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Ramapo College Receives Training for Intervention Procedures, Award of Excellence

(MAHWAH, NJ) – Ramapo College is a recipient of the TIPS Award of Excellence from Health Communications, Inc., Providers of the Training for Intervention Procedures Programs. The award was bestowed by the President and CEO of Health Communications, Inc. and was determined by an internal committee based on feedback from Master Trainers, TIPS Trainers, and participants in the TIPS courses.

“Ramapo has repeatedly demonstrated their commitment to preventing the misuse of alcohol on their campus and in their community by training their students in the TIPS program,” said Vice President of Health Communications, Inc. Trevor Estelle.

TIPS teaches students intervention skills to prevent alcohol-related problems such as intoxication, drunk driving, and underage drinking among their peers. The three-part program covers three areas: Information or signs of intoxication, the factors that affect absorption of alcohol, intervention strategies, state-specific laws relating to alcohol, and other topics; Skills Training that helps students develop abilities to assess behavior and intoxication levels; and Practice and Rehearsal wherein students use the information and skills that they have learned in exercises that challenge their ability to effectively intervene in difficult alcohol-related settings.

Recognizing that students are in the best position to educate other students regarding the negative effects of high-risk drinking, the College implemented the TIPS program. Since the inception of the program in January 2011, 33 TIPS classes have been offered. They are available several times during the fall and spring semesters. College staff, trained by TIPS personnel, conduct the training. The first year of the program more than 90% of students living in age-appropriate housing that allows alcohol received training.

“The goal of training the majority of students who live in alcohol-allowed housing was no small undertaking,” said Judith Green, director of the Center for Health and Counseling Services and chair of the President’s Alcohol and Other Drug Advisory Committee. “I am proud of the dedication and hard work of the TIPS trainers for their commitment to making this goal a reality

Ramapo College of New Jersey is committed to providing a safe and healthy living and learning environment for all members of the community and to reducing the harm associated with alcohol and other drug use. TIPS is one of many environmental management strategies the College utilizes as part of its comprehensive Alcohol and Other Drug Prevention Program.

For more information about Ramapo College's TIPS Procedures, please visit the Health and Counseling Services: TIPS Web page at <http://www.ramapo.edu/students/chc/tips.html>.

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as fifth in the Best Regional Universities North category for public institutions, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes mistaken for a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,008 students and its pastoral setting in the foothills of the Ramapo Mountains on the New Jersey/New York border.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, humanities, social sciences and the sciences, as well as in professional studies, which include nursing and social work. In addition, Ramapo College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels. The College also offers five graduate programs as well as 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.