



NEWS RELEASE

Recent Graduates of American Military University and American Public University to Ring NASDAQ Closing Bell

2010-05-25

Celebration honors the tremendous accomplishments of the Class of 2010, as well as the successes of more than 10,000 alumni worldwide

CHARLESTOWN, W.Va., May 25, 2010 (BUSINESS WIRE) --American Public Education, Inc. (NASDAQ:APEI), parent company of online learning provider American Public University System (APUS), which operates through American Military University(AMU) and American Public University(APU) - announced that several recent graduates will ring the NASDAQ Stock Market closing bell on May 26, 2010.

Nearly 4,000 new AMU and APU graduates were recognized at a recent commencement ceremony held at DAR Constitution Hall in Washington, D.C. Several members of the 2010 graduating class will be present at the NASDAQ MarketSite in Times Square to ring the closing bell on behalf of more than 10,000 AMU and APU alumni worldwide. Attending the closing bell ceremony are recent undergraduate and graduate alumni from the School of Business and the School of Management.

A live webcast of the NASDAQ closing bell ceremony will be available from 3:50 p.m. to 4:05 p.m EST through the following link:

<http://www.nasdaq.com/about/marketsitetowervideo.aspx>

About American Public Education, Inc.

American Public Education, Inc. (NASDAQ: APEI) is an online provider of higher education focused primarily on serving the military and public service communities. [American Public University System](#) (APUS), wholly owned by APEI, comprises two universities - [American Military University](#) (AMU) and [American Public University](#) (APU). Regionally and nationally accredited, APUS serves more than 70,000 part-time students who live and work in all 50 states and in more than 100 countries; and offers more

than 100 online certificate and degree programs in fields ranging from homeland security, military studies, intelligence, and criminal justice to technology, business administration, public health, and liberal arts.

Forward Looking Statements

Statements made in this press release regarding American Public Education, or its subsidiaries, that are not historical facts are forward-looking statements based on current expectations, assumptions, estimates and projections about American Public Education and the industry. These forward-looking statements are subject to risks and uncertainties that could cause actual future events or results to differ materially from such statements. Forward-looking statements can be identified by words such as "anticipate", "believe", "could", "estimate", "expect", "intend", "may", "should", "will" and "would". These forward-looking statements include, without limitation, statements regarding expected growth. Actual results could differ materially from those expressed or implied by these forward-looking statements as a result of various factors, including the various risks described in the "Risk Factors" section and elsewhere in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2009 as filed with the SEC. The Company undertakes no obligation to update publicly any forward-looking statements for any reason, even if new information becomes available or other events occur in the future.

SOURCE: American Public Education, Inc.

American Public Education, Inc.

Harry T. Wilkins, CPA

Executive Vice President and Chief Financial Officer

304-724-3722

or

Christopher L. Symanoskie

Associate Vice President, Corporate Communications

703-334-3880

or

Brian Muys

Director, Public Relations

703-334-3225