

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 58,000 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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First-generation student thriving at St. Norbert College

St. Norbert College gives students the opportunity to experience the richness of college life, pursue their dreams, and expand their knowledge of the world.

Keshawn Henning, a junior accounting major, is making the most of his opportunities thanks in part to the Wisconsin Grant.

“The Wisconsin Grant is important to me not only due to the financial backing which provides me the opportunity to attend St. Norbert, but the ability to become more well-rounded through education, leadership, and work experience,” said Keshawn. “With the help of the Wisconsin Grant, my time at St. Norbert has been successful and enjoyable.”



Keshawn Henning

Keshawn, a native of Appleton, says he has his mother to thank.

“My whole life, I have watched my mother struggle trying to care for three kids by herself with a low-income job. The decisions she had to make for us and the stress that consumed her life were unbearable. I watched my mother slip into phases of depression all because she didn't know what to do at times. As a kid, I never understood the sacrifices that my mother had to make in order to make us happy, and I took that for granted,” said Keshawn.

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Education major wants to make a positive impact on the lives of others

When Jordan Wolf graduates this May, she plans to give back in her surrounding communities and help young students realize their dreams by providing them with exceptional learning opportunities. To accomplish that, the elementary and special education major and Oak Creek, Wisconsin native would like to work as an elementary school teacher in a low income/high need school district. She believes that is where quality teachers are needed the most and where she can have the greatest influence on the lives of children.

“I am extremely passionate about children, seeing them learn and grow, and making a positive impact in the lives of others,” she explained. “Having the privilege to earn my college degree is a critical piece in making my dreams a reality.”



Jordan Wolf

Jordan is thankful for the experiences she has had while attending Carroll University and working towards her goals. She learned important life skills such as communication, collaboration, and leadership – all of which she has seen transfer into academic work, professional development, peer and employer relationships, and other aspects of life. The education program has guided her in technical skills, leading her to choose the career path that best fits her passion.

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“As I got older, I started to understand the sacrifices my mother has made and all the hard work she has done so that I could grow up and have a successful life. Now that I am 21 years old, I cannot be more grateful to have such a smart, loving, and giving mother such as her,” Keshawn added. “She is the driving force to my education, and my scholarships and grants allow me to make her the proudest mother in the world. For myself, my scholarships mean that the hard work is paying off, especially for my family who has supported me from day one.

“I cannot show enough gratitude to St. Norbert College for the opportunity to better my future. Being a first-generation student comes with a lot of hope and ambition to not only graduate, but to become a more well-rounded individual to help my family and the community,” he concluded.

Keshawn is extremely involved on the St. Norbert campus. He is finance coordinator for the Cassandra Voss Center, co-chair for Black History Month, a member of the Accounting Club and a volunteer for the Boys and Girls Club of America.

After completion of his bachelor’s degree in May 2019, Keshawn plans to take the CPA exam, with hopes of pursuing a career in either financial analysis or tax accounting.

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“I have been able to participate in such a wide range of real-world work scenarios that have benefited me greatly and developed my desire and sense of calling to urban education” Jordan explained. “Some of the highlights include working with students in need in the Waukesha area, my current student teaching placement in a Milwaukee Public School, teaching summer school in a private school in Milwaukee, and taking an alternative spring break trip as part of the Milwaukee Urban Program to learn about racial and systemic injustice.”

Jordan attributes her success in the classroom to the support and guidance she received from professors in Carroll’s education department. With their help, she has been able to dive deeper into research projects that explore the challenges her future students face, connect with current teachers in those environments, and familiarize herself with the district she aims to teach in.

She added, “I believe that teachers shape children into young citizens who go and change the world. I want to be an agent of change in the system of urban education. I want to give kids from areas of need the opportunity to receive the education they deserve while reassuring them that they are valuable beyond measure, despite what society may tell them.”

FACT OF THE MONTH

More than a third of American workers are now Millennials (ages 18 to 34 in 2015), and in 2015 they surpassed Generation X (ages 35 to 50 in 2015) to become the largest generational group in the U.S. workforce.

Source: Pew Research Center, 2015



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