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Macias, Wendy

From: [Redacted]  
Sent: Monday, June 22, 2009 10:02 AM  
To: [Redacted]  
Cc:  
Subject: Response on 34 CFR Chapter VI

Dear Department of Education,

My name is [Redacted] and I am a graduate of Ashford University's online program and I am submitting my comments in regards to the DOE's 34 CFR Chapter VI Negotiated Rulemaking. I would like to provide my experience in regards to the online program at Ashford and encourage you to take my email into consideration in your deliberations.

I am a wife, mother of three, USAF veteran, and the only person on my father's side of the family to ever graduate from college. I truly believe in Ashford University's online program and this is coming from a true skeptic about online education. I am currently living in the UK with my family as my husband is still serving his country while stationed at RAF Lakenheath. Living so far away from the US made it harder for me to find a school to attend so I was forced to consider online programs because I needed to use my Montgomery GI Bill before it was too late. When I began my search for an online program I did not know where to start or who to talk with so I went to the Education center on base and their programs were not to my preference so I went to a search engine and read up on a few other choices. I had never heard of Ashford before and the real reason the name stood out to me is because my maiden name was Ashley, anyway as I looked into the different degree programs I became more interested. When I spoke to one of their representatives I realized that I could not afford to pass up on this opportunity.

I found that they were very military friendly which is to say that not only did they offer reduced rates but they also accepted more of my military training and other schooling than many other programs which made it cost affective for me pursue my education.

Even though I was a registered student I was still a bit skeptical but as I entered and completed my first course I realized that I really had made good decision. It was a straightforward easily assessable program. I really appreciate the manner in which they handled me and all my questions and that all my courses were scheduled up to my graduation date. To my complete amazement Ashford University made a believer and a graduate out of me! I am currently enrolled in the Master's of Education at Ashford University because I believe in their commitment to their students whether past, present or future and their higher standard for higher education.

I hope that your rulemaking will allow future students to have the same access, as I had, to an Ashford University education.

Sincerely,

[Redacted Signature]