

Indian Hills Ranked in the Top 10% of All Community Colleges in the Nation

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The Aspen Institute is conducting its third search for the nation's top community college, and for the third consecutive time they have ranked Indian Hills Community College in the top 10 percent of all community colleges in the country.

Indian Hills officials were notified earlier this year that IHCC made the list of the top 150 community colleges, making it eligible to compete for the biennial Aspen Prize and its \$1 million in prize money. After the number of schools was cut in half, down to 75 colleges, IHCC remained in contention, ranked among the top five percent of community colleges nationally.



Eventually, ten finalists will be named this fall with the winner announced in early 2015.

"Indian Hills is delighted to once again be one of the colleges recognized by the Aspen Institute," said IHCC President Dr. Marlene Sprouse. "This third recognition affirms that we continue to get better and are able to compete with the nation's other community colleges."

The Prize, awarded every two years, recognizes high achievement and performance among America's community colleges and rewards institutions for exceptional student outcomes in four areas: student learning, certificate and degree completion, employment and earnings, and high levels of access and success for minority and low-income students.

"This competition is designed to spotlight the excellent work being done in the most effective community colleges," said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program. "Those [are the] colleges that best help students obtain meaningful, high-quality education and training for competitive-wage jobs after college."

Indian Hills is in the process of preparing documents detailing how IHCC is performing in the four areas in which the 75 schools are being judged.

"Our faculty and staff are to be commended for the work they do to make students successful, and our students are to be commended for rising to their success," said Dr. Sprouse. "I am proud of everyone involved in our getting this honor."

The [Aspen Institute](http://www.aspeninstitute.org) is an educational and policy studies organization based in Washington, D.C.