

Sergeant Major John Askins is an Arkansas native and joined the Arkansas Army National Guard in September 2002. SGM Askins completed Infantry One Station Unit Training at FT. Benning, Georgia.

SGM Askins served as a fire team leader, rifle squad leader, weapons squad leader, heavy weapons section leader, and rifle platoon sergeant for various companies in 2-153rd IN, 39th IBCT. While stationed at Camp Atterbury, IN, he served as an OC/T platoon sergeant and 1SG over a 4-year period. SGM Askins was the Senior Staff NCO for the Deputy Commanding General-ARNG at HQ TRADOC and the ARNG SGM at the Army Quality Assurance Office at FT. Eustis, VA. He now serves as the Senior Enlisted Leader to the Deputy Commanding General-ARNG, Maneuver Center of Excellence.

SGM Askins deployed three times in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

SGM Askins' military education includes: Small Arms Master Gunner course; Warrior Leaders Course; Advanced Leaders Course; Senior Leaders Course; Master Resiliency Trainer course; Army Basic Instructor Course; Small Group Instructor Course; Tactics Certification Course; Battle Staff NCO course; Senior Enlisted JPME 1 and 2; ARNG Liaison/IET Managers Course; ARNG Force Management Course; ARNG Strategic Planning and Management Course, and the United States Sergeants Major Academy-DL, Class 48. SGM Askins has an associate degree from Vincennes University.

SGM Askins' decorations and awards include the Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with two bronze oak leaf clusters, Army Achievement Medal with three bronze oak leaf clusters, Army Good Conduct Medal with 3 bronze knots, Reserve Components Achievement Medal with bronze oak leaf cluster, Iraq Campaign Medal with two service stars, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal, the Combat Infantryman Badge, and the Pathfinder Badge. He is also a recipient of the Order of Saint Maurice.