

About Wisconsin Grants

The twenty-four private, or independent, nonprofit colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without direct taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 57,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need financial help to attend the college of their choice.

The Wisconsin Tuition Grant, now known as Wisconsin Grants, was enacted in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Each month Wisconsin Achievers brings you success stories of Wisconsinites at WAICU member campuses for whom Wisconsin Grants have made a significant difference.

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Carthage College student views education as the key to success

For Malik Terry, attending Carthage College has resulted in the formation of important relationships and reshaped his definition of success.

Malik, a marketing and management major from Milwaukee, originally chose to attend Carthage because of its proximity to friends and family, but also to play collegiate football. However, after finishing his freshman season, Malik realized something that changed his collegiate career: playing football wasn't enough.

"I'm a first-generation college student, and I didn't want my family to think I just went to college for football," Malik says. "I want them to know that I did it for my education, to make a name for myself."

Now a sophomore, Malik recently finished an internship in analysis with Cordeck in Kenosha and has been offered a summer position as a financial representative at Northwestern Mutual, a financial services company. He credits his Carthage education for bringing him this knowledge and experience.

In addition to being active in the professional world, Malik is heavily involved on the Carthage campus. He is a resident assistant; a member of Enactus, a nonprofit group that works with local businesses and outreach programs; and Velocity Consulting, a full-service marketing agency run entirely by Carthage students. He's also a former member of the NCAA Student-



Malik Terry

continued on page 2

Marian student aspires to write after graduation

A passion for writing and creativity – and a supportive family – are what led Maria Laning of Waupun, Wisconsin to pursue her bachelor's degree in English and communication.

"I chose to go to college at Marian University because it had a small town feel. The Marian community was welcoming, and the class sizes were similar to what I experienced in high school," said Maria, who is on track to graduate in 2018. "I didn't have to worry about being a faceless student in the crowd, which can happen at larger schools. I wanted to find a college that was affordable, and one where I could get to know my professors and classmates. And I found that at Marian."

Maria was not only inspired by Marian's close-knit community, but found her fit in the English program.

"My grandmother was a journalist in the 1970s and 1980s, and she had the unique opportunity to interview Maria von Trapp," said Maria. "I always looked up to my grandma, and it was just amazing to hear the story from her. She always talked about how she loved to write, and it really inspired me to want to follow in her footsteps. I have enjoyed writing since I was young, and I love getting to interview others and learn more about the world."



Maria Laning

continued on page 2

Malik Terry continued from page 1

Athlete Advisory Committee.

He believes the strong interpersonal relationships he has formed with students, professors, and administrators have helped him to find success in college. A self-described people-person, Malik says those bonds make him feel more comfortable seeking out extra help or asking additional questions.

Because of small classes, Malik created strong relationships with other students and even Carthage graduates, building his social and professional network. He says these relationships are sources of sound advice and affirm that he's on the right track.

Malik's story of change and success wouldn't have been possible without financial aid such as the Wisconsin Grant. As an independent student, Malik initially worried about paying for the remaining years of his education. He worked proactively with staff in the on-campus Office of Student Financial Planning, and the aid he received enabled him to continue to attend Carthage.

"I was lucky to find scholarships and grants that help me pay for school. I'm grateful to be here, and I can take care of myself without finances being as big of a burden," he said. "It's nice to know that I'm now able to complete my degree. Education is the key to success."

Looking forward, Malik's long-term goals include working toward self-sufficiency, but most important, forming and maintaining rewarding relationships that will continue to expand his social and professional networks.

"I'm lucky to be a part of an environment where people are forever looking to improve," Malik said. "I'm excited for the future, excited for new things coming my way."

Maria Laning continued from page 1

For Maria, her dreams are becoming a reality at Marian, especially through generous scholarships and gift aid, including the Wisconsin Grant.

"I wouldn't have been able to attend college without financial aid – it just wouldn't have been possible for me and my family," said Maria. "Scholarships and grants have allowed me to go to Marian and pursue my dreams of becoming a writer. It has allowed me to concentrate on my education and coursework, and offers me the opportunity to get involved on campus."

As a residential student at Marian, Maria has enjoyed engaging in the Marian community. The university has also become her home, and the community has become a second family.

"Marian's small community has a lot to offer," added Maria. "I not only have the benefits of attending a small university where I get to know my professors and have one-to-one support, but I have the opportunity to travel with my Model UN team, network with people who share common interests, and get to play a lead role in the school play. I am truly thankful for these opportunities, and I am so fortunate to have received the Wisconsin Grant as I pursue my goals here at Marian."



Wisconsin's Private, Nonprofit Colleges and Universities

Alverno College *Milwaukee*
 Bellin College *Green Bay*
 Beloit College *Beloit*
 Cardinal Stritch University *Milwaukee*
 Carroll University *Waukesha*
 Carthage College *Kenosha*
 Columbia College of Nursing *Milwaukee*
 Concordia University Wisconsin *Mequon*

Edgewood College *Madison*
 Lakeland University *Sheboygan*
 Lawrence University *Appleton*
 Marian University *Fond du Lac*
 Marquette University *Milwaukee*
 Medical College of Wisconsin *Milwaukee*
 Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design *Milwaukee*
 Milwaukee School of Engineering *Milwaukee*

Mount Mary University *Milwaukee*
 Nashotah House *Nashotah*
 Northland College *Ashland*
 Ripon College *Ripon*
 St. Norbert College *De Pere*
 Silver Lake College *Manitowoc*
 Viterbo University *La Crosse*
 Wisconsin Lutheran College *Milwaukee*

FACT OF THE MONTH

The total amount of grant aid awarded to first-year, full-time students at WAICU members is triple the amount of loans.

Source: IPEDS SFA Survey, 2014-15