

**Troy University's Fort Benning  
Army Spouse Education Initiative**  
*"Empowering the Military Spouse through the Power  
of Education"*

**Intent of Initiative:**

- Provide spouses with tools to overcome educational obstacles
- Help spouses gain self-reliance through education
- Assist spouses in completing a degree or certificate program
- Assist spouses with resume and interview skills
- Link to potential job placement
- Increase opportunities for financial independence
- Build spouse awareness of post-level and unit-level leadership support of spouse education

**Work with local colleges, businesses and community leaders to:**

- Seek scholarships for spouses
- Provide internship opportunities
- Source of potential employment opportunities
- Potentially offer a textbook lending closet

**Hold Educational Fairs:**

In Partnership with the education center, we have held semi-annual educational fairs.

- The fairs are geared strictly towards the military spouse
- All participating colleges are in attendance
  - Each has a table and a representative from the college
- A representative from the education center are available for counseling

**Colleges who have participated in Education Fairs:**

- Troy University
- Columbus State University
- Chattahoochee Valley Community College
- Georgia Military College
- Columbus Technical College
- Vincennes University

To offer any support, assistance or for further information please contact Martha Borowski, [mborowski@troy.edu](mailto:mborowski@troy.edu) or Stacey Scroggins, [ssanger@troy.edu](mailto:ssanger@troy.edu)

Currently, the Spouse Education Initiative, in partnership with Troy University, Fort Benning, offers Troy University scholarships to Fort Benning active duty spouses. We also offer internship opportunities available to Troy students. Interns are able to earn tuition waivers for one or two classes per term. Through the Troy University, Fort Benning web site we established a web page for the Spouse Initiative; [http://benning.troy.edu/Spouse\\_Education.cfm](http://benning.troy.edu/Spouse_Education.cfm).

In May, we spoke at the monthly luncheon for the Columbus Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Managers regarding this initiative. We did receive a few announcements for perspective employment for our military spouse which we passed out through many of the FRG organizations.

Looking into future projects, we wish to create a virtual job board; linked through the Spouse Education Initiative web site. We plan to continue to hold education fairs and begin to offer job fairs geared towards the military spouse. We hope to increase the number of scholarships given to spouses. Our goal is to provide another avenue for local Columbus businesses to post employment opportunities; offer monetary donations toward scholarships and textbooks; donate time for volunteering and tutoring; and encourage our military spouses and your employees to achieve their educational goals; all of which support the military spouse and the Fort Benning Community.