

Economic Development Division 203 S. Farwell St. Eau Claire, WI 54701 www.EauClaireDevelopment.com

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE** Contact: Mike Schatz

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## Eau Claire Recognized as One of the Best Small Places for Business and Careers

EAU CLAIRE, WI – *Forbes* recently released its annual Best Places for Business and Careers, naming Eau Claire 66<sup>th</sup> out of 184 "Small Places" with a population under 250,000.

The study used 12 metrics relating job growth, costs, incomes growth in the last five years, educational attainment, and projected economic growth through 2014. *Forbes* also considered quality of life including crime rate, cultural and recreational opportunities, and net migration patterns. Nearby college rankings were also factored in, but most weighting was given to business costs and educational attainment.

In the "Small Place" category, Eau Claire ranked 101<sup>st</sup> in Cost of Business, 93<sup>rd</sup> in Job Growth, and 48<sup>th</sup> in Education. Mike Schatz, the Economic Development Director, stated, "This is the third major national ranking that Eau Claire has received in the past month related to economic development and our workforce. We are happy to see our city recognized in such good light.

View the full report at http://www.forbes.com/best-places-for-business/list/small/.

## About the Economic Development Division:

As a division of the City of Eau Claire, our mission is to grow local businesses, facilitate expansions, and recruit outside businesses to locate in Eau Claire in order to increase quality of living, add well-paying jobs and grow tax base.

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