

About the WTG

The twenty private, or independent, 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 (WTG) in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the low-income students who apply for the WTG are turned away every year for lack of funds. Each month WTG Achievers brings you success stories of Wisconsinites for whom the WTG has made a significant difference.

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Global outlook, WTG shape future: a life in public service

Some people like to stay put, preferring not to step out of their safe surroundings, but not Alverno student Lacey Green.

At the age of 14, Lacey went on a mission trip to South Africa to distribute food. She was profoundly impacted by that experience, and it changed her life.

One comment continues to motivate her: "Today my baby will eat; today we



Lacey Green, an Alverno senior, was surprised to learn she shares her name with a village in England.

will live and not die." As a teenager, Lacey vowed that some day she would build an

orphanage in Africa.

After moving to Wisconsin, Lacey served in AmeriCorps for two years, receiving money to be used for her education. Thanks to scholarships; grants, including the WTG; and several previous

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Air Force cadet soars to new heights with the WTG

Tyler Schroeder never thought he would see so much of the world when he arrived at Wisconsin Lutheran College four years ago. But thanks to his involvement in the Air Force ROTC (Reserve Officer Training Corps) program, the WLC study abroad program, and WLC Warrior athletics, Tyler has explored the world.

The Sparta senior majored in business administration in addition to his ROTC com-



Tyler Schroeder will graduate from WLC in May as a commissioned Air Force officer and with a business degree.

mitment, where he trained as an Air Force combat systems officer. Tyler, a two-sport student athlete in cross country and track, will be

stationed at the Naval Air Station in Pensacola after graduating next month from Wisconsin Lutheran.

Tyler's time commitment to ROTC includes two classes each semester in the program at

Marquette University. There were also summer obligations, including a version of boot camp in Alabama and

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life skills credits offered by Alverno, attending college became a reality.

“Alverno lines up with my personal philosophy, including its emphasis on a global perspective,” said Lacey, a senior majoring in community, leadership, and development. “Without the Wisconsin Tuition Grant, I would not have been able to attend Alverno.”

Lacey is a go-getter. She has gone on other mission trips (Mexico and Romania), has volunteered at fundraising events, and organized a black-tie fundraiser for three African organizations. The guest speaker at the black-tie event, the Economic Trade Minister for Tanzania’s embassy, later introduced her to Ambassador Amina Salum Ali, the permanent representative of the African Union to the U.S. and the Union’s first woman ambassador. Because of the efforts

of Lacey and several Alverno faculty and staff, Ambassador Ali visited Alverno to discuss the Union’s progress and challenges.

During spring break, Lacey’s sense of adventure led her to southern England to visit a village with her same name. She accidentally discovered the other “Lacey Green” when she Googled her name. While there, she visited several schools and clinics giving children’s books about Wisconsin to each.

This fall Lacey will begin graduate school working toward a Master of Science in Administration with an emphasis in federal management. Her work will ultimately focus on local issues. “My intent in continuing my education in this field is to learn concepts relative to issues facing local communities, which is something I care deeply about,” said Lacey.

FACT OF THE MONTH

In 2008-09, nearly 50% of all of the degree-seeking undergraduates attending Wisconsin’s private colleges and universities qualified for and received need-based financial aid. Nonetheless, there are 2,700 students on the waiting list for the WTG.

Source:
Higher Educational Aids Board

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ROTC Professional Developmental Training program sessions in Oklahoma and Nebraska. Last summer, Tyler was able to shadow Office of Special Investigation (OSI) agents at Offutt Air Force Base in Omaha.

The juggling act between his WLC coursework, athletics, and ROTC actually helps Tyler balance all three. “In order to remain in the ROTC program and on the sports teams, you are required you to keep your grades up,” said Tyler. “The work just gets done. It has to.”

Tyler’s successful combination of athletics and academics was demonstrated by his selection as a Northern Athletics Conference Scholar-Athlete in 2008 and 2009 and his being named to the NAC Honorable Mention Cross Country Team in 2007. Through athletics, Tyler has also traveled throughout the U.S., including Missouri, Indiana, Pennsylvania, Illinois, Tennessee, and Delaware, competing for the Warriors.

Tyler has also taken advantage of the study abroad opportunities at Wisconsin Lutheran, visiting Jamaica, England, China,

Turkey, and Greece during his four years at WLC. “Seeing how the rest of the world lives will help me prepare for my future in the Air Force,” added Tyler.

“Every little bit helps when it comes to paying for college,” Tyler said. “Without the Wisconsin Tuition Grant, I wouldn’t have been able to be so involved in ROTC and athletics or travel the world.” After his minimum eight-year commitment to the Air Force, Tyler hopes to have his own real estate business. Until then, Tyler says, he will just enjoy the ride from above.

Wisconsin’s Private Colleges and Universities

Alverno College *Milwaukee*
Beloit College *Beloit*
Cardinal Stritch University *Milwaukee*
Carroll University *Waukesha*
Carthage College *Kenosha*
Concordia University Wisconsin *Mequon*
Edgewood College *Madison*

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

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

