



FORT HAYS STATE UNIVERSITY



From the desk of President Mason

One of the newest innovations at Fort Hays State University was created to serve one of our most important populations – our veterans and active military service members, and I am proud to share my thoughts on this ground-breaking program.

The Associate of Applied Science in technology and leadership is offered online and on campus, and it is the brainchild of Dr. Seth Kastle, a retired first sergeant and a combat veteran of Iraq and Afghanistan currently serving as an assistant professor of leadership studies at Fort Hays State.

His hard work has made it possible for military service members and veterans to earn an Associate of Applied Science in technology and leadership degree in only one year and for under \$5,300. They can then move on at Fort Hays State and earn a bachelor's degree in two years for around \$13,000 (inclusive of tuition and fees).

Fort Hays State University stands ready to make the dream of a college education an affordable reality for the dedicated men and women of our armed services who made the noble decision to put service before self.

Go Tigers!

Dr. Tisa Mason
President

FHSU fills leadership role in educating military service members, veterans

The innovative Fort Hays State University degree program for military service members and veterans launching this fall will be the only one of its kind on day one.

The new Associate of Applied Science in technology and leadership program will give Army soldiers and veterans the opportunity to earn more college credit for their military training and experience.

"It's ridiculous to think that someone who has been a combat medic for 10 years and who served in Afghanistan has to come home and take basic pre-hospital life-saving courses and courses in medical terminology," said Dr. Seth Kastle.

The 60-hour program combines transfers of American Council of Education Credit and Kansas Board of Regents Credit for Military Alignment in any combination up to 30 hours. This program then adds another six hours of transfer credits not available anywhere else.

"I've mapped this out, and it's possible for new students to earn an associate's degree and certificate in leadership studies in one year, then go on to complete a bachelor's degree in two more and a master's degree in a fourth year," said Kastle.



A student with all possible credits transferring would have only 24 hours of study remaining – two semesters at the full-time minimum of 12 hours each.

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If they have already taken some of the required general education courses at other accredited institutions, they can complete the program in as little as 15 hours.

Kastle said the program is really geared for junior and senior noncommissioned officers who have already earned the maximum number of leadership training credits available and who are now looking to enhance their careers through civilian education.

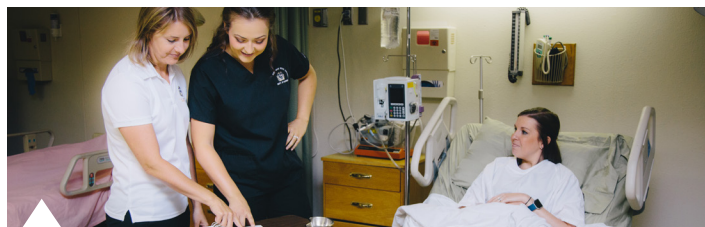
The AAS program is a uniquely Fort Hays State enhancement of the KBOR military credit plan. The Regents' military initiative currently assists community colleges and universities by designating additional training – in addition to the American Council of Education credits – as transferrable for specific classes in a university's catalog.

The Regents gather the additional data from the Army, but it is up to each institution to evaluate that credit and determine how it fits with their programs. Kastle said the new AAS program adds a level of exclusivity to the Regents initiative.

Neither he nor the Regents are done. So far, 17 MOS's have been evaluated for institutional transfer credits. In another six months, as many as 200 could be available for evaluation.

Kastle said the work KBOR and FHSU have done will open doors to education that many service members thought were closed.

Dr. Seth Kastle currently serves on the Regents Military Advisory Committee.



Largest federal grant in university history announced

The Department of Nursing received a grant of almost \$2.8 million from the Health Resources and Services Administration. The award will create opportunities for nursing professionals to attain essential and highly coveted professional qualification. Nurse practitioners are advanced practice nurses, and licensed clinicians who deliver primary care to patients without the supervision of an M.D. Demand for professionals in this emerging health care field is extremely high in rural western Kansas. This grant will also expand the number of clinical site partners (including mental health care providers) who will be able to work with the university in the delivery of essential health care services to the people of rural western Kansas.


Tiger elected to lead state math education association

Dr. Janet Stramel, an associate professor of teacher education at Fort Hays State, was recently elected to serve as president of the Kansas Association of Teachers of Mathematics, leading more than 30,000 elementary and secondary math teachers across Kansas.

KATM, an affiliate of the National Council of Teachers of Mathematics, fosters an engaged community to advance effective practices in teaching and learning mathematics throughout Kansas.

Did you know?

83% of the students who completed their course of study or two Academy of Math and Science programs over the past nine years have gone on to attend a Kansas college or university.

 Degree programs offered by FHSU Virtual College received five No. 1 rankings in June of this year. Programs recognized include counseling, online bachelor's degree, psychology, biology, art, and history.



**FORT HAYS STATE
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Forward thinking. World ready.

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