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## Ramapo College Recognized as a Public College of Distinction

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Ramapo College again has been recognized as a 2017-2018 College of Distinction in the organization's recent report.

*Colleges of Distinction* is a college guide that assesses state colleges and universities in several categories, including student engagement, faculty competencies, vibrant campus and community activities and successful outcomes. Other criteria for recognition include a wider course selection, innovative curricula, individualized attention in the classroom and affordability.

According to the report, Ramapo College is "one of the teaching-centered colleges that make up the fabric of the American education system, a school that delivers the four elements of an effective undergraduate education – Engagement, Teaching, Community and Outcomes."

To be designated a "college of distinction," a school's curriculum must emphasize such core competencies as critical thinking, writing, oral skills, research and global perspectives. They must also offer dynamic out-of-classroom learning and study abroad programs.

"We are proud to once again earn this recognition," said Christopher Romano, vice president of enrollment management and student affairs. "Our ranking validates the experience our students have with our dedicated faculty at Ramapo College. Our faculty are dedicated teachers and mentors who work closely with students inside and outside the classroom to bring their learning experiences to life and prepare them for their future."

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Ranked by *U.S. News & World Report* as one of the top in the Best Regional Public Universities North category, Ramapo College of New Jersey is sometimes viewed as a private college. This is, in part, due to its unique interdisciplinary academic structure, its size of approximately 6,000 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 eight graduate programs as well as articulated programs with Rutgers, The State University 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.