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## WGU Named One of 50 Most Innovative Companies



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### News Brief - 2/12/13

#### WGU Makes *Fast Company's* 2013 Ranking of World's 50 Most Innovative Companies

Leading business-media publication notes [online university's affordable, high-quality, competency-based approach to education](#)

[Read more about WGU in Fast Company](#)

SALT LAKE CITY — Online, nonprofit university Western Governors University, [www.wgu.edu](http://www.wgu.edu), was honored this week in *Fast Company's* annual **Most Innovative Companies** issue, ranking among leading businesses including Apple, Amazon, Google, and Target along with such rising newcomers as Square, Fab, and Tumblr.

The Most Innovative Companies is *Fast Company's* most significant, high-profile editorial effort of the year. The editorial team spends months gathering and sifting data to identify those enterprises that exemplify the best in business from across the economy and around the world. The end result is a package that dares to be different, emphasizing not just revenue growth and profit margins but also progressive business models and an ethos of creativity.

In [ranking WGU](#), *Fast Company* notes that WGU leads the nation in [master's degrees in math education](#) and offers high-quality, accredited, affordable bachelor's and master's programs in teaching, health professions (including nursing), IT, and business. It highlights the fact that WGU's programs are developed with input from leading employers throughout the industry. And it emphasizes the ways WGU uses innovative technologies to improve learning while keeping tuition low.

"And while public university tuition was rising by about 5% a year, WGU's has held steady at \$6,000 since 2008," the *Fast Company* article reads.

*Fast Company's* **Most Innovative Companies** issue (March 2013) is on newsstands beginning February 19 and available online at [www.fastcompany.com/MIC](http://www.fastcompany.com/MIC) as well as in app form via iTunes.

WGU was founded by 19 U.S. governors in 1997 to provide a new, technology-driven way for working adults to have access to a quality higher education. Today, its currently enrolled student body has grown to nearly 40,000, and in January 2013 the university awarded its 20,000th degree. WGU is especially designed for busy working adults who need a bachelor's or master's degree to advance their careers. The average age of WGU's students is 37, and 68% of the student body works full time.

#### About Fast Company

*Fast Company* is the world's leading progressive business-media brand, with a unique editorial focus on innovation in technology, ethnomics (ethical economics), leadership, and design. In print and through digital and social channels, as well as live events, *Fast Company* reports on and addresses the most progressive business leaders. Editor Robert Safian was named *AdWeek's* Editor of the Year in 2009. Under the leadership of publisher Christine Osekoski, *Fast Company* made *AdWeek's* Hot List for three consecutive years, and *FastCompany.com* executive editor Noah Robischon has tripled traffic and revenue. *Fast Company* is owned by Joe Mansueto, founder, chairman, and CEO of Morningstar, a leading provider of independent investment research.

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### NBC News Reports on WGU



"The dreams of 19 governors have become [WGU Grad Angie Gonzalez's] dream fulfilled."

—Tom Costello  
NBC Nightly News with Brian Williams

[Watch the video](#) »

### Featured News

Find out why *Fast Company* calls WGU one of the world's 50 most-innovative companies, CNN says we're "a school without boundaries," and major news outlets from NPR to Bloomberg BusinessWeek are touting WGU's "potential to transform the higher education industry."

[Read about WGU in the news](#) »

### In the News

"While such programs [like Western Governors University] are now the exception, I want them to be the norm."

—US Secretary of Education Arne Duncan

[Read the article](#) »

### Take the Quiz



Is WGU a Good Fit For You?

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## WGU Resources

- Employment at WGU
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## Degrees & Programs

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- Graduate Programs for Licensed Teachers

### COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

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- Business Master's Degrees

### WGU State Institutions

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- WGU Missouri
- WGU Tennessee

### COLLEGE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

- IT Bachelor's Degrees
- IT Master's Degrees

### COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Healthcare Bachelor's Degrees
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