

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Contact: Anna Farneski; afarnesk@ramapo.edu or Cynthia Burns: cyburns@ramapo.edu

April 27, 2009

**RAMAPO COLLEGE RECEIVES GRANT TO EXPAND
SERVICES FOR VETERANS**

MAHWAH – Ramapo College of New Jersey received a \$100,000 Success for Veterans Award Grant from the American Council on Education (ACE) and the Wal-Mart Foundation. Grants were given to 20 institutions across the United States that operate model programs advancing access and success in higher education for veterans and their families.

The grants will support efforts to create online veterans-specific orientation programs, expand on-campus veterans service centers, enhance prospective student outreach efforts and increase capacity for counseling and psychological services.

The institutions receiving these grants currently enroll nearly 25,000 veterans. When expanded GI Bill benefits become available in August, it is anticipated that these numbers will increase by approximately 20 percent, giving institutions that received the grant money the opportunity to serve nearly 30,000 veterans this fall.

(more)

ACE received nearly 250 applications for Success for Veterans Award Grants. Selection criteria included quality and sustainability of the existing programs and initiatives, as well as strategies for disseminating best practices to other institutions.

The ACE/Wal-Mart Success for Veterans Award Grants are part of ACE's Serving Those Who Serve initiative, a multi-year effort designed to effect major changes in how veterans learn about their education benefits and postsecondary options and how institutional leaders can build capacity to serve veterans on their campuses.

###

For media inquiries, contact Anna Farneski, assistant vice president, Marketing and Communications, 201.684.6844.