

About the WTG

The twenty-three 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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Columbia nursing student aided by WTG

Joshua Baumbach from Brookfield is a nursing student at Columbia College of Nursing in Glendale. He is a second-semester senior and currently is set to graduate in May. All his life, Joshua wanted to pursue a career in science and medicine. He grew up watching "Star Trek" and other futuristic science fiction TV shows, always wishing he lived in



Joshua Baumbach of Brookfield, a student at Columbia College of Nursing.

a time where medicine and technology were advanced. "I've always wanted to make a difference, to push humanity forward towards a better future. I want to

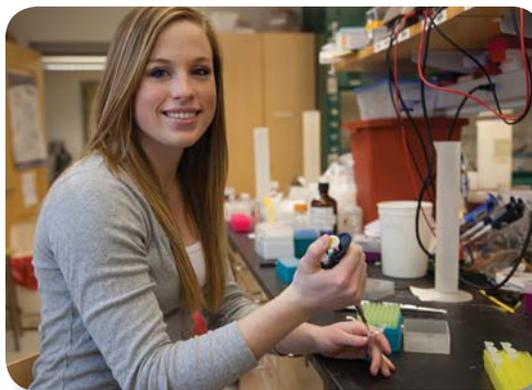
make it a better place for everyone," Joshua said. "I didn't really know how to do that until I began pursuing a nursing career."

Joshua was homeschooled by his mom from fourth grade through high school. When he finished high school he went to Waukesha County Technical College. This was a good choice, Joshua said, because it allowed him to become familiar with the college atmosphere and the

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WTG paves the way for Lawrence student's research

Working in a medical research field has long been a goal of Lawrence University junior Cassidy Rinehart. The Wisconsin Tuition Grant recipient from Hortonville received a preview of this career last summer when she spent 10 weeks at the University of Utah Medical School. She was a participant in Lawrence's LU-R1 initiative, a 10-week summer research program that partners current students with Lawrence graduates at major research institutions. "It was a great opportunity,"



Cassidy Rinehart of Hortonville, a student at Lawrence University.

said Cassidy, who lived in the Olympic Village built for the 2002 games in Salt Lake City. "My research dealt with pre-term lambs, which can serve as a model organism for pre-term humans."

Kassidy's work focused on protein ligand and receptor concentrations in the lambs' brain tissue to help develop the most efficient way to ventilate the "preemies."

"I was looking at a specific protein that worked with axon development in the brain. I was only there for two months, but they continued my research after I left," said Cassidy, a biochemistry major with a

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classroom setting. Not knowing exactly how to accomplish his childhood dreams, he tried the accounting program and decided “I could never do that for the rest of my life,” Joshua explained.

As a result, Joshua enrolled at Columbia College of Nursing. Shortly after his transfer, Joshua’s mother became disabled, which further inspired him to become a nurse. “As I watched my mom slowly lose her ability to walk and function independently, I knew for sure, that I wanted to devote my life to helping people like her,” said Joshua. At about the same time that he was making this decision, his father was laid off several times over the course of a year, going from job to job trying to make ends meet. This made it much harder for Joshua to afford college without any help from his parents.

“Grants like the Wisconsin Tuition Grant made

things a lot easier,” said Joshua. “This money helps a lot.”

Joshua is now in his final semester at Columbia College of Nursing. “I cannot imagine taking my nursing and clinical courses anywhere else,” he said. “Columbia has such a great staff and faculty, all of whom are nurses. It is great to hear their stories in class about the things they encountered in their many years of experience. They are very supportive of students, and really want to see us succeed.”

Columbia College of Nursing has a strong 113-year-old history of producing nurses. Joshua is glad to be a part of that history and, for him, it was all possible thanks to the Wisconsin Tuition Grant and other generous scholarships. Joshua hopes to continue his education, giving him the knowledge and ability to accomplish his dream.



One-fourth of all bachelors and over one-third of all advanced degrees produced in Wisconsin come from private non-profit colleges.

Source:

IPEDS Completions survey, 2012-13 data

Kassidy Rinehart continued from page 1

3.61 grade point average.

“I would love to become a neurosurgeon. That would be my ultimate goal,” said Kassidy, who is active in Lawrence’s student chapter of GlobeMed, which works in partnership with health organizations in Rwanda. “And if I could somehow work in pediatrics with that; that would be great.”

In high school, Kassidy was sure she was going to follow in her parents’ footsteps and attend UW-Madison. But a call from Lawrence’s women’s basketball coach

helped change her mind. “I thought, ‘Okay, I’ll give it a shot.’ I came and took a tour and just had such a friendly welcome. They make you feel like a celebrity,” said Kassidy. “I got to watch a game, meet some of the girls on the team and that got me more interested in Lawrence academically.”

Kassidy has been a key member of Lawrence’s women’s basketball team the past three seasons, appearing in every game, including all but nine of them as a starter. She also has earned varsity letters as a member of the cross country and

track teams, where she is a team captain.

“Kassidy is a dedicated, high-achieving student and athlete,” said Nancy Wall, associate professor biology and Rinehart’s academic advisor. “I’m impressed by her self-motivation and discipline as well as her genuine commitment to help others.”

“It was absolutely necessary for me to get financial aid and scholarships,” Kassidy said. “The Wisconsin Tuition Grant has definitely helped make it possible for me to attend Lawrence and enjoy the great college experience that I’ve had.”

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*
 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*
 Medical College of Wisconsin *Milwaukee*
 Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design *Milwaukee*

Milwaukee School of Engineering *Milwaukee*
 Mount Mary University *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*

