



ARMY EDUCATION NEWS & UPDATES

**STRONG STUDENTS.
STRONG FUTURES.
STRONG NATION.**



ARMY STRONG.

WELCOME - A New Face for ArmyEdSpace.com

Dear Educators,

I enthusiastically share the inaugural issue of *Army Education News & Updates* with you today. The goal of this newsletter is to keep you up-to-date on your Army's education programs and events and introduce you to our dedicated staff and partners.

This newsletter also marks the official unveiling of the newly redesigned Army Ed Space Web site. The site provides a multitude of educational tools and resources to help motivate, educate, train and develop America's youth to become the leaders, decision makers and civic contributors of tomorrow. From science and technology, to education enrichment and test-preparation tools, the U.S. Army's education programs have been specifically designed to enhance learning for all of our students.



I encourage you to visit ArmyEdSpace.com and learn more about our education programs and how they can help you in your day-to-day work with students. I look forward to keeping you updated in the coming months.

Thank you for all that you do to educate America's students. We are honored to be your partners in helping our youth reach their potential!

Army Strong!

Sincerely,

Lieutenant General Benjamin C. Freakley
Commanding General
U.S. Army Accessions Command

INFLUENCERS

My Life's Work and Passion

Lance Izumi
President, California
Community Colleges Board
of Governors



"Parents, teachers, coaches and essentially every conscientious individual should invest in children's education, for their future is our world's future."

[Read More >](#)

ARMY EDUCATION PROFESSIONAL SPOTLIGHT

Martha Daniels

Education Services
Specialist
Columbia Recruiting
Battalion



"I have never been at an influencer event where the educators are not stunned at the amount of tuition assistance, GI Bill/Army College Fund and Loan Repayment Plan Funds are offered by the Army."

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SPOTLIGHT PROGRAMS

March2Success

[March2 Success \(M2S\)](#)

is a free, online competency building and test preparation program designed to help anyone improve their knowledge and test scores in the areas of Language Arts, Mathematics and Science.



[Read More >](#)

ARMY ED NEWS

ACTE and the U.S. Army Sign Education Memorandum of Understanding

Representatives from the U.S. Army Accessions Command (USAAC) and the Association for Career and Technical Education (ACTE) have signed an official Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that provides the cooperative framework to improve the educational experiences, post-secondary readiness, and career and technical pathways for the Nation's high school students.



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NEXT ISSUE:

Watch for the upcoming issue of *ARMY EDUCATION NEWS & UPDATES* on the Army's commitment to education.

U.S. Army Accessions Command

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ARMY ED SPACE

**STRONG STUDENTS.
STRONG FUTURES.
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ARMY STRONG.

Welcome

Dear Educators,

The nation's educators and the U.S. Army have a shared responsibility and mutual interest in working together to ensure the success of today's students.

Well-prepared students who move forward to achieve post-secondary success are integral to the future of our communities, the prosperity of our economy, the readiness of our workforce and the strength of our national security.

The U.S. Army sponsors a number of programs to ensure today's youth have the resources necessary to achieve life-long success. From science and technology, to education enrichment and test-prep tools, these programs have been specifically designed to enhance learning for any and every student, whether they are considering the military as a future option or not.



The U.S. Army's underlying mission, and the mission of the newly redesigned Army Ed Space Web site I am excited to share with you today, is to motivate, educate, train and develop America's youth to become the leaders, decision makers and civic contributors of tomorrow. Working together, we can build stronger futures and improve outcomes for all youth across the country.

I encourage you to visit ArmyEdSpace.com and learn more about the U.S. Army's various education tools and resources. I look forward to keeping you updated in the coming months.

Sincerely,

Lieutenant General Benjamin C. Freakley
Commanding General
U.S. Army Accessions Command



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ARMY STRONG.®

My Life's Work and Passion

Lance Izumi

President, California Community Colleges Board of Governors



Education is my life's work and passion. I've spent 20 years in the field – though a lawyer by training, I became fascinated with education issues while serving as a speechwriter for former California governor George Deukmejian. I am currently serving my second term as President of the California Community Colleges Board of

Governors, which is responsible for managing 110 community colleges in California – the Nation's largest system of higher education. I am also the Koret Senior Fellow and Senior Director of Education Studies at the Pacific Research Institute for Public Policy. I've been honored to speak about education issues at statewide and national forums and have worked with the California Legislature's Joint Committee to develop a master plan for education.

My father was the first person to go to college in his family – his example really inspired me to pursue college and graduate school. My parents instilled the importance of education in me from a very early age. Children need similar advocates to motivate them to succeed in every facet of life, especially in academics. Parents, teachers, coaches and essentially every conscientious individual should invest in children's education, for their future is our world's future.

I have always been a friend of the military – I spent five years in the California State Military Reserve (part of the state's National Guard) as a public affairs officer. Today I proudly support several Army Battalions up and down the state of California from a grassroots level.

The Army is a great partner for the education community. It offers many relevant tools and materials for educators, which are widely available online. The Army provides excellent opportunities and resources for students to improve academically. The Armed Services Vocational Battery (ASVAB) test is a fantastic resource for students to see the multitude of career options available to them. The ASVAB test allows students to clearly understand and further explore their strengths.

The March2Success website (www.march2success.com) is another great tool for students, parents and teachers to assist with SAT and ACT test preparation. As illustrated by these college entrance exams, it is truly necessary for children to have a strong grasp on the two basic subjects – English and mathematics. These subjects lay the groundwork for success in any professional track. Properly testing children along the way will ensure they are on the right track and enable them to see how they can improve.

What is an Influencer?

Individuals who take actions to make a difference in the strength, well-being and success of their communities.

Parents, coaches, teachers, counselors, community leaders and others to whom young people turn when making major decisions about their futures.

In addition to equipping our kids with the tools to learn and succeed, they also need the means. Whether by serving in ROTC or by taking advantage of the GI Bill, the many education-related monetary benefits offered through Army service ease the financial burden of higher education, which is most relevant in these times.

I have seen firsthand that the best way kids become motivated is by ensuring success at an early age – nothing breeds motivation like success! College will be the natural progression if we help our children to meet their educational goals early on in life. By taking full advantage of all tools at our disposal we can help ensure that they are fully equipped to go on and achieve great things in whichever field they eventually choose to pursue.



Education Services Specialist Spotlight

Martha Daniels
Columbia Recruiting Battalion



Q: Where did you grow up?

A: I was born and raised in Augusta, Ga. I graduated from Augusta State University with a B.A. in ... oh, my ... 1971.

Q: What is your background? How and when did you become an Army education specialist?

A: When I graduated from college, I had made no career plans. Just as I began to realize what a bad move that had been, I received a call from the Fort Gordon Civilian Personnel Office (CPO), Ga., on June 30, 1971 saying they had several career intern program positions that needed to be filled before July 1 – the next day!

I immediately went to the CPO and was hired into an inventory management specialist internship. In 1973, the education specialist intern program came to be and I transferred into it. Except for a two year break in service during which I was an adjunct professor of English at Seton Hall University, N.J., I have been in various education specialist positions at Fort Gordon, Germany and Columbia, S.C., for more than 34 years.

Q: Describe a recent engagement with a local educator or school that was particularly successful.

A: We have the most wonderful new initiative in partnership with the South Carolina Department of Education to develop a reaccreditation experience for high school career specialists tentatively titled “Military Careers 101” that we plan to conduct in June 2010.

Our goal is to present a three-day workshop in conjunction with Fort Jackson, S.C., to enhance both educator and recruiter understanding of how each plays a role in students’ career paths and the issues they both encounter in doing their jobs. We have formed a committee of eight educators from across the state who meet with various U.S. Army Recruiting Command personnel, usually bi-monthly, to develop the workshop. So far, it has been an amazing experience. These educators are outstanding. They have great expertise and are motivated, caring and patriotic.

Q: Do you have an example of a student who has particularly benefited from an Army education program?

A: There are two examples that come to mind. The first was a graduate from a small high school in the mountains of North Carolina who returned as part of the U.S. Army’s Hometown Recruiting Assistance Program and accompanied me on a visit to his high school after successfully completing the Defense Language Institute as a Hebrew linguist.

The second example was an event at a high school where the recruiter assigned to the school showed several slides of side-by-side, then-and-now photos of Soldiers as they appeared in high school and now in uniform, with script on where they are, what their jobs are and how much college credit they had accumulated. I saw some of their teachers tear up at their success.

What is an ESS?

Battalion Education Services Specialists are professional educators who communicate Army education opportunities and options to educators at the secondary and postsecondary levels.

Q: Tell us something about Army education programs that your local education community contacts might be surprised to know.

A: I have never been at an influencer event where the educators are not stunned at the amount of tuition assistance, GI Bill/Army College Fund and Loan Repayment Plan Funds are offered by the Army.

Q: What has been your most memorable moment working for the Army?

A: This is a tough choice. Before I came to CPO in June 1971, I had never been on an Army installation and the Army might as well have been a foreign country for all I knew. But it didn't take long for me to realize it and the Soldiers in it form the finest institution literally in the world. It's not just been one moment; it's been the continuous honor and privilege of being part of the Army that has kept me here with no desire to be elsewhere. I suppose if I had to pick one moment, it would be the day I found the Soldier I would marry.



March2Success

What is [March2Success](#)?

[March2 Success \(M2S\)](#) is a free, online competency building and test preparation program designed to help anyone improve their knowledge and test scores in the areas of Language Arts, Mathematics and Science.

How does the program work?

Participants register at www.march2success.com before taking baseline tests in each subject area. Based on their results, March2Success builds customized curricula for each test-taker. Participants with baseline scores below 80 percent in any subject area receive lesson plans and study materials to help improve competency in the skill. Content is provided by industry leaders in standardized testing and college preparation and includes:

- A high school preparation course
- A state standardized test preparation course
- SAT and ACT practice tests
- SAT/ACT flashcards
- Interactive games
- Guidance on college selection, admissions and financing



For what types of students and age groups is March2Success designed?

Any student who wishes to improve skill levels and test scores can participate, from middle schoolers up to college graduates who may need to brush up on skills prior to taking a standardized test for grad school.

Is it effective?

In a 2009 March2Success pilot program, 163 students in Broward County, Fla., used the high school prep Math module to improve their scores on state mandated tests. Following initial assessment tests in two Math subject areas, the students received a customized lesson plan based on their individual scores, totaling about 15 hours of training and preparation over a six-week period. After completion of their coursework, the students re-took the initial assessment test. Results showed that:

- 83.6 percent of all students increased their Math/General Purposes test scores
- 74.8 percent of all students increased their Math/Problem Solving test scores
- The average Math/General Purposes test scores increased by 31 percent
- The average Math/Problem Solving test scores increased by 29 percent
- Students with lower initial test scores showed the most improvement

Is March2Success a military recruiting tool?

No, March2Success is offered by the Army as a public service. There is no obligation. Participants can choose to be contacted by a recruiter if they are interested in learning more about Army service. However, a recruiter will not contact participants unless they specifically "opt in" during program registration.



ACTE and the U.S. Army Sign Education Memorandum of Understanding

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"Both ACTE and the U.S. Army are leaders in the effort to create a skilled and competitive Nation," said Ed Melott, President, ACTE. "This agreement represents our commitment to continued dialogue and joint actions with the U.S. Army to help ensure that young people are well prepared for success, whatever post-secondary path they choose – higher education, technical training, industry, military service or a combination of options."

Within the framework of the MOU, the Army and ACTE are committed to fostering ongoing conversations around:

- Comprehensive post-secondary planning
- Drop-out prevention, intervention and recovery
- Applying what the Army has learned from its high school JROTC programs as broader tenets that can be implemented in a civilian context to prevent drop outs and fight health epidemics such as obesity
- Improving student readiness for whatever next life-stage step they choose after high school
- An exploration of Army college scholarships that could be applied to address future teacher shortages

"This remarkable partnership enables us to support ACTE's efforts to create a skilled and competitive workforce and viable options for tomorrow's leaders, and reflects the shared belief that helping students pursue successful futures ensures that our Nation remains strong and competitive for future generations," said Lieutenant General Benjamin C. Freakley, Commanding General, USAAC.

To learn more about ACTE, visit www.acteonline.org.



Lieutenant General Benjamin Freakley, Commanding General of USAAC, Jan Bray, Executive Director of ACTE, and Ed Melott, President of ACTE, join forces to improve the educational outcomes of the Nation's youth.