

Florida Colleges Again Top Producers of Associates Degrees in the Nation

Each year, *Community College Weekly* releases an annual report of the Top 100 Associate Degree Producers in the nation. Data collected by the National Center for Education Statistics (NCES) through the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data Set (IPEDS) are examined to provide a “tangible and countable outcome that lends itself to analysis and ranking.”¹ Year after year, schools in The Florida College System consistently earn recognition as top producers for the total number of Associates degrees granted and the total number of Associates degrees conferred to African American and Hispanic students.²

Associates degrees are defined as Associate in Arts, Associate in Science, and Associate in Applied Science. For 2008, 49,354 Associates degrees were awarded in The Florida College System.³ The institutions and their ranks for 2005 through 2008 are presented in Tables 1-3 below.

Table 1 shows the Florida institutions that were ranked among the Top 100 Producers for the total number of Associates degrees granted along with each school’s rank. For each of the past four years, at least half of all the schools in The Florida College System were listed in the top 100. In addition, over half of the schools listed below ranked among the top 25 producers of Associate degrees. It is notable for three years (2005, 2006, 2007), Miami Dade College, Valencia Community College, and Broward College have been among the top 5 degree producers and Miami Dade has consistently ranked first.

Table 1

TOP PRODUCERS OF TOTAL ASSOCIATE DEGREES			
2005	2006	2007	2008
Miami Dade College – 1	Miami Dade College – 1	Miami Dade College – 1	Miami Dade College – 1
Valencia Community College – 2	Valencia Community College – 3	Valencia Community College – 3	Valencia Community College – 4
Broward College – 3	Broward College – 4	Broward College – 4	Santa Fe College – 6
Florida Community College at Jacksonville – 6	Florida Community College at Jacksonville – 6	Palm Beach Community College – 5	Florida Community College at Jacksonville – 7
St. Petersburg College – 10	St. Petersburg College – 10	Florida Community College at Jacksonville – 7	St. Petersburg College – 11
Santa Fe College – 12	Santa Fe College – 14	St. Petersburg College – 11	Broward College – 13
Palm Beach Community College – 14	Palm Beach Community College – 15	Hillsborough Community College – 23	Palm Beach Community College – 18

¹ Community College Week, Top 100, 2008: Analyzing the Numbers. <http://www.ccweek.com/news/templates/template.aspx?articleid=460&zoneid=5>

² See Fast Facts #82 and #77 at <http://www.fldoe.org/cc/OSAS/FastFacts/FastFacts.asp>

³ Florida Department of Education, 2009 Fact Book, <http://www.fldoe.org/arm/cctcmis/pubs/factbook/default.asp>

TOP PRODUCERS OF TOTAL ASSOCIATE DEGREES, CONTINUED

2005	2006	2007	2008
Hillsborough Community College - 19	Tallahassee Community College - 22	Tallahassee Community College - 24	Tallahassee Community College - 21
Brevard Community College - 21	Hillsborough Community College - 24	Brevard Community College - 27	Hillsborough Community College - 30
Tallahassee Community College - 24	Brevard Community College - 25	Santa Fe College - 36	Brevard Community College - 33
Daytona State College - 56	Pensacola Junior College - 63	Daytona State College - 59	Daytona State College - 61
Seminole Community College - 57	Daytona State College - 69	Pensacola Junior College - 70	Indian River State College - 78
Pensacola Junior College - 62	Seminole Community College - 80	Seminole Community College - 71	Seminole Community College - 80
Indian River State College - 87		Edison State College - 81	Pensacola Junior College - 85
Edison State College - 88		Manatee Community College - 90	Edison State College - 90

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

The top producers of Associates degrees for African Americans are presented in Table 2. Miami Dade College and Broward College garnered top positions for every year displayed. In 2006, ten (10) institutions in The Florida College System earned positions on the Top 100 list. Several Florida schools are consistently ranked at the top in terms of the number of degrees that are awarded to African American students.

TABLE 2

TOP PRODUCERS OF TOTAL ASSOCIATES DEGREES FOR AFRICAN AMERICANS

2005	2006	2007	2008
Miami Dade College - 1	Miami Dade College - 1	Miami Dade College - 1	Miami Dade College - 1
Broward College - 2	Broward College - 3	Broward College - 4	Broward College - 7
Florida Community College at Jacksonville - 12	Florida Community College at Jacksonville - 14	Palm Beach Community College - 11	Florida Community College at Jacksonville - 11
Tallahassee Community College - 15	Tallahassee Community College - 15	Florida Community College at Jacksonville - 12	Tallahassee Community College - 12
Valencia Community College - 19	Palm Beach Community College - 17	Tallahassee Community College - 15	Palm Beach Community College - 19
Palm Beach Community College - 23	Valencia Community College - 20	Valencia Community College - 21	Valencia Community College - 20
Hillsborough Community College - 35	Hillsborough Community College - 40	Hillsborough Community College - 37	Hillsborough Community College - 44
St. Petersburg College - 59	St. Petersburg College - 54	St. Petersburg College - 58	St. Petersburg College - 64
Santa Fe College - 92	Pensacola Junior College - 91		Santa Fe College - 66
	Santa Fe College - 98		

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

The rankings for total number of Associates degrees awarded to Hispanic students are displayed in Table 3. For every year except 2007, six of the same Florida schools were listed as top Associates degree producers in this category: Miami Dade College, Valencia Community College, Broward College, Hillsborough Community College, Palm Beach Community College and Santa Fe College.

TABLE 3

TOP PRODUCERS OF TOTAL ASSOCIATES DEGREES FOR HISPANICS

2005	2006	2007	2008
Miami Dade College - 1	Miami Dade College - 1	Miami Dade College - 1	Miami Dade College - 1
Valencia Community College - 8	Valencia Community College - 9	Valencia Community College - 7	Valencia Community College - 7
Broward College - 9	Broward College - 11	Broward College - 9	Broward College - 14
Hillsborough Community College - 50	Palm Beach Community College - 52	Palm Beach Community College - 26	Hillsborough Community College - 39
Palm Beach Community College - 63	Hillsborough Community College - 59	Hillsborough Community College - 45	Palm Beach Community College - 45
Santa Fe College - 78	Santa Fe College - 99		Santa Fe College - 62

SOURCE: COMMUNITY COLLEGE WEEK

Institutions in Florida’s College System serve an important role as gateways for citizens of the state to access higher education. With the addition of baccalaureate programs, there is no doubt that The Florida College System will provide additional access to quality education to an increasing pool of Florida’s residents.

For more information please contact:

Dr. Kathyrine Scheuch, Deputy Director of Research

Kathyrine.Scheuch@fldoe.org

(850) 245-9456

Dr. John Hughes, Associate Vice Chancellor for Evaluation

John.Hughes@fldoe.org

(850) 245-9482



Florida Department of Education

Florida Department of Education
Dr. Eric J. Smith, Commissioner

The Florida College System
Dr. Willis N. Holcombe, Chancellor
Dr. Judith Bilsky, Executive Vice Chancellor

Phone: (850) 245-0407
325 West Gaines Street, Suite 1314
Tallahassee, Florida 32399-0400
www.fldoe.org/CC/