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WGU Announces Agreement with Nation's 5th Largest Catholic Health Care System



Contact for media inquiries

Joan Mitchell
VP of Public Relations
801.428.5463 or
jmitchell@wgu.edu

WGU RSS Feed

More Information: 866-225-5948

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News Brief - 9/10/14

WGU Announces Agreement with Nation's 5th Largest Catholic Health Care System

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Nonprofit, online university will offer discounted tuition to employees of Mercy

SALT LAKE CITY — Western Governors University (WGU) and Mercy have entered into an agreement that will offer Mercy's 40,000 employees more access to high-quality, affordable bachelor's and master's degrees. Mercy, a St. Louis-based health care provider, currently operates more than 700 locations in four states. Under the terms of the agreement, Mercy employees will receive a five percent discount (for up to two years) to pursue a bachelor's or master's degree at WGU. Employees are also eligible to apply for exclusive scholarships, valued at up to \$2,500.

"The agreement with WGU provides our co-workers additional access to quality degree programs that accommodate their busy lives," said Cynthia Mercer, Mercy chief administrative officer and senior vice president. "A talented and highly-qualified workforce enables Mercy to provide excellent care to all of those entrusted to our care."

Now with more than 49,000 students living in all 50 states, WGU has more than 11,000 students enrolled in its College of Health Professions, including its popular RN to BSN program. Designed to meet the needs of working adults, WGU's competency-based learning model allows students to study and learn on their own schedules and at their own pace. Rather than spending time in classes with set times, students can move quickly through material they already know so they can focus on what they still need to learn. As a result, many students are able to accelerate their time to degree completion—the average time to bachelor's degree at WGU is less than three years.

Under the terms of the agreement, Mercy employees can receive a five percent discount on tuition for six-month terms (up to four terms). The discount will apply to any of WGU's degree programs in information technology, health care, education and business. Tuition is charged at a flat rate of \$3,000 per six-month term for most programs, and terms can begin on the first day of any month. Scholarship and federal financial aid are also available to qualified students. For more information on WGU, including admissions requirements, visit www.wgu.edu/mercy.

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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](#) »

Why We Are Different

WGU has an innovative learning model for helping working adults earn bachelor's and master's degrees. Learn more about how it can help you.

[Watch the video](#) »

Take the Quiz



Is WGU a Good Fit For You?

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- Admissions
- Tuition and Financial Aid
- About WGU
- Academic Experience

WGU Resources

- Employment at WGU
- Newsroom
- Student Portal

Degrees & Programs

TEACHERS COLLEGE

- Teacher Licensure Programs
- Graduate Programs for Licensed Teachers

COLLEGE OF BUSINESS

- Business Bachelor's Degrees
- Business Master's Degrees

WGU State Institutions

- WGU Indiana
- WGU Missouri
- WGU Tennessee

COLLEGE OF INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY

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

COLLEGE OF HEALTH PROFESSIONS

- Healthcare Bachelor's Degrees
- Healthcare Master's Degrees

- WGU Texas
- WGU Washington