



## Gallup | WGU Economic Impact Study

### 25 Years of Impact at Scale

In its first 25 years, WGU has pioneered a flexible, student-centered approach to higher education that has enabled hundreds of thousands of individuals to earn bachelor's and master's degrees they may otherwise not have been able to achieve.

With its focus on high-quality, competency-based curriculum directly relevant to in-demand jobs, WGU provides its graduates with outstanding postgraduation outcomes while keeping tuition and fees remarkably low by industry standards. **SCALE**, **QUALITY**, and **VALUE** have made WGU one of the most impactful institutions of learning in its relatively short history.

# \$261 BILLION

lifetime income increase for grads

Gallup found that WGU's nearly 300,000 graduates from 2000–2022 will earn \$463 billion over the course of their postgraduation lives, \$261 billion more than they would have without their degrees.

# \$826,000

average increase in lifetime earnings

WGU graduates earning their bachelor's degrees at age 38—the mean age of graduation at WGU—earn, on average, \$826,000 more in their lifetimes than they would have without coming to WGU. For master's degree graduates, that income premium is more than \$1 million.

# \$1.03 BILLION

tuition dollars saved, 2004–2020

In the 16-year window for which comparison data is available, WGU has saved its alumni more than \$1 billion in tuition, freeing that money to go to other parts of the economy and giving graduates and their families a higher quality of life.



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