

## OFFUTT AFB EDUCATION CENTER

# E-TRAINING

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## AF TUITION ASSISTANCE CHANGES

A new AFI was published in June which brought a lot of updates to tuition assistance. AFI 36-2670 titled Total Force Development, and its newest Guidance Memorandum 2020-02 detail all the changes.

Highlights of the changes include the requirement of an interest inventory and counseling on the results before you can begin using tuition assistance and before changing your education goal. You are now allowed two education goal

changes at each degree level, but an interest inventory and counseling will need to be completed each time.

Tuition assistance is now allowed towards a civilian Associate's degree even after completion of your CCAF degree. However, the rule of "no lower or lateral degrees" still applies.

Interested in taking courses towards a commissioning program such as the Interservice Physician Assistant Program? Your commander will need to provide a memorandum recommending you before tuition assistance will be authorized.

Prevalent-in-the-Force languages will no longer be funded under the tuition assistance allowance for strategic languages. A new strategic languages list has also been published.

AF COOL has expanded its allowance for different certifications than just those for your AFSC. One credential is now allowed that is related to your Bachelor's degree and one is allowed that is completely unrelated to your AFSC with supervisor approval. Only test fees and books (books up to \$500) are covered under the program.

Finally, the bad news. FY 2021 tuition assistance cap has been reduced to \$3,750 from \$4,500. Make sure to use your funds wisely, complete your FAFSA® form, and apply for scholarships early! Contact our office for a scholarship list, and more ways to earn college credit without additional costs.

## FINANCIAL AID

### [Complete the FAFSA® Form](#)

*Use the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) form to apply for financial aid for college or graduate school.*

*Tuition assistance and financial aid awards work hand-in-hand. Take advantage of both in order to complete your education with no out-of-pocket costs!*

*It is recommended that you apply every year you are attending college, regardless of income or what you think you might or might not receive. The application for the 21-22 school year will be open soon!*

*If your or your family's financial situation has changed significantly from what is reflected on your federal income tax return (for example, if you've lost a job or otherwise experienced a drop in income), you may be eligible to have your financial aid adjusted. Submit your FAFSA form, then contact the school you plan to attend to discuss how your current financial situation has changed.*

## CIVILIAN TRAINING

Air Force Personnel Center has initiated the FY22 Civilian Functional Training Data Call. Training requirements must be submitted during the 28 September – 20 November 2020 timeframe in order to compete for limited funds. Please contact Mr. Todd Annett, 55 FSS/FSDE Civilian Training Manager for additional information.

## THE IMPORTANCE OF NETWORKING EARLY

Networking is about building and maintaining relationships with people which may lead to a mutually beneficial exchange at some point in the future. Typically, the result of the exchange will influence one's professional development. It can also have an impact on academic development. You should network if you are passionate about your field and want to be engaged in the discipline. Networking allows

you to exchange resources with others (e.g., helping one another), and it can provide you with social support, as well as trusted colleagues who you can turn to as a sounding board. The most common platform to track these connections is LinkedIn, but some people simply keep a robust email address book. Either way, start asking colleagues, professors, and those who you look up to if they would be

willing to let you reach out in the future. You never know when it might be useful to have the CMSAF as a contact! Do not wait until you are about to separate and need to look for employment, start establishing your professional network early and keep it updated as you move. Portions taken from <https://www.apa.org/ed/precollege/psn/2017/01/importance-networking>



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## CLEP/DSST TESTING

The UNO-run National Testing Center on Offutt is again offering CLEP and DSST testing. To save your seat in the testing room please visit: [registerblast.com/unomaha-offutt](http://registerblast.com/unomaha-offutt)

Some useful study materials for CLEP and DSST tests are:

Free study guide offered through [collegeboard.org](http://collegeboard.org) upon registration for an exam  
Self-Paced online classes through [modernstates.org](http://modernstates.org)  
Online study resources such as Kahn Academy  
[LearningExpress portal](http://LearningExpress portal)

Off-base testing is also available. Please search here: <https://clep.collegeboard.org/test-center-search> for local open testing sites. Remember, only fully-funded DANTES testing sites will not require a sitting fee for military testers.

## ON-BASE TESTING

All offered testing has resumed with the exception of tests for the Federal Aviation Administration. Please contact our office for questions and registration information.

# A MESSAGE FROM YOUR OFFUTT AFB PARTNERING SCHOOL REPRESENTATIVES



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