



News Brief - 5/25/06

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Scholarship Opportunities for Teachers in Utah

SALT LAKE CITY -- Utah teachers have an excellent opportunity to further their professional development through scholarships available at Western Governors University (www.wgu.edu). Utah teachers can earn a master's degree online while continuing to teach.

Western Governors University, a non-profit, fully accredited online university, is offering the scholarships to certified K-12 Utah teachers who want to pursue a Master of Education degree in Management and Innovation, Learning and Technology or Measurement and Evaluation, a Master of Arts in Mathematics Education or Science Education or a Master of Arts in English Language Learning. These scholarships provide up to a total of \$4,000.

WGU is working to help fill the need for qualified teachers in the high-need areas of math and science. Federal mandates are requiring teachers to meet higher instructional standards and these scholarships make the professional development accessible while allowing teachers to remain on the job in the classroom as they learn. In addition to studying at a time and place that is convenient for a busy working teacher, the cost of \$2,790 per six-month term at WGU can be reduced by \$800 per six-month term for up to five terms with the scholarship money. Student Penny Allison, who is working to get her Master of Arts in Mathematic Education says she needed more income to help support her three daughters who are also college students. She has a very busy life — in addition to being a full-time mother, she's an adjunct instructor at a community college and president of a church youth group. "I wanted to be in a position where I could be hired full-time as soon as an opening occurred. With all of those things to do, the scholarship has helped my meager budget go further," says Penny.

This is a competitive program and scholarships will be awarded based upon academic record, current competency and other considerations. Applications should be submitted as soon as possible. Information and applications are available at www.wgu.edu/utsmay.

About Western Governors University (WGU)

WGU is the only accredited university in the U.S. offering online competency-based degree programs. The private non-profit university was founded and is supported by 19 governors, as well as over 20 leading corporations and foundations. WGU offers bachelor's and master's degrees in business, information technology, and teacher education. More information is available at www.wgu.edu.