

About the WTG

The twenty private, or independent, colleges and universities of Wisconsin operate without taxpayer support, but provide an invaluable public service to the state, educating more than 59,000 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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Marian student leads by example with help from the WTG

For Simuel Henderson, starting college was a big step.

Unsure about the transition to college life during his first year, Simuel now gives back to the Marian community through his work as a resident assistant in a freshman residence hall. As an "RA," Simuel helps the residents on his floor by planning numerous programs and making sure their transition to college life goes as



Simuel Henderson, of Milwaukee, supports the Marian community by helping fellow students adapt to college life.

smoothly as possible.

Simuel is proud of being part

of the Residence Life staff at Marian and has dedicated a lot of time to being a student leader. "It may seem like a lot of hard work and commitment, living and studying with the first-year students," he says, "yet I enjoy helping give others

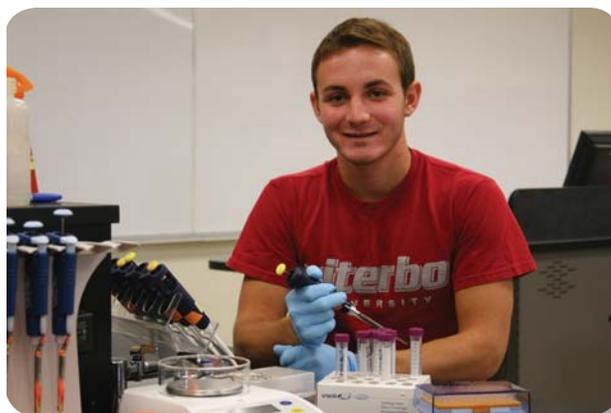
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Family history of service and WTG lead to medical school

Viterbo University student Alex Blaschke knows how important a good doctor can be to his or her patients, and he wants to be one of those doctors.

Alex, from La Crosse, will graduate in May with a bachelor of science degree in biology/pre-med. The next stop for him is medical school, with the ultimate goal of becoming a trauma surgeon.

Alex traces his interest in the



Alex Blaschke, of La Crosse, describes Viterbo's state-of-the-art science labs as a great learning environment.

medical field to his mother, a registered nurse, who also earned a degree from Viterbo. "Growing up, my mom always was so compas-

sionate and always put the needs of others before her own," Alex says. "I also want to help people and make a difference in their lives."

As a Wisconsin Tuition Grant recipient, Alex says the grant made his education possible. "It made a huge difference for me and my family," he says.

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Simuel Henderson continued from page 1

the great Marian experience that I had last year." Simuel is there for his students continually, as he lives in the first-year residence facility and assists in maintaining a positive, safe atmosphere for all.

Simuel is a sophomore majoring in information technology, and is an alumnus of the CEO Leadership Academy in Milwaukee. Apart from his resident assistant position, he is also a member and officer of the Beta Sigma Omega fraternity, in addition to helping with even more campus programs at Marian.

Throughout his time at Marian, Simuel has appreciated receiving the Wisconsin Tuition grant. "It really helped with the cost of tuition and fees, especially as I am getting into more classes. It is hard to work extra jobs and go to school, so the grant really helps me keep up on my studies."

Simuel's enthusiasm for Marian can be seen wherever he goes. Whether it is through his support of fellow students on campus or outside of the Marian community, he promotes the college he was destined for and actively models the Marian mission of service. Simuel chose Marian because of the "small class sizes and the community-based campus. It truly wasn't a hard decision."

After graduation, anticipated for 2012, Simuel wants to work at a job where he can use his knowledge and passion for technology, with a plan to start his own web design company in the future. When asked about what incoming first-year students should look for when choosing the right college, Simuel says to "choose a place that fits your long-term career goals and where you can be successful."



More than 2,700 low- and middle-income Wisconsin students who qualify for the WTG have been put on a waiting list because of inadequate funding. This year's WTG waiting list was imposed starting June 3, 2009.

Source: Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board

Alex Blaschke continued from page 1

Attending Viterbo was the right decision for him, says Alex. He developed a close relationship with his professors, which helped his academic goals. "The professors here really grabbed me," the senior says. "They are here to help you, and even went out of their way to help me apply to medical school."

One of those professors, Dr. Kim Fredricks, is pleased Alex is heading to medical school.

"Alex is very committed to becoming a doctor," Fredricks said. "He explored the

profession from many angles and took the right steps to be successful. Alex is a campus leader and a great role model. As his anatomy instructor, I find it rewarding to see him excel in the sciences that will provide the strong foundation for his medical practice."

Viterbo also has state-of-the-art science facilities that Alex says have been a great learning tool as he prepares for medical school.

An avid water skier and snowboarder when not concentrating on his courses,

Alex also works as a campus tour guide for the admission office and volunteers at the St. Clare Health Mission in La Crosse. In addition, he is the president of Viterbo's chapter of the biology honor society Beta Beta Beta, and an active member of the bio-chem club.

"I have loved it completely," he said of his Viterbo University experience. Once again, the Wisconsin Tuition Grant has been key to the success of a Wisconsin student who looks forward to giving back to society.

Wisconsin's Private Colleges and Universities

Alverno College *Milwaukee*
 Beloit College *Beloit*
 Cardinal Stritch University *Milwaukee*
 Carroll University *Waukesha*
 Carthage College *Kenosha*
 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 *Manitowoc*
 Viterbo University *La Crosse*
 Wisconsin Lutheran College *Milwaukee*

