

NEC Recognized on List of 100 Fastest-Growing Longhorn Owned Businesses for the Second Time

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(AUSTIN) -- The Texas Exes, the Alumni Association of the University of Texas, honored NOSOTROS Education Center (NEC) for making the 2026 Longhorn 100 list, which recognizes the 100 fastest-growing businesses owned or led by Longhorns globally. The celebration took place on Friday evening at the AT&T Hotel and Conference Center in Austin.

Elizabeth “Lisa” Retamozo, Founder and CEO of NEC, was thrilled to be included in the list for a second time, having also been recognized on the inaugural list in 2023. *"Being recognized as a Longhorn 100 honoree for a second time is an incredible honor and even more meaningful than the first. While I am deeply grateful for this recognition, it truly reflects the dedication, talent, and unwavering commitment of our entire team at NEC. This achievement belongs to all of us. I founded NEC with a mission to help agencies and institutions secure the resources needed to expand educational opportunities for students. Every proposal we develop, every training we deliver, and every partnership we build has the potential to change lives. I am honored to represent McCombs, The University of Texas, and our exceptional NEC team, and I am sincerely grateful to Texas Exes for this extraordinary recognition. Hook 'em!"*

According to the Texas Exes, the Longhorn 100 “identifies, recognizes, and celebrates the success of the 100 fastest growing Longhorn owned or led businesses in the world. It creates an opportunity to expand networks with business leaders, inspire fellow Longhorns, and raise awareness of the incredible entrepreneurship that starts on the Forty Acres.”

To qualify for consideration, nominated businesses provided baseline financial data to an independent accounting firm (Whitley Penn) that calculated each company’s compounded annual growth rate (CAGR) in sales or revenue (net of returns) between 2019 and 2021. After compiling the calculations, the companies were listed by growth rate percentage from the highest to the lowest. The 100 fastest-growing companies were named to the Longhorn 100 in ranked order.

Retamozo, BBA '90, founded NEC more than 20 years ago to assist agencies and institutions of higher education with comprehensive proposal development, consulting, and technical assistance services. She and her team have earned a 92% proposal success rate and have helped clients secure over \$879 million in grant funding. In addition, NEC has provided professional development and supportive services to hundreds of Department of Education TRIO Projects across the country.

Lists of the [2023](#) and [2026](#) Longhorn 100 winners are available on the [Texas Exes website](#).