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Trusted Information on Returning to College: College Choices for Adults

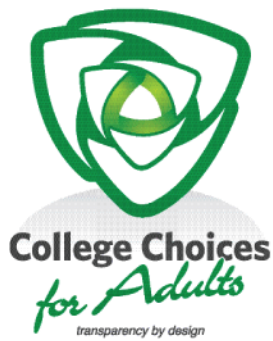
Boulder, CO – If you’ve ever Googled “online college” or “finish my degree,” you probably came up with millions of links. But how do you find information you can trust? One way: visit College Choices for Adults (www.collegechoicesforadults.org), which helps adult learners make informed choices about distance education options by providing program-level data that has been reviewed by a leading higher education nonprofit, [WCET](#) for quality assurance.

Recently, College Choices for Adults – which is powered by a national initiative, Transparency by Design, that works to further transparency and accountability in online higher education– added a new feature: a side-by-side comparison function allowing users to compare program-level data, including what they will learn in each program, how each program measures what students learn, and how recent students have performed on those measures, as well as institutional data. This function allows adult learners to match their personal and professional goals with the program that is right for them.

The site also features “The Guide,” which helps answer common adult learner questions – especially valuable for those who don’t have a support network to turn to. College Choices for Adults has also added ways for adult learners to connect through sharing their stories and asking questions on our [blog](#), [Facebook fan page](#) and [Twitter feed](#).

About Transparency by Design, WCET, and Lumina Foundation for Education

Transparency by Design (www.transparencybydesign.org), funded by a grant from Lumina Foundation for Education and annual dues from member institutions, calls for regionally accredited, adult-serving institutions which offer some or all programs at a distance or online to commit to increasing the number



of adult learners who find success in higher education by providing an unprecedented level of data to inform college choice. Visit the Transparency by Design Website for a list of participating institutions and information on joining the initiative.

WCET, the Western Interstate Commission for Higher Education Cooperative for Educational Technologies (www.wcet.wiche.edu), is a cooperative network of member institutions and organizations that provides a leading source of critical thinking and expertise on the evolving role of technology in higher education. WCET has a long-standing tradition of involvement with quality assurance, having been an integral part of the Best Practices for Electronically-offered Degree and Certificate Programs project, along with the Council of Regional Accrediting Agencies, and also a partner with the Campus Computing Survey in administering the first “Managing Online Programs” survey.

Lumina Foundation for Education (www.luminafoundation.org) is committed to enrolling and graduating more students from college — especially low-income students, students of color, first-generation students, and adult learners. The organization’s goal is to increase the percentage of Americans who hold high-quality degrees and credentials to 60 percent by 2025. Lumina pursues this goal in three ways: by identifying and supporting effective practice, through public policy advocacy, and using communications and convening power to build public will for change.