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US NEWS RANKS INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE IN TOP 9
PUBLIC REGIONAL COLLEGES IN THE SOUTH
IRSC rated by prestigious US News & World Report’s Best Colleges ranking

FORT PIERCE, FL (Sept. 9, 2014) Indian River State College (IRSC) has been ranked as the 9th top public regional college in the Southern United States by U.S. News and World Report’s 2015 rankings of Best Colleges, moving up from the 12th top position last year. Over 1,300 colleges and universities were ranked based on 16 measures of quality, including student/faculty ratio, class size, faculty credentials, and retention and graduation rates.

The U.S. News and World Report ranking is the latest in a series of recent national recognitions for IRSC. On September 4, IRSC was named as a top-ten finalist for the prestigious Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, America’s most respected and selective recognition of sustained high achievement and performance in state and community colleges. In June, IRSC was designated as the 4th most affordable college in the country for the second year in a row based on the U.S. Department of Education Affordability and Transparency Report. In addition, IRSC was recently welcomed into the national network of Achieving the Dream colleges to improve student achievement among first generation in college and minority students.

With more than 130 instructional programs, IRSC continues to make a significant and positive regional impact by providing a well-qualified workforce directly aligned to the employment needs of business and industry. During the 2013/2014 academic year, over 3,000 students earned a Bachelor’s or Associate Degree from IRSC, marking the second year in a row graduates have exceeded the 3,000 mark.
“Every aspect of IRSC – from our faculty to student services to facilities and technology - Is focused on enhancing student success,” said Dr. Edwin R. Massey, IRSC President. “This recognition by US News & World Report confirms that IRSC’s student-centered approach is helping students achieve their goals and reinforces the College’s national reputation for quality education,” he said.

IRSC was ranked by U.S. News & World Report in the regional college category, which includes colleges that focus primarily on teaching and undergraduate education. The ranking data reflect the College’s commitment to excellence in teaching. All IRSC courses are taught by well-qualified and experienced faculty, rather than graduate assistants which is often the case at large universities. Over 90 percent of IRSC faculty hold a doctorate or master’s degree in their teaching disciplines. In addition, IRSC’s student /faculty ratio is 23:1, enabling students to benefit from personal attention from their professors.

“We are dedicated to helping each student achieve academic and career success,” said Dr. Massey. “That commitment is demonstrated by IRSC faculty and staff every day, and it’s their dedicated efforts that have placed IRSC in the Top 9 among Southern regional public colleges.”

Established in 1960 in Fort Pierce, Florida, IRSC is accredited by the Southern Association of Colleges and Schools. The comprehensive state college offers Bachelor’s Degree programs, Associate in Arts degrees for university transfer, Associate in Science degree programs and Quick Job Training for technical and career training. Full service campuses are located in Fort Pierce, Stuart, Port St. Lucie, Vero Beach and Okeechobee. For more information, call 1-866-792-4772 or visit www.irsc.edu.

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