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25 ways an in-home computer helps families save time and money...

1. Apply for Jobs
2. Take Training
3. Sell things
4. Take practice GED tests
5. Find healthcare information
6. Find insurance information
7. Get Directions
8. Locate a childcare facility
9. Pay Bills
10. Get a degree
11. E-mail family and friends
12. Shop for the best price
13. Do research for homework
14. Bank
15. Take practice TAKS tests
16. Find immigration documents
17. Create marketing materials
18. Make travel reservations
19. Get help with taxes
20. Learn the law
21. Create a resume
22. Find local resources
23. Read the news
24. Apply for benefits
25. Watch movies

...another benefit

One Business Access achiever found her husband online...
[Read more...](#)

Learn more about how the Business Access has helped Workforce:

- [TANF Clients](#)
- [WIA Adults](#)
- [WIA Youth](#)
- [Hurricane Evacuees](#)
- [Incumbent Workers](#)
- [FSE&T Clients](#)
- [Dislocated Workers](#)
- [Trade Affected Workers](#)
- [People with Disabilities](#)

Distance Learning on the Rise

According to a [Sloan Consortium survey](#), the number of students taking online learning courses is much higher than expected.

One reason, according to a [CNN](#) report on the study, is that *"the difference between traditional and online classes is blurring. It's not unusual now for traditional classes to post syllabi and homework assignments online."*

The Sloan survey noted that, *"Online students tend to be older, and often hold additional employment and family responsibilities, as compared to the more traditional student."*

Flexibility of Online Learning Helps Working Poor

"...Any movement up the socio-economic ladder is dependent on education and training.... The real obstacle for low wage workers is attaining that education and training."

This quote comes from a [report](#) put out by the Rutgers University Center for Women and Work that examined how 128 single working poor mothers utilized an in-home online learning program.

The real educational obstacles the study identified were:

- affordable childcare
- training availability (Many low wage jobs have irregular hours.)
- transportation to get to training programs

The greatest benefit participants reported was the *"flexibility that online learning offers them. They are able to do their courses around their and their children's schedules."*

This flexibility is echoed in hundreds of ways by Business Access clients. Here's one response from an Achiever, Joanne:

"I couldn't have done it if it wasn't in the home. I work from 8 to 3, come home with the kids, make dinner for the family. By the time we're done eating, it's 7:30. They take baths from 8:30 to 9, and then I chat with my husband and conk out. There's no way I would have gone over to the local college to take classes."

Participants also achieved a **14% increase in their average annual wage**. Several indicated that having a computer in the home was helpful to their children. Some were also pursuing additional education and training opportunities.

Brazos Valley Youth Describe Benefits

A group of youth from the Brazos Valley region in Texas received the Business Access in-home learning program on a new laptop. Members of the community describe how the flexibility of having their own computer has benefited them:

“...When I have to type something, I don’t have to stay after school, I can just go home, do it and turn it in quicker, ‘cause the library doesn’t stay open long enough after school.”

— **Demestrius**

“The Internet is a major advantage. When I have an assignment that I have to look up a lot of items, work, and other things like that, I don’t have to rush and do it. I can just go home, take my time, and do it right at my own pace.”

— **Demestrius**

“It has helped me catch up on work that I couldn’t finish at school. It has given me the opportunity to have an e-mail.”

— **Detranique**

“...On some of my school work, like English, I look up my vocabulary words on the dictionary on task launcher.”

— **Cora**

“On the nights that I play sports, I can do my work on the bus.”

— **William**

“...by going to sites like TAKS, SAT and ACT...to take practice tests on. ...and by helping me find out a lot of college information.”

— **Steven**

“...with finding jobs.”

— **Henry**

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