

WGU Tennessee, PlayCore Announce Partnership

New Agreement Gives PlayCore Employees Affordable Access to Degrees and Career Growth

NASHVILLE, Tenn. (Feb. 8, 2018) – <u>WGU Tennessee has partnered with Chattanoogabased play and recreation company PlayCore</u> to provide PlayCore employees with a tuition discount at the nonprofit, online university. Through the partnership, PlayCore employees will also be eligible to apply for special scholarships.

"We take pride in making sure that working adults in Tennessee have opportunities to affordable and flexible, quality degree programs," said Dr. Kimberly K. Estep, WGU Tennessee chancellor. "Due to tuition cost's being the top barrier for working adults who want to return to college, it is important to us to make affordability a priority at WGU Tennessee."

Under the terms of the partnership, PlayCore employees are eligible to receive a 5 percent tuition discount (for up to two years) off WGU Tennessee's flat-rate tuition of approximately \$6,500 per year for most programs.

"PlayCore is excited about the partnership and is looking forward to helping employees improve their current job performance, as well as prepare them for advancement to other positions within PlayCore and its family of brands," said Lynnette Smith, manager of Employee Services at PlayCore.

To learn more about WGU Tennessee or to apply today, visit www.tennessee.wgu.edu.

About WGU Tennessee

WGU Tennessee is an online, nonprofit, competency-based university established to expand Tennesseans' access to higher education throughout the state. Formed through a partnership between the state of Tennessee and nationally recognized Western Governors University, WGU Tennessee is open to all qualified Tennessee residents. The university offers more than 50 undergraduate and graduate degree programs in the high-demand career fields of business, K–12 teacher education, information technology, and health professions, including nursing.

Degrees are granted under the accreditation of Western Governors University, which is accredited through the Northwest Commission on Colleges and Universities (NWCCU). Teachers College programs are accredited by the National Council for Accreditation of Teacher Education (NCATE), and nursing programs are accredited by the Commission on Collegiate Nursing Education (CCNE).*

In addition to WGU Tennessee, there are six other WGU state-based, state-endorsed universities: WGU Indiana, established in June 2010; WGU Washington, established in April 2011; WGU

<u>Texas</u>, established in August 2011; <u>WGU Missouri</u>, established in February 2013; <u>WGU Nevada</u>, established in June 2015; and <u>WGU North Carolina</u>, established in October 2017.

For more information, visit the WGU Tennessee website, <u>tennessee.wgu.edu</u>, or call 855-948-8495.

About PlayCore

PlayCore is a purpose-driven company committed to building stronger communities around the world by advancing play and recreation. The company infuses scholarly learning, through its Center for Outreach, Research and Education, into its comprehensive family of brands. PlayCore combines best-in-class educational programming with the most comprehensive portfolio of play and recreation products and services to create tailored solutions that match the unique needs of each community served. To learn more about PlayCore, log on to www.playcore.com.

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