

New Jersey higher education leaders urge Congress to double Pell Grants

Higher education leaders across New Jersey have sent a [letter](#) to the state's Congressional delegation in support of doubling the maximum Pell Grant. The Pell Grant is a federal financial aid program for college students from low- and moderate-income backgrounds.

Princeton University President Christopher Eisgruber and Rutgers University President Jonathan Holloway co-authored the letter, which was signed by 44 higher education leaders representing independent and public four- and two-year colleges and universities across New Jersey. The current maximum Pell Grant award is \$6,495.

"Doubling the maximum Pell Grant will help more students from low- and middle-income families to get to and through college," the letter said. "That helps everyone: by cultivating talent from every sector of society, we make our state, and our country, stronger and better."

The Inauguration of Dr. Matthew Whelan, President of Caldwell University

Caldwell University has announced that it will hold an Inauguration and Installation Ceremony for the University's ninth President, Matthew Whelan, Ed.D., on Friday, October 22, 2021. To celebrate the spirit of community, honor Caldwell's history, and commemorate this special occasion, a series of [events](#) will be held in the days leading up to the Inauguration, celebrating the future of Caldwell University.

The Inauguration of Dr. Gary B. Crosby, President of Saint Elizabeth University

Saint Elizabeth University has announced the [Inauguration Celebration of Gary B. Crosby, Ph.D.](#), the eighth president of the University. Dr. Crosby's Inauguration and Installation Ceremony will be held on Thursday, October 21, 2021.

The celebration will honor Saint Elizabeth University's 122-year commitment to rigorous scholarship and dedication to social justice while setting forth Dr. Crosby's vision of "Forward Together in Excellence".

A series of events leading up to the Inauguration will highlight the university's history and look toward its future.

US News and World Report 2022 Rankings

On September 13th, the US News and World Report Best Colleges Rankings were released and our sector was well represented.

Princeton University continues to [lead the pack](#) for the 11th year in a row, coming in as #1 among National Universities. Several schools have shared their recognitions from this year's rankings: [Bloomfield College](#) has been recognized as a top college in the U.S. News & World Report 2022 Best Colleges rankings in several national and state categories; [Caldwell University](#) was among the best undergraduate teaching schools; [Saint Elizabeth University](#) has once again ranked first among all New Jersey schools on the U.S. News & World Report's 2022 list of "Top Performers for Social Mobility-Regional Universities North"; [Fairleigh Dickinson University](#), [Georgian Court University](#), and [Seton Hall University](#) each rose further in the US News rankings in several categories this year; [Saint Peter's University](#) was recognized for Best Value in New Jersey, and [Stevens Institute of Technology](#) maintains its spot as a top-100 "Best Value School." The [complete list](#) can be found on the US News and World Report site.

ICUNJ Presidents Among the 2021 NJBIZ Education Power 50 honorees

Congratulations to the ICUNJ presidents named as [2021 NJBIZ Education Power 50 honorees](#). The NJBIZ Education Power 50 list profiles leaders at education institutions who are "responsible for managing [education] organizations, making policies that directly affect the institutions or are themselves directly responsible for imparting knowledge to students, apprentices and the citizenry at large." The top 10 honorees are ranked numerically; the others are listed alphabetically. The ICUNJ presidents honored this year are Princeton University President [Chris Eisgruber](#) (#7), Fairleigh Dickinson University President [Chris Capuano](#), Saint Peter's University President [Eugene Comacchia](#), Rider University President Greg Dell'Omo, Stevens Institute of Technology President [Nariman Farvardin](#), Monmouth University President Pat Leahy, and Seton Hall University President Joe Nyre.

Stevens Sign Illumination Event

On September 23rd, Stevens Institute of Technology hosted an event to celebrate the grand [illumination of the STEVENS sign](#) atop the University Center Complex. With hundreds of students, faculty, staff, alumni and members of the Hoboken community in attendance, the university celebrated the significant progress made in the last decade, their partnership with the City of Hoboken and, importantly, the future of their great university. They all proudly watched as the Stevens sign was lit for the first time, visible to New York City.

Fox 5 in New York covered the event in its 10 pm [news segment](#) and shared some impressive statistics about Stevens! Congratulations to the Stevens' community on this proud moment.

Madison, New Jersey named as the #2 College Town

Madison, NJ was named as the [2nd best college town in the country](#) for families according to realtor.com, thanks to it being home to Fairleigh Dickinson University and Drew University.

Student Voices

ICUNJ Scholar, Breyana Jivraj, Bloomfield College Class of 2022, is a Schering-Plough Undergraduate Research Scholarship Recipient. Originally intending to be a chiropractor when she first entered Bloomfield College, Breyana says, "through the teaching staff and mentors I had at the college, I found Oncology to be a route that interests me a lot. In the future, I am hoping to be a pediatric oncologist and do research in that field." Breyana says that the ICUNJ scholarship has helped her so much as an international student. "Getting this scholarship has taken a weight off my shoulders for my tuition this past year."