BULLET BACKGROUND PAPER
ON
THE COMMUNITY COLLEGE OF THE AIR FORCE

SUMMARY

CCAF supports over 300,000 enlisted personnel in pursuit of higher education and training goals to include industry-recognized workplace credentials, 2-year degrees, 4-year degrees, and beyond. CCAF’s authority to perform these roles and functions is established in public law and reiterated throughout DoD and AF level policy. CCAF’s relatively small resource footprint is offset by approximately $500M in annual Mil TA costs avoided by CCAF’s authority to assess, determine, and award academic credit for a range of military education and training activities. The U.S. Air Force is the only service to provide such a comprehensive academic program.

MISSION

- Provide enlisted professionals pathways to degrees and credentials through military education, training, and experience.
  -- National Defense Authorization Act 2020 authorizes CCAF to provide degrees to enlisted personnel, from across DoD, who attend CCAF affiliated education and training programs.
- Core functions in support of this mission:
  -- Oversee Associates of Applied Science (AAS) degree and certificate program operations, military course evaluations for academic credit, worldwide education services/support, and AF Credentialing Opportunities On-Line (AF COOL) program.
  -- Manage worldwide affiliated school policy (111 schools), faculty qualifications (~6.5K total instructors), academic advisor training (~1500 total advisors), General Education Mobile (GEM) in support of 2-year degrees (145 partner schools); and AU Associate-to-Baccalaureate (AU-ABC) as bridge to 4-year degrees (100 partner schools).
  -- Provide traditional registrar/enrollment management functions through the processing of civilian institutional transcripts, student record updates, issuance of diplomas and transcripts, and the operation of CCAF’s official system of record (STARS), IAW AFI 33-322, Records Management and Information Governance Program and DAFI 36-2688, Community College of the Air Force.

RESOURCES IN SUPPORT OF THE CCAF MISSION

- 91 authorized/77 assigned: 3 officers/51 enlisted/18 civilians; 5 contractors
- Annual O & M budget $510K
- Annual AF COOL budget of $10.7M

AUTHORITIES, ROLES AND FUNCTIONS OF CCAF

- CCAF’s mission, roles and functions are established in Title 10, Section 9415, Community College of the Air Force, DoDI 1322.25 and Department of the Air Force policy, 36-2688, Community College of the Air Force.