

FACT SHEET

An Overview of University of Phoenix Activities

Overview:

- Founded in 1976 by Dr. John Sperling, University of Phoenix, a wholly owned subsidiary of Apollo Group Inc., is now one of the largest private universities in North America.
- University of Phoenix serves a diverse student population, offering associate's, bachelor's, master's and doctoral degree programs from more than 100 campuses and learning centers across the U.S. as well as online throughout the world.
- University of Phoenix pioneered many of the conveniences that students now enjoy — evening classes, flexible scheduling, continuous enrollment, a university-wide academic social network, online classes, a digital library and computer simulations.
- The average age of a University of Phoenix student is between 33 and 36, and most students have work-related commitments.
- University of Phoenix has 20 years of experience in online education.
- The university is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association.

Highlights:

- University of Phoenix offers 31 degree programs with 50 concentrations.
- University of Phoenix was the first private institution of higher education in the world to offer degree-granting programs exclusively online.
- In 2010, the University attained a peak enrollment of almost 600,000 students.
- Today the University is a comprehensive learning institution with a faculty of more than 25,000 and more than 790,000 alumni.

Leadership:

- Tim Slottow, President, University of Phoenix

Timeline:

- **1976** – Dr. John G. Sperling founded University of Phoenix with the sole mission of identifying and meeting the educational needs of working adult students
- **1977** – The first classes were held at the Phoenix, Ariz., campus
- **1978** – The Higher Learning Commission of the North Central Association granted accreditation to University of Phoenix
- **1981** – The Phoenix Campus conducted the first graduation commencement ceremony
- **1989** – University of Phoenix established the Online Campus
- **1991** – The first commencement ceremony was held for Online graduates
- **1997** – University of Phoenix became the largest private university in the country (in enrollment)
- **1998** – The first international expansion occurs with the establishment of the Vancouver Campus in British Columbia, Canada
- **2000** – Enrollment at University of Phoenix reached 100,000 students
- **2003** – Enrollment reached more than 200,000 students in the United States, Puerto Rico and Canada
- **2004** – University of Phoenix began offering programs on military bases in Europe and Asia Pacific theaters
- **2006** – Dr. Sperling established the University of Phoenix Foundation to increase access to education for the underrepresented and low-income students

Accreditation:

- University of Phoenix is accredited by the Higher Learning Commission and is a member of the North Central Association. University of Phoenix was placed on Notice by The Higher Learning Commission, effective June 27, 2013. Notice is a Commission sanction indicating that an institution is pursuing a course of action that, if continued, could lead it to be out of compliance with one or more Criteria for Accreditation. An institution on Notice remains accredited. At the end of the Notice period, The Higher Learning Commission Board of Trustees may remove the sanction, place the institution on Probation if the identified concerns have not been addressed, or take other action. For additional information, contact The Higher Learning Commission, ncahlc.org.

Programs:

To meet that demand of the workplace, University of Phoenix offers 31 degree programs with 50 concentrations at the associate through doctoral levels.

Contact:

University of Phoenix Media Hotline, 602-254-0086, media@phoenix.edu