

About Wisconsin Grants

The twenty-two private, nonprofit colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without direct taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 52,000 students a year. Many of Wisconsin's best and brightest need financial help to attend the college of their choice.

The Wisconsin Grant was enacted in 1965 to help qualified Wisconsin citizens to succeed. 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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MSOE Student Appreciates Support of the Wisconsin Grant

While HGTV inspires some viewers to renovate a room, it inspired architectural engineering student Tramyqua Allen to pursue a career path. "As silly as it may sound, I watched a lot of HGTV when I was younger, and this had a huge impact on my interest in the field." She even put herself in HGTV host Joanna Gaines' shoes when her family did their own home renovation, cementing Tramyqua's decision to major in architectural engineering.

The Green Bay native, who will be a senior this fall, is a leader across campus. She is a student worker in the Campus Life Department, a member of the Women in Construction student organization, and president of the National Society of Black Engineers (NSBE).

"My role as president of NSBE is to lead the organization to achieve our goals of succeeding academically, as well as professionally, positively impacting those around us," said Tramyqua. She works to create connections with local companies to foster learning and employment opportunities for NSBE members. NSBE also focuses on the importance of community and

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Tramyqua Allen

St. Norbert College Student was "Pitch" Perfect, Wins Award

St. Norbert College senior Brianne DeLain is an entrepreneur, and she knows how to pitch her product.

Brianne took first place in the collegiate "Pitch" competition (similar to the national TV show *Shark Tank*) held at Fox Cities Stadium in Appleton on April 19. The competition highlights young entrepreneurs and provides them with the resources and support needed to give their idea a shot.

"My pitch was a rainwater collection system that would be utilized on recreational vehicles," said Brianne. "There is a growing number of people in the U.S. who are beginning to live off the grid in nature with their rigs. This system allows them to take longer trips in the great outdoors by providing them with a filtered drinkable water source wherever they are."

Brianne, who was under the tutelage of St. Norbert College Professor of Business Administration Joy Pahl, pocketed \$10,000 plus \$15,000 of in-kind services such as startup financial consulting, marketing, e-commerce support, patent drafting services, and prototyping design. Besides St. Norbert students, Brianne competed against other students from Lawrence University, UW-Green Bay, and UW-Oshkosh.

"I was absolutely on cloud nine. I had poured so much dedication into this project/pitch," said Brianne. "The best feeling was being reassured that my idea and concept had as much value as I thought."

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Brianne DeLain

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offering a supportive and comfortable space for minority students. From student organizations to the classroom, Tramyqua is grateful for the close connections she has built at MSOE.

“The smaller class sizes have allowed me to develop strong relationships with professors, as well as my fellow classmates. There are definitely challenges I have to face, but having a support system through faculty and friends makes it a lot easier,” said Tramyqua.

Last summer Tramyqua put her skillsets into practice at her internship with Executive Construction in downtown Chicago. She was exposed to a live construction site and witnessed the multiple phases of projects. She assisted with estimating, purchasing, scheduling, and job management for an interior buildout of an office space.

Tramyqua’s journey at MSOE is supported by the Wisconsin Grant. “I felt incredibly grateful to be awarded the Wisconsin Grant. It has supported my academic journey and allowed me to take courses that get me closer to reaching my educational goals.”

For Tramyqua, the support goes beyond the classroom. “The financial support has enabled my attendance to the university and my time here has been incredible. My college journey has not been limited to the classroom. I have been thankful for my involvement in Campus Life, student organizations and relationships, and friendships I developed.”

When she’s not at school or working, Tramyqua can be found playing the violin, staying active in the gym, or spending time with family and friends.

FACT OF THE MONTH

59,412 students from around Wisconsin attending institutions in all higher education sectors receive the Wisconsin Grant.

Source: Higher Education Aids Board (HEAB), STUDENT AID EXPENDITURES FOR 2021-22

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Brianne took home the honor in her hometown of Appleton with family and friends in attendance.

Without the help of the Wisconsin Grant, the opportunities she has been given at St. Norbert might not have happened. “Attending a college of such quality like St. Norbert, with such a rich community wouldn’t have been possible if it weren’t for the financial support I received,” she said. “The Wisconsin Grant and other forms of financial aid allowed me to have the opportunity to shine bright at St. Norbert.”

Brianne is leaving an indelible mark on the St. Norbert campus, a place she has called home for the past four years. “There was an instant feeling when I walked on campus that I would be successful here,” Brianne said. “The resources they provide, the serenity and beauty of the campus, and the genuine kindness of the people reassured me that this was the place for me.”

Brianne graduated in May with a business administration major and a minor in graphic design. This summer she plans to travel in her renovated 1982 Toyota Dolphin RV, work in graphic design or online marketing, and see where her rainwater collection system will go.

“They really showed me radical hospitality at St. Norbert College throughout my four years here, and I’m going to miss it.”



Wisconsin's Private, Nonprofit Colleges and Universities

Alverno College - Milwaukee
 Bellin College - Green Bay
 Beloit College - Beloit
 Carroll University - Waukesha
 Carthage College - Kenosha
 Concordia University Wisconsin - Mequon
 Edgewood College - Madison

Herzing University - Milwaukee
 Lakeland University - Plymouth
 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
 Nashotah House - Nashotah
 Northland College - Ashland
 Ripon College - Ripon
 St. Norbert College - De Pere
 Viterbo University - La Crosse
 Wisconsin Lutheran College - Milwaukee