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Thinking Smart with SMARTHINKING

*"I just wanted to thank you for your help. I went back to school after being out 25 years and you really helped me out with my first comp. paper. Thanks, I'll be using you again."
- Northwest State Community College student.*

2,030 other students at 11 Ohio colleges and universities agree with that Northwest State student and know what a valuable tool SMARTHINKING tutoring services can be.

While many institutions have student learning labs and tutors, these resources are not always available to students 24 hours a day, 7 days a week. SMARTHINKING (www.smarthinking.com) fills that gap. It is a valuable learning tool available to students any time and anywhere that they have access to a computer. The ease and accessibility encourages students to seek help at the moment they need it.

The Ohio Learning Network (OLN) (www.oln.org) is helping make SMARTHINKING more readily available to Ohio learners through a statewide license. Institutions purchase a block of hours at reduced prices from OLN creating additional savings for their institutions. OLN and SMARTHINKING then keep track of the time each institution uses. Even better, institutions can always get a report of their account balance and purchase more time if needed. Some of the more frequent users include Northwest State Community College, University of Cincinnati, Clark State Community College, and Terra Community College.

"OLN is happy to know that our member institutions are pleased with the services provided by Smarthinking, both for their students as well as their faculty and administrators. The fact that these institutions are able to maximize their student support resources on campus provides a win win situation for everyone," said Gail Peters, Regional Coordinator for OLN.

Institutions are finding SMARTHINKING a valuable resource because it helps improve student success and retention, lowers costs, and provides a general tutoring base so that campuses can use their own tutoring resources more efficiently. SMARTHINKING

allows students and instructors to connect to a tutor 24/7 in a virtual learning environment. Students can communicate with e-instructors using a virtual whiteboard technology that allows for quick and easy drawing of scientific and mathematical notations, submit questions or essays and receive a response within a day, and set up pre-scheduled appointments.

Cherie Rix, Success Center Supervisor for Northwest State Community College, states that, “Many of our students are finding the academic support services offered through Smarthinking to be of tremendous benefit to them as they strive for academic excellence. We are pleased to be able to provide such a valuable service to our students that has been very instrumental in promoting an atmosphere of success on our college campus.”

SMARTHINKING offers assistance in a variety of subjects such as basic math, algebra, geometry, trigonometry, pre-calculus, chemistry, biology, physics, accounting, economics, statistics, ESL (English as a second language) in writing and math, Spanish, and Online Writing Lab assistance.

SMARTHINKING, based in Washington, DC, provides people, technology and training to help institutions offer their students outstanding academic support.

The Ohio Learning Network (www.olin.org), is a consortium promoting and supporting e-learning in the state of Ohio. OLN has 72 member colleges and universities and is a program of the Ohio Board of Regents. OLN helps Ohioans access higher education, helps build partnerships among higher education, schools, businesses and communities, and promotes and supports e-learning in the state of Ohio.