

Is Online Education Right For You?

(NAPSA)—Drawn by the allure of being able to complete coursework from virtually any place at any time, college students are flocking in record numbers to enroll in online classes. Recent studies show more than 50,000 adults sought degrees online from accredited institutions in 2000 alone. By 2004, 87 percent of all American colleges and universities are expected to offer online programs.

But online education isn't the best education option for everyone, according to Dr. Timothy H. Ricordati, vice president of adult and distance learning for DeVry University and dean of Keller Graduate School of Management. "A student's learning style and personality are good indicators of whether or not he or she will be successful as an online student," Ricordati said. "Students must evaluate their own learning styles to ensure that enrolling in online classes is the right decision."

To determine if online education is right for you, Ricordati recommends asking yourself the following questions:

1. How important to your educational success is face-to-face interaction with classmates and instructors?

2. Would you classify yourself as someone who often gets things done ahead of time or puts them off until the last minute?

3. When an instructor provides written directions for an assignment, do you prefer figuring out



the instructions yourself or do you like assistance?

4. How often do you need your instructor to remind you of due dates and assignments?

5. Considering your professional and personal schedule, do you have adequate time to commute to and from campus on a regular basis or do you need to work from home?

6. When you are asked to use e-mail, computers, or other technology, do you look forward to learning new skills?

7. Would you classify your reading skills as good, average or low?

8. If you have to go to campus to take exams or complete work, would you have difficulty getting to campus, even during the evenings and on weekends?

If your answers to these questions reveal a strong self-motivation and preference for a more independent learning environment, you may be an ideal candidate for an online class or degree program. To further evaluate your learning style, or to learn more about DeVry University's online education options, visit www.online.keller.edu or www.online.devry.edu.