



## Jennifer Buck

Teams: Youth & Education (Team Lead),  
National Guard

### Expertise Areas

- Performance Management & Strategic Planning
- DoD Resource Management: Planning, Programming, Budgeting, and Execution System (PPBES)
- Cost Analysis of Military Manpower Programs
- National Guard and Reserves Program Management
- SECDEF-Level Policy Guidance and Management for National Guard Youth Challenge and DoD STARBASE

### Professional Experience

As the Leader of the Youth & Education Team at The SPECTRUM Group, Ms. Buck brings extensive expertise in public-private partnerships around youth and education programs, with a focus on helping clients facing policy, management, compliance, administration and organizational challenges.

Ms. Buck currently serves as Project Manager for the National Guard Youth Challenge (Youth Challenge) Assistance Contract with the Office of the Secretary of Defense, leading an expert team assisting Youth Challenge sites struggling to achieve organizational goals. Her expertise involves identifying organizational management problems, proposing solutions for local execution, and developing and implementing national-level policy. Ms. Buck also leads the Curriculum Development team for DoD STARBASE, a military base-local community STEM education partnership program.

Prior to joining SPECTRUM, Ms. Buck served a 35-year federal career, including serving 14 years as the Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs (Resources), the key advisor to the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs in all financial management and resourcing matters relating to the Reserve components. This included oversight of all Guard and Reserve Military Personnel, Operations & Maintenance, Military Construction, and Procurement appropriations, totaling more than \$47 billion in FY 2009, and responsibility for the Youth Challenge and STARBASE programs. She also served as the Budget Officer for the Defense Contract Audit Agency and the Army National Guard, and previously served as Chief of the Civilian Manpower Budget Branch for the Naval Material Command. Ms. Buck also served as a civilian manpower analyst at the Naval Sea Systems Command and Joint Cruise Missile Project Office.

### Key Positions

- Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Reserve Affairs, Office of the Secretary of Defense (1994-2009)
- Department of Defense Representative, Federal Mentoring Council

### Education

- M.B.A., Auburn University
- B.A., Psychology, University of Virginia

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