

About the WTG

The twenty-one private, or independent, nonprofit 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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Future nurse encourages potential in others

Carly Ademi, a Cudahy native and nursing student at Milwaukee School of Engineering, doesn't take anything for granted. She is an ambitious and focused young woman who tells her fellow students, "Do not forget why you are in college. Your life has purpose and a plan for which your years of education

are preparing you. No matter what major you choose, you are going to use it someday to serve others. When the



Carly Ademi, of Cudahy, hopes to work in Milwaukee after graduating with a nursing degree.

rigors of college exponentially multiply, remember your goals. Let them motivate you to keep moving forward."

Carly also follows her own advice. Ever since she was a young child, she knew she wanted to be a nurse. "My older brother was born with a condition called congenital hydrocephalus," she says. "He has taught me that I should

accept people as they are and help them to maximize who they are. He has taught me

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Keeping the faith reaps rewards

College life for Zachary Voss, a senior at Concordia University Wisconsin, has been a series of ups and downs. Yet despite numerous challenges, Zachary has been committed to helping others and remaining positive. He is on track to graduate this spring.

Zachary is from Manawa in central Wisconsin, and plans on pursuing a doctorate degree after graduation. Zachary is purpose-driven and focused on the future.



Zachary Voss, of Manawa, is studying in Wisconsin but looks at the world as his arena for service.

sonal and financial upheaval.

The summer before Zachary's freshman year at Concordia, his dad lost his job of more than 20 years, and his parents were going through a divorce. With an older brother already in college, money was tight

and heading to college was looking less and less likely for Zachary. Determined to make it, Zachary worked all summer and eventually had

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The money Zachary has received from the Wisconsin Tuition Grant is very important to him and has enabled him to remain enrolled at Concordia despite facing per-

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that every person in this world has value and the potential to do something meaningful and great."

Carly is a member of the MSOE Student Nurses' Association, a sophomore representative on the Student Advisory Committee, and secretary of a new group on campus called Colleges Against Cancer. Outside of school, she is a member of her home church, and volunteers in the emergency department at a local hospital. She also enjoys playing the violin, taking walks, getting together with family and friends, and drinking smoothies at her favorite coffee shop.

A neighbor recommended MSOE's School of Nursing to Carly. Her neighbor is a registered nurse and spoke highly of the exceptional clinical competency of MSOE nursing students. MSOE students gain valuable experience in sophisticated simulation labs on campus and have

guaranteed clinical placements beginning their sophomore year. "The first time I visited MSOE, I felt I was right at home," said Carly. "MSOE offers a college experience that is both personal and challenging."

The Wisconsin Tuition Grant was part of a solid financial aid package for Carly, and helped make her dream of attending MSOE a reality. She says, "The Wisconsin Tuition Grant has been a huge blessing. Without such generous monetary provisions, an affordable education would be out of reach."

After graduation, Carly would like to continue to practice in the Milwaukee area, where she has volunteered and been mentored by area nurses. Carly's education and ambition, along with her passion for helping others, ensure she will get far in her field.

FACT OF THE MONTH

Students applying for grant aid to attend a Wisconsin college or university are registering a staggering increase in financial need.

Between 2008-09 and 2009-10, there was a 54 percent increase in the number of students who were expected to be able to contribute \$0 towards their education costs.

Source: Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board

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to borrow money from his grandparents to pay for his tuition because his loans didn't come through in time.

"My parents and I don't make much money, so any help is very much appreciated," Zachary says. "Thanks to the Wisconsin Tuition Grant, the end balance is within our reach," he adds.

Zachary says he chose Concordia because of the people. Over the years he has come to appreciate his professors and classmates. He says they are caring, approachable, and available when he needs them to

help him personally or academically.

Helping people is essential to what Zachary believes and what he does. He is committed to putting his beliefs into action.

His personal experience with depression his sophomore year gives him a unique perspective. With help from family and friends, and with proper medical care, he has improved and now knows he can make it through the tough times because he's not alone.

"I have learned a lot from my depression,

and I will be able to better sympathize with others [because of it]," Zachary says.

Zachary has a relaxed but focused attitude when it comes to his future. He doesn't care much about where he will eventually serve, as long as he is able to help others. He is thankful each and every day for the help and support he's received these past few years.

"The Wisconsin Tuition Grant has helped me not worry so much about how to pay for school and allowed me to focus on what really matters."

Wisconsin's Private Nonprofit Colleges and Universities

Alverno College Milwaukee
Beloit College Beloit

Cardinal Stritch University Milwaukee
Carroll University Waukesha
Carthage College Kenosha
Columbia College of Nursing Milwaukee
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 of the Holy Family Manitowoc
Viterbo University La Crosse
Wisconsin Lutheran College Milwaukee

