

## **JOINT PROFESSIONAL MILITARY EDUCATION (JPME)**

The Goldwater-Nichols Act of 1986 mandated that the military services develop officers that could operate in a joint military environment.

Joint Professional Military Education (JPME) is that portion of Professional Military Education concentrating on the instruction of joint matters in order to develop officers skilled in attaining unity of efforts across Services, interagency, non-governmental and multinational lines among other things. The Goldwater Nichols Act, which became law in 1986, requires the completion of a joint duty assignment for promotion to O-7. JPME is that portion of Professional Military Education (PME) that supports fulfillment of the educational requirements for joint officer management.

The act also exempted Chaplains from the requirement. However, there are Chaplain billets on the Joint Staffs, and it is policy that chaplains who serve in those billets have JPME. Additionally, JPME educates the officer of any specialty in strategic thinking and planning, military history and operational warfare. This is helpful information as we serve with the men and women of the armed services. Much of the information learned in JPME is directly applicable to supervisory, force and fleet ministry.

JPME can be obtained through a number of avenues. Each service has JPME available.

**Navy:** JPME can be obtained through the Naval War College. There are three programs available.

1) Assignment to the Naval War College for nine months. ([www.nwc.navy.mil](http://www.nwc.navy.mil)) Officers earn a Master of Arts in Strategy and Policy. Two or three chaplains are assigned each year. Indicate your interest on your Officer Preference Card and in discussion with the detailer.

2) The Non-Resident Seminar Program. (<http://cce.nwc.navy.mil>) The Naval War College operates seventeen seminar sites around the country. Classes meet one night a week for nine months. At the completion of three courses, officers are awarded JPME I and a Naval War College Command and Staff Diploma. In addition, the Naval War College is in the process of completing a program that will offer a Master of Arts in Strategy and Policy for those who complete the non-resident seminar. The degree will require an additional ten credit hours of master level education.

3) The Correspondence Course. (<http://cce.nwc.navy.mil/correspo.htm>) The War College also offers a correspondence course for those who cannot attend a seminar. The course fulfills the requirements for JPME I. Correspondence course credit cannot be used toward the Master of Arts degree in Strategy and Policy.

**USMC:** The USMC Command And Staff College offers both resident ([www.mcu.usmc.mil/csc/collegesnapshot.htm](http://www.mcu.usmc.mil/csc/collegesnapshot.htm)) and non-resident seminar (DSN 278-

1079) programs of Joint Professional Military Education. To request assignment to the resident program, indicate your interest on your officer preference card and talk to the detailer.

**Air Force:** ([www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcontac.htm](http://www.au.af.mil/au/awc/awcontac.htm)) Air University offers JPME via a correspondence course that is highly regarded. The program has an Air Force emphasis and is CD and internet driven. All course work must be completed in eighteen months.

**Army:** (<http://dde.carlisle.army.mil/index.htm>) The Army non-resident program consists of ten classes taken over a two year period with a two week resident requirement at the end of each five course segment. Completion of the program results in a JPME I diploma as well as a Master of Arts degree in Military Strategy. The program is available to O-5's and O-6's.