



SPRING VIRTUAL COMMENCEMEN

MAY 16, 2026



OUR MISSION

To change lives for the better by creating pathways to opportunity.

OUR PROMISE

We provide strong returns on students' educational investments through a deep connection to workforce needs, respected and relevant credentials, eliminating unnecessary costs, and generous financial assistance and transfer policies.

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT



Dear graduates,

On behalf of all of us at WGU, I congratulate you and welcome you to our commencement. We recognize and respect the hard work and sacrifices you have made to complete your degree, and today is your day to celebrate this important milestone in your life.

We share your excitement and pride in this achievement—one that has the potential to make a real difference for you, your family, and even future generations. As you join the ranks of the more than 435,000 graduates and counting, we hope you will stay in touch through the Alumni Association.

Again, thank you for joining us today. We are so grateful for the opportunity to share this day with you and your loved ones. Congratulations!

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Scott D. Pulsipher". The signature is fluid and cursive, with a long horizontal stroke at the end.

*Scott D. Pulsipher, President
Western Governors University*

GRADUATE SPEAKER



Sydney Fields

M.S. Educational Leadership

Sydney Fields is a proud wife, mother, and theatre director with a deep passion for fine arts and student creativity. She earned her bachelor's degree in interdisciplinary studies education from WGU and returned to proudly graduate again with her master's degree in educational leadership. Sydney is now taking her next steps toward becoming a principal and ultimately a fine arts director. She believes that the sky's the limit and that life is too short not to pursue your dreams!

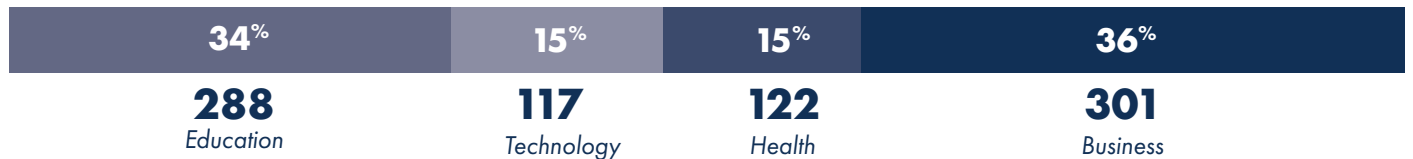
GRADUATING CLASS PROFILE



828

Total Number of Graduates

Degree distribution by college:



Degree type:



25

Average months to
graduate

25%

Scholarship Recipients

48

Number of states
represented
(including U.S. territories)

2026 SPRING VIRTUAL COMMENCEMENT

OPENING ANNOUNCEMENT

Dr. Debbie Fowler

Senior Vice President, Academic Delivery

GRADUATE SPEAKER

Sydney Fields, Azle, TX

M.S. Educational Leadership

CONFERRAL OF DEGREES

Dr. Courtney Hills McBeth

Chief Academic Officer & Provost

Leavitt School of Health

School of Business

School of Education

School of Technology

CLOSING REMARKS

Dr. Debbie Fowler

Senior Vice President, Academic Delivery

MEMBER GOVERNORS

The Honorable Michael O. Leavitt, Chairman Emeritus

Governor, Utah 1993–2003

Alaska

*The Honorable
Michael J. Dunleavy*

Indiana

*The Honorable
Frank O'Bannon*

Oregon

*The Honorable
Tina Kotek*

Arizona

*The Honorable
Katie Hobbs*

Montana

*The Honorable
Greg Gianforte*

South Dakota

*The Honorable
Larry Rhoden*

California

*The Honorable
Gavin Newsom*

Nebraska

*The Honorable
Jim Pillen*

Texas

*The Honorable
Greg Abbott*

Colorado

*The Honorable
Jared Polis*

Nevada

*The Honorable
Joe Lombardo*

Utah

*The Honorable
Spencer Cox*

Guam

*The Honorable
Lou Leon Guerrero*

New Mexico

*The Honorable
Michelle Lujan Grisham*

Washington

*The Honorable
Bob Ferguson*

Hawaii

*The Honorable
Josh Green*

North Dakota

*The Honorable
Kelly Armstrong*

Wyoming

*The Honorable
Mark Gordon*

Idaho

*The Honorable
Brad Little*

Oklahoma

*The Honorable
Kevin Stitt*

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Joseph B. Fuller, Chair

*Professor of Management Practice and
Co-Head of the Managing the Future of Work Project at Harvard Business School*

April Chou

*Managing Director
Jasper Ridge Partners*

Lenny Mendonca

*Former Chief Economic and Business Advisor
State of California*

Cole Clark

*Managing Director, Higher Education
Deloitte*

Talia Milgrom-Elcott

*Founder & Executive Director
Beyond100K & Starfish Institute*

The Honorable Spencer Cox

Governor, State of Utah

Laxman Narasimhan

*Board Member
Verizon, The Brookings Institution, Just Capital*

Dwana Franklin-Davis

CEO, Reboot Representation

Eloy Oakley

CEO, College Futures Foundation

Dr. Harold Lee Martin, Sr.

*Chancellor Emeritus
North Carolina Agricultural and Technical
State University*

The Honorable Jared Polis

Governor, State of Colorado

Denis McDonough

*Principal
Clarion Strategies
Scholar-in-Residence
St. John's University*

Scott D. Pulsipher

President, Western Governors University

Dr. Ruth Watkins

*President, Postsecondary Education
Strada Education Foundation*

EMERITUS TRUSTEES

The Honorable Jim Geringer

*Director, Policy & Public Sector, ESRI
Former Governor, State of Wyoming
(1995–2003)*

David Simmons

Chairman & CEO, Simmons Media Group

Dr. Samuel H. Smith

*President Emeritus,
Washington State University*



CONGRATULATIONS, NIGHT OWLS! YOU DID IT!

*Welcome to our growing alumni network,
now more than 435,000 strong!*

*Stay connected, network with colleagues, and learn
about the many resources and benefits available to you:*

wgu.edu/alumni

GET SOCIAL

Share the excitement!

Use #WGUgrad to tag your commencement posts.

