

ARMY LANGUAGE TRAINING PRIOR TO DLI

Language Training in the Armed services began in 1941 when the Army and the Navy opened Japanese language schools to teach their intelligence agents. Prior to 1962, the three services managed their own language programs separately, and, although they produced many well-trained personnel, the duplication caused by multiple programs was uneconomical. There was no central agency from which the services could obtain direction or assistance in language training matters or which could represent the Department of Defense to the academic community.

Classroom instruction gives precedence to speaking and understanding a language rather than learning to read and write. From the first day of class, students are encouraged to speak only in the new language and, as their vocabulary grows they commence the written work.

To be eligible for a DLI course, an applicant must have completed high school.