

Louie R. Lopez
Director – DoD Science, Technology, Engineering and
Mathematics (STEM)



Mr. Louie Lopez is the Director of the Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM) in the Office of the Undersecretary of Defense in Research and Engineering's (OUSDR&E), Defense Laboratories and Personnel. Mr. Lopez is responsible for the management and execution of the Department of Defense (DoD) K through Graduate STEM efforts under the National Defense Education Program (NDEP). His responsibilities include the Science Mathematics and Research Transformation (SMART) scholarship, Military Child Pilot Program, Manufacturing Engineering Education Program, and STEM education and outreach initiatives under the Defense STEM Education Consortium (DSEC) cooperative agreement award in collaboration with partners from academia, industry, and other community organizations with a shared mission in STEM. He is also responsible for policy and coordination of STEM efforts across the DoD components to ensure alignment with DoD and Federal STEM Strategic plans.

Prior to April 2019, Mr. Lopez served as the chief of STEM Education and Outreach for the U.S. Army Combat Capabilities Development Command (CCDC), overseeing STEM efforts across the enterprise, leveraging eight major Army laboratory and engineering centers and its approximately 11,000 scientists and engineers, to engage and support command-wide STEM initiatives. His responsibilities included the technical and fiscal oversight of the Army Educational Outreach Program (AEOP) cooperative agreement award on behalf of the Army science and technology community and the Office of the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army for Research and Technology (DASA R&T). Mr. Lopez also managed the Army, Navy, and Air Force Junior Science & Humanities Symposium high school research competition on behalf of AEOP. In 2017, Mr. Lopez served as the Acting Chief of Human Capital and talent management for CCDC. In 2017-2018, Mr. Lopez also served as the COR on the U.S. Army Manufacturing Technology (ManTech) program support contract at CCDC.

Prior to serving in the federal government in 2011, Mr. Lopez worked as Director of pre-collegiate STEM programs in the Lyles College of Engineering at California State University, Fresno from 2006-2011, and previously served as Associate Director for University of California's Mathematics, Engineering, Science Achievement (MESA) Program at California State University, Fullerton from 1998 to 2005. From 1999-2003, Mr. Lopez taught computer science courses at California State University, Fullerton. Mr. Lopez proudly served in the United States Marine Corps.

Mr. Lopez successfully completed the OPM sponsored Aberdeen Proving Ground Senior Leadership Course as part of COHORT 8 in 2016-2017. He earned his Bachelor's degree in Mathematics from the University of California, San Diego, and Master's Degree in Educational Technology from National University in San Diego, California.