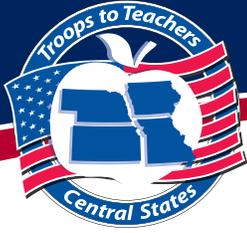


# TROOPS TO TEACHERS



✦ JEFFERSON CITY OFFICE  
**877.530.2765**

✦ ST. LOUIS OFFICE  
**314.729.2444**

✦ KANSAS CITY OFFICE  
**816.241.1705**

## ROUTES TO LICENSURE

Missouri has several methods for an individual to enter the education profession with a "certificate of license to teach." In a summary, they are:

### TRADITIONAL ROUTE

An individual completes a four-year, college-recommended course of study, does student teaching, passes an exit exam, and graduates with a bachelor's degree in a field of education and is issued an initial\* certificate.

### ALTERNATIVE OR INNOVATIVE ROUTE

An individual with a bachelor's degree in a content area (such as mathematics or English) returns to a college of education for a program of study that may enable him to take courses and teach simultaneously. The teacher works under a two-year, provisional certificate and usually completes about 30 semester hours. When the college program is completed and the exit test passed, the college recommends and the individual receives an initial certificate. Some of these programs are offered via distance learning, some programs offer a master's degree plus certification and some offer only the certification.

### TEMPORARY AUTHORIZATION ROUTE

An individual with a bachelor's degree in a content area (such as mathematics or English) takes self-directed courses – a maximum of 24 college credits (varies for different areas) to meet specified competencies, teaches for two years, is mentored by the school district and passes at least two exit examinations. The individual works under a one-year, renewable certificate that requires 9 semester hours of college credit each year in order to be renewed. When requirements are completed, the individual receives an initial certificate.

### OUT-OF-STATE CERTIFIED ROUTE

An individual with a valid teaching certificate from another state can be granted a comparable certificate in Missouri. Verification of certification from the other state must be provided. Depending on the number of previous years of teaching experience, the individual may qualify for an initial or career certificate.

### AMERICAN BOARD OF CERTIFICATION FOR TEACHER EXCELLENCE (ABCTE) ROUTE

An individual with a bachelor's degree can complete a program of study from ABCTE, pass their specific test and be certified. Missouri accepts certificates from ABCTE only in the areas of middle- or high-school mathematics, U.S./world history, English/language arts, biology, chemistry, general science and physics. The individual receives an initial certificate. For more detailed information on the ABCTE route, go to: <http://www.abcte.org/>

### DOCTORAL ROUTE

Individuals with a doctorate degree in a content area (such as mathematics or English) may be issued an initial certificate by passing a pedagogy test. Individuals entering via the doctoral route are not eligible to advance to the career certificate but may renew the initial certificate as often as needed.

\*The Missouri initial certificate is a four-year license requiring two-years of mentoring, annual evaluation, one year of beginning teacher assistance, a professional development plan, and professional development for a total of 30 contact hours during the four years. Upon successful completion of the four years of teaching and requirements, the educator may apply for the career continuous certification.

For more information, please contact:  
Debbie Butcher in the Educator  
Certification section at (573) 751-7863  
or send an email to  
[debbie.butcher@dese.mo.gov](mailto:debbie.butcher@dese.mo.gov).



TROOPS TO TEACHERS



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

## TROOPS TO TEACHERS WEB SITES

### 1. Central States Troops To Teachers Website:

<http://www.troopstoteachers.mo.gov>

### 2. DANTES-Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support

Homepage: <http://www.dantes.doded.mil>

### 3. TTT Home Page: [www.proudtoserveagain.com](http://www.proudtoserveagain.com)

<http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/troops-to-teachers/index.html>

### 4. Calendar of Events: <http://www.troopstoteachers.net/Events.aspx>

### 5. TTT Program Overview:

[http://www.dantes.doded.mil/\\_content/TTT\\_Overview.pdf#zoom=100](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/_content/TTT_Overview.pdf#zoom=100)

### 6. Getting Started:

<http://www.dantes.doded.mil/service-members/troops-to-teachers/index.html>

### 7. Eligibility:

<https://secure.doded.mil/TTTRegistration/TTTProgramEligibilityAndRequirements.aspx>

### 8. TTT Registration:

<https://secure.doded.mil/TTTRegistration/RegistrationCreateUsernamePassword.aspx>

### 9. Frequently asked questions:

[http://www.dantes.doded.mil/\\_content/TTT\\_FAQ.pdf#zoom=100](http://www.dantes.doded.mil/_content/TTT_FAQ.pdf#zoom=100)

### 10. TTT State Office listing:

<http://troopstoteachers.net/Portals/1/National%20Home%20Page/stateoffices.pdf>

### 11. Employment Search -State Vacancy Sites:

<http://www.troopstoteachers.net/Zones.aspx>

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS:

### The Year of “Trains”formation!



Association of Veterans Education Certifying Officials,  
AVECO Conference

Where: Union Station - St. Louis  
When: July 20 - 23, 2015, St. Louis, MO  
Contact: Danielle R. Downs, AVECO President  
Phone: 217-234-5255  
Email: [ddowns@lakeland.cc.il.us](mailto:ddowns@lakeland.cc.il.us)

## 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**

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

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

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

### NEBRASKA

Bethina Garrett p: 402.471.0739

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

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

### KANSAS

Shane Carter p: 785.296.8011

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

website: [www.kdse.org](http://www.kdse.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.pdf>

# VETERAN'S EDUCATION & TRAINING SECTION

## MISSOURI STATE APPROVING AGENCY



### BARRY FITZHUGH MCCPV-VUB VETERAN IN THE SPOT LIGHT



Barry Fitzhugh became involved with Metropolitan Community College - Penn Valley Veterans Upward Bound (MCCPV-VUB) in January of 2013. At that time, Barry was a homeless, unemployed Air Force Veteran who had a mind to take advantage of the Veterans Retraining Assistance Program (VRAP). Barry was staying in a homeless shelter for men and was focused on getting his life back on track.

He saw VRAP as an opportunity to fulfill a lifelong dream of earning a degree. Barry took full advantage of the VUB program by utilizing the myriad of services we provide such as help with FAFSA, college admissions, VA education benefits, placement testing, tutoring, and connections to community resources.

Barry began his journey towards a Business Management degree in March of 2013 and has been on the Dean's Honor Roll every semester. He became a member of Phi Theta Kappa the spring semester of 2014. Because of his tenacity and unwavering commitment to his goal of obtaining a degree, he has been granted a full-ride scholarship to attend Rockhurst University in Kansas City, MO.

#### STAFF

##### JEFFERSON CITY

**Chad Schatz:** Director

**Ron Marsch:** Supervisor

**Debbie Butcher:** Teacher Certification Supervisor

**Loretta Fennewald:** Administrative Assistant

##### ST. LOUIS

**Michele Mueller:** Supervisor

**Robert Hummel:** Approval Developer

**Suzanne Adam:** Secretary

**John Hose:** Education Specialist

##### 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

## GI BILL COMPARISON TOOL ON THE DEPT. OF VETERANS AFFAIRS WEBSITE

Are you eligible for education benefits and not sure where you want to go to use them? Maybe you are unsure what career path would be good for you. Where do you start? Go to the Department of Veterans Affairs website for some helpful resources.

If you want a little direction on what path to take try out the CareerScope resource. CareerScope is an interest and aptitude assessment tool which may assist you in identifying careers you may be successful in and enjoy. CareerScope can be found at the following web address: <http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/careerscope.asp>. After exploring your various career options and settling on one that you feel is right, the next step is to evaluate the requirements. Do you need to go back to school to further your education? How much will that cost and what benefits are available?

To answer that second question you should explore another resource available on the Department of Veterans Affairs website called the GI Bill Comparison Tool and can be found at [http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison\\_tool.asp](http://www.benefits.va.gov/gibill/comparison_tool.asp). It is easy to get started just answer a couple of questions about yourself, the type of benefits and the school you are interested in attending. This tool gives you a side-by-side comparison of benefits for several different schools. More detailed information can be found by clicking on the "How much am I going to get?" box on the screen. The tool will show information about your estimated benefits and other important information about the schools you are considering.

Some of the information displayed in the overview of the school includes the following items:

- How many veteran students attend?
- Is there a student veterans group on campus?
- Do they participate in the Yellow Ribbon program?
- Do they follow the Principles of Excellence?
- Do they support the 8 Keys to Success?

The School Summary will show information regarding:

- Number of VA complaints.
- Information regarding accreditation.
- Amount of VA tuition and fees paid as well as the number of students.
- Amount of Yellow Ribbon paid as well as the number of students.

Other items you may want to know about can also be found on the site and include the following:

- Graduation rates of the school.
- Loan default rates of the school.
- Median borrowing for students attending the school.

If this still does not give you everything you would like to know you may find it by clicking on the link to the College Navigator site which shows more information about the school. While you should not rely solely on this site to decide if and where to attend school, it is a great starting point for your decision.

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.



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 65102-0480p: 573.526.4757 or Relay Missouri p: 800.735.2966.**

# NEBRASKA

## ELEMENTARY SECONDARY EDUCATION ACT (ESEA) FLEXIBILITY



### Nebraska's Waiver from NCLB

Nebraska's written request for ESEA Flexibility shifts the focus of accountability and gives us a more robust picture of what our students can do. It is an opportunity to outline our goals, create a shared vision and tell our Nebraska story.

The ESEA Flexibility request has three primary principles and a broader goal of reducing government burden on districts, teachers, and most of all students.

#### These principles are:

##### Principle 1: College and Career Ready Expectations for All Students:

- Rigorous Expectations and Standards
- Learner Focused
- Increase Collaboration with Colleges and Universities
- Annual, Statewide, Aligned, High Quality Assessments that Measure Student Growth

##### Principle 2: State Developed Differentiated Recognition, Accountability, and Support (AQuESTT—A Quality Education System Today and Tomorrow):

- Annual Measurable Outcomes
- Equity and Access for all Learners

- Recognition and Celebration of Success
- Network of Teachers and Learners (Communities of Practice)
- Support for Schools' Continuous Improvement
- Data Informed Decision Making

##### Principle 3: Support Effective Instruction and Leadership:

- Timely Evaluation and Feedback for Teachers and Principals
- Professional Learning and Development
- Dynamic Learning Environments
- Differentiated Student Learning Objectives

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

# MISSOURI

## MISSOURI GRANTED ESEA WAIVER EXTENSION

*Tue, 06/23/2015*

Missouri has received a three-year waiver extension for flexibility from certain provisions of the Elementary and Secondary Education Act (ESEA), also known as No Child Left Behind (NCLB). The U.S. Department of Education announced the extension today. The extension will run through the 2017-18 school year.

The waiver allows Missouri to use its own accountability system to identify struggling schools and efficiently direct resources to those schools, and to recognize schools that produce exemplary results. Under the waiver, districts also have more flexibility in allotting Title I fundin

"This waiver gives the state more flexibility to meet the education needs of our students," said Commissioner of Education Margie Vandeven. "It allows us to work with Missouri schools and districts to set ambitious goals and focus on continuous improvement."

ESEA flexibility has allowed Missouri to develop strategies and programs aimed at ensuring high quality education for all students, including the following:

- An accountability system that unites state and federal expectations. This aligned system operates effectively alongside the Missouri School Improvement Program (MSIP) Support and Intervention Plan to offer targeted assistance to schools in need.
- A research-based educator evaluation process that highlights the continuous growth and development of teacher and leader practices.
- The Diverse Learner Amplification (DLA) project that allows core academic teachers and teachers of English language learners and students with disabilities to participate in focused work to ensure all students gain language skills that will allow them to go on to a successful post-secondary program, either career training or college.

NCLB was due for reauthorization in 2007, but Congress has not yet passed a reauthorization bill. The waivers allow states to move forward and focus on providing high quality education to all students.

Missouri's goals are outlined in the Top 10 by 20 initiative, an effort for Missouri to rank among the top 10 states in educational performance by 2020.



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



# IOWA

## EARLY CHILDHOOD CARE, EDUCATION INSTITUTE ANNOUNCED

*Monday, June 8, 2015*

The Iowa Department of Education will be co-sponsoring the Iowa Association for the Education of Young Children Early Care and Education Fall Institute Sept. 18-19 at the Prairie Meadows Conference Center in Altoona.

Titled "Our Journey to One Goal: The Successful Child," the institute is open to all professionals who work with infants and children, from birth to 8 years old, including staff and consultants from Early ACCESS, Area Education Agencies, Statewide Voluntary Preschool Programs, Early Childhood Special Education programs, and Shared Visions programs. The keynote speaker will be Dr. Susan B. Neuman, a national expert and professor of early childhood and literacy education at New York University.

School administrators, elementary teachers, and other early care educators and providers should consider attending.

The institute offers an opportunity for professionals from across the state to become familiar with new early childhood research and initiatives, take advantage of the resources of supporting agencies, and learn from national experts and each other. For more information, visit the Iowa AEYC website or contact Betsy Lin at [betsy.lin@iowa.gov](mailto:betsy.lin@iowa.gov).

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

# KANSAS

## KANSAS MENTORS ANNOUNCES GOLD STAR PROGRAM RECIPIENT MENTORING PROGRAM ENSURES SAFE MENTORING RELATIONSHIPS *June 22, 2015*

TOPEKA, Kan.—Kansas Mentors (KM) is pleased to announce Topeka Seaman High School's College and Career Ready Senior Internship program has been named a 2015 Gold Star program. The Kansas Mentors Gold Star program recognizes mentoring partners across the state who have committed to maintaining high standards and best practices to ensure a safe and effective quality mentoring experience.

To be considered for this prestigious recognition, applicants are required to submit documentation providing evidence the organization is adhering to quality, safe, and effective mentoring practices. Additionally, all applicants undergo a peer review process, clarification phase, and develop a work plan to improve any policies or procedures needed to strengthen the program.

"We are pleased to award Seaman High School this top honor," said Cheri Faunce, Director of Kansas Mentors. "Throughout Kansas Mentors' rigorous vetting process, they have consistently demonstrated that their program is among the very best in the state. The quality of their mentors and the level of supports students receive in identifying career interests are impressive."

Seaman High School's College and Career Ready Senior Internship program pairs students with quality career mentors who provide students the opportunity to experience a career field the student is considering for post-secondary education/training. The program's mentors provide students an understanding of the educational requirements, employ-ability skills, and career opportunity strands, as well as rewards and sacrifices of the career field.

"Recognition as a Kansas Mentors Gold Star program is incredibly rewarding and we accept with sincere appreciation and gratitude," said Catherine Klein, coordinator of the program. "Our program is committed to upholding the Kansas Mentors' standards and will continue to provide a safe and quality mentoring experience for the senior students of Seaman High School,"

The Gold Star program provides a meaningful indicator of quality for youth mentoring programs, and helps families and volunteers feel confident about participating in a mentoring program that has an ongoing commitment to meet quality standards. To learn more about how your program can participate in this process, please contact Kansas Mentors today.

Kansas Mentors is currently partnered with more than 175 mentoring programs serving all 105 Kansas counties. The organization is committed to providing every young Kansan access to a caring and quality mentor through recruitment, awareness and training efforts.

For more information visit Kansas Mentors at [www.KansasMentors.org](http://www.KansasMentors.org).

"ALL KANSAS CHILDREN DESERVE A BRIGHT, SUCCESSFUL FUTURE. WE'RE COMMITTED TO MAKING THIS DREAM A REALITY THROUGH MENTORING."

-COACH BILL SNYDER  
CHAIR KANSAS MENTORS

Kansas Mentors  
Cheri Faunce, Director  
[www.KansasMentors.org](http://www.KansasMentors.org)  
785-368-6211  
[mentor@ksde.org](mailto:mentor@ksde.org)



Kansas Mentors is a program of the Kansas Volunteer Commission and is housed within the Kansas State Department of Education.

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