



Command Sergeant Major Donna M. Punihaole, enlisted in the Army September 1985. She attended basic training at Fort Dix, NJ. Her initial military occupational training was as a light wheel vehicle mechanic with an additional skill identifier of recovery specialist. Her early assignments include 149th Maintenance Company, 8th Maintenance Battalion, Hanau, FRG, and D Company, 187th Ordnance Battalion, Fort Jackson, SC.

She was selected to serve with the United States Army Recruiting Command, Portland Battalion in 1993, as a detailed recruiter. She was later assigned as a station commander with the battalion. In 1997, she was nominated and selected as a senior instructor/writer at the United States Army Recruiting and Retention School, Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

Upon selection to Master Sergeant, she assumed duties as a First Sergeant, New Orleans Battalion and then as a Senior Guidance Counselor, Seattle Battalion. She was later assigned as the Command Sergeant Major, Nashville Recruiting Battalion, the G3 Operations and Training Sergeant Major, Headquarters, United States Army Accessions Command, Command Sergeant Major, Accessions Support Brigade, United States Army Accessions Command, and the Command Sergeant Major, 6th Medical Recruiting Battalion, Las Vegas, Nevada. Command Sergeant Major Punihaole became the Recruiting and Retention School Command Sergeant Major on 13 August 2010.

Command Sergeant Major Punihaole is a graduate of all Army NCOES Courses, Drill Sergeant School, Master Fitness Trainer Course, Basic Recruiter Course, Station Commander Course, Guidance Counselor Course, DA and USAREC First Sergeant Course, and is a graduate of Class 53, United States Army Sergeants Major Academy. Command Sergeant Major Punihaole possesses a Master of Arts Degree in Organizational Leadership from Gonzaga University, Spokane, Washington and a Master of Arts Degree in Human Resources Development from Webster University, Saint Louis, Missouri. She also earned a Bachelor of Arts Degree in Sociology from Coker College, Hartsville, South Carolina. Her awards include the Legion of Merit, Meritorious Service Medal (7th award), the Army Commendation Medal (2nd award) and the Army Achievement Medal (2nd award).