

## **Three USF Online Programs Rank in Top 25 Nationally**

*Two USF programs recognized by U.S. News & World Report as the best among Florida's public universities*

**TAMPA, Fla. (Jan. 12, 2016)** – In new rankings released Tuesday by [U.S. News & World Report](#), three University of South Florida online graduate programs appear in the top 25 nationally, including two showing substantial improvement from last year. Two USF programs, graduate computer information technology and graduate engineering, rank the highest among public universities in Florida.

According to U.S. News, the 2016 “Best Online Programs” rankings are [based on a number of factors](#), including student engagement, faculty credentials and student services and technology.

“The University of South Florida is proud to have three programs included within the Top 25 of U.S. News and World Reports’ national rankings of online programs,” said USF Provost and Executive Vice President Ralph Wilcox. “These online STEM and business focused graduate degrees are a critical component of our strategic effort to increase student access and provide high-quality programs that align degree offerings and workforce needs. The university remains committed to maximizing career readiness and advancement, together with ensuring that our students graduate well prepared and ready to compete successfully in the global workforce.”

At 14<sup>th</sup>, USF’s graduate computer IT program received the highest ranking. This is the first year U.S. News has included the category in its annual rankings.

U.S. News ranks USF’s graduate engineering program 20<sup>th</sup>, the highest of any public university in Florida. Since 2014, no state university has improved more in this category than USF.

USF’s graduate business program (excluding MBA) ranks 22nd, representing a five place improvement from 2015. Last year’s rankings were the first time that graduate business programs were categorized separately from MBA programs.

USF’s graduate education program is also ranked 36<sup>th</sup> by U.S. News.

For more information on the university’s online programs and courses, visit [USF Innovative Education](#).

*The University of South Florida is a high-impact, global research university dedicated to student success. USF is a Top 50 research university among both public and private institutions nationwide in total research expenditures, according to the National Science Foundation. Serving nearly 48,000 students, the USF System has an annual budget of \$1.5 billion and an annual economic impact of \$4.4 billion. USF is a member of the American Athletic Conference.*

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