



About Wisconsin Grants

The twenty-four private, or independent, nonprofit colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without direct 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 financial help to attend the college of their choice.

The Wisconsin Tuition Grant, now known as Wisconsin Grants, 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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Taylor sisters find second home at Marquette

Rachel and Megan Taylor have always had a lot in common: they're identical twins who attended the same schools and church and participated in the same activities. Now they can add one more thing in common — they're both Wisconsin Grant recipients at Marquette University.

Rachel, who is pursuing a bachelor's degree in human resources in the College of Business Administration, evaluated business schools at a number of other Wisconsin universities before deciding on Marquette. What stood out, she said, were the resources available to her as a freshman.

"I was blown away by what Marquette's business school had to offer," Rachel said. "The courses I'd be taking right from the start were intended to help prepare me for life post-graduation. I continue to be impressed with the university's connections to the business world and how willing alumni are to help."

Megan is a double-major in psychology and criminology and law studies. With a longtime interest in psychology, she started working in a research lab her freshman year. Through that experience, she grew fascinated by criminology — she plans to attend law school after graduation.

Though the twins' academic pursuits differ, service was their common draw to Marquette. Ultimately, they say, what they loved about Marquette is its mission, pointing to the university's four pillars: excellence, faith, leadership, and service.

"I can see these values every day as I walk down Wisconsin Avenue and when I'm in class," Megan said. "'Be the Difference' has always resonated with me. I really believe that the Marquette community is the difference through kindness and service to others."

Commuters, the Taylor sisters spend as much time on campus as possible, staying involved in clubs related to their respective discipline. Together, they also started a Bible study group for other students in the Lutheran Church—Missouri Synod, a traditional Lutheran denomination in the United States.

Without an LCMS organization on campus, Rachel and Megan set out to start one. With the help of their pastor, they ultimately launched an LCMS U chapter at Marquette —it is now one of dozens throughout the nation. Rachel and Megan say they plan to grow the eight-member chapter and hope that it stays active once they graduate.

Though they have different career interests, the Taylor twins share a love for Marquette and their education, something they say would not be possible without the Wisconsin Grant.



Rachel and Megan Taylor

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