JAMES SMITH

INSTRUCTIONAL SYSTEMS SPECIALIST HOMELAND DEFENSE CIVIL SUPPORT OFFICE TRAINING SUPPORT DIVISION

Tracks and processes records for students training in Homeland Defense courses on Fort Leonard Wood.



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What made you decide to have a civilian career with the Army?

I heard about the intern program for becoming an Instructional Systems Specialist. I qualified because I taught at Drury University and Missouri State University in Springfield. I got the information and started my journey.

What are the benefits of working for the Army?

Besides the dedicated co-workers, the **benefits of insurance and retirement** in today's economy have been a much-appreciated blessing to me and my family.

What do you like most about your Army civilian career?

The people I have met and

worked with all share a **positive attitude** about training Soldiers. That brings me the most **fulfillment**. Those people have **inspired me** to do my best to assist, whether that be my current duties in training support or my past duties as an instructor evaluator and course manager.

What is your most memorable Army civilian experience?

Attending the Intermediate Course of the Civilian Education System at Fort Leavenworth, Kansas, stands out as my most memorable Army civilian experience. Just to be in interesting and informative classes with **great instructors** and fellow cohort members made the experience a positive one I'll always cherish. What advice would you give to others who might be looking at becoming an Army civilian?

Be willing to adapt and learn the Army way of teaching and training, while contributing your expertise to the process. Be open to working and learning with individuals who have a **unique set of life skills** to the job.

