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News Release: Scholarships for Students Over 40, 2/3/10

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News Brief - 2/3/10

AARP Foundation and Western Governors University to **Enhance Scholarship Program for Students Over 40**

Online university adds more than 100 scholarships valued at up to \$5,000

Salt Lake City — Western Governors University and the AARP Foundation announced today that they have expanded the WGU Educational Assistance Program to offer an additional 114 scholarships to students over 40. The need-based program is designed to help adults over 40 complete a bachelor's or master's degree in high-demand fields, especially Education and Nursing. To date, more than 122 scholarships, with a combined total value of \$575,000, have been awarded.

Online and competency-based, WGU was created in 1997 by 19 U.S. governors with a mission to expand access to higher education. The private, non-profit university, which now has more than 17,000 students, offers accredited bachelor's and master's degree programs that are rigorous and challenging but flexible and affordable enough for adults with work and family responsibilities. Unlike many online universities, tuition at Western Governors University is roughly equivalent to that of a state college or university—undergraduate tuition starts at less than \$6,000 per year.

The AARP Foundation — WGU Educational Assistance Program provides a scholarship valued up to a maximum of \$5,000 per student, awarded at the rate of \$1,000 per six-month term for up to five terms. To be eligible for the scholarship, applicants must be at least 40 years of age, complete an application for admission to WGU, and demonstrate financial need. The program is competitive, and awards will be based on applicants' academic records, financial need, and readiness for online study at WGU. More information regarding the program and application information is available at www.wgu.edu/AARPScholarships or by calling 1-866-225-5948.

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