



INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE

Institutional Advancement Department

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**US NEWS RANKS INDIAN RIVER STATE COLLEGE IN TOP 12
PUBLIC REGIONAL COLLEGES IN THE SOUTH**
IRSC rated by prestigious US News & World Report's Best Colleges ranking

FORT PIERCE, FL (Sept. 12, 2013) Indian River State College (IRSC) has been ranked as the 12th top public regional college in the Southern United States by *U.S. News and World Report's* 2014 rankings of Best Colleges. 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. IRSC has ranked in the top 12 public regional colleges for the past three years.

The U.S. News and World Report ranking is the latest in a series of recent national recognitions for IRSC. In June, IRSC was designated as the 4th most affordable college in the country based on the U.S. Department of Education Affordability and Transparency Report. In July, IRSC was awarded a \$2.9 million National Science Foundation grant to establish a Laser and Fiber Optics Regional Center to help meet the national need for skilled laser and fiber optics technicians. 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 2012/2013 academic year, 3,200 students earned a Bachelor's or Associate Degree from IRSC, an 8% increase over last year. During the past 12 years, every IRSC graduating class has been larger than the previous one.

“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 emphasis on instructional innovation 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 12 among Southern regional colleges.”

Established in 1960 in Fort Pierce, Florida, IRSC is fully 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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