

ACT

Accelerated Certification for Teaching
Online Learning Program



WHEELING JESUIT UNIVERSITY

CENTER FOR PROFESSIONAL AND GRADUATE STUDIES

Accelerated Certification for Teaching (ACT) Program

ACT is an Accelerated Certification for Teaching Program. ACT provides an accelerated path to teacher certification for those transitioning into a second career, as well as those already serving in the classroom as temporary, emergency or substitute teachers who need to earn a formal teaching credential. The online ACT Program offers you the flexibility to remain in your present career or your classroom while you prepare to fully enter the teaching profession.

ACT is an online certification program designed for individuals who hold a bachelor's degree and seek to qualify for state teacher certification. ACT provides an alternative pathway into teaching for individuals who have not completed a teacher preparation curriculum but who have considerable life experiences, career achievements and academic backgrounds relevant for teaching in grades 5 through adult. WJU's Teacher Preparation Program is designed to meet the "highly qualified" requirements of the federal No Child Left Behind Act. The teacher preparation course content is nationally accredited and in good standing with the Teacher Education Accreditation Council (TEAC) and the West Virginia Department of Education.

The online ACT program is aimed at individual eligibility for a West Virginia Teaching Certificate. Through a reciprocity agreement with 30 states, a West Virginia teaching certificate may be converted to the equivalent teaching certificate in another state. If your state of interest is not West Virginia then you can learn more by visiting www.wvu.edu or by speaking with the director of the ACT Program.

SECONDARY (5TH GRADE - ADULT) CERTIFICATION CONTENT AREAS (CONCENTRATIONS) AVAILABLE ARE THE FOLLOWING:

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| + Biology | + Physics |
| + Chemistry | + Social Science/History |
| + English | + Social Science/Political Science |
| + French | + Spanish |
| + General Science | + Special Education (beginning September 2010) |
| + Mathematics | + Multi-Categorical (for those who presently hold certification in Special Education) |



A Practical Timeline To Certification

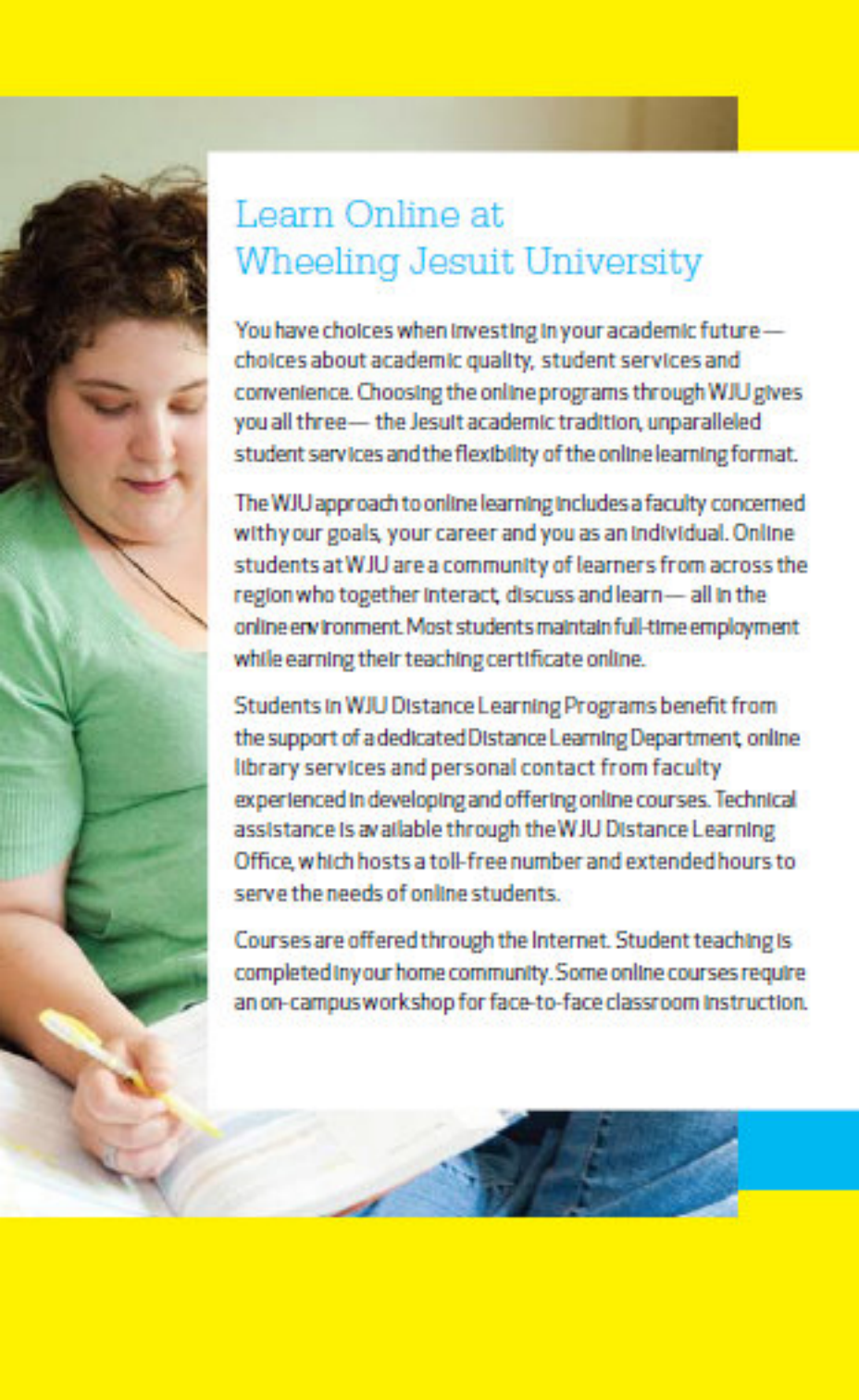
Typically, the online ACT program can be completed in as little as 18 months, including student teaching. Completion may take longer for participants who need additional coursework in their chosen content area. A personalized Academic Action Plan (AAP) will be devised just for you. Your plan will be based on analysis of your college/university transcript(s). ACT allows you to complete only the requirements you need for state certification – not an additional bachelor's degree.

Program Features

- + The ACT Program delivers courses of educator training offered each semester for five terms over an 18-month period (includes student teaching)
- + Each course is content rich and focused on meeting the learning needs of students in grades 5 to adult
- + You will be supported during your student teaching with training by a cooperating teacher and through the online community of professionals learning to be educators, just like yourself
- + Federal loans, alternative loans, military aid and payment plans are available to those who qualify

Admission Requirements

- + Must hold a bachelor's degree from an accredited college or university, preferably with a concentration in one of the secondary certification areas available in the ACT Program
- + 3.0 GPA in transferred coursework including concentration
- + Passing scores on the Praxis I/PPST exam (ACT courses may be taken while a student is working to schedule the Praxis I/PPST exam or waiting for results)



Learn Online at Wheeling Jesuit University

You have choices when investing in your academic future — choices about academic quality, student services and convenience. Choosing the online programs through WJU gives you all three — the Jesuit academic tradition, unparalleled student services and the flexibility of the online learning format.

The WJU approach to online learning includes a faculty concerned with your goals, your career and you as an individual. Online students at WJU are a community of learners from across the region who together interact, discuss and learn — all in the online environment. Most students maintain full-time employment while earning their teaching certificate online.

Students in WJU Distance Learning Programs benefit from the support of a dedicated Distance Learning Department, online library services and personal contact from faculty experienced in developing and offering online courses. Technical assistance is available through the WJU Distance Learning Office, which hosts a toll-free number and extended hours to serve the needs of online students.

Courses are offered through the Internet. Student teaching is completed in your home community. Some online courses require an on-campus workshop for face-to-face classroom instruction.

How Can I Get Started?

- + Contact the director of the ACT Program:

Main Campus

1-800-873-7665

304-243-2250

Fax: 304-243-4441

www.wju.edu

adulsted@wju.edu

Charleston Center

1-866-716-0323

304-720-7292

Fax: 304-720-7702

- + Complete the application online at www.wju.edu or submit a hard copy
- + Request official transcripts from all colleges and universities attended
- + Have transcripts sent to:
Wheeling Jesuit University
Center for Professional and Graduate Studies
316 Washington Avenue
Wheeling, WV 26003
- + Consider financial aid options carefully and promptly.
A Free Application for Federal Student Aid form (FAFSA) may be completed online at www.fafsa.edu.gov