

# Career Plans

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Looking for a position in executive medicine?

Look no further than your personal computer; executive skills training is now virtually everywhere. The Joint Medical Executive Skills Institute (JMESI), formerly the Virtual Military Health Institute (VMHI), and the AMEDD Executive Skills Office (ESO) can assist you in achieving your professional goals.

In 1992, the Legislative Branch of the Federal government mandated that commanders of military treatment facilities must possess certain administrative competencies before assuming their command positions. In 1996 and in 1998 that guidance was expanded to include prospective Deputy Commanders, Lead Agents, and Managed Care coordinators. The JMESI and individual Service programs are now in place to help candidates meet those requirements.

The primary effort focuses on a group of 40 executive competencies originally developed in the early nineties. The competencies represent the minimum unique skill set healthcare executives must possess, and make up the Department of Defense's professional executive skills list. In the past decade, the competencies have undergone a few minor revisions, but they remain a key element in meeting the congressional mandate. To see where you personally stand compared to the 40 competencies, access <https://ke2.army.mil/jmesp> using your AKO password. Read the opening page on the web site for an overview and check your status electronically. The Core Curriculum link on the left of the web page describes the 40 competencies and their associated behaviors. If you have problems, there are links on the page to helping you contact the AMEDD ESO for assistance.

Together the JMESI and AMEDD ESO are strategically changing the way our leaders are educated. From distance learning (DL) modules, to an online self-assessment tool, they are redefining traditional military leadership training through innovative and blended educational methods. In addition to overseeing the forty competencies, JMESI publishes a catalog of executive medical courses offered by each service and the DoD. The catalog describes available courses (including descriptions and points of contact) taught within the Military Healthcare System and identifies which of the 40 competencies each course covers. JMESI is developing a Web-Based Self-Assessment Instrument. Once complete, the instrument will give officers remote access to evaluate their own executive skill sets vis-à-vis the program's 40 executive skills competencies. The AMEDD ESO is available to assist you at any time and has DL courses available covering a range of topics. To contact them use the links on the web site above.

JMESI's web site ([www.vmhi.org](http://www.vmhi.org)) is undergoing a complete make over which is scheduled for completion in the 3<sup>rd</sup> Qtr FY03. Following the site's renovation, the JMESI

website will host a complete executive skills reference library that includes the distance learning courses, the executive self assessment tool, the MHS executive course catalog, and links to other helpful executive resources.

JMESI also hosts a resident course titled the Capstone Symposium. Capstone, a four-day course for newly appointed executive leaders, offers educational and networking opportunities within the Washington DC political arena.

JMESI and the AMEDD ESO are striving to serve military healthcare leaders throughout the globe.