



RAMAPO COLLEGE OF NEW JERSEY
Office of Development
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Ramapo College Welcomes the Class of 2026 during Week of Festivities

MAHWAH, N.J. -- Look who has arrived! Ramapo College of New Jersey welcomed more than 1,250 students, including 866 first-year students and transfer and returning adult students during the campus check-in and move-in as well as traditional Arching Ceremony on August 28.

Welcoming the students and their families during the ceremony, Christopher Romano, Vice President for Strategic Enrollment, Outreach and Engagement shared some facts about the incoming class while also challenging them to reflect on the words in their acceptance letter and at the top of the campus' Mansion Road, "Make History" and how they would chart their future forward at Ramapo. Some quick facts about the class welcomed:

*The Class of 2026 boasts 866 first-year students to campus. These students were selected from 7,200 applicants.

*All 21 New Jersey counties are represented.

*39 percent of the incoming freshman class are first-generation college students, meaning that they are the first in their family to attend college.

*Students additionally hail from 10 different states: New York, Connecticut, Georgia, Maryland, Montana, North Carolina, New Hampshire, Ohio, Pennsylvania, Tennessee

*The College welcomes 11 international first-year students from four foreign countries: Albania, Bulgaria, Nepal and Spain.

*76 incoming students will participate in Roadrunner athletics, including 42 who were team captains of their sport in high school.

*34 incoming freshmen were class or club presidents in high school.

*The Class of 2026 includes 7 valedictorians and 2 salutatorians from their high school class.

*75 students are participating in the Educational Opportunity Fund (EOF) program.

*Top majors among the incoming freshmen are: Nursing, Education, Business, Psychology, Computer Science and Biology. Approximately nine percent of incoming freshmen are undeclared, which is an ideal way to start the college experience at a liberal arts college.

*114 students are enrolling in Ramapo's 4+1 BS/MS combined bachelors/masters programs or articulated partners programs in pre-med or pre-law.

*Most popular names are Anthony, Christopher, Emily, Gabriella, Joshua, Matthew, Nicholas, Nicole, Olivia and Victoria.

Reflecting on the collective group and the College's ethos of being bold, being kind and being good teammates, President Cindy Jebb acknowledged to the audience that "Quite frankly, the fact that you are here already tells me you have embraced these words. Your adaptability, perseverance, and tenacity brought you to this moment—celebrate it!"

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Ramapo College of New Jersey is the state's premier public liberal arts college and is committed to academic excellence through interdisciplinary and experiential learning, and international and intercultural understanding. The College is ranked #1 among New Jersey public institutions by College Choice; is recognized as the state's top college on the list of Best Disability Schools by *Great Value Colleges*; was named one of the 50 Most Beautiful

College Campuses in America by *CondeNast Traveler*; and is recognized as a top college by *U.S. News & World Report*, *Kiplinger's*, Princeton Review and *Money* magazine, among others. Ramapo College is also distinguished as a Career Development College of Distinction by CollegesofDistinction.com, boasts the best campus housing in New Jersey on Niche.com, and is designated a "Military Friendly College" in Victoria Media's *Guide to Military Friendly Schools*.

Established in 1969, Ramapo College offers bachelor's degrees in the arts, business, data science, 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 master's degrees in Accounting, Applied Mathematics, Business Administration, Contemporary Instructional Design, Computer Science, Creative Music Technology, Data Science, Educational Leadership, Nursing, Social Work and Special Education, as well as a Doctor of Nursing Practice.