



NJ Department of Education Announces Return of Troops to Teachers Program

For Immediate Release

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Trenton, NJ – The New Jersey Department of Education (NJDOE) today announced the return of the “Troops to Teachers” program to support the transition of veterans and members of the Armed Forces to careers in teaching. Over the next five years, the NJDOE will receive nearly \$1 million to support and promote the program.

Troops to Teachers is a national program designed to promote the teaching profession to current and retired members of the military, encouraging new careers as public-school teachers. Veterans and members of the Armed Forces who meet eligibility requirements will receive counseling on the career transition. Financial support to assist with educator certification is also available to eligible participants.

Congress enacted Troops to Teachers in 1993. The program has assisted over 20,000 veterans nationally into entering public-school teaching positions. The New Jersey Troops to Teachers office has counseled approximately 1,800 veterans toward the teaching profession during that time period. The program went on hiatus in 2016 while the grant program was restructured.

“Military service members have a unique set of skills to offer to the classroom,” said Education Commissioner Lamont O. Repollet. “It’s our hope that the return of this program will encourage more military members to continue their service in a classroom setting, where they can inspire and educate young people.”

New Jersey Troops to Teachers staff reach out to veterans and current service members by regularly visiting military installations, local veteran service offices, the Department of Military and Veteran Affairs and local school districts. Outreach will also take place in Delaware, which is a partner with New Jersey under the program.

Veterans or current service members who want more information on Troops to Teachers should visit the website at www.proudtoserveagain.com or contact the New Jersey office at (800) 680-0884 or tttnj@doe.nj.gov.