

# Westminster Rankings

## Westminster is #1 College for Women in Science, Math Fields

NEW WILMINGTON, PA — Westminster College ranks first in the nation as the “Best College for Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math (STEM),” according to rankings by *Forbes.com*.

*Forbes* contrasted Westminster’s rural setting in New Wilmington, Pennsylvania’s Amish country with its national leadership role in producing exceptional female graduates in the STEM fields. The article and rankings can be found at [www.westminster.edu/about/Forbes.cfm](http://www.westminster.edu/about/Forbes.cfm)

“I think our success in recruiting women into STEM is a result of prospective students interacting with successful women faculty and seeing lots of women students in the science classrooms and labs,” said Dr. Helen Boylan, associate professor of chemistry and Westminster alumna.

Westminster’s math and computer science department is 50% female, while the national average is below 15%, according to a study done by the National Science Foundation. *Forbes* noted 36% of Westminster’s 2008 graduating class received their degrees in STEM fields and unusually, more of those STEM graduates were women than men.

“First we tackled the issue of which schools are best for women in STEM disciplines,” according to *Forbes*. “We began by assuming that women studying science want to attend a school that’s good at teaching science, not just good at teaching women. So we took all 400 schools in *Forbes*’ ranking of America’s Best Colleges and eliminated those where overall STEM populations were extremely small, and where men obtained STEM degrees at very low rates.

“Then we ranked the remaining schools based on how closely they approached an ideal where STEM classrooms look like the school overall; in other words, if a school’s student body is 60% female and 40% male, a 20-person engineering have 12 female students and eight male. The results? Pennsylvania’s Westminster College came in first place.”



### Best Colleges for Women in STEM

#### 1. Westminster College

2. Colby College
3. SUNY College of Environmental Science and Forestry
4. Harvey Mudd College
5. Williams College
6. Tuskegee University
7. Polytechnic Institute of New York University
8. California Institute of Technology
9. United States Coast Guard Academy
10. Colorado School of Mines
11. Worcester Polytechnic Institute
12. Earlham College
13. Embry Riddle Aeronautical University-Daytona Beach
14. Wofford College
15. St. Mary’s University
16. Albion College
17. Colorado College
18. Massachusetts Institute of Technology
19. St. Lawrence University
20. Stevens Institute of Technology

A campus visit is the best way to discover which college is right for you.

Visit [www.westminster.edu](http://www.westminster.edu) or call **1-800-942-8033**

to learn more about Westminster College.

# Westminster Rankings

## Newsweek Ranks Westminster College 15<sup>th</sup> Nationally of 'Most Service-Minded Schools'

Westminster College is ranked 15<sup>th</sup> in the nation of the "Most Service-Minded Schools," according to the 2010 *Newsweek* college rankings.

*Newsweek* evaluated 510 colleges and universities in compiling the rankings and recognized Westminster's commitment to community service, graduation and placement rates, and vibrant campus life in an online profile.

"With 1,469 undergraduates and a 12:1 student-to-faculty ratio, the quaint, residential community fosters a vibrant campus life with over 85 student organizations and ten national Greek Letter organizations. ... This year, the *U.S. News & World Report* ranked Westminster 15th among ranked liberal arts colleges for graduate-rate performance. In addition, over 96 percent of recent graduates have found employment or are in graduate school," *Newsweek* wrote.

*Newsweek* partners with *Washington Monthly* to determine which colleges have the most service-minded students, faculty, and policies and also calls the category "Best Schools for Do-Gooders."

Westminster was recognized by *Washington Monthly* as one of the nation's top 38 colleges. Westminster ranked 12<sup>th</sup> in the nation in "serving as a social mobility engine" by graduating a higher than expected percentage of Pell Grant recipients. Westminster was fifth nationally in "federal work-study funds spent on community service" and 17<sup>th</sup> in "staff supporting community service, the number of academic courses that incorporate service, and providing scholarships for community service."

Westminster has been named to the President's Higher Education Community Service Honor Roll for three straight years. Nearly 70% of Westminster students volunteered last year and logged over 26,000 hours of community service.

Visit <http://education.newsweek.com/index.html> to learn more about the 2010 *Newsweek* college rankings.



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### **ABOUT WESTMINSTER COLLEGE**

Founded in 1852 and related to the Presbyterian Church (U.S.A.), Westminster College ranks first in the nation as "Best College for Women in Science, Technology, Engineering and Math," according to *Forbes.com*. Westminster is a top tier liberal arts college, a national leader in graduation rate performance, and a "Great School, Great Price," according to *U.S. News Best Colleges* guide. Westminster ranked 38th among liberal arts colleges, according to the *Washington Monthly College Guide*, and is one of the most affordable national liberal arts colleges in Pennsylvania. Westminster is also honored as one of "The Best 373 Colleges" and "Best in the Northeast" by *The Princeton Review*, and is named to the President's Honor Roll for excellence in service learning.

Nearly 1,600 undergraduate and graduate students benefit from individualized attention from dedicated faculty while choosing from 41 majors and nearly 100 organizations on the New Wilmington, Pa., campus. Visit [www.westminster.edu/](http://www.westminster.edu/) advantage to view "Advantage: Westminster" A Strategic Plan 2010-2020.

# Westminster Rankings

## U.S. News names Westminster to 'Great Schools, Great Prices' list

NEW WILMINGTON, Pa. — Westminster College was included in the “Great Schools, Great Prices” list in the *U.S. News & World Report's 2011 Best Colleges* guide and also ranked in the top ten in Graduation Rate Performance.

According to *U.S. News*, the “Great Schools, Great Prices” category attempts to show which colleges and universities offer students the best value based on academic quality and the net cost of attendance. *U.S. News* considers the most significant values to be among colleges that are above average academically and rank in the top half of academic categories.

Westminster was one of only four Pennsylvania colleges included in “Great Schools, Great Prices” along with Swarthmore, Haverford, and Bryn Mawr. Amherst College in Massachusetts topped the list. Westminster ranked 35<sup>th</sup> among 266 National Liberal Arts Colleges with 83% of students receiving need-based grants and a \$20,067 average cost after receiving need-based grants.

Westminster ranked tied for eighth in Graduate Rate Performance among National Liberal Arts Colleges. The category measures educational outcomes based on the difference between a school's actual graduation rate the one predicted by *U.S. News* based on the students' test scores and institutional resources. Westminster's 77% graduation rate was 12 percent higher than predicted.

Westminster was once again recognized as a top tier National Liberal Arts College by *U.S. News*. Westminster ranked tied for 119<sup>th</sup> overall.

“One of the tenets of our Advantage: Westminster Strategic Plan is that Westminster College will remain a high-value liberal arts college, providing recognized excellence in undergraduate education at a competitive price,” said Westminster College President Dr. Richard Dorman. “Research on the impact of college on students has repeatedly and conclusively demonstrated that the strongest intellectual and social development of students occurs at smaller, private, liberal arts colleges. However, the cost of those colleges is rapidly exceeding family affordability. Westminster remains an affordable choice while maintaining a commitment to educational excellence and exceptional student outcomes.”

The exclusive rankings, which include rankings of more than 1,400 schools nationwide, are available at [www.usnews.com/colleges](http://www.usnews.com/colleges). This year 266 colleges were included in the National Liberal Arts Colleges category and these institutions emphasize undergraduate education and award at least 50 percent of their degrees in the arts and sciences.

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## Best Colleges 2011

### Best Values: National Liberal Arts Colleges

1. Amherst College
2. Williams College
3. Wellesley College
4. Pomona College
5. Swarthmore College
6. Hamilton College
7. Grinnell College
8. Bowdoin College
9. Claremont McKenna College
10. University of Richmond
11. Vassar College
12. Presbyterian College
13. Smith College
14. Virginia Military Institute
15. Agnes Scott College
16. Ripon College
17. Haverford College
18. Macalester College
19. Middlebury College
20. Wesleyan University
21. Hanover College
22. Wabash College
23. Trinity College
24. Mount Holyoke College
25. Carleton College
26. Centre College
27. Cornell College
28. Colgate University
29. Wofford College
30. Bryn Mawr College
31. Harvey Mudd College
32. Bates College
33. Fisk University
34. Beloit College
35. **Westminster College**
36. Scripps College
37. Thomas Aquinas College
38. Transylvania University
39. Colby College
40. Washington and Lee University

# Westminster Rankings

## *Washington Monthly* ranks Westminster 38th nationally

NEW WILMINGTON, Pa. — Westminster College is ranked 38th in the nation's 252 top liberal arts colleges, according to the *Washington Monthly 2010 College Guide*.

*Washington Monthly* ranks the nation's colleges and universities on their contribution to the public good in three broad categories: Social Mobility (recruiting and graduating low-income students); Research (producing cutting-edge scholarship and PhDs); and Service (encouraging students to give something back to their country through Peace Corps and ROTC service).

Westminster ranked 12th in the nation in "serving as a social mobility engine" by graduating a higher than expected percentage of Pell Grant recipients. Westminster was fifth nationally in "federal work-study funds spent on community service" and 17th in "staff supporting community service, the number of academic courses that incorporate service, and providing scholarships for community service."

"Westminster takes pride in creating and maintaining an environment that provides an exceptional educational experience for our students," Westminster College President Dr. Richard Dorman said. "Our 18,000 alumni are sterling examples of Westminster's ability to help transform lives."

"In our eyes, America's best colleges are those that work hardest to help economically disadvantaged students earn the credentials that the job market demands. They're the institutions that contribute new scientific discoveries and highly trained PhDs. They're the colleges that emphasize the obligations students have to serve their communities and the nation at large," according to Paul Glastris, *Washington Monthly College Guide* editor.

## *Princeton Review: Westminster a 'Best 373,' 'Best in Northeast'*

NEW WILMINGTON, Pa. — Westminster College is one of the country's best institutions for undergraduate education, according to *The Princeton Review*. The education services company features Westminster in the new 2011 edition of its annual college guide, "The Best 373 Colleges."

Westminster is also honored as one of "Best in the Northeast." For the third straight year, Westminster earned special recognition for its relationship with the community in the "Town-Gown Relations are Great" category, and Westminster's student radio station, WWNW 88.9FM, earned recognition as one of the "Best College Radio Stations."

Only about 15% of the America's 2,500 four-year colleges and two Canadian colleges are included in the book.

The guide's editors noted Westminster's increasing selectivity, cozy atmosphere and well-regarded pre-professional programs. Students surveyed described Westminster as a place "where professors are dedicated to helping students on all levels from within the classroom and outside of class, in fact professors are known to call students on the weekends at home to discuss coursework."

Other comments included, "The community is like a family bound together with blue and white pride and a love for the people who are attending and those who have moved on. Once you become a part of the Westminster tradition, it lasts a lifetime."

"We commend Westminster College for its outstanding academics, which is the primary criteria for our choice of schools for the book," according to Robert Franek, *Princeton Review's* senior vice president of publishing and author of "The Best 373 Colleges." "Our choices based on institutional data we collect about schools, our visits to the schools over the years, feedback we gather from students attending the schools, and the opinions of our staff and our 28-member National College Counselor Advisory Board."

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