

Education

Cultivating precious resources
in the perfect learning
environment



BUSINESS DEVELOPMENT BOARD



PALM BEACH
COUNTY'S

Economic
Development
Resource



Palm Beach County's Excellent Education Opportunities are **INCLUSIVE, INTELLIGENT, EXPANSIVE, AND INVENTIVE**

With a passionate focus on quality and achievement from pre-K to Ph.D., Palm Beach County's education ecosystem knows our children will compete in globally interconnected markets, and work in a knowledge-based economy that demands high-level skills. Our education-intensive focus prepares the next generation for constant evolution by providing exceptional quality for all students in public and private institutions.

Points of Pride:

- Palm Beach Atlantic University and Lynn University ranked as the Best Regional Universities in the South - according to *U.S. News & World Report* (2018)
- Florida Atlantic University ranked in Best National Universities according to *U.S. News & World Report* (2018)
- Suncoast Community High School made the list of top 500 national high schools according to *Newsweek* magazine (2018)
- The School District of Palm Beach County has a 90% graduation rate, 68% of its students from 2017 attended a postsecondary institution, and 71% of its schools are rated A and B
- Florida Atlantic University's A.D. Henderson University School has been named the No. 2 Best Public Elementary School and the No. 8 Best Public Middle School in America by Niche, the largest website for researching public and private K-12 schools

Public Schools

The School District of Palm Beach County is the fifth-largest school system in Florida and the 11th-largest in the country, with 185 schools serving more than 183,000 (total K-12) students. It is also one of the most highly regarded urban school districts in the nation, earning another "A" rating with the highest number of District-operated "A" schools compared with other large urban school districts.

Three Palm Beach County public high schools ranked in the Top 100 nationwide on a list released by *The Washington Post* of the nation's most challenging high

Uniquely Positioned for Academic Excellence

In the School District of Palm Beach County, 197 countries and territories of birth are represented – creating cultural vibrancy and uniquely positioning us to take advantage of the shift toward economic and cultural globalization. It is reflected in the curricula of our schools, the diverse populations they serve, and the skills and expertise our students ultimately bring to the workforce.

The School District of Palm Beach County is a national leader in the quality and diversity of its Career Academies and Choice programs, with 279 award-winning options that include:

25 Medical programs	9 Performing Arts Choice programs
19 Aerospace, Engineering, and STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Math) programs	8 Biotechnology and Environmental programs
19 Culinary Choice programs	5 Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE) Programs from University of Cambridge
16 International Baccalaureate Choice programs	4 Construction programs
15 Teacher and Early Childhood Education programs	3 Veterinarian Sciences programs
12 ROTC programs	3 Hospitality and Tourism programs
11 Information Technology programs	1 in Biomedical, Engineering, Animation, and Robotics
10 Business, Finance, International Business, and Marketing	

Additional Choice Academies include:

Pre-Law, Fashion Design, International Spanish, Auto Collision and Mechanics, Sports Management

Our public schools also offer various language courses, including:

Chinese, French, Italian, Latin, Spanish, Haitian, Creole, American Sign Language

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schools: Suncoast High School, Boca Raton Community High School, and Alexander W. Dreyfoos School of the Arts. Suncoast is most consistently renowned with its four ultra-rigorous programs in Computer Science, International Baccalaureate, Innovative Interactive Technology, and Math/Science/Engineering.

The School District of Palm Beach County offers one of the nation's most-recognized and extensive Advanced Studies programs including Advanced Placement; 16 different International Baccalaureate program choices; middle school Pre-International Baccalaureate; Science, Technology, Engineering, and Math (STEM); and Cambridge University's Advanced International Certificate of Education (AICE). The District also has Gifted and Art programs in all school levels.

There are more than 50 charter schools sponsored and administered through our School District. They are public schools, and the District's Charter Department provides them academic, financial, operational, and technical assistance. Many offer a traditional curriculum track, but there are schools specializing in everything from art to maritime sciences.

A. D. Henderson University School is a public school and part of Florida Atlantic University Schools. It outperforms the majority in high school and university course work, due to its students' rigorous academic schedules, and the intensity of course work provided to them.

Palm Beach County provides education opportunities for children with special needs from birth to age 22. The School District provides an innovative Exceptional Student Education program through its public schools, as well as charter and private schools offering an array of specialized education options.

Private and Faith-Based Schools

Palm Beach County and South Florida have a significant number of highly regarded private and faith-based K-12 schools, offering educational opportunities including college prep schools, alternative schools, schools with strong religious affiliations, art and music academies, special needs, Montessori education, and more. Palm Beach County can boast the #1

Who We Are

The Business Development Board of Palm Beach County is the official public/private economic development organization for Palm Beach County, and Palm Beach County partner of Enterprise Florida. Founded in 1982 as a not-for-profit corporation, our primary purpose is to attract and retain a spectrum of new industry, business investment, high-quality jobs, and workforce development through corporate relocations, expansions, and international trade, stimulating economic energy, promoting business diversity, and enriching the County's vitality. The Business Development Board is essentially your one-stop resource for information on relocating your business to or expanding in Palm Beach County.

The BDB offers free and confidential services, including:

- Confidential project management assistance
- Site inventory on available industrial buildings, land, and office space
- Site tours conducted by our relocation and expansion staff
- Information on grants, financial assistance, and financial incentives available through the State of Florida, Palm Beach County, and local municipalities
- Introductions to CareerSource Palm Beach County's employee-training programs
- Tours of public and private educational institutions
- Introductions to government and business leaders
- Provide information on available housing and cost-of-living data
- Information on government zoning and permitting
- Local buyer and supplier information
- Demographics and labor market information
- Available services and rates for utilities, communications, and transportation
- Overview of Palm Beach County's lifestyle, including recreational and cultural amenities for relocating families

During the past five years, the BDB assisted relocation and expansion projects that helped create and retain more than 13,382 direct jobs with average salaries greater than \$69,923, resulting in more than \$668 million in capital investment to Palm Beach County and an overall economic impact exceeding \$7.33 billion.

Additional information can be found at the BDB's website, www.BDB.org.

***PBCedu.org** is part of an initiative spearheaded by the Business Development Board of Palm Beach County, in partnership with the School District of Palm Beach County; a consortium of the county's private, faith-based, and charter schools; area university presidents; and educational and economic organizations, groups, and individuals. Its purpose is to provide easy access to top-line data about the county's educational resources, and a portal to each individual school's site for more in-depth information.*



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Pine Crest School, Boca Raton

An Abundance of Great Choices. A detailed overview of the strength and diversity of the education and training opportunities available in Palm Beach County and South Florida is on our website at PBCedu.org, where you will find a wealth of information and our database of top-tier education options.



Saint Andrew's School, Boca Raton



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private school for National Merit Scholars (American Heritage, with campuses in Delray Beach and Plantation); private schools offering impressive options from the AICE to ultra-high-scoring Advanced Placement programs; International Studies programs provide an opportunity to develop four Global Competencies; day school/boarding academies offer International Baccalaureate Primary Years, Middle Years, and Diploma Programmes; and Immersion Programs in everything from environmental research and marine biology to medicine. Palm Beach County is also home to high-scoring faith-based schools that represent every religious tradition.

Many graduates from Palm Beach County's public and private schools are accepted to Harvard, Princeton, Yale, Cornell, Georgetown, Northwestern, and other highly competitive schools.



Palm Beach State College, Palm Beach Gardens campus

Colleges and Universities

From the University of Miami in Coral Gables to the Fort Pierce campus of Florida Atlantic University, there are 16 higher-learning institutions. They are spread over 25 campus locations, offering superior-quality, employment-focused workforce training; progressive professional education; and opportunities for enrichment designed to meet the changing needs of a diverse community. Programs range from technical certifications to doctorates, as well as dozens of vocational and technical institutions.

Florida Atlantic University serves over 30,000 students via more than 180 undergraduate and graduate degree programs. FAU is recognized as a National Center of Academic Excellence in Information Assurance/ Cyber Defense Research. It is home to the Southeast National Marine Renewable Energy Center, and boasts an executive MBA program recognized in *Bloomberg Businessweek's* annual "Best Business Schools" report. It opened its college of medicine in 2001 which matriculates 64 medical students each year and has been nationally recognized for its innovative curriculum. With 50% of its student body classified as minority or international students, Florida Atlantic University ranks as the most racially, ethnically, and culturally diverse institution in Florida's State University System.

At Keiser University, serving more than 18,000 students, 62% graduate with degrees in science, technology, engineering, math, and healthcare fields. Keiser's educational reach also extends globally through its international programs, including the Latin Division, a cooperative agreement in the eastern European nation of Moldova, and a campus in Shanghai, China.

Ranked #1 in 2018's list of Most International Students/Regional Universities by *U.S. News and World Report's* "America's Best Colleges," Lynn University is grounded in the liberal arts, providing a collection of colleges oriented toward emerging professional opportunities for its 2,000+ students from 90 countries and 45 states and territories.

Nova Southeastern University, a pioneer in distance learning, is one of only 37 higher educational institutions nationwide to earn designations for both High Research Activity and Community Engagement from the Carnegie Foundation for the Advancement of Teaching.

At Palm Beach Atlantic University, graduates of its highly regarded nurse practitioner and pharmacy programs consistently perform above national averages on licensing exams.

Palm Beach State College, serving 49,000+ students annually with more than 100 programs of study, is ranked among the top 150 colleges in the nation by the Aspen Institute. It also boasts the ninth-lowest tuition in the nation for institutions offering four-year or higher degrees, according to the U.S. Department of Education.

To ensure that our students have access to mentors, internships, apprenticeships, and jobs, the BDB created the Academic Leaders Council. Meeting quarterly, it's comprised of university presidents, CareerSource Palm Beach County, and the superintendent of the county's School District. The council collaborates with private companies to ensure classroom curriculum aligns with skills required for high-quality jobs.

Launch Relocate Expand Develop

In The Perfect Business Climate

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