

★ DAKOTA DEFENSE ALLIANCE ★

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DDA PARTNERS WITH ARMY ROTC TO BOOST INTERNSHIP OPPORTUNITIES IN ND

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

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DDA ANNOUNCES A NEW PARTNERSHIP WITH ARMY ROTC

The DDA announced today a new partnership with Army ROTC from the University of North Dakota in Grand Forks. The goal of the partnership is to broaden visibility of the availability of highly-trained students available to companies for internship opportunities and also to provide companies with well-trained and highly valued students for the best support and most efficient work.

The Army Reserve Officers' Training Corps. is one of the best leadership training courses available that goes along with the students regular college curriculum. These students have learned from the best and most experienced military leaders on how to lead and motivate others on an individual or group basis and more importantly how to conduct missions as an Officer of the Army. Army ROTC prepares Cadets for working with civilians and enlisted personnel so they have a great balance and broad background.

The DDA is an organization that consists of over 30 state and nation-wide companies that includes major prime contractors and small to medium sized manufacturers. Our customers range from major clients like Boeing and NASA to businesses spread out across rural North Dakota. We have a wide variety of businesses that can offer great internship opportunities that will likely lead to wonderful training and experiences that gain full-time employment.

Program details are still in development but the goal is to start a trial program this summer for the top two Cadets with Army ROTC from UND. This will prepare us for a full program that will be ready by February of 2010. The intentions of this program are to help our in-state students by offering them a chance to work with local companies. This will provide our local job market with more stability and improve our economy as well as increasing our college graduation retention rates.

Kristin Hedger, Executive Director of the Dakota Defense Alliance is excited about the Army ROTC's interest in our organization and looks forward to helping North Dakota's educational arena.

"This is a wonderful opportunity for our future Army leaders to learn how very well the Army values and leadership/problem-solving skills that we teach them apply in the business world and for the defense industry to get to know what the future Army leadership will look like and to help grow and mold that leadership." Joseph Holman-Army ROTC, UND.

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