



**HUMAN RESOURCES DEPARTMENT**  
FORT BEND COUNTY, TEXAS

Kent M. Edwards, PHR  
Director of Human Resources

**MEMORANDUM**

**Date:** February 24, 2014

**To:** County Judge Hebert  
Commissioners Morrison, Prestage, Meyers, Patterson

**From:** Kent Edwards  
Human Resources Director

**Subject:** HR Agenda Item for March 4, 2014 Commissioner's Court

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***Summary:***

Approve education agreement between Fort Bend County and Western Governors University-Texas (WGU) which extends a tuition reduction to employees of Fort Bend County that enroll and are approved to attend courses at WGU. There is no cost to Fort Bend County.

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***Explanation:***

Fort Bend County currently has an agreement with two other universities that allow employees to further their education at a reduced rate. This agreement will expand employees' opportunities for continuing education at a reduced rate. The agreement has been reviewed and approved by the County Attorney's office.

Please contact me if you have any questions.



## **Memorandum of Understanding Fort Bend County and WGU Texas Partnership Agreement**

This document sets forth the agreement between Western Governors University-Texas ("WGU Texas"), a Texas non-profit higher education institution and the Fort Bend County pursuant to which WGU Texas has agreed to provide certain benefits for specific baccalaureate and master's degree programs to employees of Fort Bend County in exchange for certain promotional efforts by Fort Bend County.

WGU Texas will do the following for Fort Bend County employees who enroll at WGU Texas:

1. Provide a 5% tuition discount for up to four (4) terms;
2. Promote this opportunity on the WGU Texas website, in print materials and through presentations at Fort Bend County events, as agreed to by the parties;
3. Fort Bend County employees will be encouraged to apply for scholarships offered through the WGU Institutional Partners Scholarship program. Scholarships are valued at up to \$2,000.00. Recipients will receive a \$500.00 tuition credit each term, renewable for up to four terms based on satisfactory academic performance.

In exchange for the benefits set forth above, Fort Bend County will:

1. Notify employees of this education benefit program through standard internal communication channels;
2. Refer Fort Bend County employees to the WGU Texas Landing Page link which will be displayed on Fort Bend County's intranet;
3. Include WGU Texas in corporate events and conferences, as appropriate;
4. Approve WGU Texas degree programs for coverage under applicable corporate tuition assistance programs.

WGU Texas shall retain sole discretion in approving Fort Bend County employee applications for admission to WGU Texas.

This agreement may be modified only by mutual written consent, and may be terminated at will, by either party upon 30 days advance written notice. Any student participating in the WGU Texas – Fort Bend County educational benefit program already admitted to WGU Texas under this agreement will have three years to complete the program notwithstanding termination of this agreement so long as the student remains in good academic standing and is making measurable progress towards graduation.

If you are in agreement with the foregoing, please sign this letter agreement and return a fully executed copy to Wendi Prater at the address below.

Sincerely,



**Ray Martinez III, J.D.**  
**Chancellor**  
**WGU Texas**

3/4/14

**Date**



**Robert E. Hebert**  
**County Judge**  
**Fort Bend County**

3/4/14

**Date**

WGU Texas contact information:

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