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Xavier University of Louisiana gets the highest grade from students for career preparation among Southern schools—and among all schools—in the WSJ/THE College Rankings. Photo: Xavier University of Louisiana

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Colleges in the South Rated Highest by Students for Career Prep

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Xavier University of Louisiana leads schools in the South based on students' opinions on how well their college or university is preparing them for their career.

A survey of students conducted for [The Wall Street Journal/Times Higher Education College Rankings](#) asked students how well they feel their school is preparing them for their chosen career. Students were asked to rate their school on a scale of zero to 10.

Xavier's average rating was 9.7, the highest of any school in the South—and the top nationwide, based on the more than 1,000 schools that were included in the WSJ/THE rankings.

Students' ratings for career preparation weren't included in calculating the WSJ/THE rankings. But the rankings did place significant emphasis on outcomes, such as graduate salaries, that are tied to career success.

In the outcomes category of the WSJ/THE rankings—one of four categories used to measure schools—Xavier was No. 288 nationwide. Of the Southern schools that were ranked in the top 10 in the region in the career preparation survey, the highest outcomes rating went to the Georgia Institute of Technology, which was No. 26 in the category nationally.

You can see how schools in the Northeast, Midwest and West were rated for career preparation, and see the full WSJ/THE College Rankings at on.wsj.com/college-rankings-2016. Regions are defined using U.S. Census Bureau data.

Top 10 Colleges in the South Rated Highest by Students for Career Prep

1. Xavier University of Louisiana
2. Spalding University
3. North Carolina A&T
4. Georgia Institute of Technology
5. Auburn University
6. Florida A&M University
7. Thomas More College
8. Texas Christian University
9. Meredith College
10. Texas Lutheran