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Ramapo College Among the Best in the North in *U.S. News* Rankings

(MAHWAH, NJ) - In the 2012 edition of "America's Best Colleges," released by *U.S. News & World Report*, Ramapo College was named among the top schools in the Best Regional Universities North category. Of the 42 public colleges and universities ranked, Ramapo College was listed at number six.

Ranking criteria continued to distinguish Ramapo as an institution dedicated to small class size, a strong first-year retention rate and loyal support from alumni.

“We’re proud that Ramapo continues to be recognized for the value of the undergraduate education it provides to students; one that pushes their boundaries and supports their development academically, socially, civically and personally,” said Associate Vice President of Enrollment Management Christopher Romano. “Our commitment to individualized attention that allows our students to forge close working relationships with our exceptional faculty and prepare for life-long success and learning makes us unique and we hope prospective students and families will experience that when they visit campus.”

Institutions ranked in the Best Regional Universities category provide a full range of undergraduate and master's programs. The 626 institutions included in this category were ranked by region-north, south, midwest and west. Over the past two decades, the *U.S. News* college rankings, which group schools based on categories created by the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching, has grown to be one of the most comprehensive research tool for students and parents considering higher education opportunities.

Among the many factors weighed in determining the rankings, the key measures of quality are: peer assessment, graduation and retention rates, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving, and, for National Universities and National Liberal Art Colleges, "graduation rate performance" and high school counselor ratings of colleges.

In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. Undergraduate students choose to concentrate their studies in one of five schools with more than 700 course offerings and 40 academic programs. The College also offers five graduate programs and articulated programs with the University of Medicine and Dentistry of New Jersey, New York Chiropractic

College, New York University College of Dentistry, SUNY State College of Optometry and New York College of Podiatric Medicine.

Ramapo College offers an average student/faculty ratio of 18:1 and average class size of 23.

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