

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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Helping Others: MSOE Nursing Senior Wants to Make a Difference

Working in the health care field is something that MSOE nursing senior Jason Carreon feels he was always meant to do. "My mother is a medical technologist, and my dad is an RN in the U.S. and an M.D. back home in the Philippines.

I also have several aunts, uncles and cousins who are nurses and dentists. In a sense, I was destined to be involved in health care."



Jason Carreon is a senior nursing student at MSOE.

other health care disciplines can make for people in need. Nursing embodies the essence of caring and giving back to society. I chose nursing because I wanted to have that opportunity to make a difference in peoples' lives."

Helping to make a difference in peoples' lives is what attracts Jason to nursing. "I have seen first-hand the difference that nurses and

Jason and his family immigrated to Sacramento, California, from the Philippines when he was ten

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CUW Student Finds Opportunities in Leadership Roles

Emily Marciniak has always had big dreams. She recently finished her freshman year at Concordia University Wisconsin and has her eyes focused on a job in public relations.

When Emily was younger, growing up in Antigo, Wisconsin, she thought she wanted to be a broadcast news anchor, then a movie director. "I finally fell upon public relations because it reflects many of my personality traits," said Emily.



Emily Marciniak of Antigo is studying public relations at Concordia University Wisconsin.

down with her family and did the math to make sure she was making the right choice. "The Wisconsin Grant, in addition to my other scholarships, brings the cost [down] of attending CUW to the same amount as a state school in Wisconsin," said Emily.

The Wisconsin Grant plays an important financial role in Emily's ability to attend a private nonprofit university in the state. Before making her final decision on where to attend college, she sat

Of the eight schools she applied to, five were private. According to Emily, she had always anticipated going to a large, Division I school,

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years old and later moved to Wisconsin. When making the decision of where to pursue his nursing degree, MSOE was an obvious choice. “MSOE is a much-respected university.... As I was making my choices regarding what school to attend, I feel that MSOE really reinforced with me why they were the best choice. Numbers never lie, and the high placement rate and high NCLEX passing rate ultimately made the decision easy for me. Furthermore, MSOE provides students with generous financial aid to assist with the cost of education.”

“The Wisconsin Grant is an important part of how I am even able to attend MSOE. The grant, along with other financial aid, has afforded me the ability to attend MSOE and do so without an unmanageable financial burden,” said Jason. “Furthermore, it has helped me focus on my studies.... With my parents still essentially shouldering a lot of the financial responsibilities at this time, any financial assistance was very

much appreciated.”

Jason paved the way for his two younger sisters, who are both attending MSOE in the nursing program. “As I told my sisters, the curriculum gives you the tools needed to succeed through various clinical experiences and courses that you take throughout your undergraduate experience. There are always resources available for help. MSOE may be notorious for its challenging and demanding schedule and coursework, but in the end, it is all worth it when you come out of MSOE as a well-prepared individual in various fields.”

Jason has many plans for his future. “I would like to have a job as a graduate nurse in one of the respected hospitals within our area. In five years, I see myself furthering my nursing education while continuing to provide care for patients. Ultimately, my goal is to become a nurse practitioner.”



The most common areas of study at Wisconsin's private nonprofit colleges for undergrads are Business, Biological and Life Sciences, Engineering, and Education. Graduate students are focusing on Education, Business, Medicine, and Law.

Source: IPEDS Fall Enrollment Survey, Fall 2012 data

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but eventually realized a private college, with more extracurricular and leadership opportunities, was the best option for her.

It didn't take long for her to get involved once she was on CUW's campus. “During my first weeks of school, I joined the Student Government Association (SGA),” said Emily. She says she is drawn to leadership positions and really enjoys making a difference in the lives of other students. “In this role, I am able to work on projects and events that benefit the entire University. The chance to have such a large part in the university community as an undergraduate is an opportunity not

available at larger schools.”

Like most recipients of Wisconsin Grants, Emily also works. In her case, her job dovetails with her educational and career goals. She is working in CUW's Marketing Department as a student worker. Her hard work in the classroom and enthusiasm outside the classroom immediately got her noticed. “Emily definitely has strong writing abilities and a very good work ethic,” said Craig McCarthy, public relations manager at CUW. “It made complete sense for her to join our department as a student worker, knowing that she will be on

campus, learning in the classroom and participating in extracurriculars, as well as gaining valuable, real world, experience.”

Emily hopes to take her experiences and work in corporate communications for a large technology-based company after she graduates. She also plans to continue to learn. “At some point I'd like to further my education with a Master's degree,” she said. For now she is focused on pursuing her undergraduate degree and raves about the good fortune she has had so far at CUW. “I am excited for the prospect of opportunities that lie ahead,” she said.

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 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 of the Holy Family *Manitowoc*
 Viterbo University *La Crosse*
 Wisconsin Lutheran College *Milwaukee*

