

UW-Stevens Point news

Stevens Point Marshfield Wausau

University Communications and Marketing

Media Relations 715-346-3572

ucm@uwsp.edu www.uwsp.edu/ucm

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UW-Stevens Point named a 2025-26 College of Distinction

In a higher education landscape often dominated by rankings and test scores, the University of Wisconsin-Stevens Point has been recognized for what truly matters: a transformative undergraduate experience.

UW-Stevens Point has been named a 2025-2026 College of Distinction, a prestigious designation awarded to schools whose commitment to engaged, experiential education sets them apart.

This recognition is based on Colleges of Distinction's evaluating criteria known as the Four Distinctions: *Engaged Students, Great Teaching, Vibrant Community and Successful Outcomes*. Through extensive research and interviews, Colleges of Distinction identifies institutions that make a meaningful impact on students' lives, not just ones that fight their way to the top of rankings lists.

"UW-Stevens Point has crafted a campus culture where students are empowered to take ownership of their learning," said Tyson Schritter, chief operating officer at Colleges of Distinction. "Its programs reflect the kind of innovation and intentionality that prepare students for life after graduation."

Unlike rankings that focus on prestige-driven metrics, Colleges of Distinction highlights schools that champion educational impact. That includes everything from first-year seminars and collaborative projects to undergraduate research, global learning, and internships. UW-Stevens Point's inclusion is a result of its commitment to these high-impact practices and the personalized support it offers students throughout their college journey.

"Engaged students are more successful academically and feel a stronger sense of belonging," said Interim Chancellor Pratima Gandhi. "UW-Stevens Point offers experiential learning as well as a wide variety of opportunities through student organizations, athletics, research, campus employment and community building. Our faculty and staff encourage our students to be actively involved in their learning and campus life to ensure their success."

"We've never believed in ranking schools," Schritter said. "Our goal is to celebrate institutions that help students find their place, their purpose, and their potential. UWSP stands out for creating an environment where students thrive not just academically, but as whole people."

UW-Stevens Point was also recognized for its affordability and transferability, as well as programs in business, education, engineering and nursing.

To view UW-Stevens Point's profile or learn more about its programs, visit <https://collegesofdistinction.com/school/uw-stevens-point/>.

About Colleges of Distinction

Since 2000, Colleges of Distinction has been committed to recognizing schools across the United States for their exceptional contributions to higher education. Member institutions within the Colleges of Distinction consortium distinguish themselves through their unwavering focus on providing an outstanding undergraduate experience. Their website offers dynamic college profiles, customized tools and valuable resources for students, parents, and high school counselors. For more information and to discover how to become a College of Distinction, visit CollegesofDistinction.com.