

# NATIONAL STUDENT CLEARINGHOUSE®

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## **Rick Torres, President/CEO of the National Student Clearinghouse, Selected as a 2013 Minority Business Leader Award Winner**

Herndon, Virginia, March 21, 2013– Rick Torres, president and CEO of the National Student Clearinghouse® in Herndon, Va., has been honored as a 2013 Minority Business Leader by the *Washington Business Journal*. The Clearinghouse is the nation's trusted source for education verification and student educational outcomes research.

Each year, the *Washington Business Journal* recognizes the Washington region's top minority business leaders based on demonstrated business success over the past 12 to 18 months. Nominees are judged on professional accomplishments, community leadership, awards, and milestones. Mr. Torres is one of the 25 honorees selected for 2013.

Mr. Torres joined the National Student Clearinghouse as its president in 2008. Since then, participation in the Clearinghouse has grown to include more than 3,300 institutions, nearly 7,000 high schools, and over 800 school districts. Under his leadership, the organization also created the National Student Clearinghouse® Research Center™ in 2010, which is rapidly becoming the preeminent source for data on student enrollment information and completion outcomes. He has also made significant efforts in developing an organizational culture that focuses on individual achievement as well as group success while improving work-life balance. To this end, the Clearinghouse was recognized in 2012 with the Best Place for Work-Life Balance Award from Constangy, Brooks & Smith, LLP.

Mr. Torres is a longstanding Foundation Board member of the John Tyler Community College in Richmond, Va. He also serves on the board of the American Association of Community Colleges and on the board of the National College Access Network. Mr. Torres volunteers for many community-based charities, including as a fundraiser for Ronald McDonald House Charities, Greater Washington, D.C. Prior to joining the Clearinghouse, Mr. Torres was COO at Best Practices, Inc., and, previous to that, at Capital One Financial Corporation. He has also held leadership positions at Philip Morris Companies and PepsiCo.

### **About the National Student Clearinghouse**

The National Student Clearinghouse (a nonprofit formed in 1993) is the unique and trusted source for higher education enrollment and degree verifications. The Clearinghouse serves as a single point of contact for the collection and timely exchange of accurate and comprehensive enrollment, degree, and certificate records on behalf of its more than 3,300 participating higher education institutions, which represent nearly 97 percent of all students in public and private U.S. institutions. The Clearinghouse also provides thousands of high schools and districts with continuing collegiate enrollment, progression, and completion statistics on their alumni.

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Through its verification and reporting services, the Clearinghouse saves the education community cumulatively nearly four hundred million dollars annually. Most Clearinghouse services are provided to colleges and universities at little or no charge, including enhanced transcript and research services, enabling institutions to redistribute limited staff and budget resources to more important student service efforts. Clearinghouse services are designed to facilitate an institution's compliance with the Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act, The Higher Education Act, and other applicable laws.

In addition, the Clearinghouse provides accurate, timely enrollment and degree verifications to student loan providers, employers, student credit issuers, the U.S. Department of Education, and others who access its registry more than half a billion times annually.

For more information, visit [www.studentclearinghouse.org](http://www.studentclearinghouse.org).

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