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University Relations

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## **Morris Named a "Best Bang for the Buck" School**

*Summary: The exclusive listing identifies colleges helping students earn degrees at affordable prices.*

(August 29, 2013)-Washington Monthly released its annual [College Guide and Rankings](#), which includes an additional listing of ["Best-Bang-for-the-Buck"](#) schools. This exclusive list acknowledges American colleges that best help students attain marketable degrees at affordable prices. Of the 349 schools included, the University of Minnesota, Morris was ranked 27th. It was the most highly ranked of the 14 Minnesota schools listed and was one of just eight institutions named a ["Standout Best-Bang for-the-Buck"](#) school.

In this list of standout schools, Washington Monthly notes that Morris students, one-third of whom are first-generation college students, shoulder the lowest debt burden in the University of Minnesota system—and one of the lowest in the Midwest. The Monthly adds, "The public school price tag, in tandem with a low student-to-faculty ratio of 15 to 1 and other private/liberal arts school attributes, makes Morris a unique value proposition."

The "Best-Bang-for-the-Buck" listing includes only 349 of the 1,572 institutions included in the magazine's [broader rankings](#). [To be named a "Best-Bang-for-the-Buck" school](#), a college must have at least 20 percent of its students receiving Pell Grants as well as a graduation rate of at least 50 percent, an actual graduation rate at or above the rate predicted by the number of lower-income students admitted, and a student-loan default rate of 10 percent or less. Schools meeting these criteria are then ranked based on their net price of attendance.

In the Monthly's overall rankings, Morris was ranked 112 out of 255 notable liberal arts colleges. For this listing, institutions are judged on three broad and equally weighted categories: social mobility, research, and service. The rankings reflect each college's achievement across the full breadth of measures, holding no single category higher than any other.

Founded in 1969, Washington Monthly is a bimonthly nonprofit magazine covering politics, government, culture, and the media. The College Guide and Rankings appear in the magazine's September/October issue and are available online at its College Guide [website](#).

Through personal and academic discovery, the University of Minnesota, Morris provides opportunities for students to grow intellectually, engage in community, experience environmental stewardship and celebrate diversity. A renewable and sustainable educational experience, Morris prepares graduates for careers, for advanced degrees, for lifelong learning, for work world flexibility in the future, and for global citizenship. Learn more about Morris at [morris.umn.edu](http://morris.umn.edu) or call 888-866-3382.