

ARNG Education News

Excellence Through Education

A Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges Communiqué

December 2005

news from
SOC

SOC Consortium Guides Available

Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) two-volume Consortium Guide for 2005-2007 is now available in paper and CD format. This publication contains an information page for each member of the SOC Consortium. SOC institutional members currently number over 1,800 colleges, universities, and technical schools. Contained on each page are general demographics including institutional degree offerings, designated SOC Institutional Representatives and SOC Counselors and their contact information, military installations served and their contacts, and non-traditional credit award policies. There is no charge for the Consortium Guide. Order directly from DANTES using your DANTES ID number (Stock #2109), or request copies from SOC at 1-800-368-5622. The Guide is also downloadable from the SOC website at <http://www.soc.aascu.org/> under "Publications" on the home page.

news from
EDUCATION

2006 CCME Conference in Reno, Nevada

The CCME Symposium will be held at the Nugget Hotel in Reno, Nevada, 30 January through 2 February, 2006. This year's agenda will include representatives from DoD, DANTES and VA leadership. Concurrent sessions will cover accreditation issues presented by representatives from national and regional accrediting bodies. Nationally and regionally accredited institutional representatives will participate in a panel discussion. Registration is now open at <http://www.ccmeonline.org/events.shtml>. The symposium fee is \$275 per person. Hotel rates are \$80 per room.

2006 DoD Worldwide Education Symposium in Orlando, Florida

Mark your calendars for Worldwide 2006 at the Marriott World Center in Orlando, FL, July 17-21, 2006. Once every three years, approximately 1,700 military and civilian educators from around the world attend this event to share and discuss issues related to voluntary education. These individuals are dedicated to improving the quality of education for servicemembers through the promotion of cooperative partnerships and development of strategies to ef-

fectively meet the changing education needs of the military services. All members of the military, active and reserve components, members of the higher education community, and business and industry will benefit from the information presented at the more than 60 concurrent sessions and round tables scheduled for this year's conference. Registration is now open at <http://www.ww06.com>.

The ARNG Education & Incentive Annual Conference will be held in conjunction with WW06. Meeting dates are July 17-21, 2006, and travel dates are 16 and 22 July. Your WW06 conference registration also gives you access to the ARNG meetings so you don't need to register twice!

We'll see you in Orlando!

Indiana University 90 > 30 Partners With Community Colleges

Articulated Programs Help Students Earn Their Degree
The Indiana University School of Continuing Studies (SCS) has developed, with several out-of-state community colleges, an academic program called 90 > 30. The community colleges and Indiana University (IU) have articulated their curricula so that students can earn both an associate degree at their community college and a bachelor's degree through distance education at Indiana University.

Participating colleges include:

- American River College (CA)
- College of DuPage (IL)
- Elgin Community College (IL)
- Harper College (IL)
- Lake Land College (IL)
- McHenry County College (IL)
- Oakton Community College (IL)

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Under the program, students who have completed two years of study at their community college can continue their studies there for a third year, while selecting additional courses that apply toward an IU Bachelor of General Studies. During their first phase of study, students complete the number of credits required for an associate degree at their community college. During their second phase of study, students complete - at their community college and through distance education at Indiana University - the number of credits required for an IU Bachelor of General Studies.

For more information about the 90 > 30 Program, contact:

Jim Schellhammer
Indiana University
School of Continuing Studies
Owen Hall 101
790 E. Kirkwood Avenue
Bloomington, Indiana 47405-7101
Phone: 800-334-1011
E-mail: scs@indiana.edu
Web: <http://scs.indiana.edu/undergraddegrees/9030program.html>

Western Carolina University Undergraduate Online Programs Accommodate Military Students

*Regionally Accredited State University Offers
Unique Options for Servicemembers*

Western Carolina University (WCU) is one of the sixteen senior institutions of the University of North Carolina system. If you are investigating the possibility of furthering your education, you just may be on the verge of a whole new chapter in your military career. WCU welcomes military students because they are highly motivated and bring practical experience to their learning adventures. That is why Western has designed programs that accommodate the transitory nature of military life. Western's tuition is very affordable and does not exceed Federal Tuition Assistance caps. The following programs are uniquely tailored to military personnel:

Emergency Management

The field of emergency management is a perfect fit for military personnel. With this degree you'll be doing just what you've been doing throughout your military career: you'll enhance the safety and security of the community, the region, and the nation. The degree program prepares students

to be responsible for preventing, mitigating, responding to, or recovering from, a natural, man-made, or technological disaster. You'll be ready to assume leadership positions in the field of emergency management in government, non-profit agencies, and in the private sector.

Criminal Justice

Western Carolina University's online degree in Criminal Justice means law enforcement and much more. It calls for an understanding of a wide range of disciplines: philosophy, psychology, sociology, and political science, to name a few. Specifically, criminal justice involves the law, criminal behavior, and the arena in which the two ultimately meet: the United States justice system.

Emergency Medical Care

If you are currently a paramedic in the military, this program was designed with you in mind. WCU's Emergency Medical Care program was established in 1977 and represents the nation's first paramedic training program leading to the baccalaureate degree. Even today, the EMC program is one of only ten such programs in the nation. This program is akin to a pre-med degree or a pre-physician's assistant degree, as the students are well prepared to provide the best Emergency Care available today.

For more information on WCU's undergraduate online programs contact:

Dr. Randy Plunkett
Director of Military Education
Toll Free: 800-928-4968
Email: rplunkett@email.wcu.edu
Web: <http://edoutreach.wcu.edu/military>

FHSU Initiates Major Academic Initiative with Introduction of 'Voice Over Internet Protocol'

One of the newest technologies shaping the computing and telecommunications field, Voice-over Internet Protocol, or VoIP, is coming to Fort Hays State University, one of only a few such institutions to offer coursework and applied lab experiences for their students in this technology. The innovative VoIP technology allows voice and data to travel on the same network.

VoIP will also be incorporated into courses on network architecture and data communications, network security and professional networking certification courses. If this were

not unique enough, coursework will be offered not only to on-campus students, but also to distance learning students. Many of these distance learning students are in the U.S. military, which is positioning itself to use VoIP.

U.S. Representative Jerry Moran, R-Hays, helped to secure a \$250,000 federal appropriation to assist in distance and technology learning. Of this amount, approximately \$50,000 was used to purchase equipment to allow both on-campus and distance learning students to study VoIP technology. In a statement delivered by Rachel Roach, a representative from his office, Congressman Moran said, "I believe it is very important that rural areas have access to advanced information technologies. FHSU has been especially effective in working to spread advanced technologies and coursework to rural areas. This is extremely vital to rural Kansas and to the Big First District."

Moran's statement said, "FHSU is a national leader in providing IT education and online degrees for the U.S. military. An increasingly high-tech military is requiring the type of information technology education FHSU provides. Today's military is dependent upon reliable and robust information networks. Fort Hays State's initiative will be an asset for America's fighting forces."

Portions reprinted with permission from Fort Hays State University

SAT/ACT Tutorial Software — Free For Military Dependents

Through the Victory Sports Group (VSG) sponsorship, and NFL players associated with VSG, military personnel can obtain eKnowledge's SAT/ACT Standard Power Prep program(s) without charge. The programs normally cost \$199.00. Families that request the program(s) pay only shipping & handling costs associated with the request. Here is a great opportunity for families with children preparing for the SAT/ACT tests to receive study software. This offer is available to all Armed Forces personnel, including members of the Reserves, Active Duty, and their families. The sponsorship will last for the entire 2005-06 school year and will end July 1, 2006. The company will ship to CONUS, APO, and FPO etc. Details are available at:

<http://www.militarystudent.dod.mil/>

Our database will verify that they are associated with the military and link them to an application where they give their address and pay the cost of shipping and handling.

news from
**NATIONAL
GUARD
BUREAU**



NGB Welcomes Newest Team Member

Ray Holdeman has joined the NGB Education and Incentives Team as a Functional Analyst for Incentive Programs System Automation and Policy Integration. Ray retired after 24 years of Active Service in the both the Army and the Army Reserve. His last assignment was Incentive Program Policy Manager for the US Army Reserve Command in Atlanta, GA.

State Contacts on Virtual Armory

If you don't know where to go for information on your education benefits, what college to attend, what kind of civilian career is right for you, look no further than your own backyard! These are the organizations and people who provide the support that keeps education afloat in the Army National Guard. For a complete listing of state education personnel and support staff visit www.virtualarmory.com under the "education" tab on the interactive map page.

ARNG Education Support Center Expands Its Reach

The Education Support Center (ESC), located in Little Rock, is taking on more responsibility in the education area. ESC continues to provide quality degree planning and counseling services, but its staff will now also be a "one stop shop" at the national level for all ARNG education questions or programs. State education staff will continue to be the primary point of contact for ARNG soldiers; ESC will serve in that capacity on the national level. Soldiers, units, sister services, Department of Veteran Affairs, the general public, and other interested parties will no longer need to contact DANTES, SOCGuard or NGB for answers. ESC will initially field all inquiries, then route them to the appropriate organization or individual. As part of NGB, the ARNG Education Support Center is the first line of defense!

NGB Spring Course Schedule

Please note that the education services course dates for this spring have not yet been confirmed. We anticipate announcing dates for the courses in January, 2006.