

FORT RILEY UNIVERSITY

eArmyU Mentoring News

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eArmyU Mentoring Campaign

*Real leadership is being the person others
will gladly and confidently follow.*

Fred J. Rodríguez, Ph.D.

Directorate of Education

eArmyU at Fort Riley has taken a giant leap forward with its eArmyU Mentoring campaign. This dynamic coaching initiative is developing a win-win situation for student-soldiers in conjunction with their formal academic program. One of the most important principles embraced at Fort Riley is investing the time needed to develop student-soldiers. There is also agreement that mentoring should begin early as the soldier begins a degree program.

So who's on the mentoring team at Fort Riley?

Mentors at Fort Riley include Department of the Army Civilians from various Directorates, the senior NCO leadership to high-ranking officers of the Command, as well as the Commanding General, Major General Dennis E. Hardy. What a list of distinguished leaders! "Target 25" was the goal! That goal was reached practically before leaving the starting blocks. Not only that, as we speak, the number of mentors continues to grow!

Just as the Commanding General strongly supports it—People need to hear you tell them that you believe in them and want them to succeed. Tell them often that you know they are going to make it. Send them encouraging notes. Become a positive prophet of their success. Once students recognize and understand that we genuinely want to see them succeed and are committed to helping them, they will gain confidence and know they can complete that degree.

What else is significant about Mentoring?

By becoming a mentor, you become someone who empowers others. You enable others to reach the highest levels in their personal and professional development. Simply defined, empowering is giving your influence to others for the purpose of personal and organizational growth. It's sharing yourself—your influence, position, power, and opportunities—with others for the purpose of investing in their lives so that they can function at their best. It's seeing someone's potential, sharing your resources with them, and showing them that you believe in them completely.

Empowerment is a very comprehensive, dynamic process that has the potential to substantially impact an organization. The act of empowering others changes lives, and it's a win-win situation for you and the people you empower. As John C. Maxwell states in his book *Leadership 101*, "Everyone wants to feel that he counts for something and is important to someone. Invariably, people will give their love, respect, and attention to the person who fills that need."

Thank you for becoming a mentor for the 24th Infantry Division (Mechanized) and Fort Riley.

eArmyU Resources

As a mentor in the eArmyU program you may wonder about the services available to soldiers in eArmyU. A wealth of educational resources is available to the soldier who enrolls in eArmyU program.

Army Education Counselors provide the initial enrollment support to soldiers participating in the program. Soldiers can select the "laptop option which comes with a technology package including an IBM ThinkPad and carrying case.

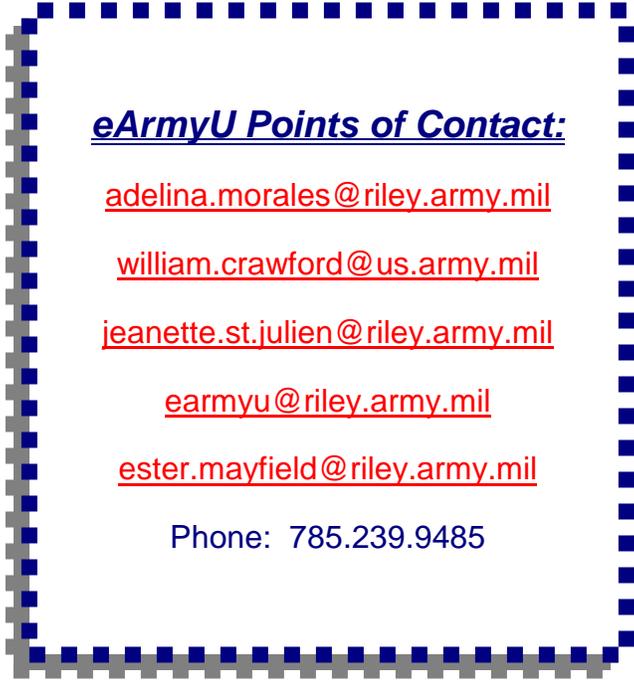
Soldiers enrolled in either the "laptop" or "no laptop" option receive access to Internet service free of cost and an email account. Once enrolled, soldiers will review the

eArmyU "Boot Camp" tutorial which provides an excellent overview of the processes for eArmyU online enrollment.

In addition to the initial services, eArmyU provides on-going support. Soldiers have access to 24/7 technology and academic support as well as 24/7 academic tutoring and mentoring. Access to a full service digital library is another major asset to the eArmyU program. The college and universities who participate in the eArmyU program also have support systems in place for eArmyU soldiers.

As you mentor eArmyU students, keep these resources in mind. Assistance for eArmyU soldiers is of course always available through Army Education Counselors and soldiers should be referred to their Army Education Center for direction and assistance.

If you are not an eArmyU mentor, consider joining this dynamic team! Go to earmyu@riley.army.mil and tell us that you would like to be a mentor.



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