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FAMU ranks high in the '20-30' club for public institutions in Florida on website

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Florida A&M has received high marks from a new, online ranking organization.

Online College Database recently announced the 19 most affordable colleges in Florida based on average starting salaries for graduates and tuition costs. The list is called the "Florida 20-30 Club," as it is comprised only of universities that are less than \$20,000 in annual tuition and where graduates have an average starting salary of at least \$30,000.

FAMU came in at No. 4 on the list, with an

average starting salary of \$41,000. It is also the second public institution on the list, after the University of Florida, which is ranked third overall, with an average starting salary of \$46,200.

Delores Dean, the director of FAMU's Career Center, said this ranking shows that FAMU's students can receive a job with a high-paying salary after graduating.

"Coming from the Career Center, it's because of the programs and services we have as well as the companies on campus recruiting, such as Fortune 500 companies," Dean said. "We

encourage students to utilize the services in the Career Center and take advantage of the programs available on campus."

One of the services offered by the Career Center is helping students find internships. Dean said that students who obtain internships during college start preparing early and can later have a good job when they leave.

"Nine times out of 10, students are hired out of internships," Dean said.

Florida State University was listed at No. 10 by College Database, with an average starting salary of \$39,000.

The top two spots are

taken by the private institutions Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University in Daytona Beach and the Florida Hospital College of Health Sciences in Orlando.

College Database was created earlier this year, with the ranking system aiming to help students and families make the best decision on college investments. The website also includes a complete list of all educational institutions in the nation by state, including technical schools, community colleges, and online schools. The complete list can be found at onlinecolleges-database.org.