



QUALITY. AFFORDABILITY. OPPORTUNITY.

# The Ultimate Online College Guide

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**MOUNT**  **VERNON**  
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY



# Education That Fits **Your Life**



If you're balancing work and family, earning a degree isn't easy. That's why Mount Vernon Nazarene University created the Graduate and Professional Studies program for working adult students.

Online education puts personal and professional goals within reach, and online learners find the flexibility needed to complete or continue their education with financial aid support to make degrees more affordable.

Is online college right for you? Learn how online degree programs like MVNU's GPS can take your career to the next level.

## Online College Questions Answered

Will an online degree help me get ahead? Can I afford it?

Many working adults ask these questions when considering online degree programs. Here, we take a closer look at their most common questions.



### Is online college worth it?

Online college offers all of the benefits associated with traditional degree programs: improved career prospects, better income, and a more secure future. Several features make online learning worth it for adult students, including:

#### Flexibility

Online degree programs are tailored to the needs of working adults, allowing you to complete coursework when and where it's most convenient.

#### Respected Credentials

More than six million students are currently enrolled in online degree programs, which have proven to provide high-quality career preparation and trusted credentials that are respected by today's employers.

#### Career Support

Career Development Services for MVNU GPS students offers support every step of the way via in-person and online consultations with career guidance professionals who provide:

- Aptitude assessments
- Career path information
- Resume services
- Job search assistance
- Employment postings
- And more...



## How much does online college cost?

Average online degree costs break down as follows:



The numbers above reflect the national average. At MVNU, you can receive a quality education at a much more reasonable cost.

The bottom line? Online education is worth it, but you need a degree program that delivers maximum benefits at an affordable rate.

## How much does an online education cost at MVNU?

MVNU's GPS program offers more than a well-respected, award-winning education. It's also one of the most affordable online colleges in Ohio and across the U.S.

For example, the GPS Masters of Business (MBA) program costs less than \$18,000, significantly less than competing programs.


Additionally, a per-credit-hour, course-by-course structure makes costs clear and allows you to complete your degree at a pace that's right for you and your budget.

### Undergraduate Tuition

\$265 - \$398 per  
credit hour

### Graduate Tuition

\$498 per credit  
hour

 **Tuition Guarantee:** Per-credit-hour tuition rates remain the same from the time of your enrollment until graduation for manageable expenses and greater transparency.





# Paying for Online College: Grants, Scholarships, and Loans

Beyond affordable tuition rates, MVNU's GPS program offers financial aid options that reduce the cost of online college.

Find answers to common questions about how to pay for college here.

## What is Financial Aid?

Financial aid provides monetary assistance for tuition, fees, books, and other expenses. Some financial aid is linked to your ability to afford college, while other forms use different criteria.

Available options include grants, scholarships, loans, and more.



## Who qualifies for financial aid?

Too many working adults believe they are ineligible for financial aid or that it is only available for recent high school graduates studying on-campus.

This couldn't be further from the truth. All GPS students at MVNU may apply for financial aid for online classes. Enrolled students have access to Financial Aid Advisors for guidance throughout the process.

## How many credits are full-time for financial aid purposes?

Full-time graduate enrollment is 9 credit hours each semester.

## Can you get financial aid for part-time study?

Loans, grants, and scholarships may be available for those who attend part-time. Your Financial Aid Advisor can help identify opportunities for part-time students.

## Can you get financial aid for grad school?

GPS graduate students may apply for financial aid.

Graduate students may also be eligible for Graduate Assistantships, which provide teaching experience, research opportunities, and applied learning along with tuition assistance.



## How to Apply for Financial Aid for GPS Online Degree Programs at MVNU

Applying for financial aid is easier than you think. To ensure you receive the maximum financial aid available, follow this simple process.

### 1. Gather the required personal and financial information:

- Social security or alien registration number
- Federal tax information or tax returns
- Records of untaxed income
- Cash, checking, and savings account balances
- Investments (excluding the home you live in)

### 2. Fill out the FAFSA form

### 3. Include our School Code: 007085

### 4. Submit electronically or via mail-in application



## Grants: Free Money for Education

Grants are provided by the federal government and won't require repayment in most cases.

### Federal Pell Grants

What is a Pell Grant? These needs-based federal grants provide up to \$6,495 each year in money that won't need to be paid back in most cases.

Who is eligible?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Undergraduate students who haven't earned a bachelor's degree</li><li>• Students with financial need</li><li>• Students in eligible postbaccalaureate teacher certification programs</li></ul>
How does it work?	The amount you receive can vary year-to-year. Other financial aid sources will not affect the amount of your Pell Grant.
How is your financial aid eligibility determined?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Expected Family Contribution</li><li>• Total cost of attendance</li><li>• Part- or full-time student status</li><li>• Whether you attend school for a full academic year</li></ul>
Grant restrictions	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Available for no more than 12 terms/6 academic years</li><li>• You must maintain enrollment in an undergraduate program</li><li>• You must complete the FAFSA</li></ul>
Tips to get this grant	Fill out the FAFSA as accurately and completely as possible.
How to apply?	Submit the FAFSA form.



# TEACH Grant Program

To help place qualified educators in schools serving students from low-income families, the TEACH Grant Program provides eligible education students with up to \$4,000 each year.

<b>Who is eligible?</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Students enrolled in TEACH-Grant-eligible programs</li><li>• Individuals who are eligible for federal student aid</li><li>• Students with a cumulative GPA of 3.25 or higher</li><li>• Score above 75th percentile in relevant college admissions test</li><li>• Those who receive TEACH Grant counseling</li><li>• Students who have signed the <i>TEACH Agreement to Serve</i></li></ul> <p>Please Note: You must maintain a cumulative 3.25 GPA or higher to remain eligible.</p>
<b>How does it work?</b>	You will commit to teach in approved schools serving low-income students in high-need fields for at least four complete academic years within eight years after completing your course of study.
<b>How is your financial aid eligibility determined?</b>	Grants are awarded based on your enrollment status as follows: <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Full-time: \$4,000</li><li>• ¾-time: \$3,000</li><li>• ½-time: \$2,000</li><li>• Less than ½-time: \$1,000</li></ul>
<b>Grant restrictions</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Available for no more than 12 terms/6 academic years</li><li>• You must maintain enrollment in an undergraduate program or graduate program based in the U.S.</li><li>• You must complete the FAFSA annually</li></ul>
<b>Tips to get this grant</b>	Submit the FAFSA form each year, and make sure you receive the required grant counseling.
<b>How to apply?</b>	Submit the FAFSA form and complete the internal MVNU application.

## Grant FAQs

Everything you need to know about free financial aid.

### Do online students qualify for grants?

Grants for online college are available at regionally accredited schools that accept the FAFSA, like MVNU's GPS program.

The aid you receive will be based on financial need, program of study, hours of enrollment, and more.

### Who qualifies for Pell Grants?

Pell Grants are available to all students who demonstrate significant financial need and who have not completed a previous bachelor's degree or certification.

### Do you have to pay back grants for college?

In most cases, teachers will not be required to pay back grants.

However, if you fail to maintain good academic standing, do not remain enrolled at the specified number of credit hours, or do not fulfill teaching program requirements, your TEACH grant may be converted to a loan.





# Scholarships: More Funding without Repayment

MVNU offers a number of scholarships, and GPS students are eligible for many. These scholarships support many students each year. [Outside Scholarship Resources](#) are also available.

**FUNDING YOUR FUTURE**

BestValueSchools.com named MVNU the **#1 Best Value Online School in Ohio**

## MVNU scholarships open to GPS students

SCHOLARSHIP	ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS
Roland E. & Juanita B. Ferguson Endowed Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Business students</li> <li>• Students with demonstrated financial need</li> </ul>
Rev. Wesley J. & Judy A. Hawes Memorial Endowed Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Second-year and later GPS students</li> <li>• Those with demonstrated financial need</li> <li>• 2.5+ GPA</li> <li>• Major in School of Christian Ministry</li> <li>• Preference given to students 28 years or older with at least five years of secular career experience</li> </ul>
Leonard / Wade Advanced Leadership Endowed Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Graduate students</li> <li>• Members of Church of the Nazarene</li> <li>• 3.0+ GPA</li> <li>• Demonstrated financial need</li> <li>• Pastoral recommendation</li> <li>• Five or more years of service on a local church's ministerial staff</li> </ul>
McDaniel Endowed Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undergraduate students who are a member of the Marion First Church of the Nazarene</li> <li>• Marion First Church pastoral staff in any program</li> <li>• Undergraduate students who are children of McDaniel Automotive employees</li> </ul>
Joseph & Peggy Metzger Memorial Endowed Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• GPS students enrolled in MBA or MSM programs</li> <li>• 3.0+ GPA</li> <li>• Demonstrated financial need</li> <li>• At least one of two scholarships will be awarded to a minority student, veteran, or woman</li> </ul>
Raymond G. Taylor Endowed Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Undergraduate and graduate students from the NCO or EO districts who are members of the Church of the Nazarene</li> <li>• Demonstrated financial need</li> <li>• Maintain a 2.5+ GPA</li> <li>• Pastoral recommendation</li> </ul>
Paul George Memorial Scholarship	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Non-traditional undergraduate and undergraduate students</li> <li>• 2.5+ GPA</li> <li>• Demonstrated financial need</li> </ul>



## Scholarship FAQs

Answers to your scholarship questions.

### Can you get scholarships for online classes?

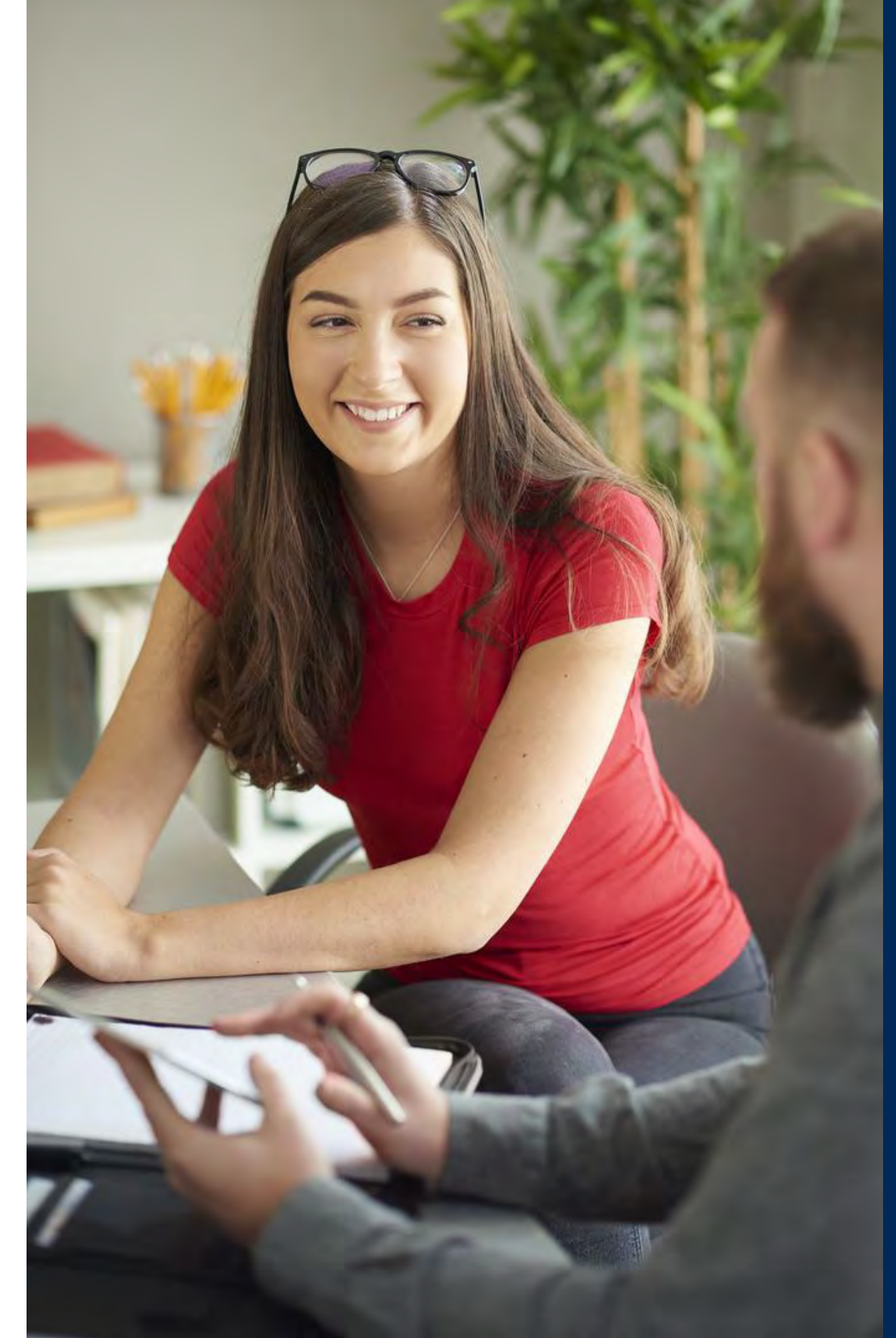
As long as the scholarship does not specify otherwise and you meet eligibility criteria, you can receive scholarships for online classes.

### How can I get scholarships for college?

For more information about how to get scholarships for college, reach out to MVNU. We can provide scholarship links for external opportunities, including organizations, businesses, churches, and more.

### Can you get scholarships for grad school?

Yes, GPS graduate students can receive scholarships from the college endowments and other sources.



## Public vs. Private Student Loans

Public and private student loans for online colleges provide a source of financial aid that must be paid back by the student.

**AFFORDABLE  
AFTER  
GRADUATION**

LendEDU.com listed MVNU as second in Ohio for lowest average student debt.

## Federal Direct Loans

Direct Subsidized Loan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Needs-based loan program</li> <li>The federal government pays interest while you are enrolled and during a six-month grace period after enrollment ends</li> <li>Repayment begins following that period</li> </ul>
Direct Unsubsidized Loan	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>You are responsible for all interest accrued during enrollment and after</li> <li>Repayment begins after six-month grace period after enrollment ends</li> </ul>

## Loan Limits in the Direct Loan Program

Academic Year	Dependent Students (except students whose parents are unable to obtain PLUS loans)	Independent Students (and dependent undergraduate students whose parents are unable to obtain PLUS loans)
First-Year Undergraduate Annual Loan Limit	\$5,500 – No more than \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$9,500 – No more than \$3,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.
Second-Year Undergraduate Annual Loan Limit	\$6,500 – No more than \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$10,500 – No more than \$4,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.

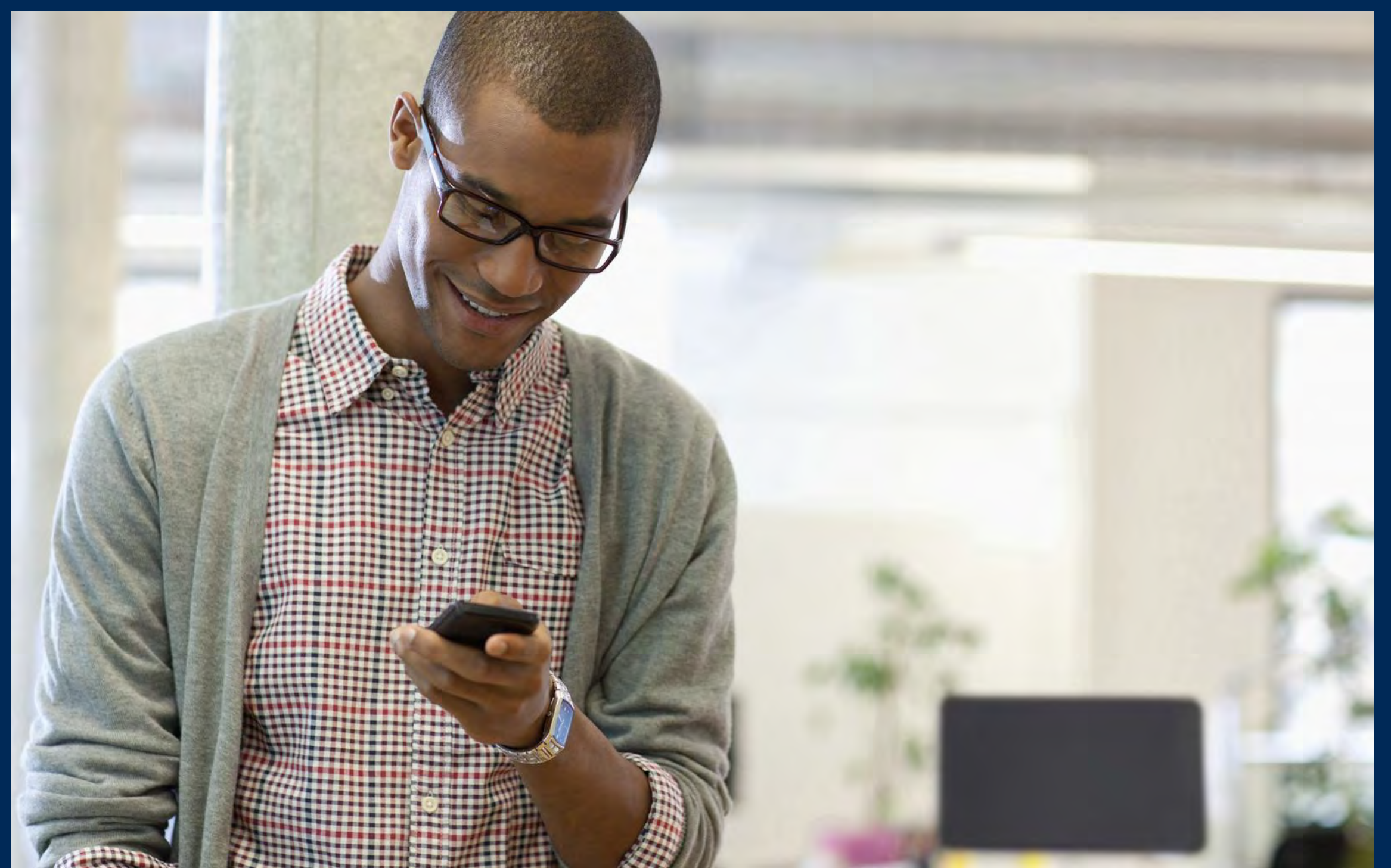
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## Loan Limits in the Direct Loan Program

*continued*

Academic Year	Dependent Students (except students whose parents are unable to obtain PLUS loans)	Independent Students (and dependent undergraduate students whose parents are unable to obtain PLUS loans)
<b>Third-Year-and-Beyond Undergraduate Annual Loan Limit</b>	\$7,500 per year – No more than \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	\$12,500 – No more than \$5,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.
<b>Graduate or Professional Student Annual Loan Limit</b>	Not applicable	\$20,500 (unsubsidized loans only)
<b>Subsidized and Unsubsidized Aggregate Loan Limit</b>	\$31,000 – No more than \$23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.	<p>\$57,500 for undergraduates – No more than \$23,000 of this amount may be in subsidized loans.</p> <p>\$138,500 for graduate or professional students – No more than \$65,500 of this amount may be in subsidized loans. The graduate aggregate limit includes all federal loans received for undergraduate study.</p>



## Private Student Loans for Online Colleges

Students who do not qualify for federally-funded loans can apply for [private student loans](#) from banks, credit unions, and other lending agencies. Interest rates and available funds may be dependent on your ability to repay.

For more information regarding private education loans (alternative loans), please see [FASTChoice](#).



## Student Loan FAQs

Get answers to questions about student loans.

### How do student loans work?

Student loans let you borrow funds for tuition, fees, and other expenses. You will be required to repay the amount you borrowed plus interest, which will accrue based on the loan you choose.

### Can you get student loans for online college?

You may receive federally funded student loans at online colleges that accept FAFSA, like MVNU's GPS program. Students may also utilize private loans.

### What's the difference in student loan debt: private vs. public?

Federal direct subsidized loans are held by the federal government, which pay the loan's interest while you are enrolled in a degree program and for a period afterward until repayment begins.

Interest accrues for private loans. You will begin accruing interest immediately, but will not need to repay the loan until enrollment ends.



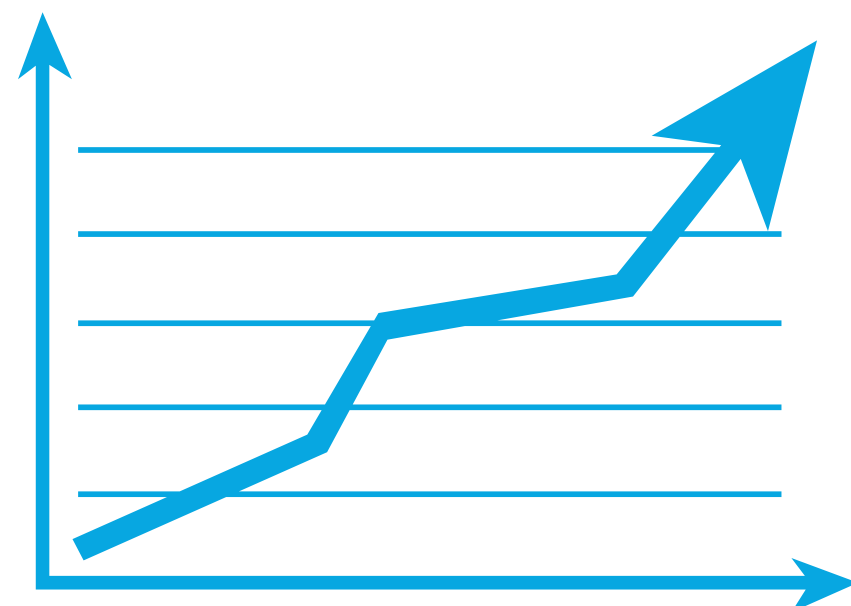
## What Can You Do with an Online Bachelor's or Master's Degree?

An online bachelor's or master's degree makes it possible to advance your career, start a new one, or explore entrepreneurship.

Getting your college degree online also helps secure a brighter future for you and your family.



More than 24% of Ohio jobs require a bachelor's degree or higher



A predicted 58% of job growth will be in occupations typically requiring a bachelor's degree or higher



Graduates with a master's degree or higher will make \$12,000 more on average each year than those with a bachelor's degree



## In-Demand Careers with Your Online Bachelor's or Master's Degree



JOB TITLE	MEDIAN WAGE	REQUIRED EDUCATION	PROJECTED GROWTH BY 2029	NEW JOBS BY 2029	MVNU PROGRAM(S)
Elementary School Teachers	\$64,470	Bachelor's Degree	4%	56,100	<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Elementary Education, Master of Arts in Education (Professional Educators License)</a>
Emergency Management Directors	\$35.93	Bachelor's Degree	4%	500	<a href="#">Bachelor of Arts in Emergency Management &amp; Homeland Security</a>
Financial Managers	\$58.23	Bachelor's Degree	15%	108,100	<a href="#">BBA in Finance, MBA in Finance</a>
General and Operations Managers	\$46.81	Bachelor's Degree	4%	115,000	<a href="#">BBA in Management, MBA in Organizational Management</a>
Human Resource Managers	\$54.62	Bachelor's Degree	6%	10,400	<a href="#">BBA in Human Resource Management, MBA in Human Resource Management</a>
Logisticians	\$34.84	Bachelor's Degree	4%	8,200	<a href="#">MBA in Logistics Management</a>
Marketing Managers	\$60.39	Bachelor's Degree	6%	18,800	<a href="#">BBA in Marketing, BBA in Digital Marketing, MBA in Marketing</a>
Nurse Practitioners	\$49.75	Master's Degree	45%	117,700	<a href="#">MSN (Nurse Educator) Degree</a>
Registered Nurses	\$31.63	Bachelor's Degree	7%	221,900	<a href="#">RN to BSN Bachelor's Program</a>
Special Education Teacher (Middle School)	\$56,670++	Bachelor's Degree	3%	14,300	<a href="#">Masters of Arts in Education (Intervention Specialist Initial License)</a>

Source: <https://www.bls.gov/ooh/>



# Why MVNU?

MOUNT VERNON  
NAZARENE UNIVERSITY

Since 1993, MVNU's GPS program has given working adults the flexibility needed to attend college while keeping up with work, family, and community. Our programs offer online learning with minimal in-seat requirements, so you can earn a degree on a schedule that works for you.

MVNU is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and a member of AdvancED and the Ohio Department of Higher Education, ensuring a quality online degree program with proven value.

A TOP ONLINE  
COLLEGE

MVNU has been ranked as one of the [Best Online Colleges in Ohio](#) by [Affordable Colleges Online](#), the second-best Online College in Ohio by [AccreditedSchoolsOnline.org](#), and [one of the top 10 Best Online Colleges in Ohio for 2019-20](#) by [OnlineColleges.com](#).

## Have questions about MVNU's GPS online degree programs?

Connect with our Admissions Department for more about online bachelor's and master's degrees and how to apply online today.