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Press release : 2015 : 05 : 22 : USFSP Among Top Ranks for Best Online MBA for Veterans

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USFSP News

[USFSP Among Top Ranks for Best Online MBA for Veterans](#)

U.S. News & World Report ranked the Online MBA Program at USF St. Petersburg (USFSP) among the nation's top 20 percent in its 2015 survey of [Best Online MBA Programs for Veterans](#). Of 123 universities, USFSP is ranked No. 27 in the nation and No. 1 in Florida. The rankings were based on five general categories: Faculty Credentials and Training, Student Services and Technology, Student Engagement, Admissions Selectivity, and Peer Assessment. It also took into consideration financial benefits available specifically to individuals who qualify for military benefits.

“This is a testament to the hard work and dedication of the talented faculty and staff at our Kate Tiedemann College of Business,” said USFSP Regional Chancellor Sophia Wisniewska. “The success of our [AACSB-accredited](#) program, which centers on flexibility and convenience, is particularly important to our student veterans, as many of them are working professionals.”

USFSP Online MBA students have the option of taking some classes on campus. Courses are offered in eight-week sessions, allowing students to complete the program at a part-time pace. Additionally, USFSP offers a suite of MBA Essentials modules, which provides a fast-tracked alternative to non-business students who may be missing prerequisite courses.

“Significant effort goes into ensuring the curricula for these online courses are as valuable to students as on-campus courses,” said Gary Patterson, interim dean of the Kate Tiedemann College of Business. “Innovative group exercises are part of many courses and provide these student veterans with an opportunity to collaborate on projects like traditional students do on campus.”

Patterson said that approximately 85 percent of USFSP's recent MBA graduates are working in the 10 fastest-growing industries, with many of those jobs in Florida. The average starting salary for new MBAs is \$68,000.

To qualify for the Best Online Programs for Veterans rankings, an online degree program had to report participation in two key programs that offer educational benefits to people with military service. The rankings methodology requires programs to belong to institutions that are certified for the GI Bill; they must also belong to schools participating in the Yellow Ribbon Program or to public institutions that charge in-state tuition for all out-of-state veterans. This year, the U.S. Department of Defense discontinued two programs that U.S. News previously factored into its analysis: the Servicemembers Opportunity Colleges (SOC) Consortium and the Defense Activity for Non-Traditional Education Support (DANTES) catalog. As a result, many more programs were included in the 2015 rankings.

