



Northwest Iowa
Community College

603 West Park Street
Sheldon, Iowa 51201

Phone 712-324-5061 or
toll free 1-800-352-4907, Ext. 105

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NEWS RELEASE

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Northwest Iowa Community College Has Received Several National and State Awards

Northwest Iowa Community College has recently been notified of several national and state recognitions from organizations across the country: TheBestSchools.org, CollegeMeasures.org, The Chronicle of Higher Education and StateUniversity.com.

TheBestSchools.org - Has ranked NCC #11 in their ranking of community colleges in the United States. "We selected the top community colleges based on a comparison of several studies and ratings of community colleges, each with their own unique selection criteria, as well as the schools' reputation and our review of notable community colleges. While completion/graduation rates are important to any college's success, we identified several factors as especially significant to select the top community colleges. The top 50 community colleges measure up strongly on these five outcomes and more." said The BestSchools.org in its introduction to the 50 best community colleges.

The BestSchools.org identified several factors as especially significant to select the top community colleges:

- Sustained Achievement Outcomes: Ongoing success in student perseverance and completion of Associate Degrees and/or transfer to four-year colleges
- Learning Outcomes: Values and practices that actively engage students and require them to stretch academically; explore learning freely; pursue a variety of educational experiences and areas of study
- Deployment Outcomes: Strong rates of employment, salaries and advancement for graduates matched with workplace skill needs
- Equitable Outcomes: Policies and practices that result in student diversity and success among low-income students and underrepresented racial/ethnic groups (African American, Hispanic/Latino and Native American)
- Cost-to-Value Outcomes: Reasonable tuition costs, access to financial aid resources and an emphasis on minimizing post-school debt.

To view the entire TheBestSchools.org - *Top 50 Community Colleges* report go to:
bit.ly/ncc-bestschools

CollegeMeasures.org - NCC has the highest Graduation/Transfer Rate/Overall in the state of Iowa among all 2 year public universities. College Measures.org is a partnership between the American Institutes for Research and Matrix Knowledge Group, focused on using data to drive improvement in higher education outcomes in the United States. According to their website, “We have created this partnership because we are deeply concerned about improving higher education in the United States, and we believe that important underlying data is underexposed and underutilized by students, parents, policymakers, and even by institutions themselves.”

To view the entire CollegeMeasures.org - *Highest Graduation/Transfer Rate/Overall* report go to: bit.ly/ncc-collegemeasures

The Chronicle of Higher Education - Recognized as a Great College to Work For (second year in a row) Liz McMillen, Editor, The Chronicle of Higher Education, stated, “The Chronicle’s reporting shows that more colleges and universities are seeking ways to improve their workplaces. The ‘formula for success’ continues to evolve, yet there are certain common features among institutions that achieve significant levels of worker satisfaction. The Great Colleges to Work For program allows our readers to learn about the colleges that seem to be getting it right. Great Colleges is more than a ‘marketing’ opportunity for colleges -- it is an authentic example of accomplishment.”

To view the entire Chronicle of Higher Education - *Great Colleges to Work For* report go to: <http://bit.ly/ncc-chronicle> or you can find The Chronicle for Higher Education – The Academic Workplace: July 26, 2013 Volume LIX, Number 43 magazine at the NCC library.

StateUniversity.com - Has ranked Northwest Iowa Community College #1 Safest School in Iowa. According to their website, “Colleges and universities are ranked for campus safety on a scale that accounts for severity of a crime as well as frequency of crime. Campus crime statistics below are per 100 students.”

To view the entire StateUniversity.com - *Safest School in Iowa* report go to: bit.ly/ncc-safest

Dr. Alethea Stubbe, President, said, “We are very proud to be notified of 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 success, and our employees who partner with them to achieve and consistently improve student success.”

NCC has been the recipient of several national awards over the past several years. In 2012 and 2011 NCC was recognized by the Aspen Institute as one of the Best 120 Community Colleges in the nation. In 2012 NCC was recognized by the Chronicle of Higher Education as A Great College to Work For. In 2010 Community College Week named NCC as one of the Top 20 Fastest Growing Community Colleges in the nation.

Quick facts about NCC:

- 10,000+ College Alumni
- 98% Placement Rate for College Alumni
- 94% of our graduates are employed in a related field of study
- Average first-time wage of our 2012 graduates was \$17.08/hour
- 40+ Programs of study
- 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, text THUNDER to 82942, or visit our website at www.nwicc.edu. At NCC There's a Place For You!