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WALL STREET JOURNAL RANKS 28 PA COLLEGES AMONG BEST IN THE NATION

Pennsylvania Leads 3rd in the Nation Overall, According to WSJ

(Harrisburg, PA) – The Wall Street Journal released an independent report today ranking what it calls the “Best Colleges in the U.S.,” spotlighting 28 Pennsylvania schools and members of AICUP, the Association of Independent Colleges and Universities of Pennsylvania. According to the WSJ:

- **Pennsylvania ranks third** overall in the nation with 32 schools making the list, outranking 48 other states and DC, and just behind California at 48 schools and New York at 46 schools.
- **28 of the 32 total** Pennsylvania schools listed in the report, or **88%**, are AICUP members.
- **All of the Top 10** schools in Pennsylvania and 19 of the Top 20 in PA are AICUP members.
- The WSJ survey considers characteristics not found on other school rankings, including what it calls **Preparation for Career, Graduation Rate Score**, and a **Salary Impact Score**.

“This just confirms what we already know – Pennsylvania is a great place to pursue higher education. This also explains why Pennsylvania is the 2nd best net importer of college students in the country. If you build it, they will come— Pennsylvania has built a network of high achieving institutions, and the WSJ now confirms that,” shared Thomas P. Foley, President of AICUP, and a former PA college president. “It’s also important to note that the independent nonprofit schools – who represent the top 19 Pennsylvania colleges in the WSJ ranking – also educate **the highest percentage of low income** and minority students of any higher ed sector in the Commonwealth.”

Congratulations to the 28 AICUP member schools spotlighted in today’s WSJ ranking: [Bucknell University](#), [Carnegie Mellon University](#), [Cedar Crest College](#), [Chatham University](#), [Dickinson College](#), [Drexel University](#), [Duquesne University](#), [Elizabethtown College](#), [Franklin and Marshall College](#), [Gettysburg College](#), [Haverford College](#), [Juniata College](#), [Lafayette College](#), [Lebanon Valley College](#), [Lehigh University](#), [Lycoming College](#), [Messiah University](#), [Muhlenberg College](#), [St. Francis University](#), [St. Joseph's University](#), [Susquehanna University](#), [Swarthmore College](#), [Thomas Jefferson University](#), [University of Pennsylvania](#), [University of Scranton](#), [Ursinus College](#), [Villanova University](#), [Washington & Jefferson College](#).

Sources:

WSJ Story: https://www.wsj.com/us-news/education/wsj-best-colleges-2025-princeton-babson-stanford-52443de8?mod=hp_lead_pos7

WSJ full ranking list: https://www.wsj.com/rankings/college-rankings/best-colleges-2025?mod=article_inline

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