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Illinois Wesleyan #10 in Nation for Job Placement

April 14, 2017

BLOOMINGTON, Ill.— Illinois Wesleyan University ranks first among Illinois colleges and 10th overall in the nation in job placement ratings for its graduates.

The [ranking](#) by Zippia, a career advice website, used information found on the Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System (IPEDS) database or CollegeScoreCard data.

Zippia officials used IPEDS to search for the college in each state with the highest listed job placement ratings, looking at employment levels 10 years after students have graduated.

Information factored into the ratings included median earnings of alumni six and 10 years after graduation, and the percentage of graduates employed 10 years out. Data for Illinois Wesleyan graduates showed a median income of \$43,100 after six years, jumping to \$62,100 after 10 years.

Of the top 10 colleges in the Zippia ranking, seven are liberal arts schools, and that's the real story of the Zippia ranking, according to Illinois Wesleyan Provost Jonathan Green.

"So much of what we hear in the popular media flies in the face of what we know to be true: there is no better preparation for a meaningful career than a liberal arts education," said Green.

He noted a recent study from Hart Research Associates showed that the vast majority of CEOs described a liberal arts education as the best preparation for leadership in their organizations. Business leaders confirmed that critical thinking, good writing and a broad educational foundation were more important for career success than a student's major, or than vocational training.

"The tradition of student centeredness at residential liberal arts colleges includes a strong alumni network and a dedicated [career center](#)," said Green. "We prepare our students well, and we carefully help them navigate into the world of work."

The IPEDS database is maintained by the Institute of Education Sciences, a bipartisan government organization dedicated to finding scientific data related to education.

