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## Ramapo College Recognized as a Public College of Distinction

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Ramapo College again has been recognized as a 2018-2019 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 has proven itself to be at the forefront of American higher education with a modern, student-centered approach to teaching and learning. With a unique learning environment, its programming engages students with character building first-year seminars, community-based and service learning programs, alternative Spring Breaks, diversity and global learning and interdisciplinary programs, study abroad programs, undergraduate research and internships, among others.

"We are pleased to again be recognized as a College of Distinction," said Christopher Romano, Vice President for Enrollment Management and Student Affairs. "This ranking confirms what we know is special about Ramapo College; that we have outstanding faculty who teach and mentor our students in an environment where genuine interaction occurs. Our students are names, not numbers, and our new student experience and student success efforts are geared to deliver on that promise."

Colleges of Distinction's selection process consists of a review of each institution's freshman experience and retention efforts alongside its general education programs, alumni success, strategic plan, student satisfaction, and more. Schools are accepted on the basis that they adhere to the Four Distinctions: Engaged Students, Great Teaching, Vibrant Community, and Successful Outcomes.

"Colleges of Distinction is far more than a ranking list of colleges and universities," said Tyson Schritter, Chief Operating Officer for Colleges of Distinction. "We seek out the schools that are wholly focused on the student experience, constantly working to produce graduates who are prepared for a rapidly changing global society. Now recognized as a College of Distinction, Ramapo College stands out in the way it strives to help its students to learn, grow, and succeed."

## **About Colleges of Distinction**

Since 2000, the Colleges of Distinction website and guidebook have honored schools throughout the U.S. for their excellence in undergraduate-focused higher education. The cohort of schools in the Colleges of Distinction consortium distinguish themselves through their focus on the undergraduate experience. The website and annual guidebooks provide dynamic college profiles, customized tools, and resources for students, parents, and high school counselors. For more information, visit CollegesofDistinction.com.

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college. Ranked among the top colleges in the region by College Choice and recognized by, among others, U.S. News & World Report, Princeton Review, Colleges of Distinction and also designated by Victory Media as a "Military Friendly College," Ramapo College is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding.

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 business, education, nursing and social work. In addition, the College offers courses leading to teacher certification at the elementary and secondary levels, and offers graduate programs leading to degrees in Accounting, Business Administration, Educational Technology, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education.