

INFORMATION
January 26, 2024

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD

BOARD REPORT #24-04

22-23 MURG ANNUAL REPORT



State of Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board

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Tony Evers
Governor

Connie Hutchison, PhD
Executive Secretary

October 6, 2023

The Honorable Mark Born, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
State Capitol, Room 308 East
Madison, WI 53708

The Honorable Howard Marklein, Co-Chair
Joint Committee on Finance
State Capitol, Room 316 East
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Representative Born and Senator Marklein:

Enclosed is the 2022-2023 Annual Status Report for the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant. Submission of the report is in compliance with Section 39.44 (5) of the Wisconsin Statutes, which requires an annual report on the effectiveness of this program.

If you have any questions about this report or about the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Program, please feel free to contact me by e-mail at connie.hutchison@wisconsin.gov or phone at (608) 267-2206.

Sincerely,

Connie Hutchison, PhD
Executive Secretary

CC: Senator Stroebel
Senator Felzkowski
Senator Ballweg
Senator Testin
Senator Wimberger
Senator L. Johnson
Senator Roys
Representative Rodriguez
Representative Dallman

Representative Katsma
Representative Zimmerman
Representative McGuire
Representative Kurtz
Representative Andraca
Kathy Blumenfeld, Department of Administration
Sara Hynek, Department of Administration
Erin Probst, Legislative Fiscal Bureau

MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT

2022-23 ANNUAL REPORT

State of Wisconsin
Higher Educational Aids Board
October 2023

**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
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Higher Educational Aids Board**

The Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant (MURG) Program was established by the State of Wisconsin Legislature in the 1985-87 biennial budget. The first award was made in the 1986-87 academic year. Minority Undergraduate Retention Grants are awarded to Wisconsin resident minority undergraduates, excluding first year students, enrolled at least half-time in Wisconsin Technical College System schools, non-profit independent colleges/universities, and tribal colleges.

Awards are based on financial need, with a minimum grant of \$250 and a maximum grant of \$2,500 per year. According to statute, a minority student is defined as a student who is a Black American, American Indian, Hispanic, or Southeast Asian from Laos, Cambodia, or Vietnam admitted to the United States after December 31, 1975. If eligible, a student may receive the grant for up to eight semesters or 12 quarters.

Funds are allocated to the Wisconsin Technical College System and the Independent/Tribal Colleges and Universities based on the prior year's minority student population as reported by each participating school. For the 2022-23 academic year, sixteen technical colleges, twenty-one non-profit colleges/universities, and both tribal colleges received a Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant allocation. The University of Wisconsin System Administration has a similar program, the Lawton Grant, for students attending a University of Wisconsin institution.

During the 2022-23 academic year, 758 students received a Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant award. 237 grant recipients attended a non-profit, independent college/university or tribal college, and 521 recipients attended a Wisconsin Technical College. To gauge the effectiveness of the program, surveys were sent to both the participating schools and the grant recipients. Results of the participating school survey are found on page 2, and the grant recipient survey results are found on page 7.

The graph and tables throughout this report detail the 2022-23 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant program:

- Table I: Educational Progress of Grant Recipients as Reported by Participating Schools
- Table II: Top Five Colleges or Universities Based on Funding Provided to Students
- Tables III and V: Spending by Independent/Tribal Schools and WTCS
- Tables IV and VI: Recipient Demographics for Independent/Tribal Schools and WTCS
- Graph I: 2022-23 Student Minority Populations as Reported by Participating Schools
- Table VII: 2022-23 Minority Retention Grant Recipient Survey Results

The data collected and the results of the grant recipient survey demonstrate that the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant is highly successful. Participating schools reported that 78.89% of grant recipients either completed their degree/certificate programs or will continue to work towards degree/certificate completion during the 2023-24 academic year. Ninety-four percent of the grant recipients who responded to the survey indicated that they either earned a degree or certificate during the 2022-23 academic year or will return to school to continue to pursue their educational goals. In addition, 95.20% of the recipients indicated that they planned to spend the majority of their working life in the state of Wisconsin.

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TABLE I: Educational Progress of Grant Recipients as Reported by Participating Schools

Independent Colleges and Universities/Tribal Colleges/Technical Colleges

COMBINED DATA:	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Students who completed a degree/certificate in 22-23	280	36.94%
Students enrolled for 23-24 and continuing toward degree/certificate	318	41.95%
Students not enrolled for 23-24 who did not complete degree/certificate	160	21.11%
COMBINED TOTALS	758	100%
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES/TRIBAL COLLEGES:	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Students who completed a degree/certificate in 22-23	87	36.71%
Students enrolled for 23-24 and continuing toward degree/certificate	114	48.10%
Students not enrolled for 23-24 who did not complete degree/certificate	36	15.19%
TOTALS	237	100%
TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM SCHOOLS:	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Students who completed a degree/certificate in 22-23	193	37.04%
Students enrolled for 23-24 and continuing toward degree/certificate	204	39.16%
Students not enrolled for 23-24 who did not complete degree/certificate	124	23.80%
TOTALS	521	100%

Note: The students reported as “students not enrolled for 23-24 who did not complete degree/certificate” were not enrolled in the reporting institution at the time the data were collected. The students may have enrolled at a later date or enrolled in a different institution.

TABLE II: TOP FIVE COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES BASED ON FUNDING PROVIDED TO STUDENTS

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY	DOLLARS SPENT	NUMBER OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD
MADISON COLLEGE	\$ 148,155	173	\$ 856
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY	\$ 92,315	48	\$ 1,923
GATEWAY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 88,670	143	\$ 620
MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 83,500	96	\$ 870
ALVERNO COLLEGE	\$ 41,565	19	\$ 2,188
TOTALS	\$ 454,205	479	\$ 948

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TABLE III: SPENDING BY SCHOOL FOR INDEPENDENT/TRIBAL SCHOOLS

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY	DOLLARS SPENT	NUMBER OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD	PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS SPENT
ALVERNO COLLEGE	\$ 41,565	19	\$ 2,188	10.87%
BELLIN COLLEGE	\$ 1,200	1	\$ 1,200	0.31%
BELOIT COLLEGE	\$ 4,220	4	\$ 1,055	1.10%
CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY	\$ 15,470	11	\$ 1,406	4.05%
CARROLL UNIVERSITY	\$ 25,245	18	\$ 847	6.60%
CARTHAGE COLLEGE	\$ 0	0	\$ 0	0.00%
COLLEGE OF THE MENOMINEE NATION	\$ 3,600	7	\$ 514	0.94%
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	\$ 25,890	11	\$ 2,354	6.77%
EDGEWOOD COLLEGE	\$ 16,130	9	\$ 1,792	4.22%
HERZING	\$ 31,035	14	\$ 2,217	8.12%
LAC COURTE OREILLES	\$ 23,351	19	\$ 1,229	6.11%
LAKELAND COLLEGE	\$ 9,110	11	\$ 828	2.38%
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY	\$ 3,040	3	\$ 1,013	0.80%
MARANATHA	\$ 760	1	\$ 760	0.20%
MARIAN UNIVERSITY	\$ 5,313	4	\$ 1,328	1.39%
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY	\$ 92,315	48	\$ 1,923	24.15%
MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART AND DESIGN	\$ 9,300	9	\$ 1,033	2.43%
MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING	\$ 16,420	7	\$ 2,345	4.30%
MOUNT MARY COLLEGE	\$ 25,500	12	\$ 2,125	6.67%
NORTHLAND COLLEGE	\$ 2,945	3	\$ 982	0.77%
RIPON COLLEGE	\$ 5,411	10	\$ 541	1.42%
ST NORBERT COLLEGE	\$ 10,630	5	\$ 2,126	2.78%
VITERBO UNIVERSITY	\$ 6,354	3	\$ 2,118	1.66%
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE	\$ 7,500	8	\$ 937	1.96%
TOTALS:	\$ 382,304	237	\$ 1,613	100%

2022-23 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Recipient:

“The Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant allowed me to focus on my education and not worry if I could afford an education. Unfortunately, the bottom line is always money. I am a nontraditional student and it can be difficult to work, school, and mom all three full-time. All support is greatly appreciated.”

---Jeannie, *Lac Courte Oreilles*

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TABLE IV: RECIPIENT DEMOGRAPHICS FOR TRIBAL AND INDEPENDENT INSTITUTIONS

	DOLLARS SPENT	NUMBER OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD	PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS SPENT
YEAR IN SCHOOL				
2 ND YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 84,042	58	\$ 1,449	21.98%
3 RD YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 122,536	75	\$ 1,634	32.05%
4 TH YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 144,931	86	\$ 1,685	37.91%
5 TH YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 30,795	18	\$ 1,710	8.06%
TOTAL	\$ 382,304	237	\$ 1,613	100%
STATUS OF RECIPIENTS				
DEPENDENT	\$ 263,188	158	\$ 1,666	68.84%
INDEPENDENT	\$ 119,116	79	\$ 1,508	31.16%
TOTAL	\$ 382,304	237	\$ 1,613	100%
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY GROUP				
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	\$ 142,516	87	\$ 1,638	37.28%
AMERICAN INDIAN	\$ 34,976	33	\$ 1,060	9.15%
ASIAN-AMERICAN	\$ 14,340	8	\$ 1,793	3.75%
HISPANIC	\$ 190,472	109	\$ 1,747	49.82%
TOTAL	\$ 382,304	237	\$ 1,613	100%
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY SECTOR				
INDEPENDENT	\$ 355,353	211	\$ 1,684	92.95%
TRIBAL	\$ 26,951	26	\$ 1,037	7.05%
TOTAL	\$ 382,304	237	\$ 1,613	100%

2022-23 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Recipients:

“Marquette is expensive, and I have to work in order to pay for it. The Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant was extremely helpful in paying for my studies and I will be able to afford summer studies now, so the help is appreciated.”

---Noelia, *Marquette University*

“The Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant was important to me because I didn’t have to pay out of pocket for all my tuition. I wouldn’t be able to afford that tuition because I am a single mother who pays all my bills by myself.”

---Jasmine, *Herzing University*

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TABLE V: SPENDING BY SCHOOL FOR WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM	DOLLARS SPENT	NUMBER OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD	PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS SPENT
BLACKHAWK TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 4,710	6	\$ 785	1.14%
CHIPPEWA VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 7,000	7	\$ 1,000	1.70%
FOX VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 12,970	16	\$ 811	3.10%
GATEWAY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 88,670	143	\$ 620	21.49%
LAKESHORE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 6,680	7	\$ 954	1.62%
MADISON COLLEGE	\$ 148,155	173	\$ 856	35.90%
MID-STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 2,180	9	\$ 242	0.53%
MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 83,500	96	\$ 870	20.23%
MORAINÉ PARK TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 6,910	9	\$ 768	1.67%
NICOLET AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 1,370	2	\$ 685	0.33%
NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 1,595	3	\$ 532	0.39%
NORTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 11,390	11	\$ 1,035	2.76%
NORTHWOOD TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 2,655	2	\$ 1,328	0.64%
SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 1,060	1	\$ 1,060	0.26%
WAUKESHA COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 26,345	23	\$ 1,145	6.38%
WESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 7,515	13	\$ 578	1.82%
TOTALS:	\$ 412,705	521	\$ 792	100%

2022-23 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Recipient:

“The Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant eased the burden of trying to financially juggle school and family burdens. Being a first-generation student and the only college student is hard to navigate on my own, but getting some of the financial burden off my chest and being able to focus on my studies is very helpful and appreciated.”

---Elena, Chippewa Valley Technical College

“This Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant was very important for me because it allowed me to pursue my dreams and have a career to care for my family. This grant allowed me to graduate with an Associate’s degree and it gave me the opportunity to be the first person in my family to receive a college diploma.”

---Bruno, Gateway Technical College

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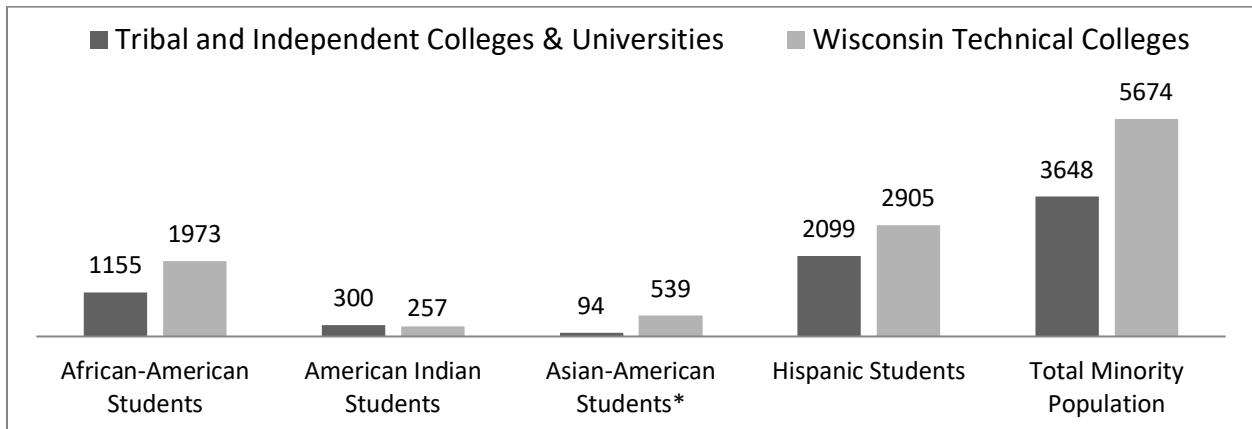
TABLE VI: RECIPIENT DEMOGRAPHICS FOR WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM

	DOLLARS SPENT	NUMBER OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD	PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS SPENT
YEAR IN SCHOOL				
2 nd YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 283,875	352	\$ 806	68.78%
3 rd YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 88,905	113	\$ 787	21.54%
4 th YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 27,290	39	\$ 700	6.61%
5 th YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 12,635	17	\$ 743	3.06%
TOTAL	\$ 412,705	521	\$ 792	100%
STATUS OF RECIPIENTS				
DEPENDENT	\$ 118,831	149	\$ 798	28.79%
INDEPENDENT	\$ 293,874	372	\$ 790	71.21%
TOTAL	\$ 412,705	521	\$ 792	100%
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY GROUP				
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	\$ 199,177	245	\$ 813	48.26%
AMERICAN INDIAN	\$ 20,650	28	\$ 738	5.00%
ASIAN-AMERICAN	\$ 36,235	43	\$ 843	8.78%
HISPANIC	\$ 156,643	205	\$ 764	37.96%
TOTAL	\$ 412,705	521	\$ 792	100%

GRAPH I: 2022-23 STUDENT MINORITY POPULATIONS AT PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS

Note: Population data collected from the 2022-23 allocation survey completed by participating schools.

** Per the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant statute, Asian-American students are defined as students of Cambodian, Laotian, or Vietnamese descent.*



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TABLE VII: 2022-23 MINORITY RETENTION GRANT RECIPIENT SURVEY RESULTS

	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
How did the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant award influence your decision to attend college during the 2022-23 academic year?		
The award allowed me to attend school. Without it, I would not have been able to attend.	48	38.10%
The award positively influenced by decision to attend school. Without it, it would have been difficult for me to attend school.	59	46.83%
The award had no influence on my decision to attend school. Without it, I would have still attended school.	19	15.08%
Did you earn a Bachelor, an Associate Degree, or a certificate during the 2022-23 academic year?		
Yes	45	36.00%
No	80	64.00%
If you did not earn a degree or certificate during the 2022-23 academic year, how soon do you anticipate earning a degree or certificate?		
2023-24 academic year	46	56.79%
2024-25 academic year	28	34.57%
2025-26 academic year	2	2.47%
I do not plan on completing a degree or certificate	0	0.00%
Other (please explain):	5	6.17%
If you did NOT earn a degree or certificate during the 2022-23 academic year, will you be attending a college or university during the 2023-24 academic year?		
Yes	79	97.53%
Enrollment Status: Full-time: 60 Part-time: 19		
No	2	2.47%
Were you employed during the 2022-23 academic year?		
Yes	71	66.98%
32 hours/week or more: 29 Less than 32 hours/week: 60		
No	35	33.02%
Do you plan to be a Wisconsin resident for most of your working career?		
Yes	119	95.20%
No	6	4.80%