



Press Release: WGU and MyCAA Suit Military Spouses, 10/7/09

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Spouses of Active Military Personnel Find Flexible, Affordable Degree Programs at Western Governors University

Enhancements to DoD's Military Spouse Career Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) Make a Quality College Education More Accessible Than Ever Before

Salt Lake City — For busy adults, going back to school to earn a degree can be daunting, but for the spouses of active military personnel, the challenges are even greater—the frequent relocations and assignments in remote locations that are part of military life can make it nearly impossible to attend college or complete a degree program.

WGU's Teacher College, which allows students to earn bachelor's and master's degrees in education, including initial teacher licensure, is particularly well-suited to the needs of military spouses.

While there are many online universities offering degree programs for adults, WGU offers some important differences that make it ideal for military spouses:

- Once enrolled at WGU, students can do their studies from anywhere in the world without worrying about transferring to a new college if they relocate.
WGU coursework is competency-based—rather than getting credit for spending time in classes, either online or in person, students advance by demonstrating competence in degree subject matter by successfully completing exams, papers, and other assessments.
Learning resources and study materials are available all of the time, so students may study when it is convenient for them rather than at prescribed class times.
WGU offers degree programs in high demand fields, especially teaching and nursing, that make sense for military spouses.
Nursing programs at WGU are CCNE accredited. An autonomous arm of the American Association of Colleges of Nursing, CCNE is the foremost accrediting body for nursing schools that offer baccalaureate and graduate degrees.
WGU's tuition, which has increased only \$220/year in the past 4 years, combined with substantial financial aid, including scholarship programs, makes it far more affordable than other, for-profit online universities.

Benefits from the Department of Defense Military Spouse Advancement Accounts (MyCAA) program, which offers eligible military spouses up to \$6,000 in financial assistance for education and training, can be applied to tuition and other expenses associated with attending WGU.

