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## Press release : 2017 : 09 : 18 : USF St. Petersburg Ranked in Top 25 of Southern Regional Public Universities by U.S. News & World Report

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## USF ST. PETERSBURG RANKED IN TOP 25 OF SOUTHERN REGIONAL PUBLIC UNIVERSITIES BY U.S. NEWS & WORLD REPORT



**(Sept. 18, 2017)** – USF St. Petersburg is once again among the top 25 Southern Regional Public Universities, according to new rankings just released by *U.S. News & World Report*. In its [2018 Best Colleges Rankings](#), USFSP landed at No. 24. The university is also ranked at No. 66 among all public and private regional universities in the south, moving up six spots from the previous year.

“These rankings highlight the most important goal of any university — academic excellence for students,” said Interim Regional Chancellor Martin Tadlock, Ph.D. “We are delighted by this recognition, both as a testament to the outstanding work of our faculty and

staff, and as an indicator of USFSP’s proven history of meeting significant benchmarks for academic quality and student success.”

Key numbers the magazine cited for its overview of the university included a student-faculty ratio at 16:1 and more than 25 percent of classes at fewer than 20 students. With an emphasis on smaller class sizes, faculty work closely with students, encouraging them to excel not only in the classroom, but in internships, research and civic learning as well.

“Many students are attracted to a smaller institution because they can have greater opportunities to work closely with their professors and community partners, or to engage in undergraduate research,” said Tadlock. “Furthermore, our presence in a growing city like St. Petersburg provides even more opportunities for students to pursue their interests while enjoying a more intimate college

experience.”

USFSP was also named in the top 50 of Best Value Schools in the south with in-state tuition of less than \$6,000 and more than 55% of students receiving need-based grants.

Rankings are calculated using up to 15 indicators of academic excellence, including graduation and first-year student retention rates, undergraduate academic reputation, faculty resources, student selectivity, financial resources, alumni giving, and graduation rate performance. The most heavily weighted measures are graduation and retention rates, and academic reputation.

*U.S. News & World Report* describes its ranking formula as using “quantitative and qualitative measures that education experts have proposed as reliable indicators of academic quality,” and it is based on the magazine’s “researched view of what matters in education.” Regionally accredited schools are categorized by criteria developed by the [Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching](#).



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