

WTG *Achievers*

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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 56,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need help to attend the college of their choice.

The State of Wisconsin created the Wisconsin Tuition Grant (WTG) in 1965 to help financially needy Wisconsin citizens to succeed. Fully one-third of the needy 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 difference.

WTG Achievers is published monthly by the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU), 122 W. Washington Avenue, Madison, WI 53703-2718; 608-256-7761; mail@waicuweb.org. For more information or for back issues of *WTG Achievers*, visit our website: www.waicuweb.org

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WTG recipient plans to be a small-town dentist



Kayla Danzinger of Durand, a senior at Viterbo University

The daughter of Durand dairy farmers, Viterbo biology major Kayla Danzinger knew her parents would not have a great deal of extra money to help with her college expenses. Fortunately for her, Danzinger

received a Wisconsin Tuition Grant that covers a portion of the cost of her tuition, making it possible for her to attend college.

"I've done well and I've really enjoyed my years here at Viterbo," says Kayla, who will graduate with a Bachelor of Science degree in biology and go on to dental school. "And I've really gotten to know the faculty members and my fellow students in the science program."

Kayla says she has known she wanted to be a dentist since high school. She knew

Viterbo was for her the day she paid her first visit to the La Crosse campus. Being from a small town, Kayla says she was looking for a university that had the same small-town feel. Finding that sense of community at Viterbo has had unexpected benefits, such as professors more than happy to write letters of recommendation for her, Kayla says.

"After meeting the friendly people and seeing the beautiful campus, I made up my mind," she says. "The professors here are so helpful. I think that's

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Busy Carthage student, with the help of the WTG, is first in her family to attend college



Tina Coffman of West Allis, a senior at Carthage College

Tina Coffman is a biology major and an active member of the Carthage community. She and her twin sister are the youngest of four children and are the first in the family

to attend college. Her twin attends a two-year technical college in Milwaukee.

With her father working a factory job and her mother working in the kitchen of a nursing home, Tina is able to attend Carthage thanks to loans and grants such as the Wisconsin Tuition Grant.

"This grant has allowed me to go to a very good school, one which I know I would have never been able to attend without its help."

The Wisconsin Tuition Grant

program provides financial assistance to undergraduate Wisconsin residents who attend a private college within the state. Awards are based on financial need and range from \$250 to \$2,700.

Tina was attracted to Carthage the moment she toured the campus. "The small size was what caught my eye the most," she says. "And the professors and students are very friendly."

She has found the Carthage

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KAYLA DANZIGER CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

especially important for the sciences or a pre-professional major, where lots of one-to-one instruction may be required.”

Like many private colleges, Viterbo has a university-wide priority of providing students with individual attention.

“Science classes at Viterbo are small, encouraging an active learning environment that engages students in each of their classes,” says Dr. Glenna Temple, Viterbo biology professor and department chair. “Science students learn the latest scientific techniques in which faculty in the sciences work cooperatively to ensure each student gets the best possible science education through a cross-disciplinary approach. The majors in biology, biochemistry, chemistry, and natural science all promote an individual approach to the development of the student through frequent meetings with a faculty advisor, an individual

research project, and development of a career plan.”

When Kayla began her sophomore year at Viterbo, the science department moved into the new D.B. and Marge Reinhart Center for Ethics, Science, and Technology.

“The Reinhart Center has state-of-the-art laboratories for research, which is conducted under the direction of faculty members,” Dr. Temple says.

After graduation, Kayla is looking forward to attending dental school. She has already scored well on the Dental Admission Test needed for graduate school and is poised for success.

“I plan to practice dentistry back home or in another small town in Wisconsin,” she says. “I’m a small-town person.”

FACT OF THE MONTH

Private college and university alumni are more likely to work full-time for or contribute financially to nonprofits; to be involved in community service and volunteer activities; and are more likely to graduate faster and therefore enter the American workforce sooner than their public university counterparts.

www.cic.org

TINA COFFMAN CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

faculty to be very helpful. “I have enjoyed all my professors. It would be difficult to choose a favorite.”

Determination and persistence are two of Tina’s best qualities. She was determined to attend Carthage, and the Wisconsin Tuition Grant provided the cost savings needed for her to attend the college of her choice.

Her virtues carry over to her involvement in extracurricular activities. The Carthage senior is a member of the college’s

swimming and track teams. She is in the process of organizing a martial arts club on campus. When she is not in class, studying, or taking part in athletics, Tina works for the college, answering telephone calls at the main switchboard.

Her academics are equally important. She has made the Dean’s List every year since she was a freshman.

Tina embraces the future with excitement and optimism as she works toward earning her bachelor’s degree.

“Carthage has helped me become more aware of what truly interests me. Though I may not be the most academically or athletically gifted student in my class, I am allowed to grow with each course in a way that otherwise may not have happened,” she says.

“Carthage has helped me to become more open to new ideas and seek alternatives that I previously might not have considered.”

Wisconsin’s Private Colleges and Universities

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

Lakeland College *Sheboygan*
 Lawrence University *Appleton*
 Marian College *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*

