## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

March 28, 2023 Contact: Lisa Ambrose, director of communication & public relations Ramapo College of New Jersey (o) 201-684-7141 <u>lambros2@ramapo.edu</u>

## Ramapo College of New Jersey Designated a Voter Friendly Campus by NASPA and Campus Vote Project

**Mahwah, NJ** – Today, Ramapo College of New Jersey, was named a Voter Friendly Campus, one of only 258 campuses in 38 states and the District of Columbia by Fair Elections Center's Campus Vote Project and NASPA – Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education. The initiative recognizes institutions that have planned and implemented practices that encourage their students to register and vote in the 2022 elections and in coming years.

The mission of the 2023 Voter Friendly Campus designation is to bolster colleges and universities' efforts to help students overcome barriers to participating in the political process – every year, not just during years featuring federal elections. Ramapo College was evaluated based on a written plan for how we planned to register, educate, and turnout student voters in 2022, how we facilitated voter engagement efforts on our campus, and a final analysis of our efforts.

"Although presidential and midterm election years get a majority of the attention, there are state and local elections which have an incredible impact on our lives and our communities every year," shared Eddie Seavers, associate director for the Center of Student Involvement. "The designation as a Voter Friendly Campus represents that being civically engaged is a hallmark of being a Ramapo student."

As part of our effort to be designated a Voter Friendly Campus, the <u>Civic and Community Engagement</u> <u>Center</u> held a robust Civic Engagement Week in 2022. Activities included a voter engagement fair, tabling to bring awareness to midterm elections, roving campus trivia, and a trip to Washington, D.C.

Ramapo College has made a strong statement about our civic mission to prepare students to be engaged participants in our democracy, building upon awards for our 2022 ALL IN Campus Democracy Challenge <u>Highly Established Action Plan Seal</u> and <u>Most Engaged Campus for College Student Voting</u> and is eager to continue engaging students through 2023, 2024, and beyond.

The institutions designated Voter Friendly Campuses represent a wide range of two-year, four-year, public, private, rural, and urban campuses, collectively serving over 3.5 million students. Notably, the list of designated institutions includes 49 Minority Serving Institutions and 13 Historically Black Colleges and Universities, as well as 41 Community Colleges.

###