'Best Bang for the Buck'

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Washington Monthly is a bimonthly nonprofit magazine covering U.S. politics and government, based in Washington, D.C. It has published public-minded college rankings since 2005, adding the "best bang for the buck" measure in 2012. According to the publication, the rankings "reject the idea that expense, luxury, and exclusivity should be held up as the highest values for colleges and students to aspire to." Instead, the guide focuses on colleges that put the most low-income students onto the path of higher education, produce groundbreaking research that drives economic growth, and promote public service and civic engagement through their curriculum and programs.

"We're delighted to have Washington Monthly acknowledge the campus and communitywide effort that makes CSU Channel Islands one of the nation's best values in public education," said CI President Richard R. Rush. "At CI, students are at the center of our mission and everything we do. This ranking validates not only that our mission is working but also that a CI degree is earning high regard well beyond our community."

The 2014 study examined 1,540 colleges, including public, private nonprofit, and for-profit colleges, in 50 states, listed in the U.S. Department Education's Integrated Postsecondary Education Data System. The institutions had to have a Carnegie basic classification of research, master's, baccalaureate, and baccalaureate/associate's colleges; participate in federal financial aid programs; and could not be exclusively graduate schools. For more information and to view the rankings, visithttp://www.washingtonmonthly.com/college_guide/rankings-2014/best-bang-for-buck-masters-universities-rank.php.