



News Release

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ASHFORD UNIVERSITY LEASES TWO BUILDINGS IN THE LYONS BUSINESS AND TECHNOLOGY PARK AS OPERATIONS CONTINUE TO EXPAND

CLINTON, IOWA (October 12, 2006) – Ashford University has signed a letter of intent for a seven-year agreement to lease two buildings at the Lyons Business and Technology Park, making the University the anchor tenant. The Lyons Business and Technology Park is an 18,360 square foot facility located at 1310 19th Avenue N.W. , in Clinton, Iowa. A second 18,360 square foot facility will also be built, bringing the total for the project to 36,720 square feet.

The University will utilize both buildings to support its expanding online operations. Ashford has increased its online enrollment from 22 in April of 2005 to 3,554 in August of 2006.

“These two buildings will allow us to grow our online operations in the City of Clinton, which will add 235 jobs to the local economy, and support our desire to grow with the city,” said Jane McAuliffe, Chancellor of Ashford University. The new facilities will be home to online enrollment advisors, academic advisors, finance services representatives and a host of other academic services positions. The facility will support up to 290 employees.

Chris Spohn, Vice President of Admissions, said, “We are extremely pleased with the quality of these new facilities. In addition to the capacity, there will be a first-class training facility within the building that will help us attract and train new hires as they join the Ashford University team.”

In addition, Ashford CEO Andrew Clark said, “We have been looking for the right facility to expand our online operations for some time now, and we’re excited to have signed an agreement to lease not one, but two buildings at the Lyons Business and Technology Park. This is great for both the Clinton community and the University.”

Dennis Lauver, President of the Clinton Area Chamber of Commerce, added, “Ashford University continues to support the Clinton region by expanding its online

operations within our community. Ashford has proven to be a great growth partner and we're excited that they've leased the facility in the Lyons Business and Technology Park for a seven-year period. A lot of thanks goes to many in the community, including the Clinton Regional Development Corporation and countless others."

Founded in 1918 as Mount St. Clare College in Clinton, Iowa, Ashford University is a coeducational institution regionally accredited by the Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association of Colleges and Schools, with programs in education, business, accounting, criminal and social justice, computer animation and graphic design, and other areas. The University offers undergraduate and graduate degrees, as well as a range of student activities and athletics, at its Clinton campus. Online degree programs are available in education, organizational management, business administration, and psychology. The University is known for its high quality yet highly affordable on-campus and online programs, with tuition fees among the lowest in the U.S. compared to other private institutions. Its tagline is: "Higher Education Made Affordable"SM. For more information, please visit www.ashford.edu.