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**RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY**

**Office of Marketing and Communications**

**Press Release**

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**Ramapo College Named a Career Development College of Distinction**

MAHWAH, N.J.— Ramapo College of New Jersey is pleased to announce it has been recognized as a 2018-2019 Career Development College of Distinction. As one of three New Jersey colleges receiving this newly developed accolade by Colleges of Distinction, Ramapo College has been recognized with exceptionally “equipping students with the skills necessary to succeed in their lifelong career journey.”

In communicating the accolade to Ramapo College, Colleges of Distinction said, “Students and families are concerned about the return on investment of college and we see Career Development as a way your institution is ensuring that investment. Schools that have truly effective career services make counselors available to take time to coach students on decision-making and job search skills that are both relevant and transferable regardless of industry.”

The criteria used by Colleges of Distinction for the new Career Development award includes a thorough review of the following:

* **Integrated Career Exploration and Preparation:** The career services or development office is introduced during new- and transfer-student orientation and then re-introduced during the first semester. The office partners with academic departments to include their resources in the classroom and help guide students toward the services they should be seeking at different points throughout their academic career. Career and major exploration are integrated across all fields of study.
* **Accessible Programs and Training:** The career office’s services can be accessed 24/7 and by appointment for one-on-one counseling. These resources include, but are not limited to, self-assessments, résumé and cover letter writing, interviewing, and networking. The office also hosts events and workshops to help students gain feedback and job search skills.
* **Career-Centered Staff:**
  + Assessments – The institution offers both career and personal inventories to help students better understand themselves as well as their major and career interests. Whether career services are centralized or decentralized, the institution makes trained career counselors and/or coaches available to review every student’s assessment.
  + Employer Relations – The school has at least one dedicated staff member for employer relations and corporate partnerships. Furthermore, the university helps connect students and alumni through mentorship and internship programs. Alumni can use some or all services for free.

Since 2000, Colleges of Distinction has served as a resource for more than 40,000 guidance counselors across the United States, thousands of parents and students, and hundreds of colleges and universities. For additional information, visit: <https://collegesofdistinction.com/advice/2018-career-development>.

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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.