

**U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT RANKS CONCORD UNIVERSITY
AMONG THE BEST REGIONAL COLLEGES IN THE SOUTH**

ATHENS, W.Va. - Concord University has been named among the Best Regional Colleges South in the 2016 edition of *U.S. News & World Report's Best Colleges*.

According to the report, Concord ranks as the number one public institution in West Virginia among Regional Colleges South and places sixth in the top ten public schools in that category.

The annual publication, released Sept. 9, ranks Concord University in the first tier of the Regional Colleges South category. Of the 74 institutions in this category, Concord ranks 47. Concord has consistently placed in the top tier of *Best Colleges* for the past 11 years.

Schools are categorized by mission using the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching's classification of higher education institutions. According to this classification system, undergraduate study is the primary focus at Regional Colleges.

The rankings are based on criteria that measure academic quality. Each institution is evaluated in areas such as graduation rate, SAT and ACT scores, and student/faculty ratio. Calculations are also determined by ranking institutions in each category against their peers.

For more information visit <http://colleges.usnews.rankingsandreviews.com/best-colleges>

THE PRINCETON REVIEW NAMES CONCORD UNIVERSITY AMONG THE ‘BEST IN THE SOUTHEAST’

ATHENS, W.Va. - Concord University has again been selected among the top colleges in the Southeast by The Princeton Review. In the “2016 Best Colleges: Region by Region” online feature Concord is listed as one of 140 institutions in the “Best in the Southeast” category.

Institutions receiving this designation are spotlighted for their academic excellence. The Princeton Review also uses answers from student surveys in the selection process.

The rating score categories include: Academics, Admissions Selectivity, Financial Aid, Fire Safety, Quality of Life, and Green. The Princeton Review explains the criteria for each rating score on its site at princetonreview.com/college/college-ratings.aspx

The 12 states in the Southeast category are Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Georgia, Kentucky, Louisiana, Mississippi, North Carolina, South Carolina, Tennessee, Virginia and West Virginia.

A total of 649 colleges are included among the “2016 Best Colleges: Region by Region.” Along with the Southeast, schools representing the Northeast, Midwest and West are also featured. Collectively, these institutions named “regional bests” constitute about 25 percent of the nation’s 2,500 four-year colleges.

The Princeton Review (www.PrincetonReview.com) is a leading tutoring, test prep and college admission services company. Every year, it helps millions of college- and graduate school-bound students achieve their education and career goals through online and in person courses delivered by a network of more than 4,000 teachers and tutors, online resources, and its more than 150 print and digital books. The Princeton Review is headquartered in Natick, Mass.

**CONCORD UNIVERSITY NAMED AMONG
'50 BEST VALUE SMALL COLLEGES FOR A BIOLOGY DEGREE 2015'**

ATHENS, W.Va. – Concord University ranks 12th on the Best Value Schools list of the “50 Best Value Small Colleges for a Biology Degree 2015.” The list was released by the Best Value Schools website.

Concord is one of four West Virginia schools named in the list, and one of only two West Virginia institutions in the lists’ top 15.

To arrive at the rankings Best Value Schools utilized the College Navigator website which is operated by the National Center for Education Statistics. Among the data used in selecting the schools is size and net price.

According to Best Value Schools, institutions ranked on the list “have something unique to offer, but they all unite in the desire to provide a high caliber curriculum for a lower than average cost.”

For additional information visit www.bestvalueschools.com or <http://www.bestvalueschools.com/rankings/small-colleges-biology-degree/>

**CONCORD UNIVERSITY INCLUDED AMONG
'50 BEST VALUE SMALL COLLEGES FOR A BUSINESS ADMINISTRATION DEGREE 2015'**

ATHENS, W.Va. – Concord University has been named among the “50 Best Value Small Colleges for a Business Administration Degree 2015.” Concord is ranked 11th on the list that was released by the Best Value Schools online guide.

According to the website, these 50 schools “boast an ideal combination of quality, selectivity, and affordability on comfortably small campuses.” Concord is noted for “affordability and flexibility and rigorous academic studies.”

To arrive at the rankings Best Value Schools utilized data from College Navigator. The schools’ net price was also used in determining the rankings.

For additional information visit <http://www.bestvalueschools.com/rankings/small-colleges-business-administration-degree/>

**CONCORD UNIVERSITY INCLUDED AMONG
'50 MOST AFFORDABLE SELECTIVE SCHOOLS FOR A BSW'**

ATHENS, W.Va. – Concord University has been named among the “50 Most Affordable Selective Schools for a BSW” by Social Work Degree Guide. Concord is ranked 25th on the list that was released by the online guide.

Concord University is one of only two West Virginia institutions of higher education on the list.

To arrive at the rankings Social Work Degree Guide utilized data from College Navigator and the directory on the Council on Social Work’s Education website. Among the factors used in determining the rankings are net price and accreditation.

The mission of Social Work Degree Guide is “to provide expert information about the best accredited social work degree programs across the United States...”

For additional information visit <http://www.socialworkdegreeguide.com/> or <http://www.socialworkdegreeguide.com/affordable-selective-schools- bsw/>

CONCORD UNIVERSITY RANKED AMONG MOST AFFORDABLE SMALL COLLEGES IN EASTERN UNITED STATES

ATHENS, W.Va. – Concord University ranks 10th on the Great Value Colleges list of the “100 Most Affordable Small Colleges East of the Mississippi.”

The list was released by Great Value Colleges, a premier website whose mission in providing information to students is to help them “get the best possible education for their money.”

Concord is one of four West Virginia institutions named in the list, and along with West Virginia State University, is one of only two West Virginia schools in the list’s top ten.

The methodology employed in ranking the colleges is based on the institutions’ size, location and net price.

For this particular list, the process began with looking at traditional, four-year schools with 4,000 students or less located east of the Mississippi River. This narrowed the contenders to more than 400 institutions in the eastern United States that qualified. Next, each college’s net price was evaluated leading to the final ranking based on average annual cost.

For additional information visit <http://www.greatvaluecolleges.net/affordable/small-colleges-east-of-the-mississippi/>

CONCORD UNIVERSITY NAMED AMONG “THE 100 MOST AFFORDABLE SMALL COLLEGES IN AMERICA 2015”

<http://www.bestvalueschools.com/most-affordable-small-colleges-america-2015/>

CONCORD UNIVERSITY NAMED AMONG “50 MOST AFFORDABLE SELECTIVE SMALL COLLEGES FOR A PSYCHOLOGY DEGREE 2015”

<http://www.bestpsychologydegrees.com/top/affordable-selective-small-colleges-for-a-psychology-degree/>