

Bronx grads make more money than Ivy Leaguers

By <u>Melkorka Licea</u> and Laura Italiano May 28, 2015 | 1:41am



Screw Harvard — if you want to be a top earner in your chosen field, just go to college in The Bronx, a new study shows.

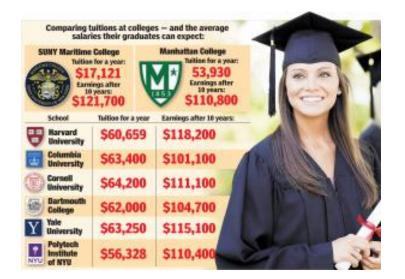
Humble Manhattan College in Riverdale and unassuming SUNY Maritime College in Throggs Neck surpass all eight Ivy League schools at catapulting students toward financial success, according to numbers-crunchers at the Brookings Institution. Students at the two Bronx schools make much greater leaps in earning power than those at more renowned institutions such as Harvard, Yale and Dartmouth, giving them a higher ranking than all the Ivies — and nearly all of the 7,000 two- and four-year institutions — included in the study.

Students at tiny, 1,400-student Maritime will typically rake in a hefty \$121,700 10 years after they graduate, according to the nonprofit Washington think tank.

That's for \$43,538 less in tuition a year than at Harvard, where grads 10 years down the road typically pull down \$118,200 a year, the data show.

"I'm not scared to take out loans because I'll be making my money back quick," boasted Jake Tuer, 20, a small-vessel operations major at SUNY Maritime, where students study marine-related engineering, business and environmental sciences.

Earnings in a decade aren't too shabby at 3,675-student Manhattan College either — grads there will typically make a cool \$110,800 in a decade, the stats show.



"Why buy the \$200 Beats headphones when you can just buy the Sony ones — they're just as good," said Gerald Ross, a 19-year-old mechanical engineering major at Manhattan College.

"The only difference is that the dads will be sitting around at the barbecue, and their dad will get to say, 'Oh, well, my son goes to Yale,' "Ross joked on campus Wednesday.

His earning potential is nearly 50 percent higher than what would be predicted at a school with similar student demographics, including family income, high school grades

and ethnic background.

Meanwhile, at the Big Apple's only Ivy, Columbia University, graduates earn \$101,100, after 10 years — lowest among the Ivies, the data show.

"There are some surprises," Brookings fellow Jonathan Rothwell told The Post.

Bronx Borough President Ruben Diaz Jr. said he wasn't surprised by Brookings' findings, which were calculated using publicly available data from sources that included the websites PayScale and LinkedIn.

"The quality of the education matters just as much as the logo," Diaz noted. Top salary overall after 10 years was the Massachusetts Institute of Technology, at \$128,800; lowest was Chestnut Hill College in Philadelphia, at \$43,500.

There's one downside to going to one of the local gems. Sure, former NYPD Commissioner Ray Kelly is a Manhattan College alum, but you likely won't be playing beer pong with future presidents or billionaires.

Harvard graduated John Adams. Yale graduated George W. Bush. SUNY's Maritime College graduated a slew of ocean liner captains — plus Joseph Hazelwood, notorious captain of the Exxon Valdez.