



2455 North Star Road, Suite 200  
Columbus, Ohio 43221-3468

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE  
March 27, 2006

Contact: George Steele  
(614)995.3240  
[gsteele@oln.org](mailto:gsteele@oln.org)

### **OhioLearns! and E-Learning Keep Growing**

Ohioans want e-learning opportunities and the Ohio Learning Network (OLN) and OhioLearns! ([www.ohiolearns.org](http://www.ohiolearns.org)) are happy to supply them. With the addition of six new degrees from Owens Community College that include Applied Business, Science, and Liberal Arts, OhioLearns! proudly offers 163 degrees from more than 50 institutions.

OhioLearns! is the state's searchable catalog of degrees and certificates and more than 3,200 courses offered via e-learning from accredited Ohio's colleges and universities. OhioLearns! has a wide array of courses and degrees with multiple degrees in Business Administration, Computer Science, Education, Management, Allied Health, Liberal Arts, education, and Protective Services, to name a few. It also offers easy methods to search for a desired degree or course by providing search fields for keywords, date, institution, method of delivery, and degree level.

The state's first enrollment report, "Bounded Exuberance: e-learning in Ohio" ([http://oln.org/about\\_oln/pdf/Bounded-web.pdf](http://oln.org/about_oln/pdf/Bounded-web.pdf)) emphasizes and supports the fact that Ohioans like e-learning. According to the Ohio Board of Regents data, there are 37,421 e-learners in Ohio. This number does not include enrollments at the independent colleges and universities or restricted and cohort courses. Of these 37,421 students completing e-learning courses, most are female (67%), and more than half of them were over 25 years old and full-time students (51%). All totaled, it's likely Ohio has about 45,000 or more online learners compared to the approximately 600,000 attending its public institutions.

OhioLearns! and e-learning are growing in popularity among institutions and students because they provide quick, easy, and up-to-date access to the same high quality courses and degrees offered face-to-face by colleges and universities in Ohio. Students have the opportunity through OhioLearns! to earn degrees, certificates, or simply take courses that are flexible and fit into their busy schedules, all from the comfort of their own home. In addition, personal assistance is available from an OLN Regional Coordinator and several on-line tools can help them determine what courses to take and helps match the course options with career opportunities ([http://www.oln.org/student\\_services/](http://www.oln.org/student_services/)).

For Ohioans curious about online learning, OLN offers E 4 ME each month. This free course offers students exposure to 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 and help students decide if e-learning is right for them. Enroll for E 4 ME today at (<http://www.e4meohio.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 (<http://www.olin.org>) is a consortium of Ohio's public and independent colleges and universities and is an initiative of the Ohio Board of Regents.