



GOLDEN GATE  
UNIVERSITY



GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY  
**2025 PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH**

# PRESIDENTIAL SEARCH OVERVIEW

The Golden Gate University Board of Trustees has begun the search for its eighth President and invites nominations and applications from persons who will provide exceptional and distinguished leadership. Golden Gate University (GGU) has been an independent, private, non-profit institution of higher learning for over 120 years and is the fourth oldest institution of its kind in California.

Golden Gate University offers graduate programs in business, law, taxation, accounting, technology and related fields—designed to equip working professionals with real-world knowledge and skills. Its undergraduate programs serve primarily adult learners who are returning to complete their degrees, often after time in the workforce. Across all programs, GGU emphasizes flexibility, professional relevance and a commitment to ethical leadership in a diverse learning community.

Located in the heart of the Bay Area, near the center of downtown San Francisco, the campus has San Francisco's legal and financial districts on one side and the growing "South of Market" corporate corridor on the other.

With the city as an extended campus, San Francisco's incredible diversity and rich blend of cultures from around the world prepare students for today's global market. The campus is surrounded by easy access to public transportation, giving students multiple commuting options and access to explore this exciting city and its beautiful surrounding region.

The Bay Area's nine counties encompass more than 7,100 square miles of major cities, rugged coastline, bay shoreline, forests, mountains and open space, including a 76,500 acre national recreation area — a dramatic setting to live, work and learn.

## GGU MISSION

Golden Gate University prepares individuals to lead and serve by providing high quality, practice based educational programs as a nonprofit institution in an innovative and challenging learning environment that embraces professional ethics and diversity.



# GGU FACTS



**FOUNDED: 1901**

**PRIVATE, NONPROFIT**

**5,475** 

**TOTAL ENROLLMENT, AY 24 - 25**

10% UNDERGRADUATE | 88% GRADUATE | 2% LAW



**436**

**International Students at GGU**

AY 24 - 25

**2,976** 

**GGU Worldwide Students**

(International Online)



**27** **FULL-TIME FACULTY (2025)**



**330**

**ADJUNCT INSTRUCTORS (2025)**



**TOTAL STAFF**

**211**

(2025)



**ENDOWMENT:**

**\$49,507,897**

SOURCE: FY 23 - 24 990



**OPERATING BUDGET:**

**\$55,647,378**

SOURCE: FY 23 - 24 990



**TUITION & FEES:**

**\$39,607,251**

SOURCE: FY 23 - 24 990



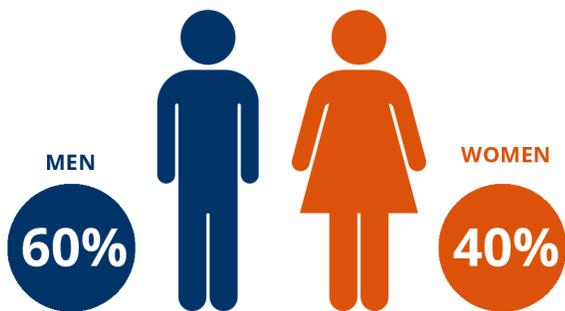
**ACCREDITATION: WSCUC**

**FOR MORE INFORMATION, PLEASE VISIT: [GGU.EDU](http://GGU.EDU)**

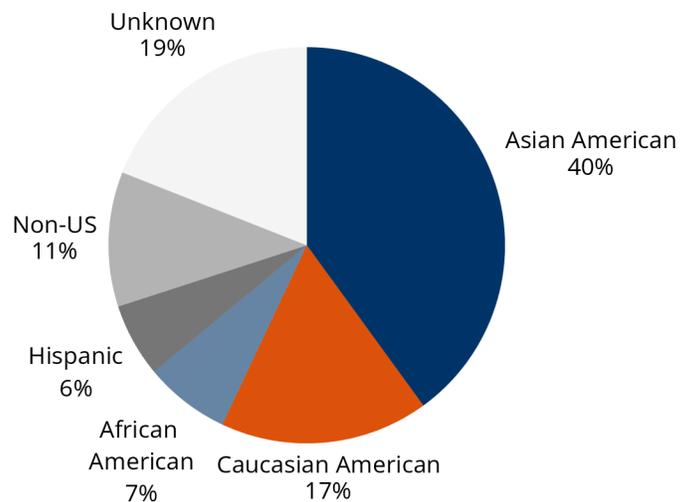
# GGU STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS

AY 23-24

## GENDER



## RACE

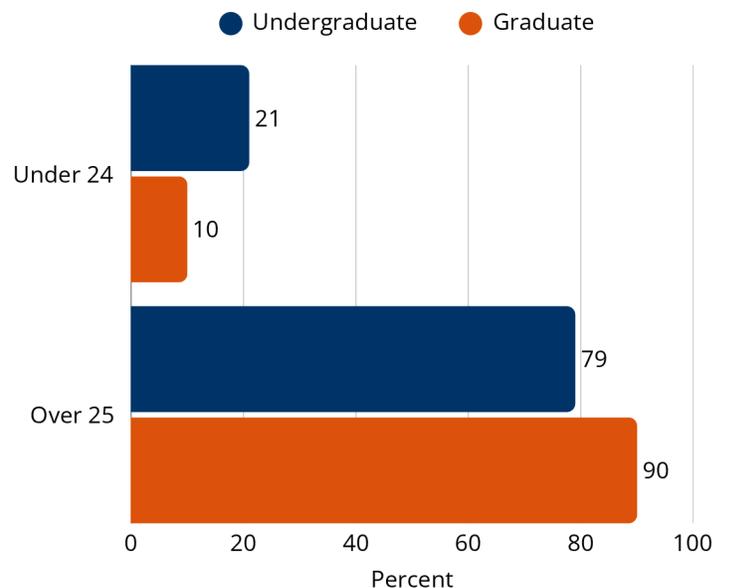


## VETERAN STATUS



**14% VETERAN**  
86% NON-VETERAN

## AGE



## FINANCIAL AID



**22% PELL GRANTS**  
**18% FEDERAL LOANS**

# GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY'S SIX SCHOOLS

## **SCHOOL OF LAW**

Through a curriculum that blends practical skills training with legal theory and offers SJD and LLM degrees and a Master of Law Studies (MLS) degree. Programs are designed to prepare students to be critical thinkers, problem solvers, and leaders. GGU Law will continue to offer degrees at the graduate and undergraduate levels, including the SJD, LLMS in Taxation and Estate Planning and the Master of Law Studies.

## **SCHOOL OF ACCOUNTING**

Committed to being at the forefront of the nation's accounting field, the School of Accounting's goals are to provide a relevant professional educational experience, job placement, internship opportunities and to ensure that instruction remains leading edge.

## **AGENO SCHOOL OF BUSINESS**

The business school's mission is to prepare students for managerial and professional careers in a broad range of business fields through innovative programs that combine theory and practical experience. Its dedicated faculty are both academically and professionally-qualified working professionals. Students graduate with the knowledge, skills and well-earned confidence needed to succeed in today's evolving business environment.

## **SCHOOL OF UNDERGRADUATE STUDIES**

GGU's undergraduate business degrees are designed to assist the student with previous college credit to complete their bachelor's degree. The educational model focuses on the best blend of professional practice and theory. In addition to the business core, the bachelor's degree programs include a comprehensive general education program with a focus on writing and communication skills, critical thinking, quantitative skills and the breadth of a liberal arts education with a business viewpoint.

## **BRADEN SCHOOL OF TAXATION**

Focused on providing students with practical taxation skills, the School of Taxation has enrolled larger numbers of students in the last 45 years than any other tax program in the nation. It is considered one of the nation's leading tax schools.

## **GGU WORLDWIDE**

GGU Worldwide partners with academic institutions worldwide to offer affordable and accessible joint, dual, and cooperative programs and international campus agreements guided by U.S. Department of Education and WASC policies. GGU Worldwide also partners with three industry leaders to develop state-of-the-art programs: Beacon, University Hub and upGrad.



# LEADERSHIP PRIORITIES

Presidential leadership is critical, especially when some are questioning the value of a college education. The next President must be a strong voice for the power and impact of the Golden Gate University experience. As a mission-driven institution, it is essential that the next President value, embrace and strengthen GGU's unique educational model, character and legacy that includes:

- A unique blend of faculty. Although it retains traditional, full-time professors, the majority of faculty members in our schools are adjunct faculty working in their field of expertise.
- A distinct student population. GGU's business schools cater to the non-traditional, part-time student who is a working professional. In fact, a high percentage of the students attend classes in the evenings or online.



# OUR PRESIDENT

The President of Golden Gate University is responsible for all areas of operations on the San Francisco campus and programs around the world. The President appoints, supports and evaluates members of the University's executive team while overseeing finance/budgeting, marketing, public relations, admissions and enrollment, university advancement, facilities and maintenance, investments and instruction. The President reports to the Board of Trustees, which is committed to a strong working relationship with the administration. The Board includes alumni, business leaders, civic leaders and prominent community members.

The next President will join Golden Gate University at a time of profound change in the higher education landscape. The challenges are real. However, so are the opportunities. The President, faculty, staff, Board of Trustees and alumni leaders in the San Francisco Bay Area must be ready to join together to move GGU forward. **Doing so will require addressing the following priorities;**





## **ARTICULATE GGU'S VISION, MISSION & STRATEGY**

Inspiring and leading strategic change will be an essential priority for the President. Now is the time for GGU to strategically chart its future and our President will articulate the distinctive brand and strengths that GGU offers and its total commitment to student success and academic excellence. This will be a community effort that the new President will lead with a goal of setting direction and inspiring action.

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## **ACHIEVE FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY**

The development of a sustainable financial plan for the University is a top priority. With enrollment on the decline, the resulting budget impact has produced a financial challenge for GGU. The President will lead the development of a mission-driven, multi-year plan to eliminate the deficit. This plan will emphasize enrollment and retention growth, renewed fundraising efforts and disciplined expenditure control to strengthen GGU. Therefore, it is essential that the President evaluate and enhance the University's financial and operational infrastructure to ensure that it is effective, efficient and mission focused.

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## **PRIORITIZE PHILANTHROPY AMONG INTERNAL & EXTERNAL CONSTITUENCIES**

Fundraising will be an important priority for the President. In partnership with university advancement, the President's focus will be to create a culture of giving and stimulate philanthropy among the Board of Trustees, alumni, the President's cabinet, faculty and the San Francisco Bay Area community. More specifically, the President must actively represent GGU at fundraising functions, drive university advancement to secure donations and grants and—in cooperation with the Board of Trustees—launch a comprehensive campaign to build the endowment.



## **STRENGTHEN CAMPUS COMMUNITY AND CULTURE**

Like other higher education institutions, the last few years have been challenging for the University. A priority of the next president will be to strengthen, inspire and unify students, alumni, faculty, administration and staff around a more engaged campus community. Through increased campus events and social gatherings, the President will work with University leaders and trustees to foster an increased sense of collegiality, purpose and excitement for the University's future.

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## **BOLSTER MARKETING & ENROLLMENT**

Broader marketing efforts and strategic planning are foundational to the University's goal of increasing enrollment, improving retention and assuring student success. The new President will provide key leadership in achieving these essential goals.

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## **SERVE AS AMBASSADOR & SPOKESPERSON**

The new President will be the chief spokesperson for the University, both on and off campus. GGU has been a valuable member of the San Francisco business community for over a century. It has provided education to thousands of students and helped employers satisfy workforce demands. It also has drawn on the business and legal community for its top-rated adjunct professors who bring their firsthand professional experiences into the classroom and provide employment networking opportunities. Thus, the President will be responsible for nurturing, expanding and leveraging GGU's historically strong ties with the San Francisco Bay Area and Silicon Valley business communities.





## COMMIT TO DIVERSITY AND INCLUSION

GGU Is a diverse community that genuinely welcomes all individuals. The next president will be charged with further building diversity and strengthening inclusion by promoting community wide initiatives to enhance an environment that celebrates and supports a diverse and inclusive student body, faculty, administration and staff.

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## EMBRACE INNOVATION

In addition to careful stewardship of financial resources, thoughtful and innovative initiatives are needed to secure the University's financial future. Exploring new mission dash aligned and targeted opportunities for alternative sources of revenue (i.e.-community partnerships, academic program development, increased enrollment.) to generate growth to achieve long term financial sustainability will be a priority of the next President.



# ATTRIBUTES OF LEADERSHIP:

The next President of Golden Gate University will embrace the University's mission and values and be a dynamic, inspiring and collaborative leader and one who possess an astute understanding of the challenges facing private institutions today. The President will be an accomplished executive-level leader in progressively responsible leadership roles, preferably with a terminal degree or equivalent. The President will model a strong work-ethic, engage others with humility, transparency and integrity and be a respected visionary. **More specifically, Golden Gate University's next President will be:**

## A MISSION-DRIVEN LEADER

who enthusiastically embraces and is energized by GGU's mission, values and reputation. The President must be tech-savvy and capable of leading the University in new directions and proficient at creating and clearly communicating a compelling vision for the University's future—one that is developed in close collaboration with the Board of Trustees and capable of inspiring a diverse group of stakeholders.

## A STRATEGIC THINKER, PLANNER AND VISIONARY

who is goal focused and capable of inspiring all GGU stakeholders and gaining support around a clear and compelling vision and strategic plan for the University's future. The President must be prepared to make and implement data-informed and strategic decisions with clarity of vision and in a manner consistent with GGU's mission and educational priorities.

## A PROVEN FUNDRAISER

capable of creating and stimulating a robust culture of philanthropy among a diverse group of GGU stakeholders and who will work effectively with university advancement and the Board to launch the next comprehensive campaign.

## A COLLABORATIVE LEADER

who connects and works well with the University's stakeholders, including a strong, transparent and trust-based partnership with the Board. The President must be capable of inspiring widespread understanding and participation in major decisions affecting the university through open dialogue and transparency. The President must also have a thorough understanding and appreciation of the unique leadership requirements of an academic institution and be capable of effectively balancing decisive leadership with respectful inclusivity.

## AN EXCEPTIONAL LISTENER & COMMUNICATOR

with excellent interpersonal, written, and oral communication skills capable of effectively articulating the University's distinct mission, values future vision and opportunities as well as challenging administrative decisions.

## A STRONG BUSINESS LEADER WITH ORGANIZATIONAL SKILLS & OPERATIONAL EXPERIENCE

with a successful track record in managing a budget comparable in complexity and scope to GGU. The President will be responsible for strengthening revenue and determining the appropriate use of University resources. The President will also be a courageous decision-maker and take calculated risks after thoughtful analysis.



# ATTRIBUTES OF LEADERSHIP, CONTINUED:

Golden Gate University's next President will be:

## A COMMUNITY LEADER

motivated by the public role of the presidency, in addition to a strong internal presence, the next president will be and seek to become actively involved as a leader in the Bay Area to further meaningful relationships and opportunities with the community (e.g., student internships, partnerships with businesses and nonprofit organizations, service opportunities, etc.).

## A LEADER IN DIVERSITY & INCLUSION

with a track record of welcoming and working effectively with diverse groups of people by successfully building widespread trust, understanding, and a sense of belonging among community members through progressive and culturally aware leadership.

## AN INNOVATIVE THINKER

capable of exploring entrepreneurial ideas and envisioning new models of higher education while working with the university and Bay Area community to implement new missioned aligned, strategic opportunities for building enrollment, revenue and partnerships to advance the university's goal of achieving long dash term financial sustainability.

## A STUDENT-FOCUSED EDUCATOR

who genuinely enjoys being an active part of campus life, engaging with students and who is fully supportive of a holistic student experience and student success.





GOLDEN GATE UNIV

# NOMINATIONS & APPLICATIONS

The Presidential Search Committee will begin a review of applications immediately and continue work until an appointment is made. **To assure full consideration, applications will include a letter of interest, curriculum vitae, and five professional references with email addresses and telephone numbers.**

References will not be contacted without prior authorization from the applicant. Applications and nominations should be sent electronically (MS Word or PDF Format) to [ggupresident@agbsearch.com](mailto:ggupresident@agbsearch.com).

**The salary range for this position is \$450,000 to \$550,000.**

The search is being assisted by Jamie Ferrare, Ph.D. Consultant, [james.ferrare@agbsearch.com](mailto:james.ferrare@agbsearch.com), 202-285-6105, Shannon McCambridge, J.D., LL.M Consultant, AGB Search, [shannon.mccambridge@agbsearch.com](mailto:shannon.mccambridge@agbsearch.com), 206-310-7560, and Elizabeth Alvarado, Research Associate - [elizabeth.alvarado@agbsearch.com](mailto:elizabeth.alvarado@agbsearch.com)

*The Immigration Reform and Control Act of 1986 requires that all new employees provide verification of their legal right to work in the United States on their first day of employment.*





# GOLDEN GATE UNIVERSITY

Golden Gate University is an equal employment opportunity employer. We support inclusive excellence and are committed to creating a safe and welcoming community for all.

University policy prohibits discrimination based on race, color, religion, national origin, ancestry, age, gender, sexual orientation, marital status, medical condition, physical or mental disability, gender stereotyping, and gender identity, taking a protected leave (e.g., family medical or pregnancy leave), or on any other basis protected by applicable laws.

The University has a strong commitment to the principles of diversity and inclusion, and to maintaining working and learning environments that reinforces these practices. The University welcomes and encourages applications from all especially women, minorities, people of color, veterans, persons with disabilities, and members of the LGBTQ+ community.