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(This is a press release from the Montana governor's office.)

20 Distance Learning Scholarships Available for Montana Teachers

HELENA, MT -- A new round of "Governors Excellence in Education Scholarships" will be awarded this fall to Montana educators to pursue a master's degree in learning and technology from Western Governors University (WGU). All Montana teachers are eligible to apply for the 20 \$4,000 scholarships.

"We are excited to be able to offer these scholarships to teachers in Montana," said Governor Judy Martz, who serves as chair of the Western Governors Association and on the board of Western Governors University.

"I encourage all educators, administrators and teachers alike, to recognize that is truly an opportunity for education professionals to expand their expertise without traveling to a distant university to complete their degree."

Educators can apply online at www.wgu.edu/montana, where they will find details about the scholarship, course of study, and information on how to submit an application electronically. The scholarships will be awarded so that teachers may begin their course of study this fall.

"These scholarships are specifically for teachers who want to integrate technology into their teaching and who want the flexibility provided by an online degree," says Robert Mendenhall, president of WGU. "The program will help teachers incorporate technology into their instruction for improved student learning," he said.

WGU offers the only online competency-based degrees in the country. At the university's Web site, www.wgu.edu, students can find competency-based degree programs, an online catalog of quality distance-learning courses, an online library, bookstore, and access to a personal WGU mentor who will guide a student through his or her customized degree program.

WGU was founded and is supported by 19 states and governors, as well as 23 leading corporations and foundations. WGU offers associate's, bachelor's and master's degrees in three areas: IT, business and education.

