

150 degrees and the Ohio Learning Network is hotter than ever.

Job outlooks show a continuing need for individuals who know their way around a computer. Ohioans can prepare for those jobs with two new degrees available at a distance. Java Enterprise Development Certificate and Fast Track Programmer Analyst, both offered by Sinclair Community College brings the total to 150 degrees in OhioLearns! (www.ohiolearns.org)

OhioLearns! is the state's searchable catalog of degrees and more than 3,200 courses offered via e-learning from accredited Ohio's colleges and universities. Degrees and courses vary from business, health related studies, arts and sciences, and many more. It also offers easy methods to search for your desired degree or course by providing search fields for keywords, date, institution, method of delivery, and degree level. OhioLearns! provides the opportunity for students to earn degrees, certificates, or simply take courses that are flexible around their time and schedules in the closeness and comfort of their own home.

When OLN started in 1999, OhioLearns! held only 500 courses and no complete degrees. Now, only six years later, OhioLearns! offers a wide array of degrees and courses from over 65 colleges and universities in the Ohio Learning Network (OLN) consortium. OhioLearns! and e-learning are growing in popularity among institutions and students because they provides quick, easy, and up-to-date access to distance learning courses and degrees offered by colleges and universities in Ohio .

“Working adults want education that is flexible and will fit into their lives. They want content related to skills and job performance or promotion.. And they want to gain credentials. These new degrees do that,” said Kate M. Carey, executive director of the Ohio Learning Network.

Ohioans who are interested in e learning find the OhioLearns! catalog offers them a place to search for the course or degree that best meets their educational needs. Personal assistance from an OLN Regional Coordinator, and several on-line tools can help them determine what courses to take and match the courses with career opportunities.

OLN offers E 4 ME each month to Ohioans who are curious about online learning. This free course is a 5 module look at the world of e-learning. The course uses traditional back-to-school information – how to learn, costs and benefits of college degrees, career opportunities, etc -- to spark interest and enthusiasm for college courses and degrees. Visit E 4 ME today at <http://www.e4me.org>.

OLN helps Ohioans find educational programs that meet their needs, works with colleges and universities using technology to improve teaching and learning, and helps build partnerships among higher education, schools, businesses, and communities. The Ohio Learning Network is a consortium of Ohio's public and independent colleges and universities and is an initiative of the Ohio Board of Regents. On the World Wide Web: <http://www.oln.org>.