

NAVY TRAINING EARNS ACCREDITATION

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NORFOLK, Va. – Achieving another Revolution in Navy Training milestone, Naval Personnel Development Command (NPDC) Learning Centers were awarded institutional accreditation by the Council on Occupational Education (COE) in March.

For the Navy's vocational/technical schools, accreditation brings the stamp of quality to academic institutions and educational programs, and shows Navy training meets the same quality standards as other public and private academic institutions.

COE is a national accrediting organization that evaluates vocational/technical schools throughout the United States and Puerto Rico. Schools measuring up to these national standards receive accreditation. Each institution is reevaluated by an annual report each year, and every six years hosts an on-site evaluation team to verify that the school still meets all the quality standards.

“COE is one of the few accreditation agencies that stands for accountability in education and requires verified academic results,” said Dr. Dan Dull, NPDC deputy director of training. “The benefit for Sailors will be greater acceptance of transferable credits from the Navy to their academic institution, because the learning centers will now be seen as vocational/technical education providers equal to public schools.”

Meeting the same quality standards other academic institutions must meet enhances the transferability of academic credits from one academic institution to another even across state lines. The amount of credit given when transferring credits from one academic institution to another varies college to college, based on the type of academic program in which a Sailor wants to enroll.

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The American Council on Education (ACE) evaluates Navy technical training courses by sending a team to NPDC Learning Centers/Sites to determine if any part or the whole course is equivalent to a college course outside the Navy. From the evaluation team, ACE recommends college credit for Navy training. Together, COE and ACE help Sailors get the most out of the Navy College Program.

“Currently, NPDC operates 14 learning centers with a combined 233 training sites,” said Dull. “Accreditation means Sailors can take advantage of all those opportunities to further their career with an advanced degree.”

To learn more about the Council on Occupational Education accreditation and American Council on Education credit recommendations, log into Navy Knowledge Online and visit the My Education page at www.nko.navy.mil.