

About Wisconsin Grants

The twenty-three private, or independent, nonprofit colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 60,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need financial help to attend the college of their choice.

The State of Wisconsin created the Wisconsin Tuition Grant, now known as Wisconsin Grants, in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the low-income students who apply for the Wisconsin Grants are turned away every year for lack of funds. 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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WLC Student Thankful for the Opportunity to Attend a Liberal Arts College

Julie Favorite of New London, Wisconsin, who will be a senior this fall at Wisconsin Lutheran College (WLC), understands the value of studying at a private liberal arts college. "When I consider my college choice, and talk to friends at public universities, I cannot imagine attending a college that does not offer a liberal arts education," says Julie. She acknowledges the perception



Julie Favorite of New London is double majoring in psychology and theology.

that private colleges are financially out of reach, "but what many people may not realize about WLC is the tremendous amount

of financial aid offered. The Wisconsin Grants, along with other private and institutional aid, allow for an affordable price." For Julie, the Wisconsin Grants ensured that WLC remained an option throughout her college search.

During her three years at Wisconsin Lutheran College, Julie has participated in nearly all aspects of

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Madison Student Making the Most of Wisconsin Grants

Monkontee Slobert grew up in Montserrado, Liberia, Africa. When his mother passed away, he moved to Madison, Wisconsin, to live with his father, a U.S. citizen. He found a new home in Wisconsin, and later, at Viterbo University.

Both have been great places, Monkontee said. "Everyone at Viterbo has been very nice and very welcoming," said Monkontee, a senior criminal justice major who graduated



A senior at Viterbo University, Monkontee Slobert is studying criminal justice.

from Memorial High School in Madison. "I'm glad I chose Viterbo University," Monkontee would like to attend law school after

earning his degree from Viterbo.

His schedule is very busy. In addition to the rigors of academics, he is a member of the Viterbo men's soccer team. He also is employed through the federal work-study program.

Like most college students, Monkontee finds financial aid such as the Wisconsin

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campus life. She has been named to the Dean's List six consecutive semesters, and is a double-major in psychology and theology, while also minoring in communication. She takes an active role as president of the college's Psychology Club, she earned All-Midwest Region honors in fall 2013 for Cross Country, and she participates in various Campus Ministry activities.

Julie describes her time at WLC as a whirlwind of experiences. "My life has changed incredibly over the last three years. There are things I did freshman year that I no longer do, and there are activities I take part in now that I never would have dreamed of doing as a freshman. I created new friendships, kept old ones, and lost others. The academic experience has been phenomenal. My professors are incredibly knowledgeable and more than willing to help, whether it relates to in-class work or post-graduation planning. My participation in cross country has taught me so much about myself. I learned that I am

capable of so much more than I ever would have thought....The previous three years serve as a perfect example of how God works in mysterious ways and brings different activities and people into our lives in ways we might never have expected," she says.

After graduation, Julie plans to continue her education in graduate school with the hope of earning a master's degree in counseling. She concludes, "It's a rare opportunity to be able to study at a private college offering diverse academic disciplines, robust activities and athletic events, and opportunities for involvement in the community, while at the same time experiencing close-knit relationships between classmates, professors, and staff, and engaging in worship and faith-based activities in an environment that prepares us to live our lives as Christian leaders. I thank God for my experiences at Wisconsin Lutheran College and everyone who made it possible."



At WAICU colleges and universities, 22% of all undergraduates and 37% of all students are over the age of 25, compared to 13% and 22%, respectively, of students in the UW System.

Source: IPEDS Fall Enrollment Survey, Fall 2013 data

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Grants to be extremely important. In fact, financial aid is what makes a college education possible for him and many other students.

His father helps him out the best he can, but like most parents, the amount of financial contribution he can make toward his son's education is limited.

"The Wisconsin Grants afford many first generation, low-income students the opportunity to realize their educational dreams," said Rob Forget, dean of admission at Viterbo University. "College is a very important investment in a

student's future, and the future of society in general.

The Wisconsin Grants help lower the cost of education in Wisconsin and enables students to pursue an education at the college or university of their choice."

Besides academics and playing his favorite sport, soccer, Monkontee enjoys spending time with friends and volunteering at the local Boys and Girls Club and WAFER Food Pantry. He also enjoyed closely following the FIFA World Cup in June.

Monkontee is also a member of Viterbo's

Student Government Association, and is the founder of Viterbo's mock-trial club, which will make its debut this fall. "I ran for student government because I wanted to make sure students are able to express their voice," he said.

Monkontee is a popular student, in both the criminal justice and athletics departments. "Monkontee is a wonderful young man," said Viterbo faculty member Marlene Fisher, chair of the Viterbo Sociology and Criminal Justice department. "He's very hard working and dedicated to his studies."

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 Mequon

Edgewood College Madison
 Lakeland College 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
 Northland College Ashland
 Ripon College Ripon
 St. Norbert College De Pere
 Silver Lake College Manitowoc
 Viterbo University La Crosse
 Wisconsin Lutheran College Milwaukee

