



## About WGU

### News Brief - 6/10/08

#### Western Governors University Offers New Online Degree in Health Informatics

*Scholarship is also Offered for Qualified Applicants*

SALT LAKE CITY -- The world of healthcare information is growing and changing rapidly. Across the nation, healthcare systems and medical facilities continue to improve information systems according to the industry's newest high-tech standards and best practices.

Western Governors University now offers a [Bachelor of Science in Health Informatics](#). This online degree combines healthcare with information technology, giving a graduate the knowledge and skills needed to design, develop, and operate health information systems.

The [online health informatics degree](#) program's core components provide a rigorous knowledge base in IT fundamentals, IT management and healthcare. Two industry-recognized IT certifications are included as part of this degree program at no extra cost. They are CompTIA A+ IT Technician and CIW v5 Database Design Specialist.

This online degree is designed for those who may already be in the healthcare profession seeking to develop health informatics and technology skills or for those who are already in information technology and who are seeking knowledge of the healthcare field. This program was created to bridge the gap between healthcare and information technology by building competencies in both areas.

Students who already have knowledge or associate's degrees in either area may be able to accelerate their progress and can possibly complete their degree in two to three years. Expected time to completion for students with little or no college experience is four to five years.

Tuition is very affordable at \$2,790 per 6-month term or just \$5,580 per year. (Tuition will become \$2,890 effective 9/1/2008.) This is less than half of what other reputable online universities typically charge. A scholarship of \$2,500, applicable at \$500 per term for up to five terms, is available to qualified applicants. Enrollments are open continuously and new cohorts begin each month.

For more information, go to [www.wgu.edu](http://www.wgu.edu) or call 1-888-225-5948.

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**Enrollment Contact:**

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- Accreditation
- Financial Aid
- Is online study for you?
- Student Success and Performance Data
- WGU Student Experience
- See videos of past graduation ceremonies 

#### "Competency-based..."

"I like the idea of a competency-based program. In some areas I already had expertise and skills so I could take an independent study class and build the portfolio and take the exams. In other areas I needed more instruction."

—Gretchen Burr, WGU graduate, high school teacher

#### "I am an expert..."

"Western Governors has raised the bar for online courses. Instead of graduating from their courses and saying, "I have passed all of the requirements," they want their students to say, "I graduated from WGU and I am an expert in the field of..."

—Jeffrey Cravy, WGU graduate student

#### "Competency-based..."

"Google has pioneered the idea of access to information. The reason Google thinks WGU is such a good idea is because WGU has pioneered the concept of competency-based education whenever you want it."

—Eric Schmidt, CEO of Google Inc.

[more testimonials >](#)

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