

NEWS RELEASE

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Northwest Iowa Community College Receives National and State Recognition

Northwest Iowa Community College has recently been notified of national and state recognition from organizations across the country: Niche.com and LearnHowtoBecome.org.

Niche.com - Has ranked NCC #11 in their ranking of the 2017 Best Community Colleges in America. According to Niche.com's website, "The [2017 Best Community Colleges](#) ranking is based on rigorous analysis of academic, financial, and student life data from the U.S. Department of Education along with millions of reviews from students and alumni. This year over 2,500 schools received a Niche ranking and 2017 Report Card." The study showed NCC graduates with the highest alumni earnings at \$38,400 ten years after entering college of any of the two-year colleges in the state (and many four-year colleges) as well as the highest graduation rate of any two-year Iowa college at 51%.

To view the entire Niche.com – *2017 Best Community Colleges in America* report go to: bit.ly/ncc-niche

LearnHowtoBecome.org- Has ranked NCC #2 in the State of Iowa Among all 2 Year Colleges. "Iowa's colleges and universities are helping prepare students for careers in traditional industries like agriculture as well as newer contributors to the state's economy such as healthcare and communication technology." Said LearnHowtoBecome.org in its introduction to the *Best Iowa Colleges & Universities for 2016-17*. "All colleges in Iowa strive to provide the best education at the best possible price, but some do a better job than the rest. To create our ranking of Iowa colleges and universities for the 2016-17 school year, we evaluated institutions on characteristics such as tuition costs, average earnings for alumni, how many students receive scholarship or grant aid (and how much they receive), and student-to-teacher ratio."

To view the entire LearnHowtoBecome.org – *Best Iowa Colleges & Universities for 2016-2017: Make a Smart College Plan With School Rankings and Insightful Research* report go to: bit.ly/ncc-learn

Dr. Alethea Stubbe, President, said, "We are very honored to receive these recognitions and awards. They reaffirm that the College is empowering students to reach their goals through quality, accessible, and affordable programs and customized training. We are proud of our students and their remarkable achievements, and our employees who partner with them to achieve and consistently improve student success." Stubbe continued, "We are especially gratified to see that our graduation rate is the highest in the state (51%) and our graduate earnings are the highest among the two-year colleges in Iowa and higher or equal to 8 of the top 29 four-year colleges (\$38,400) in the state. Student success is a core value at NCC, and this recognition reaffirms that outcome."

NCC has been the recipient of several national awards over the past several years. In 2016, 2014, 2012 and 2011 NCC was recognized by the Aspen Institute as one of the Best 150 Community Colleges in the nation. 2016 - 12th nationally for Premier National Online Associate Degree Program, *BestColleges.com*, 2016 - Best Two Year College in Iowa, *BestColleges.com*; 2015 - 3rd Best Online College in the U.S., *BestColleges.com*; 2015 - Top 45 Colleges in the Nation, *College Scorecard*, U.S. Department of Education.

One of the best ways to figure out if a college is right for you is to schedule a campus visit. Register online at nwicc.edu and click the link in the box labeled Thunder Fridays. The next available Thunder Friday that has openings is April 21, 2017.

Quick facts about NCC:

- 11,500+ College Alumni since 1966, of which over 7,411 live in Iowa
 - 96% Placement Rate for College Alumni
 - Average first-time wage of our 2014 graduates was \$16.49/hour
 - Many seamless transfer agreements with Colleges and Universities
 - 40+ Programs of study including career & transfer and applied technology
 - Have served 800,000 + students taught through the Continuing Education and Business & Industry Departments
 - Spending by NCC and its students adds an estimated \$24.2 million in economic output to the region, 372 jobs and increased tax revenues of \$1.4 million*
- *Source: 2011 NCC Economic Impact Report —A study completed by Iowa Workforce Development and the Iowa Department of Education

To find out more call 800-352-4907, email studentservices@nwicc.edu, or visit our website at www.nwicc.edu. At NCC – Your Success is Our Story!