

## 2022 Advocates in 2022

#WIGrants



Current college students



College leadership, trustees, faculty, and staff



Parents of students



Current and past Wisconsin Grant recipients



Alumni/ae



Community and business leaders



Anyone else who supports student opportunity!

# Who can be an Advocate?



<https://bit.ly/WAICU2022in2022>

## About us

The Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU) is the official organization of 23 private, non-profit institutions of higher learning in Wisconsin and their more than 53,000 students. Fifty-eight percent of undergraduate students are from Wisconsin. WAICU member institutions produce 23 percent of all bachelor's degrees and 35 percent of all advanced degrees in the state, with no direct operating support from the taxpayers.

**Our mission:** *Working together for educational opportunity*

Sign up for our **2022 Advocates In 2022** advocacy campaign



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## Contact us

Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU)  
[www.waicu.org](http://www.waicu.org)  
[www.wisconsinprivatecolleges.org](http://www.wisconsinprivatecolleges.org)



# Would you be an ADVOCATE FOR STUDENT FINANCIAL AID?

2022 Advocates  
in 2022

#WIGrants

JOIN US

<https://bit.ly/WAICU2022in2022>





## Support Student Financial Aid and Wisconsin's Future Workforce!

Statewide workforce shortages in critical occupations remain. The postsecondary attainment gaps that have persisted among students from different income levels and among racial and ethnic groups must be addressed if we are to meet future workforce needs. Through strategic state and federal investments in student financial aid, such as the Wisconsin Grant and the Pell Grant, Wisconsin can build a strong workforce, address the attainment gap for traditionally underrepresented students, and enhance Wisconsin's economic vitality.

If you are a supporter of student opportunity and believe in the importance of federal and state financial assistance that supports low- and low-middle-income students in addressing Wisconsin's attainment gap and workforce challenges, WAICU's **2022 Advocates In 2022** Campaign is for YOU!

### Impacts of Wisconsin Grants at private nonprofit colleges and universities

During the 2020-21 academic year,

8,828

Wisconsin Grants awards

2 in 5

WI undergraduate students received Wisconsin Grant

\$3,160

average Wisconsin Grant



Wisconsin Grant recipients attending private nonprofit institutions are from everywhere across the state.

**63%** Wisconsin Grants recipients have Expected Family Contribution (EFC) less than 4,000

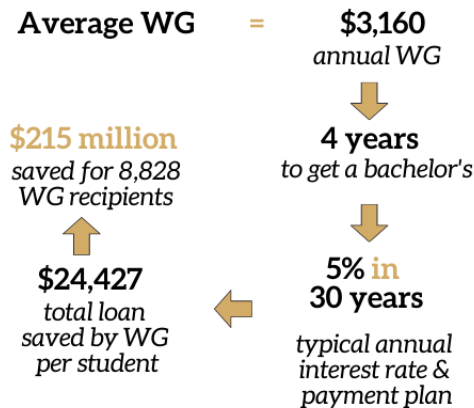
## 4 reasons to support student financial aid opportunities

### Increases college enrollment among low-income students

The most economically disadvantaged Wisconsin high school students are **35 percentage points less likely** to attend a baccalaureate college (4-year) than those who are not economically disadvantaged.

### Reduces the burden of student debt

Wisconsin Grants awarded to Wisconsin students attending a Wisconsin private non-profit institution saved a total of **over \$215 million** in principal and loan interest.



### Improves state attainment rates

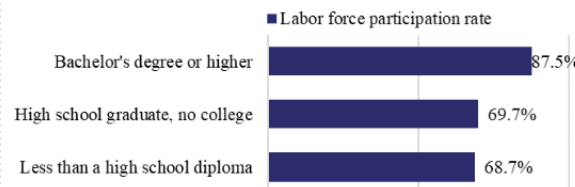
College graduation rates among low-income students (i.e., Pell Grant recipients) in Wisconsin **lag behind** the graduation rates of higher-income students.

While Wisconsin's post-secondary attainment rate is approaching its goal of **60 percent by 2027**, issues of equity and achievement gap still remain to be addressed.



### Boosts state labor force participation rate

Investment in higher education is long-term, sustainable workforce development. Wisconsin education attainment is directly associated with labor force participation. Wisconsinites with a bachelor's degree and higher are **25 percent more likely** to participate in the workforce than those with less education.



## Words from Wisconsin Grant recipients



### Matayah Pethke

Wisconsin Lutheran College  
 Major: Sport and Exercise Science  
 After-college plan: Pursue a Doctor of Physical Therapy degree to become a physical therapist

"Receiving the Wisconsin Grant and other scholarships has allowed me to continue my education at a school I love."

"The Wisconsin Grant has helped me tremendously by supporting my efforts to pay for school. The grant reinforces the belief of all students' ability to attend college."



### Camillia Washington

Cardinal Stritch University  
 Major: Communications, Business to Business Social Media, Criminology and Policing Justice studies  
 After-college plan: Establish a non-profit organization that will serve and support children of single mothers



### Jonathan Phung

Milwaukee School of Engineering  
 Major: Computer Science  
 After-college plan: Pursue a career in game development or data science

"It felt great to be awarded the Wisconsin Grant. It helped me be able to afford to live on campus and get the experience of doing so."

"Without the Wisconsin Grant, I may not have been able to continue going to school. This grant helped me to keep going by opening a door that might not have been there otherwise."



### Miranda Stanich

Herzing University  
 Major: Nursing  
 After-college plan: Obtain a master's degree and become a nurse practitioner