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Illinois Wesleyan Graduates Earn Top Dollars, According to National Studies

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BLOOMINGTON, Ill. — Three recent college rankings, focused on return on investment and the earnings of graduates, place Illinois Wesleyan among the nation's top schools.

[The Economist](#) — a leading global news organization focused on financial matters — in its first-ever college ranking, named Illinois Wesleyan graduates as top earners nationally and in Illinois, with \$54,600 median earnings compared to the average college graduate's \$42,751.

These figures are based on an analysis of a broad range of data in the recently available U.S. Department of Education's College Scorecard. Using this data, *The Economist* ranked Illinois Wesleyan graduates as the top earners of any Illinois institution and in the top six percent nationally, among 1,275 four-year colleges and universities.

**The
Economist**



[PayScale.com](#)'s 2015-16 College Salary Report, which drew salary data from 1.4 million college graduates, ranked mid-career earnings of Illinois Wesleyan graduates 43rd among 1,063 bachelor's degree granting colleges and universities for which data was available.

In addition, PayScale ranked Illinois Wesleyan business majors No. 3 in mid-career earning power, just behind the University of California-Berkeley and Georgetown University.

It should be noted that PayScale salary data is self-reported and does not include measures of institutional quality, unlike the U. S. Department of Education's College Scorecard data.

Illinois Wesleyan also recently was named to *Princeton Review's* list of [Colleges That Pay You Back: The 200 Schools That Give You the Best Bang for Your Tuition Buck](#). The ratings weighted 40 data points that covered everything from academics, cost, and financial aid to graduation rates, student debt, and alumni salaries and job satisfaction. *The Princeton Review* chose the schools on this new listing based on return on investment (ROI) ratings it tallied for 650 schools last year.

