

## News Release

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### **AMU Joins the Servicemember Opportunity Colleges Degree Network System *Servicemembers Now Have Smoother Path to College Degrees through Online University System***

Charles Town, W.Va., March 31, 2008 – [American Military University](http://www.amuonline.com) (AMU) ([www.amuonline.com](http://www.amuonline.com)) is proud to join the schools offering degree programs in support of the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Degree Network System for the Marine Corps (SOCMAR), the Coast Guard (SOCCOAST) and the Navy (SOCNAV). AMU is a member institution of [American Public University System](http://www.apus.edu) (APUS) ([www.apus.edu](http://www.apus.edu)).

SOC was established in 1972 and functions in cooperation with the U.S. Department of Defense, the Military Services, including the National Guard and the Coast Guard, to help meet the voluntary education needs of servicemembers. To date there are more than 1850 institutional members.

The SOC Degree Network is a system of more than 160 college curriculum networks within SOC for servicemembers and their adult family members to guarantee transfer of their coursework to other colleges in the network. As part of the SOCMAR-4, SOCCOAST-4 and SOCNAV-4 Degree Network, member colleges have agreed to accept each other's courses in a particular program of study toward a 4-year degree. Students can move freely among the colleges in a network knowing that related courses will transfer.

Colleges within the SOC Degree Network system act as "home colleges" for students. Students begin their studies at their home college where they complete the required academic residency. When students are transferred to new duty stations, they may continue to take courses from other SOC Degree Network colleges, and acquire credit for further military experience and tests. These credits are transferred back to the home college which will award the degree when all academic requirements are met.

The following AMU degree programs are eligible for participation in the SOC Degree Network System:

- BA – Criminal Justice
- BA – Management
- Bachelor of Business Administration

AMU's BA in Homeland Security and BA in Intelligence Studies are also eligible under SOC's Affiliate Network, which was created to offer additional options to servicemembers in emerging areas.

Interested candidates may visit the [SOCMAR](#), [SOCCOAST](#) and [SOCNAV](#) pages at APUS for full information on the programs, or e-mail [SOC@apus.edu](mailto:SOC@apus.edu) with additional questions.

#### **About American Public University System**

[American Public University System](http://www.apus.edu) is comprised of [American Military University](http://www.amuonline.com) (<http://www.amuonline.com>) and [American Public University](http://www.apu.apus.edu) (<http://www.apu.apus.edu>) and provides distance learning to more than 30,000 civilian and military adult students worldwide. APUS offers 57 degrees in its online undergraduate and graduate programs. APUS's curriculum, affordability and flexibility helps working adults pursue degrees in homeland security, national security and emergency and disaster management. APUS also offers programs in professional studies, management, and liberal arts. A university book grant supplies textbooks at no charge to degree-seeking undergraduate students. Eligible students may apply for Federal Student Aid. American Public University System is a wholly-owned subsidiary of American Public Education, Inc. (NASDAQ:APEI). For more information, please visit <http://www.americanpubliceducation.com>.