



### Digging deeper

Our faculty and graduate students are conducting important research that contributes to and informs the fields of K-12 education, educational counseling, student affairs, educational leadership and adult education. Research about the most effective ways and strategies to prepare educators to create educational success for military personnel, veterans and military-connected students is critical to our nation.

- Examples of faculty and graduate student research:
- "Beyond Training: The rise of adult education in the military," J. Zacharakis, & C. Polson, (adult education).
  - "'Well, besides the fact that deployment kinda stinks...': Adolescent voices in literacy during military deployment," V. Sherbert, (curriculum and instruction).
  - "The impact of cumulative combat stress on learning in an academic environment," K.P. Shea, & S.J. Fishback, (adult education).
  - "Pre-service teachers' knowledge and perceptions about the needs of military-connected students," J. Mittelberg, (curriculum and instruction).
  - "Supporting military-connected students in classrooms: Strategies for resiliency," L. Curtis, & S. Risberg, (curriculum and instruction).
  - "From boots to books: Applying Schlossberg's transition model to the transition of today's American veterans to higher education," S. Ryan, & A. Carlstrom, (special education, counseling and student affairs).



### Our mission

Preparing educators to be knowledgeable, ethical, caring decision makers for a diverse and changing world.

**To learn more about the College of Education's military-connected efforts and initiatives, visit [coe.k-state.edu/military](http://coe.k-state.edu/military).**



# College of Education Military ED-OPS

## Our vision for the future

Military-connected individuals face a unique set of challenges and circumstances. Kansas State University's College of Education is working to reduce the effects of these issues in a number of ways. The college has initiatives across all departments to better prepare pre-service and in-service school personnel to meet the educational needs of military-connected adults and children.

The university and the College of Education are reaching out to our own veterans and military-connected students to ensure they have the transition services and flexibility necessary to assure their success as college students. Other programs in the college are preparing adult educators to prepare military leaders and military parents to be the best advocates for their child's education.



## Educating the educators

The College of Education at Kansas State University was one of the first 100 universities to join Operation Educate the Educators, an initiative that is part of Joining Forces, announced by first lady Michelle Obama and Jill Biden.

Operation Educate the Educators is a nationwide initiative designed to better support military families by including military-connected students in the definition of diverse populations. This allows faculty better opportunities to educate pre-service teachers about the military child's lifestyle and address his or her needs.

## Making it personal

The College of Education is dedicated to student veterans at K-State who, on the surface, may seem identical to other students. However, student veterans often face significant challenges in adjusting to the college culture, which differs from the highly structured military culture. We have ongoing research regarding the most effective strategies for educational success for military personnel and veterans.

We provide military personnel, veterans and their families with a quality, relevant education. This starts by developing knowledgeable, ethical and understanding teachers, counselors, administrators and adult educators. The college's commitment continues by assisting military personnel in achieving their goals as educators.



## Strength in numbers

The driving forces behind our achievements are the collaborative efforts among our faculty, students and partners in examining and investigating military issues. The college is proud of its strong ties with school districts serving military installations and funding cross-disciplinary projects. We produce well-prepared educators and build a strong campuswide infrastructure for military and veteran students and their families.



## Education at the front line

At the College of Education, we prepare our undergraduate and graduate students to best serve military-connected K-12 students and adult learners across the country.

### Examples include:

- Development of iBook training modules and classroom materials that are incorporated into required coursework for all undergraduate education students.
- "A Walk in My Shoes: Military Life," a College of Education-produced video in which retired soldiers, spouses, students and others share their perspective on being connected to the military.
- Digital resource portfolio of information, research and curricula for faculty and students.
- National involvement with the Military Child Education Coalition.
- Pre-service teacher experiences in schools with predominantly military-connected students.

## Preparing for excellence

Our collegewide initiative prepares pre-service and in-service educators to serve military personnel, veterans and their families in educational settings. We provide professional development and resources for faculty and students.

### Examples include:

- Brigade Spouse Command Team Training at Fort Leavenworth, winner of the 2010 Malcolm Knowles Award for Outstanding Program in Adult Education.
- Certificate of competence in counseling military-connected students, developed and offered by the department of special education, counseling and student affairs.
- Faculty book studies using "The Teacher's Guide for Supporting Students from Military Families" and tours of a local military installation to better understand the military family culture.

