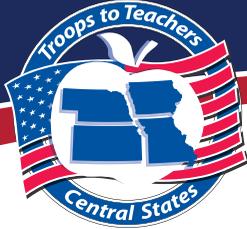


TROOPS TO TEACHERS



✦ JEFFERSON CITY OFFICE
877.530.2765

✦ ST. LOUIS OFFICE
314.729.2444

✦ KANSAS CITY OFFICE
816.241.1705

JUNIOR RESERVE OFFICERS' TRAINING CORPS



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

Marine Corp: www.mcjrotc.marines.mil/

US Army: www.usarmyjrotc.com

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

ANSWER THE CALL

Our nation's youth need you. They deserve a high quality education and to be taught by individuals with compassion, drive, integrity, and commitment. You have exemplified these qualities throughout your military service. You can choose to help lead our country's children into a brighter future. Serve again. Become a teacher.

The National Troops To Teachers Website Is Located at:
WWW.PROUDTOSERVEAGAIN.COM



TROOPS TO TEACHERS



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



GOOD NEWS FOR FIRST & SECOND YEAR TEACHERS

First and second year teachers who are eligible for the GI Bill may now receive VA Education Benefits for On-the-Job Training (OJT) during their first contract year. They can be teaching with a regular professional certificate or a temporary authorization certificate. Approval of on-the-job training program for teachers must be sought through your State Approving Agency.

A. Requirements for Participation:

- Application for VA Benefits.
- Application for approval of the OJT position.
- Training outline developed by school officials, including a letter detailing mentoring/supervision by either school principal or experienced teacher.
- Designate a school official to serve as the contact person between the school and Missouri Department of Elementary and Secondary Education and the VA.

B. Benefits:

First and second year teachers can receive VA Education Benefits that are paid directly to him/her and thus need no special accounting or payroll practices in Missouri. Other states may contact your state approving agencies to apply for approval. This is a valuable addition to first two years of salaries. The benefit on a ten-month contract can range from approximately \$3,400.00 for a reservist/national guard member to over \$14,000.00 for a career serviceperson eligible under Chapter 30 of VA benefits. The amount a person receives depends upon their chapter of eligibility and their years of service. Effective October 1, 2011 On-The-Job training under Chapter 33 benefits are paid. Up to \$83 a month for books and supplies is available.

This benefit is separate from Troops-to-Teachers and may be used in addition to Troops-to-Teachers funds.

Allows the school districts to participate and be a positive force in the veterans' transition from military to civilian life.

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 or

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

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

Turner Shipman, Troops to Teachers Contact

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

TEACHER CERTIFICATION CONTACT INFORMATION

MISSOURI

Debbie Butcher p: 573.751.7863

e-mail: debbie.butcher@dese.mo.gov

IOWA

Joanne Tubbs p: 515.281.3611

e-mail: Joanne.Tubbs@iowa.gov

NEBRASKA

Bethina Garrett p: 402.471.0739

e-mail: nde.tcrtweb@nebraska.gov

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

KANSAS

Susan Helbert p: 785.296.2288

e-mail: shelbert@ksde.org



THE NATIONAL TROOPS TO TEACHERS WEBSITE IS LOCATED AT WWW.PROUDTOSERVEAGAIN.COM

VETERAN'S EDUCATION & TRAINING SECTION

MISSOURI STATE APPROVING AGENCY



MEMORIAL DAY IS MAY 30, 2016

For most Americans Memorial Day is a time for barbecues, opening pools and the beginning of summer. Some people do not take the time to celebrate the true meaning of the holiday.

Have you ever visited Jefferson Barracks Cemetery one of the oldest military internment sites in the country? There is a lot of history dating back to 1826 when the post was first opened, which can be found on the website: <http://www.cem.va.gov/cems/nchp/jeffersonbarracks.asp>.

Did you know that there are very strict rules about what may be placed on the graves and when? Here is the rule about displaying flags on gravesites which can be found on their website.

Flags

The United States flag is flown over national cemeteries every day. The flag is flown at half staff on the morning of Memorial Day and during interment services. Graves are decorated with small United States flags the day before Memorial Day and are removed immediately after the holiday. Flags are not permitted on graves at any other time.

Being the mother of two Boy Scouts in the St. Louis area I have participated in placing the flags on the graves which always occurs the Sunday before Memorial Day. It is an emotional, reverent and wonderful way to remember and teach our youth what Memorial Day is all about. Boy Scouts from all over the St. Louis region join together at Jefferson Barracks to place flags on the graves. The scouts line up and enter the cemetery led by the Color Guard which is made up of Eagle Scouts. A ceremony is held around the flag pole where the flag is raised to full staff and then lowered to half-staff while the buglers play "Taps". Next there are guest speakers followed by instructions regarding where and how the flags should be placed. The public is welcome to attend and I would recommend the event. It takes around two hours for the flags to be placed on each grave.

Jefferson Barracks also holds a ceremony on Memorial Day at 10:00am to honor all of the men and women who have lost their lives serving our country. Other communities throughout the region have parades and events to celebrate the holiday.

However you decide to celebrate the day, I hope you stop and take a moment to remember the people who have given their all in service to our great country.

Written by Michele Mueller

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Room 256
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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

HAVE A QUESTION OR NEED A FORM?

Visit and bookmark the Missouri Veterans Education and Training website: <http://dese.mo.gov/adult-learning-rehabilitation-services/veterans-education>. Here you will find a lot of good information regarding OJT/Apprenticeship, Education Benefits and Troops to Teachers. Items you will find when you visit the website include contact information for Missouri State Approving Agency staff, newsletters, and quick links.

Just added to the website under the Related Links & Forms section are many of the needed forms which are downloadable and fill able. The following is a list of forms which are available:

VA Forms

Application for VA Education Benefits 22-1990
Request for Change of Program or Place of Training 22-1995
Dependent's Application for VA Education Benefits 22-5490
Monthly Certification of On-the-Job and Apprenticeship Training 22-6553d-1
Training Agreement for Apprenticeship and Other On-the-Job Training Programs 22-8864

State Approving Agency Forms - Veterans Education and Training

On-The-Job-Training Forms

VE-1 Application for Approval
VE-1A Veteran Training Agreement
VE-2 Amendment to Approval
VE-7 Progress Record

Schools and Training Facility Forms

VE-5- Application for Approval of Accredited Courses
VE-6 - Application for Approval of Non-Accredited Courses
VE-13 - Approval Information Courses Not Leading to a Standard College Degree
VE-14 - Approval Information Courses Leading to a Standard College Degree
VE-20 - Personnel Record
VE-25 - Occupational Graduate Employment Report

The screenshot shows the website's navigation menu with links for Home, About, Administrators, Educators, Parents & Students, Adults & Community, and School Data. The main content area is divided into two columns. The left column, titled 'Veterans Education', contains a paragraph about the State Approving Agency (SAA) and a 'Quick Links' section with items like 'Find Approved Programs', 'GI Bill', and 'Lesson Plan for the GI Bill'. The right column, titled 'Adult Learning/Rehab. Services', lists various services such as 'Adult Education & Literacy', 'Disability Determination Services', and 'Dropout Reporting'.

SCHEDULE OF CERTIFYING OFFICIAL WORKSHOPS

Tentative date - June 8-9, 2016 in Kansas City, MO
July 19-21, 2016 - Annual AVECO Conference in St. Louis, MO
(Visit the AVECO website for up-to-date information about the conference. www.aveco.org)

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.

WHAT ARE VA GI BILL OJT/ APPRENTICESHIP AND MISSOURI SHOW ME HEROES PROGRAMS?

Missouri State Approving Agency and the Show-Me Heroes Program agree to share information regarding VA benefits for on-the-job training and apprenticeship and Show Me Heroes on-the-job training reimbursements to employers.

The VA program for on-the-job- training and apprenticeship include benefits for eligible veterans and dependents. The minimum training program length is at least six months. Benefits range from \$276 to \$1,341 or more per month paid to the veteran, based on entitlement.

The Show-Me Heroes Program features a 50% wage reimbursement to employers in qualifying training for up to six months. Some veterans may qualify for both programs based on each program approval criteria.

Contact the Missouri State Approving Agency at **1-877-530-2765** or **1-573-751-1250**.

The Show-Me Heroes program phone number is **1-800-592-6020** and the web site is: <http://showmeheroes.mo.gov/>



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

WAUSA PUBLIC SCHOOL RANKS 19TH IN NATION FOR TEACHING PERSONAL FINANCE

LINCOLN SOUTHWEST, TRI COUNTY, FILLMORE CENTRAL RANK IN TOP 10

Four Nebraska high schools placed nationally in the 100 Best WISE High Schools Teaching Personal Finance. Wausa High School's personal finance teacher, Dawn Friedrich, attended the April 11 ceremony recognizing Wausa Public School for placing 19th in the nation.

Dawn Friedrich has over 20 years' experience teaching business education, serving at Wausa Public School since 1997. She is an FBLA Advisor and a Board Member for Nebraska FBLA. She served as the Nebraska State Business Education Assc. President and is currently its Webmaster. As the only business teacher in her school, Dawn teaches a wide range of classes from accounting to personal finance to information technology. She has been named a Gold Star Teacher for three years under W!se, the Financial Literacy Program.

Other Nebraska schools placing in the top 100 included:

- Lincoln Southwest High School, instructor Josh Hinrichs' College Personal Finance class placed 8th in the large school division
- Tri County High School, instructor Dennis Krejci, Personal Finance
- Fillmore Central High School, instructor Cindy Talley, Personal Finance

"Nebraska educators are proud to have many schools participating in the WISE financial literacy certification testing," said Bonnie Sibert, Career Field Specialist for Business, Marketing and Management of the Nebraska Department of Education. "Schools are encouraged to add this industry certification to their students' portfolios and/or resumes for achieving certification."

Wausa Public School was among three schools chosen nationally to participate in a YouTube video (https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=jdUWF_pCxEE) developed to promote WISE certification testing. A videographer from New York traveled to Wausa to interview alumni, students, the superintendent and teacher.

Working in Support of Education or WISE is a leading educational nonprofit based in New York City. WISE focuses on improving the lives of young people and at-risk adults through programs that develop financial literacy and readiness for college and the workforce. This national ranking was determined with support from an advisory board or experts from academia and finance. The predominate factor was the average score on the Financial Literacy Certification Test with consideration given to eligibility for free lunch and the proportion of test takers to the school population.

For more information, visit wise-ny.org or call 212-421-2700.

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

KANSAS

KINDERGARTEN READINESS

There is a success gap between Kansas students entering kindergarten. Some students arrive at school and can read on a second-grade level and know how to spell their name. Other students arrive and don't know their ABCs or their own address. The same gap is true for social-emotional behaviors.

A student's success in kindergarten and in later years depends largely upon experiences during the first five years of life. Research shows that children who attend early learning programs, such as Head Start and other community preschools, have higher literacy and numeracy skills when they enter kindergarten.

Kindergarten readiness is an essential building block for a student's future success. Implementing a statewide kindergarten readiness screener is key. Some of those measures will include literacy, math and social-emotional behavior areas of development.

The kindergarten readiness screener will provide educators with accurate and comparable data. That data can help determine where we should deliver extra resources and assistance to communities.

The screener won't be used to keep a child from attending kindergarten, and it won't measure a teacher's abilities. It will simply be a tool to provide data to KSDE to inform the department on the needs of each community.

Making sure our young children are well-equipped for kindergarten is crucial to the Kansas State Board of Education's vision: Kansas leads the world in the success of each student.

Together, Kansans Can!

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





IOWA

IOWA LEADS THE NATION IN PROVIDING COLLEGE-LEVEL COURSEWORK TO HIGH SCHOOL STUDENTS - Thursday, April 7, 2016

The Iowa Department of Education today released a new report highlighting the participation of students in joint enrollment opportunities to earn college credit while in high school.

Joint enrollment grew to a record high in 2015, with more than 44,000 Iowa high school students jointly enrolled in community college credit courses. The report finds that Iowa's community colleges enroll students of high school age at a rate far outpacing that of community colleges and four-year postsecondary institutions nationally.

"Giving high school students access to college credit is one step toward closing the skills gap in Iowa, which is a high priority for our state," said Ryan Wise, director of the Iowa Department of Education. "More of Iowa's in-demand jobs require postsecondary education and training beyond high school. Earning credit in high school not only saves students money in future college tuition expenses, it also opens doors to greater career opportunities."

Improving access to joint enrollment opportunities helps students acclimate to the expectations of college-level work and is in line with the Future Ready Iowa Initiative launched by Gov. Branstad and Lt. Gov. Reynolds last year.

Future Ready Iowa focuses on ways to better align education and workforce initiatives to close the skills gap and meet future employer needs. Gov. Branstad and Lt. Gov. Reynolds have called for 70 percent of Iowans in the workforce to have education or training beyond high school by 2025 so that more Iowans have great career opportunities and employers have the skilled workforce they need to grow and innovate.

"Today's knowledge-based, global economy demands increased skills, training and education, and we are proud that Iowa leads the nation in providing this access and opportunity to our high school students," Wise said.

For more information, contact:

Jeremy Varner

515-281-8260

jeremy.varner@iowa.gov

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

MISSOURI

STATE BOARD APPROVES NEW MISSOURI LEARNING STANDARDS - Tuesday, 04/19/2016

The State Board today approved new Missouri Learning Standards. Schools will begin to implement the standards during the 2016-17 school year.

"These standards represent thousands of hours of work, the majority of it done by volunteers," said State Board President Charlie Shields. "These are true Missouri standards, developed by Missourians, and we should be proud."

Local districts will now determine curriculum to meet the new standards. The Department will work with educators during the transition and will develop new assessments to measure student progress. The new assessments for English language arts and math will be administered in spring 2018.

Work groups made up of educators and parents developed proposed standards over the past year. The Department received more than 3,600 comments from Missouri lawmakers, educators, academic researchers and the public during a feedback period on the proposed standards. That feedback was carefully considered for inclusion in the approved set of standards.

"We are pleased with the end result," said Commissioner of Education Margie Vandeven. "Missouri's challenging standards will help ensure our students are prepared for postsecondary success and for life."

Ensuring that students graduate ready for college and career is a primary goal of the Top 10 by 20 initiative, which aims for student achievement in Missouri to rank among the top 10 states by 2020.

For more information, contact:

Sarah Potter, Communications Coordinator, Department of Elementary and Secondary Education

573-751-3469

communications@dese.mo.gov



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