regular toll-free number. It is very important this hotline number remain confidential and not be shared with students.

Toll-free hotline number **1-855-225-1159**

### EDUCATION CALL CENTER

The toll-free number for the Education Call Center is **1-888-442-4551**. The Call Center is in Muskogee, OK, and Education Case Managers are available 7:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. (CST), Monday through Friday. The system's automated functions can provide information about benefits, applications, etc., and are available 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. Individual Veterans can access their own record to obtain date of last benefit payment, check amounts, etc. Please utilize the automated system as much as possible. Veterans can also access their information through: [www.benefits.va.gov](http://www.benefits.va.gov).

#### Call the toll-free line for:

- Hardship cases
- Status of claim questions
- Questions on individual student payment issues

#### Call your ELR for:

- Approval issues
- Certification questions
- VA-ONCE technical questions

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.

### 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>



**SHARE THIS NEWSLETTER** This newsletter is being e-mailed to one person at each school. Please share this newsletter with all other Certifying Officials, Education officers, Unit Commanders and personnel, the Bursar's or Comptroller's Office, Human Relations office, Financial Aid Office and other interested individuals at your school/business/Unit. 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. If you are reading this, email [john.parker@dese.mo.gov](mailto:john.parker@dese.mo.gov) to receive a gift.

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; 573.526.4757 or Relay Missouri p: 800.735.2966.**

# IOWA

## IOWA TEACHER AND PRINCIPAL LEADERSHIP SYMPOSIUM WEBSITE LAUNCHED, REGISTRATION OPEN TO PUBLIC *Thursday, May 29, 2014*



Gov. Terry Branstad and Lt. Gov. Kim Reynolds today launched EducationLeadership.iowa.gov, a website for the second Iowa Teacher and Principal Leadership Symposium, which will be held on Monday, Aug. 4, 2014, at the FFA Enrichment Center at Des Moines Area Community College in Ankeny. Featured speakers include Vivien Stewart from the Asia Society, Ee-Ling Low from the National Institute of Education in Singapore, and Barnett Berry from the Center for Teaching Quality. Also featured are Iowa's first 39 school districts to launch teacher leadership systems in 2014-15 as part of Iowa's landmark 2013 education reform package, two Iowa school districts - Central Decatur and Saydel - that started teacher leadership systems in 2013-14 with the help of a federal grant, and a student panel on the difference great teaching makes.

The event is open to the public, with the goal of attracting a broad cross section of Iowans, including educators, parents, school board members, business leaders and legislators. The website includes the agenda, speaker biographies, sponsors and information on how to register.

Register now for the Iowa Teacher and Leadership Symposium.

The purpose of the symposium is to continue the public conversation about the critical role teacher and principal leadership will play as Iowans work to give students a world-class education.

"Iowa has many exceptional teachers, and the 2013 transformational education reform elevates the profession to a higher level by recognizing how teacher leadership can improve instruction to raise student achievement," said Branstad. "We look forward to learning from those who have started to experience the teacher leadership and compensation system as well as experts from outside Iowa who are steeped in this work."

"We want to ensure the Teacher Leadership and Compensation System is as successful as possible, and the symposium is one way to continue the dialogue and make certain our children are prepared to be competitive in a global, knowledge-based economy," added Reynolds.

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

# NEBRASKA

## FREE MEALS AVAILABLE TO CHILDREN ENROLLED IN SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAMS, CAMPS

Free meals will be available this summer to children enrolled in programs and camps sponsored by the Summer Food Service Program (SFSP) for Children.

The Nebraska Department of Education Nutrition Services today announced the sites where free meals will be available to only those children enrolled in programs and camps that meet the SFSP regulations for an Enrolled Program. The SFSP is a federal program sponsored by the U. S. Department of Agriculture. To qualify as an enrolled program, 50 percent of the children attending the program or camp must meet the Summer Food Service Program. **Eligibility Standards listed below:**

### 2014 SUMMER FOOD SERVICE PROGRAM ELIGIBILITY STANDARDS

Household Size	Annual	Monthly	Weekly
1	20,665	1,723	398
2	27,991	2,333	539
3	35,317	2,944	680
4	42,643	3,554	821
5	49,969	4,165	961
6	57,295	4,775	1,102
7	64,621	5,386	1,243
8	71,947	5,996	1,384

For Each Add'l member add  
+7,326      +611      +141



More information about educator preparation in Nebraska can found at [www.education.ne.gov/tcert](http://www.education.ne.gov/tcert)

# KANSAS

## KANSAS STATE BOARD OF EDUCATION TO CONDUCT SPECIAL MEETING FOR TEACHER LICENSURE REGULATIONS *June 2014*



Topeka, Kansas State Board of Education Chairman Jana Shaver has called a special Board meeting for Wednesday, June 25 at 1:30 pm to act on the adoption of Temporary Licensure Regulations to ensure compliance with HB 2506, which goes into effect July 1. Additionally, the board will meet with representatives from the search firm of McPherson and Jacobson, LLC to begin the process of identifying the next Kansas Commissioner of Education.

The meeting will be held in the Board Room, Suite 102 at the Landon State Office Building, 900 SW Jackson Street, Topeka. The meeting is open to the public.

- Agenda and materials

<http://ksde.org/Portals/0/Board/Materials%20&%20Agendas/2014/JUNE%2025%20SPECIAL%20MTG%20PACKET.pdf>

More information about educator preparation in Kansas can found at [www.ksde.org](http://www.ksde.org)

# MISSOURI

## NORMANDY SCHOOLS COLLABORATIVE TO OPERATE WITH NEW LEADERSHIP *6/16/14*

The State Board of Education took steps to break the cycle of low achievement and fundamentally change the way Normandy schools will function by approving the transition of Normandy School District to governance under a new appointed board.

Beginning July 1, the district will be reorganized as a new district known as the Normandy Schools Collaborative. The State Board has appointed three members of a Joint Executive Governing Board:

- **Dr. Charles Pearson**, CEO, Innovative Education Solutions, LLC; Training Facilitator, National Institute for School Leadership
- **Richard Ryffel, Private Banker**, J.P Morgan; Board Chair, Beyond Housing
- **Reginald Dickson**, Chairman of Buford, Dickson, Harper & Sparrow; Board Member, St. Louis Community College

The State Board approved the Department's recommendation to grant a waiver to Normandy establishing its status as a new state oversight district. The new district will not have an accreditation classification for three years. The State Board will review the waiver status annually. Subject to review and renewal, the waiver may remain in place. At that time, the State Board will make a comprehensive review of the district governance structure. The Department will also engage in continuous review of student progress, and the newly appointed board will make quarterly progress reports to the state Board of Education.

"Students and parents need clarity as to the future of their district," said Commissioner of Education Chris Nicastro. "We hope this fresh start will allow all involved to begin building a culture focused on improving teaching and learning."

The Board also approved Department recommendations in the following areas:

- **District Staffing** - all teacher and administrator contracts will lapse effective June 30, and all employees hoping to return must re-interview for their positions. The Board approved a list of recommended rehires who have already been interviewed.
- **Student Transfers** - no new student transfers will occur under this status at this time. Current student transfers will be allowed to continue with a new tuition rate determined by the Department's calculation formula. One exception is the 131 students that were not enrolled in Normandy schools in 2012-13.
- **Budget** - the Department has proposed a balanced budget to keep the district solvent. Salaries for any employees who are rehired will remain at 2013-14 levels.
- **Calendar** - the school calendar for 2014-15 will encompass 201 days for teachers, including 183 student days and nearly four weeks of professional development.

Parents, students and staff may find more information about the future of the Normandy Schools Collaborative at [www.dese.mo.gov/Normandy](http://www.dese.mo.gov/Normandy).

Normandy School District was classified as unaccredited on Jan. 1, 2013. The State Board lapsed the district in May to preserve schools in the district. <http://dese.mo.gov/communications/news-releases/normandy-schools-collaborative-operate-new-leadership>

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

