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MDC named a finalist for \$1 million prize

Miami Dade College is one of 10 community college nationwide named as finalists for the \$1 million Aspen Prize.

In December, the winner and up to three runners-up will be named.

“Strong, consistent leadership has helped Miami Dade College achieve outstanding results,” said Josh Wyner, executive director of the Aspen Institute’s College Excellence Program. “Miami Dade College is at the forefront of efforts to raise graduation rates and serve as a gateway to prosperity for its students.”

The Aspen College Excellence Program aims to identify and replicate campus-wide practices that significantly improve college student outcomes. Through the Aspen Prize for Community College Excellence, projects targeting a new generation of college leaders, and other initiatives, the College Excellence Program works to improve colleges’ understanding and capacity to teach and graduate students, especially the growing population of low-income and minority students on American campuses.

Many of MDC’s students are minorities — 65.2 percent Hispanic, 16.5 percent black — and 76 percent are low-income, making its student body not just the largest but also one of the most diverse in the country.

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