PayScale.com is an organization that gathers data on people's alma mater, their experience, and their current earnings. Employees and employers use the site to research their earnings and their pay.

Each year PayScale publishes a College ROI Report. The report considers:

- Only people with undergraduate degrees. People with graduate degrees are not included in the analysis.
- They look at the marginal income of college graduates less the income of high school graduates of the same age.
- The provide rankings for both in-state and out-of-state tuition of public universities

CWU is tied as having the 171st best Annual % Return-on-Investment for alums who:

- Paid in-state tuition
- Lived off campus
- Received financial aid

That is out of 1,885 rankings which puts CWU in the top 10% of the national study.