

News Release

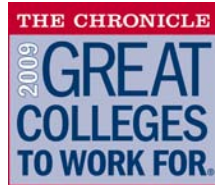
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LAKE AREA
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Lake Area Technical Institute Named *Chronicle of Higher Education's* 2009 Great Colleges to Work For

Ranked in the Top Three of Two-Year Colleges in the Nation

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

Washington, D.C. – July 6, 2009 – **Lake Area Technical Institute** of Watertown, SD has been recognized by *The Chronicle of Higher Education's* 2009 Great Colleges to Work For® program, according to the results of the second annual survey announced in a special supplement of *The Chronicle* today <http://chronicle.com/indepth/academicworkplace>.

In addition to being recognized, **Lake Area Technical Institute was named to the Honor Roll as one of the top three schools in their size classification**, based on the number of times they were recognized in the individual recognition categories. Lake Area Tech ranked in the top three in 12 of the 15 categories, tying for first with Mid-South Community College of Arkansas. The results are based on responses from nearly 41,000 administrators, faculty members, and staff members at those institutions.

The Chronicle's Great Colleges to Work For® program recognizes colleges (based on enrollment size) for specific best practices and policies, such as compensation and benefits, faculty-administration relations, and confidence in senior leadership. There are 26 recognition categories for four-year institutions, and 15 categories for two-year colleges. Among four-year colleges, 122 institutions were recognized in at least one category. Among two-year institutions, 28 were recognized in at least one category.

Lake Area Technical Institute President, Deb Shephard comments, "This is a tribute to our staff and an honor to be recognized at the national level. I believe one of the reasons we ranked so highly is our staff enjoys both our students and the changes in technology that occur daily in this particular profession. Our entire team works collaboratively to be forward thinking and prepares for the challenges ahead."

The Great Colleges survey included a two part assessment process: a survey administered to faculty, administrators, and professional-support staff and an institutional audit that captured demographics and workplace policies and practices from each institution. The primary factor in deciding whether an institution received recognition was the employee feedback collected from the faculty and staff.

“Despite the down economy, colleges are still hiring,” says Jeffrey J. Selingo, the editor of *The Chronicle of Higher Education*. “Through this program, The Chronicle is able to provide more information to job seekers about the colleges that are the leading innovators when it comes to providing a rewarding work environment.”

To learn more about the 2010 Great Colleges Program visit the program website at <http://www.chroniclegreatcolleges.com>.

About The Chronicle of Higher Education

The Chronicle of Higher Education is the No. 1 source of news, information, and jobs for college and university faculty members and administrators.

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