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WANT MORE INFORMATION OR NEED A POD?

If you want more information about the POD Program, please contact any member of the POD Team listed below.

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If you need to request a POD, please complete the [POD Request Form](#) and send it to Mr. Frank Anderson at the email address above.

If you have a POD story you want to share, please feel free to send it to any member of the POD Team identified above.

COVID-19 Impacts

Over the past several months, the POD program has been significantly impacted by COVID-19. That impact has predominantly been in the form of closures of select Digital Training Facilities (DTFs) across the Army.

Of the 78 DTF locations available Armywide, 35 sites were closed for at least two months while most of those remaining open had lower utilization due to social distancing. However, multiple Army Commands deemed 12 DTF sites as critical assets to support training and other activities at specific CONUS and OCONUS locations during the pandemic. In the last few weeks, DTFs are beginning to open with safety precautions, including spaced seating and constant cleaning. To date, 56 of 78 DTFs are open.

DTFs have been, and continue to be, critical assets for the training and education of Soldiers across the Army. They will be even more necessary as the Army exercises social distancing in institutional classrooms, which will result in smaller class sizes for required training. DTFs will be available to support overflow from those classrooms while continuing to support Soldiers who depend on the DTFs daily.

New Ventures

With a newly renovated [SharePoint Portal](#), the POD Team decided that it was time to take a step further in spreading the word about the program. Action to initiate a website and social media presence began with recent collaborations with the ATIS STRATCOM team. The [ATIS website](#) serves to provide information on the program's purpose to "integrat[e] and synchroniz[e] existing and evolving training information system capabilities..." Those "capabilities" would include the POD program's capabilities to specifically include: Digital Training Facilities (DTFs), Mobile Digital Training Facilities (MDTFs), Deployed Digital Training Campuses (DDTCs), and ARNG Distributed Learning Classrooms (DLCs). The newly developed [POD page](#) is now live. In addition, social media sites, [Facebook](#) and [Twitter](#), will also be utilized to keep all Army constituents up to date with the program's latest news via the ACM ATIS accounts.

**Importance of DDTCs**

Like DTFs, DDTCs also play a critical role in the training and education of deployed Soldiers. They are currently in USAREUR and USARPAC and are deployed to other locations when needed. In the last year, over 3000 Soldiers were trained in DDTCs around the world.

The portability and satellite capability make DDTCs unique assets, especially for locations that do not have network capability. Many Soldiers in remote locations, such as Kosovo, used DDTCs to gain access to mandatory and self-development training important for promotions. Additionally, DDTCs provide access to VBS3 capabilities where they may not otherwise be available.

Despite their importance for deployed Soldier training, many do not know about the capability or what it provides. If you want to know more information or want to request a DDTC, please contact any of the individuals located in the far lower left column.

DID YOU KNOW?

DTF Managers

Did you know that the POD Program funds a contracted DTF manager (DTFM) to support every [DTF location](#) across the Army? DTFMs are managed by an on-site government Distributed Learning Point of Contact (DL POC) at each location. DTFMs provide day-to-day maintenance and scheduling of DTFs and assist Soldiers in using the equipment. They are responsible for provisioning CAC cards to enable computer use, helping Soldiers log onto computers to access training/education, and addressing issues concerning the equipment, software, or room.

Depending on the location, DTFMs will either operate on a 40 or 20 hour work week. Active Army DTF locations are typically open 40 hours a week, while most Reserve DTFs are open 20 hours a week, based on the availability of Reserve Soldiers and scheduled weekend Battle Assemblies. With advanced notice and in coordination with DL POCs, DTFMs can adjust their work schedules to accommodate nonstandard training hours that sometimes occur. For more details on the responsibilities of DTFMs, see the [DL POC Handbook](#) located in the POD SharePoint Portal.

