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# TONY KURTZ

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STATE REPRESENTATIVE • 50<sup>th</sup> ASSEMBLY DISTRICT

**2023 Assembly Bill 231**

*Relating to: Members of the Council on Veterans Programs*

May 31, 2023

Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs

Thank you, Chairman Edming, for holding a public hearing on Assembly Bill 231, and thank you to the members of the committee for taking the time to hear my testimony.

The Council on Veterans Programs provides insight to the Department of Veterans Affairs to ensure that Wisconsin is meeting the needs of all those who have served. Occasionally, it has been necessary over the years to update the membership list to reflect the modern composition of Wisconsin's veteran community. Assembly Bill 231 does just that. It removes organizations that have been inactive or have dissolved and allows for new voices to join the council.

The intent of this bill is to expand membership to include as diverse a range of knowledge as possible. Currently, there is no representation in the council from student veteran focused organizations. This bill addresses that oversight by adding Veteran Service Coordinators from the UW-System and the Wisconsin Technical College System. I am working with the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities to create a seat for one of their member's Veteran Service Coordinators as well.

The organizations whose seats are being removed, such as the US Submarine Veterans of World War II, have left their council seat vacant for years. In many cases, this is because their particular demographic in Wisconsin has dwindled beyond the capacity needed to maintain an active organization. As the veteran community shifts through the generations, we should strive to keep membership of the council dynamic to best represent their changing needs. This bill is a necessary step in that direction.

Thank you for your consideration of Assembly Bill 231. I'd be happy to answer any questions at this time.



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# Romaine Robert Quinn

STATE SENATOR • 25<sup>TH</sup> SENATE DISTRICT

From: Senator Romaine Robert Quinn  
To: Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs  
Re: **Testimony on AB 231**  
**Relating to: Members of the Council on Veterans Programs**  
Date: May 31, 2023

Thank you to the Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs for hearing this bill today, Assembly Bill 231, which relates to the membership of the Council on Veterans Programs.

By statute, the Council on Veterans Programs (CVP) advises the Board of Veterans Affairs and the Department of Veterans Affairs on “solutions and policy alternatives relating to the problems of veterans.” [Wis Stat. 45.03(3)(a)]. The council consists of numerous representatives of various veterans organizations who are appointed by those organizations for one-year terms. A list of the current members is attached with my testimony, along with a list of the inactive organizations, which are statutorily required to participate on the council.

AB 231 removes seven inactive groups from the council and adds two members in their place: veterans service coordinators employed at a Wisconsin technical college and at a University of Wisconsin System institution.

By removing and updating the participating organizations, we can make the CVP more relevant and responsive to today’s needs for our state’s veterans. Please support AB 231.

## Council on Veterans Programs (COVP) Members

2022 - 2023 Appointees

Organizations	Title	First	Last	Email:
The American Legion Dept. of WI	Mr.	Paul	Fisk	<a href="mailto:pfisk1947@gmail.com">pfisk1947@gmail.com</a>
American Red Cross	Ms.	Michelle	Matuszak	<a href="mailto:michelle.matuszak@redcross.org">michelle.matuszak@redcross.org</a>
AMVETS	Mr.	Dave	Schmidt	<a href="mailto:dwschmidt80@gmail.com">dwschmidt80@gmail.com</a>
County Veteran Service Officers Association	Mr.	Colin	Moten	<a href="mailto:cmoten@co.juneau.wi.us">cmoten@co.juneau.wi.us</a>
Disabled American Veterans (DAV)	Mr.	Larry	Hill	<a href="mailto:lhildav@charter.net">lhildav@charter.net</a>
Jewish War Veterans of the U.S.A.	Mr.	Kim	Queen	<a href="mailto:rocksoq@sbcglobal.net">rocksoq@sbcglobal.net</a>
Marine Corps League	Mr.	Phillip	Landgraf	<a href="mailto:phillip.landgraf@sccwi.gov">phillip.landgraf@sccwi.gov</a>
Military Officers Association of America (MOAA)	Mr.	Roger	Fetterly	<a href="mailto:fetterly@charter.net">fetterly@charter.net</a>
Military Order of the Purple Heart (MOPH)	Mr.	William	Lobeck	<a href="mailto:lzwest@mwt.net">lzwest@mwt.net</a>
National Association for Black Veterans, Inc. (NABV)	Mr.	William	Simms	<a href="mailto:williamsimsvet@gmail.com">williamsimsvet@gmail.com</a>
Paralyzed Veterans of America (PVA)	Mr.	Scott	Griffith	<a href="mailto:sgriffith@wisconsinpva.org">sgriffith@wisconsinpva.org</a>
Polish Legion of American Veterans (PLAV)	Ms.	Nellie	DeBaker	<a href="mailto:nelliepdebaker@gmail.com">nelliepdebaker@gmail.com</a>
Retired Enlisted Association	Mr.	Lester	Bischoff	<a href="mailto:packersr1us@yahoo.com">packersr1us@yahoo.com</a>
United Women Veterans, Inc. (UWV)	Ms.	Carolyn	Morgan	<a href="mailto:dsvet1@icloud.com">dsvet1@icloud.com</a>
VFW of WI	Mr.	Michael	Furgal	<a href="mailto:gunner@wekz.net">gunner@wekz.net</a>
Vietnam Veterans of America, Inc.	Mr.	Vern	Larson	<a href="mailto:vern.larson@yahoo.com">vern.larson@yahoo.com</a>
Wisconsin American GI Forum	Mr.	George	Banda	<a href="mailto:gfbanda101@yahoo.com">gfbanda101@yahoo.com</a>
WI Assoc. of Concerned Veteran Org. (WACVO)	Mr.	David	Zien	<a href="mailto:davezien@gmail.com">davezien@gmail.com</a>
Wisconsin Vietnam Veterans, Inc.	Mr.	William	Hustad	<a href="mailto:wfhust1@tds.net">wfhust1@tds.net</a>

### Vacant/Inactive Organizations

American Ex-Prisoners of War  
 Army and Navy Union of the United State of America  
 Blinded Veterans Association of Wisconsin (BVAWI)  
 Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A.  
 Navy Club of the U.S.A./WI Squadron (NCUSA)  
 US Submarine Veterans of World War II  
 Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Inc. (VVAW)

Updated 8/5/2022



# DIANNE H. HESSELBEIN

STATE SENATOR • SENATE DISTRICT 27

Testimony of Senator Dianne Hesselbein  
Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs  
AB 231: Members of the Council on Veterans Programs  
May 31, 2023

Chairman Edming and members of the Committee:

Thank you for holding a public hearing on Assembly Bill 231. I am pleased to be an author of this important legislation. As stated in the analysis, this bill changes the makeup of the Council on Veterans Programs, ensuring relevant perspective and important recommendations by Wisconsin veterans.

Under current law, the Council on Veterans Programs advises the Board of Veterans Affairs and Department of Veterans Affairs on solutions and policy alternatives relating to the challenges of veterans. The council consists of representatives of various veterans organizations who are appointed by those organizations for one-year terms.

This bill adds a veteran services coordinator employed at a Wisconsin technical college and a veteran services coordinator employed at a University of Wisconsin System institution. AB 231 also updates council participation by removing representatives of veterans organizations that are inactive, as according to the Department of Veterans Affairs. The inactive organizations identified in the bill are:

- Navy Club of the U.S.A.
- American Ex-prisoners of War.
- Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Inc.
- Catholic War Veterans of the U.S.A.
- The Army and Navy Union of the United States of America.
- U.S. Submarine Veterans of World War II.
- Blinded Veterans Association of Wisconsin.

A constituent, who is a veteran, contacted me in the fall of 2020 suggesting changes to the Council on Veterans Programs. He was interested in adjusting the membership and focus of boards, committees, and state agencies to better match today's veteran population. This recommendation makes sense, and I have introduced this legislation in every session since, each time making various revisions based on constituent recommendations.

I participated in a zoom meeting December 15, 2022 with members of the Council on Veterans Programs, and shared my plan to reintroduce legislation to change the make-up of the council. The members expressed strong support for the proposal. Following the call, the office of former DVA Secretary Mary Kolar sent an updated list of groups that are no longer active. Those groups are included in the bill.

Please join me in supporting AB 231, a bill that will keep the Council on Veterans Programs staffed by active veteran organizations in tune with the needs of today's Wisconsin veterans.



Office of Government Relations

Van Hise Hall  
1220 Linden Drive  
Madison, WI 53706  
[www.wisconsin.edu](http://www.wisconsin.edu)

DATE: May 31, 2023

TO: Members of the Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs

FROM: UW System Office of Government Relations

RE: Testimony in Support of Assembly Bill 231

Thank you, Chairman Edming and committee members, for giving the UW System (UWS) an opportunity to provide testimony in support of Assembly Bill 231 (AB 231).

This bill would make common sense changes to the current membership of the Wisconsin Council on Veterans Programs. There are currently seven inactive groups statutorily required to be members of the Council. AB 231 would remove the seven inactive groups and replace them with two active members: veterans services coordinators at both the UWS and the Wisconsin Technical College System (WTCS).

The Council on Veterans Programs advises the Department of Veterans Affairs (DVA) on policy issues and solutions related to veterans. The veterans services team at the UWS is well suited to expertly advise the DVA on veteran policy. This legislative change is long overdue and will help our state as we continue to face legislative issues regarding veteran affairs.

The UWS veterans service department is at the forefront of current veteran policy concerns. The team is on the ground working with veteran students as they navigate the many challenges associated with prior military service. As an example of the UWS's commitment to veteran causes, total UW costs for veteran tuition remission in FY 23 are estimated to be around \$29M. About \$5M of that comes from the state appropriation allocated through the Higher Educational Aids Board. The rest is paid for by the UWS. The UWS has a vested interest in the state of veteran affairs in Wisconsin.

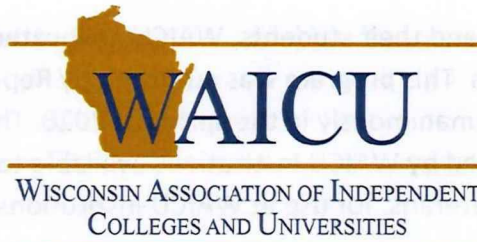
AB 231 does not affect the 19 other active members of the Council. Instead, this legislation merely removes the inactive groups that are listed on the Council's membership page as "inactive/vacant." These groups include those like the US Submarine Veterans of WWII and the Vietnam Veterans Against the War, Inc.

The UWS stands ready to partner to resolve current veteran issues affecting Wisconsin. Letting our veterans services team have a seat on the Wisconsin Council on Veterans Programs will help veterans across our state for years to come.

Again, thank you for the opportunity to provide testimony in support of this bill.

A decorative graphic at the bottom of the page consisting of several overlapping, wavy, light blue shapes that create a sense of movement and depth.

ALVERNO COLLEGE  
BELLIN COLLEGE  
BELOIT COLLEGE  
CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY  
CARROLL UNIVERSITY  
CARTHAGE COLLEGE  
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY  
EDGEWOOD COLLEGE  
HERZING UNIVERSITY  
LAKELAND UNIVERSITY  
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY  
MARIAN UNIVERSITY



WISCONSIN'S PRIVATE, NONPROFIT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES  
WORKING TOGETHER FOR EDUCATIONAL OPPORTUNITY

MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY  
MEDICAL COLLEGE OF WISCONSIN  
MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN  
MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING  
MOUNT MARY UNIVERSITY  
NASHOTAH HOUSE  
NORTHLAND COLLEGE  
RIPON COLLEGE  
ST. NORBERT COLLEGE  
VITERBO UNIVERSITY  
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE

### Testimony of

**Rebecca Larson, Senior Vice President, Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities**

And

**Matthew J. Schroeder, Director of Military and Veterans Services, Edgewood College**

To

**Assembly Committee on Veterans and Military Affairs**

**Assembly Bill 231**

**Wednesday, May 31, 2023**

Good morning, Chair Edming and members of the Committee. I am Rebecca Larson, Senior Vice President with the Wisconsin Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (WAICU). With me today is Matthew J. Schroeder, the Director of Military & Veterans Services at Edgewood College here in Madison. Matthew also represented WAICU on the Governor's Blue-Ribbon Commission on Veteran Opportunity. Thank you for the opportunity to testify on Assembly Bill 231 which modifies the membership of the Council on Veterans Programs.

WAICU is the official organization of Wisconsin's 23 private, nonprofit colleges and universities. Our organization provides services on behalf of the State of Wisconsin and for private, nonprofit colleges and universities and their students including current service members, veteran students, and their dependents. Our institutions all have School Certifying Officials and additional support contacts on their campuses, offer a variety of educational programs and provide support services unique to current service members, veteran students and their families.

WAICU has requested to be included in AB 231 to ensure awareness of the many valuable veteran programs and support available at our institutions throughout the state. I'll share a couple examples of veteran educational benefit programs available with our members and Matthew will also share his work at Edgewood College in support of current service members, veterans, and their dependents.

At the request of WAICU members and their students, WAICU advocated for the Wisconsin Veterans Grant for Private, Nonprofit Schools. This program was authored by Representative Kurtz and Senator Darling and passed the Legislature unanimously in the spring of 2020. The program is a State of Wisconsin veterans' benefit, matched by WAICU institutions available to qualified veterans, and spouses and children of qualified veterans, for use at WAICU institutions.

WAICU also responded to our member requests to ensure that both active duty and military veterans receive the appropriate college credit for military education and training as applicable to their programs of study. Through this effort, WAICU members developed the Joint Commitment for Military Transfer. The member colleges and universities participating in this commitment evaluate basic and advanced military training on the Joint Services Transcript using the American Council on Education (ACE) "A Guide to the Evaluation of Educational Experiences in the Armed Services" to help interpret and recommend credit for college courses. The institutions also share credit provided for DANTES Subject Standardized Tests and each institution lists a veterans contact on campus. More information on these programs can be found on Wisconsin Private Colleges.com. WAICU students also receive Post 9/11 Veterans Educational Assistance benefits and many WAICU members participate in the Yellow Ribbon agreement that cover costs exceeding the Private College Maximum.

Membership on the Council would provide a voice for the private, nonprofit sector of higher education to share valuable information on the many educational opportunities and support services available to veterans and their families, alongside our private sector counterparts.

Now Matthew will share more about his work at Edgewood College in support of veteran students and their families.

Good morning, Committee members. My name is Matthew J. Schroeder and I oversee the Office of Military & Veterans Services at Edgewood College. My duties include providing leadership for the Office of Military & Veterans Services, including supervision and administration of all department functions. In my role, I partner with the admissions, academic, and student life sectors to create a comprehensive information sharing system. The goal is to accurately account for all military students from inquiry through enrollment, to graduation and alumni affairs and represent Edgewood College at outreach events for local and regional military and veteran organizations.

The need for additional support to navigate higher education and higher education benefits is important for these students. While many veterans look to County Veteran Service Offices to provide this information, educational benefits are often complicated and not well understood. Nonetheless, all veterans need and deserve the opportunity to understand their educational benefits regardless of which institution they choose to attend, public or private, nonprofit.

This is why I support the inclusion of the University of Wisconsin and the Wisconsin Technical College Systems as members of Council on Veterans Programs. Their inclusion will bring a voice to the Council that the other distinguished members are not able to articulate. However, I also believe it is important for a representative from a WAICU institution to be included on the Council, much like it was important for a WAICU institution to be included on the Governor's Blue-Ribbon Commission on Veteran Opportunity.

While the needs and issues facing student veterans and their families may be similar at all institutions, I can only speak to those attending WAICU institutions. Over the past 12 years, I have encountered a variety of unique challenges that our students have been met with. While many have centered around educational benefits, or the difficulty in understanding them, others involved a range of issues including access to mental health or affordable dental care, access to housing, or assistance with employment. I count myself fortunate because I have been able to meet these challenges head on, working directly with Veterans Service Organization, the WDVA, and the VA, as well as employers and community partners to provide support and resources to those in need. In some cases, I have extended my knowledge base and resources to other institutions within WAICU, or to student veterans within the University of Wisconsin System institutions or Wisconsin Technical College System institutions when asked for assistance.

Ultimately, this is why I believe a WAICU representative should be included in the Council on Veterans Programs. It is our “community first” approach to serving current servicemembers, veterans, and their families to provide our knowledge, skills, and resources to help them pursue their higher education dreams.

Thank you.



# Building Wisconsin's Workforce Pipeline



WAICUPEDIA 2023

## A Word From the President

# Building Wisconsin's Workforce Pipeline

The independent colleges and universities of Wisconsin are vital to the success of the State of Wisconsin.

Collectively, we produce 24 percent of bachelor's degrees in the state, 34 percent of advanced degrees, and provide more than \$7 billion in economic impact each year. Our graduates are valuable members of the workforce and help propel our state forward.

In the critical area of healthcare, for example, graduates of Wisconsin's independent institutions make up more than 40 percent of all health-related bachelor's degrees in Wisconsin—and we provide more than half of the state's nursing graduates.

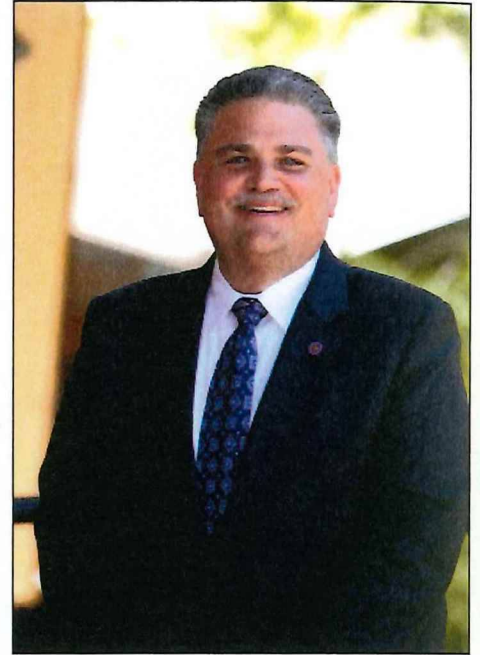
Our independent colleges and universities also provide substantial benefits to students and families. Graduates who earn a bachelor's degree are prepared for a lifetime of work—not just the first job. They are prepared for the many job and career changes they will make over their lifetimes. With the critical thinking skills they acquire, they are prepared for jobs that we cannot yet imagine.

Further they will, on average, earn more than \$1 million more over their lifetimes than those who end their education at high school. These earnings provide a personal benefit to the graduates and their families, but also benefit the state through higher tax revenues.

An investment in students who attend independent colleges, through the Wisconsin Grant, benefits everyone. Students achieve an education they might not otherwise afford, and society receives additional income tax revenue and the services that these graduates provide in the public and private sectors.

And the more than 52,000 students attending WAICU institutions are 42 percent more likely to graduate in four years than their public university peers, meaning they can enter the workforce more quickly.

This publication is chock-full of great statistics that show the value of our graduates and our WAICU institutions. Our institutions and the graduates we produce are indeed a vital resource to the State of Wisconsin. Please read on to see for yourself.



*Eric W. Fulcomer*

Eric Fulcomer, PhD  
WAICU President

We  
*advocate policies* that support  
student opportunities.

We  
*advance accessibility* and  
affordability of private, nonprofits  
in Wisconsin.

We  
*organize collaborative programs*  
to save members time and  
money.

### WAICU in State Law...

WAICU is recognized in state statutes (§§ 15.185(5)(c), 15.377, 15.67, 15.675(1)(c), 16.979, 36.31(2m)(a)3, 39.285, 39.30, 39.395, 39.41, 39.435, 39.437(4)(a), 39.49, 115.297, 118.19(1c)(a), 118.55, 440.52(11)(d)) and 2011 Governor's Executive Order #37, 2012 Governor's Executive Order #59, 2013 Governor's Executive Order #97, 2015 Governor's Executive Order #147, 2018 Governor's Executive Order #270, 2019 Governor's Executive Order #37, and 2021 Governor's Executive Order #151 as the official organization of Wisconsin's 23 private, nonprofit colleges and universities.

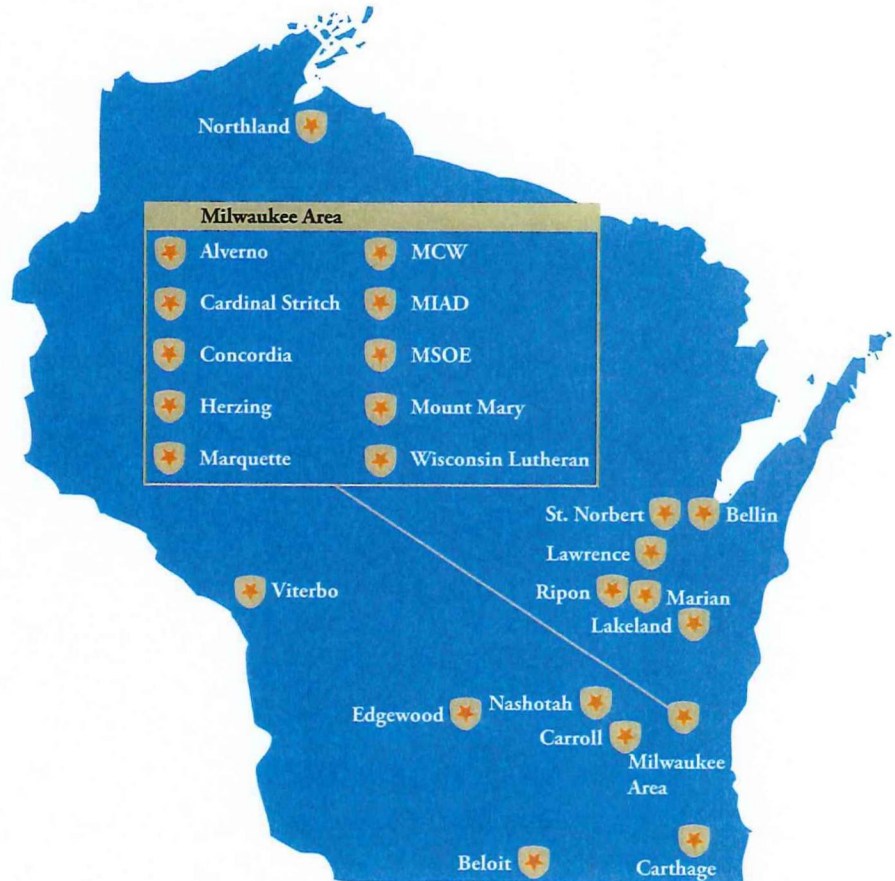
Cover image: Shutterstock,  
additional icons: E. Madden

# The Economic Impact of Private, Nonprofit Higher Education in Wisconsin

WAICU's national partner, the National Association of Independent Colleges and Universities (NAICU), released the report, *Private, Nonprofit Higher Education, Shaping Lives and Anchoring Communities 2021*.

According to the report's findings, nationwide, private, nonprofit colleges generated **\$591.5 billion** in economic impact in 2018-2019 and supported **3.4 million jobs**. Private, nonprofit colleges and universities fuel the workforce pipeline and are economic anchors in their communities.

Using the NAICU report methodology, WAICU has calculated the economic impact of Wisconsin's private, nonprofit institutions. See statistics below.



WAICU consists of 23 private, nonprofit colleges and universities, serving more than 52,000 students.

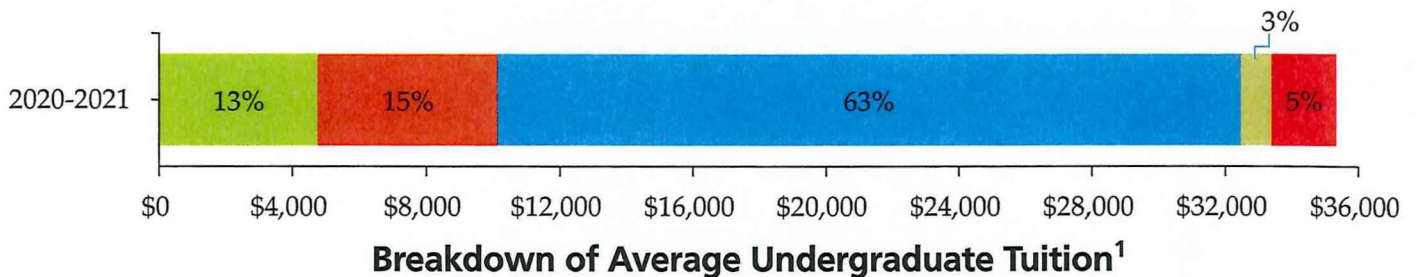
## Supporting Wisconsin's Economic Vitality<sup>1</sup>

- **\$7.1 billion** economic impact
- **More than 13,400 annual graduates**
- **62,825 jobs** supported and sustained
- **\$1.32 billion** generated in local, state, and federal taxes
- **19,038 people** directly employed in private, nonprofit higher education

1. WAICU calculation based on data from IPEDS Surveys; 2018-2019 and NAICU's report, *Private, Nonprofit Higher Education: Shaping Lives and Anchoring Communities 2021*; and total graduate data is from IPEDS Completions survey, 2020-2021.

# Making Education Accessible Through A Public and Private Partnership

Investments in tuition, especially for low- and low-middle income students, is an investment in the state's workforce. Unfortunately, the public investment has not kept pace. Given the state's critical workforce shortages, it is more important than ever to invest in economically disadvantaged students seeking to earn a degree and contribute to Wisconsin's workforce.



## Average Out-of-Pocket Tuition at Member Schools

### ● Out-of-Pocket

For the *last five years* at WAICU-member schools, the average out-of-pocket tuition has been less than \$5,500.

*Here's the math:*

Average tuition and fees:	\$35,317
Average first-year student financial aid package:	- \$30,549
Average out-of-pocket tuition:	<u>\$4,767</u>

### ● Loans

Student loans may be issued by the federal government, the largest provider, or private lenders.

### ● Institutional Grants

Institutional aid includes both merit-based and need-based scholarships and grants from funds privately raised by the college or university. WAICU members have "skin in the game," as institutional aid has increased every year since at least the year 2000. Unlike loans, grants and scholarships do not need to be paid back.

### ● State Grants

At the state level, the most notable financial aid program is the Wisconsin Grant Program. See page five for more information.

### ● Federal Grants

Federal aid includes need-based Pell Grants as well as other programs, such as Supplemental Education Opportunity Grants, Department of Veterans Affairs grants, and the federal portion of the College Work-Study Program.

<sup>1</sup> Tuition breakdown for first-time, full-time, degree-seeking undergraduates. IPEDS Student Financial Aid Survey and Student Charge Survey, 2020-2021.

# Wisconsin Grants: An Investment in Our State's Workforce

Wisconsin Grants are the primary state-funded, need-based financial aid program for Wisconsin residents attending college in Wisconsin. Wisconsin Grants have received bipartisan support.

Wisconsin currently faces employment shortages in nearly every occupation including engineers, physicians, nurses, and teachers. For Wisconsin to be competitive, we must focus on increasing the educational attainment of the state's population. Nearly 75 percent of new jobs require a bachelor's degree.

But only 40 percent of the workforce have a four-year degree.<sup>1</sup>

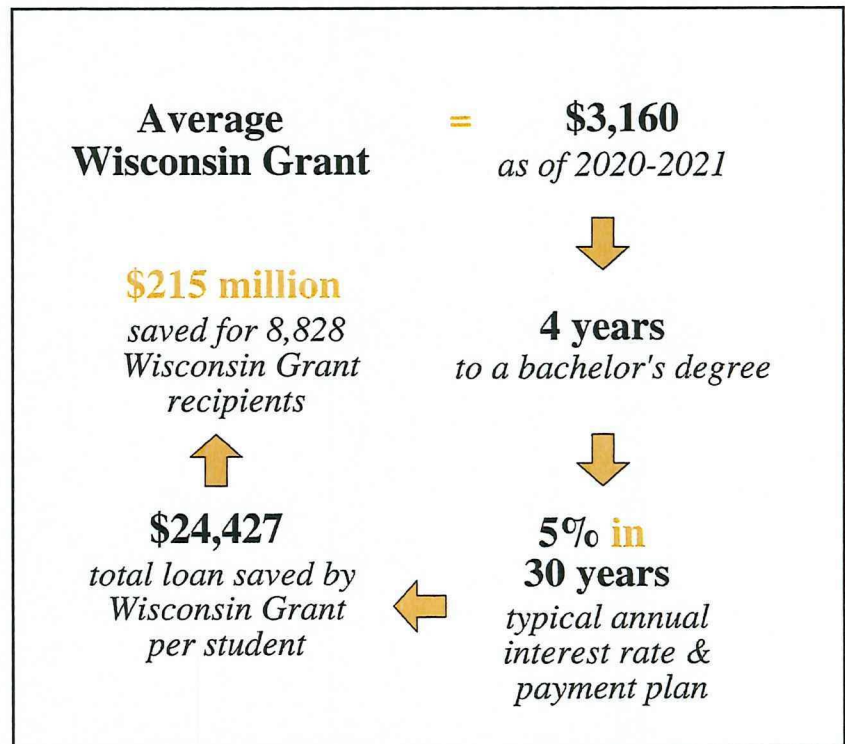
The Free Application for Federal Student Aid Simplification Act changed the current eligibility aid formula for federal Pell Grants from the Expected Family Contribution formula to a new aid formula known as the Student Aid Index. Many states, including Wisconsin, use this eligibility metric to determine eligibility for state need-based student aid, such as Wisconsin Grants.

WAICU and its member colleges and universities are seeking to modify the current Wisconsin Grant formula to modernize the statutory language and to better serve students. WAICU also is seeking a \$25.5 million increase to our sector's current \$57 million Wisconsin Grants biennial appropriation.

Even with the proposed increase, total state spending on Wisconsin Grants awarded to students at Wisconsin's independent colleges is less than 2 percent of all funding for higher education.<sup>2</sup>

## Wisconsin Grants Save Students Millions in Interest

Wisconsin Grants awarded to Wisconsin students attending a Wisconsin private, nonprofit institution saved a total of more than \$215 million in principal and loan interest for our 8,828 Wisconsin Grant recipients.<sup>3</sup>



### Average Wisconsin Grant for Private, Nonprofit Students

Investing in Wisconsin Grants reduces the need for student loans.

1. Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, "America's Divided Recovery," 2016. 2. WAICU estimation based on data from HEAB and LFB. 3. WAICU estimation based on data from HEAB's *Student Aid Expenditures For 2020-2021* report.

# A Bargain for Taxpayers

Students' chances of graduating in four years are **42 percent greater** at WAICU-member colleges and universities than at four-year public institutions in Wisconsin.<sup>1</sup>

With an **average class size of 16 students**, students can count on personalized attention that keeps them on track.<sup>2</sup>

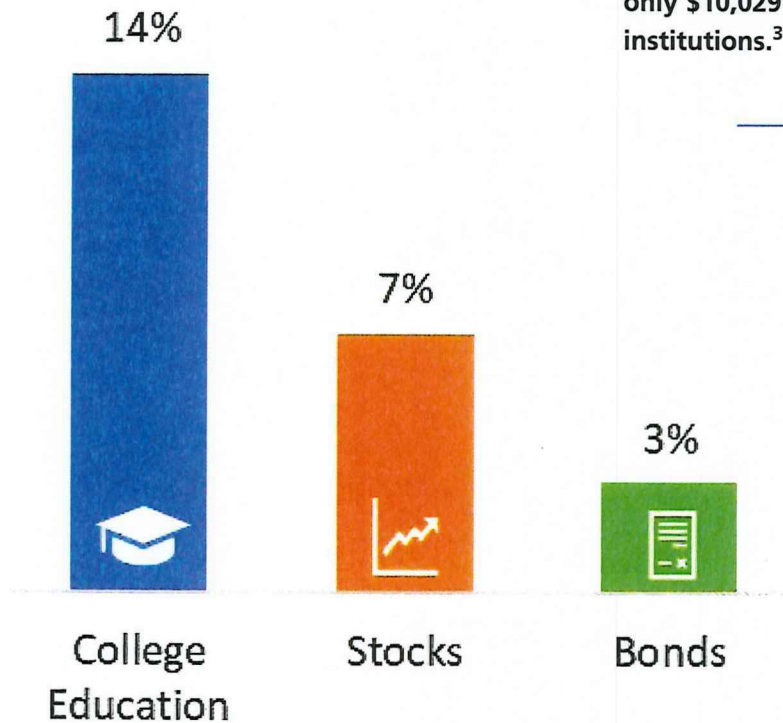
Graduating on time lowers the cost of college, with graduates entering the workforce, earning sooner, and supporting Wisconsin's economic infrastructure.



## Cost of a Degree to State Taxpayers

Over four years, the cost to state taxpayers per degree at public four-year institutions is \$126,594, compared to only \$10,029 (student aid) at WAICU-member institutions.<sup>3</sup>

## Return on Investment



## Comparison of College Degrees with Other Investments

College degrees typically have higher rates of return in the long run of 14 percent, far exceeding other investment benchmarks, such as stocks and bonds.<sup>4</sup>

1. IPEDS, Graduation survey (2013-2014 cohort), 2021-2022. 2. WAICU Institutional Survey, 2021-2022. 3. WAICU calculation based on four-year trend data from LFB, HEAB, IPEDS. 4. Federal Reserve Bank of New York, 2019.

## WAICU Cost-Saving Collaborations

In 2021, WAICU saved its members **\$19,168,981** through more than **45 collaborative, cost-saving programs**.

- The cumulative savings from the lifetime of the programs (since WAICU began reporting) now total **\$250,784,747**.
- WAICU collaborative services help to control college costs and are in keeping with WAICU's long-standing efforts to keep college affordable.

WAICU members secure preferred pricing, with combined purchasing power.

Dollars saved can be invested in student aid and instruction.

Vetted programs ensure high-quality products and services, saving members time.

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## WAICU Investments in Students

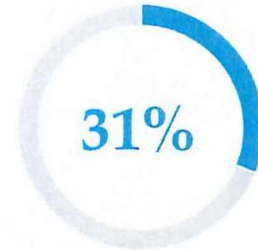
- **95 percent** of WAICU undergraduates receive financial aid.<sup>1</sup>
- **91 percent** of undergraduates receive grant/scholarships at WAICU-member colleges and universities.<sup>2</sup>
- For every **\$1** in state grants, WAICU students receive **\$23** in institutional aid.<sup>3</sup>
- The average financial aid package at WAICU-member schools is **77 percent** grants and scholarships, aid that does not have to be paid back.<sup>4</sup>

1. Full-time, degree-seeking undergraduates, WAICU Institutional Survey, 2021-2022. 2. IPEDS Student Financial Survey, 2020-2021. 3. WAICU Institutional Survey, 2021-2022. 4. IBID.

# Expanding Educational Opportunity

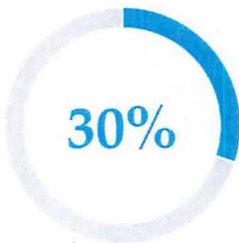


## Non-Traditional



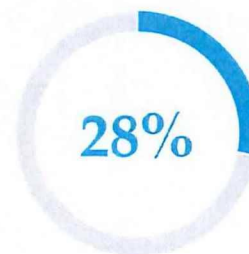
Thirty-one percent of WAICU-member students are over the age of 25, compared to 19 percent at Wisconsin's public four-year universities.<sup>1</sup>

## People of Color



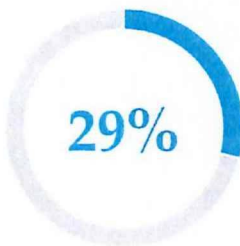
Thirty percent of WAICU students are students of color, compared to 19 percent at four-year public institutions in the state.<sup>2</sup>

## First Generation



Twenty-eight percent of all WAICU undergraduate students are first-generation students.<sup>3</sup>

## Low-Income



Twenty-nine percent of WAICU undergraduates qualify for federal Pell Grants, compared to 22 percent at four-year public institutions in Wisconsin.<sup>4</sup>

1. IPEDS, Fall Enrollment Survey, 2020-2021. 2. IPEDS, 12-Month Enrollment Survey, 2020-2021. 3. WAICU Institutional Survey, 2021-2022. 4. IPEDS, Student Financial Aid Survey, 2020-2021.



## Partnering for Postsecondary Success

### Wisconsin Veterans Grant for Private, Nonprofit Students

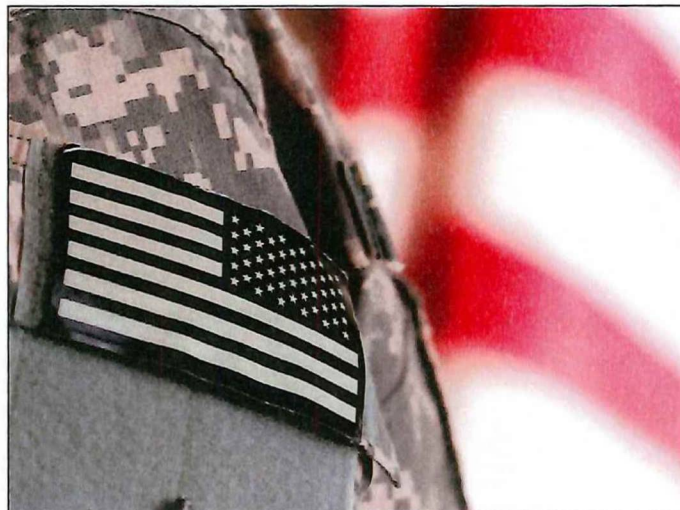
The Wisconsin Veterans Grant for Private, Nonprofit Students is a State of Wisconsin veterans benefit enacted in 2020. Awards are available to qualified veterans, as well as certain spouses and children of qualified veterans, for use at a Wisconsin private, nonprofit higher educational institution.

The Wisconsin Veterans Grant for Private, Nonprofit Students is a collaboration between:

- Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board
- Wisconsin Department of Veterans Affairs
- WAICU-member institutions

*The Wisconsin Veterans Grant for Private, Nonprofit Students includes the following:*

- A maximum grant per semester/session—including summer—for the qualifying veteran, spouse or dependent, with a per semester/session matching grant from the participating college or university.
- Grants apply toward bachelor's and graduate degree programs at Wisconsin's participating private, nonprofit colleges and universities.
- Qualifying veterans, spouses, and dependents may receive up to a total of \$12,000 annually in grants depending on other educational benefits for which veterans and their dependents may qualify.
- Those eligible may receive a maximum of eight semesters of grant funding or 128 credits, whichever is greater, less any GI bill benefits already received at public institutions.



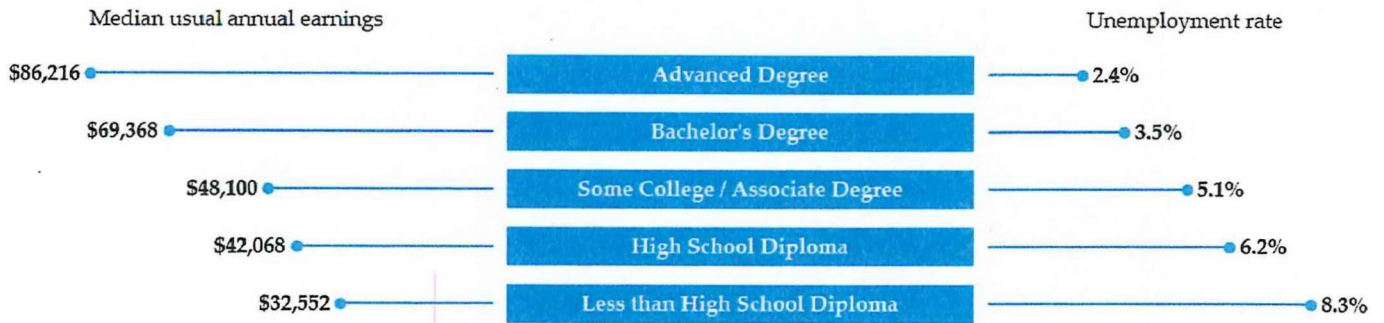
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## College Opportunities in High School

WAICU members offer a variety of opportunities for students to gain college credits while in high school at a significant discount. Opportunities include:

- Early College Credit program: Courses taken on a campus for both high school and/or college credit
- Concurrent Enrollment: College level courses taken at the high school for both high school and/or college credit
- Programs aimed at providing underrepresented students with a college experience
- Advanced Placement (AP) Credit

# Producing High-Earning Graduates

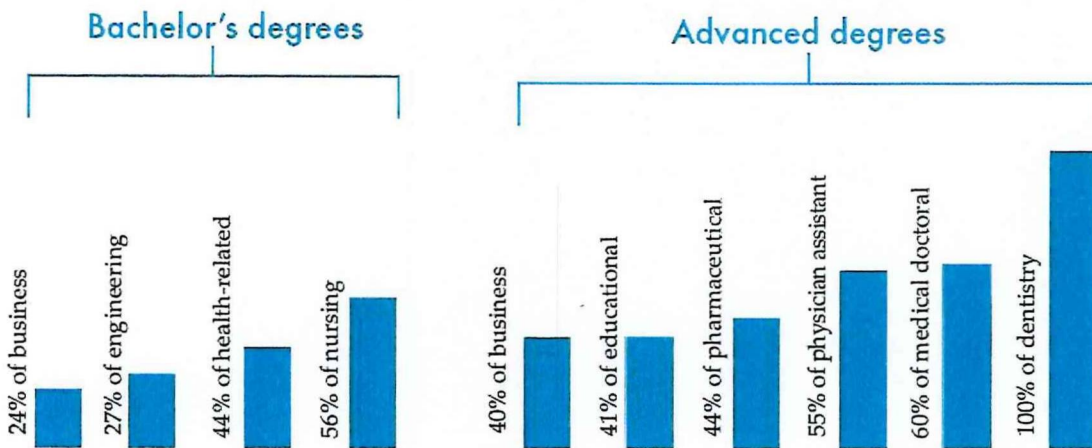


## Earnings and Unemployment Rates by Educational Attainment<sup>1</sup>

College graduates on average earn more money and are less likely to be unemployed than those without a degree. This puts them in a stronger position to pay back student loans they may have and to contribute to the health of the economy.

*Adults with a bachelor's degree earn an average of \$2.8 million during their careers, \$1.2 million more than the median wage of workers with a high school diploma.<sup>2</sup>*

## Filling High-Demand Occupations



WAICU members produce more than 13,400 graduates annually, making up 24 percent of all bachelor's degrees and 34 percent of all advanced degrees in the state, with no direct operating support from taxpayers.<sup>3</sup>

1. Bureau of Labor Statistics, 2021. 2. Georgetown Center on Education and the Workforce, "The College Payoff," 2021. 3. IPEDS, Completions Survey, 2020-2021.

# Supporting Students From College to Careers



WAICU Advancement Diversity and Nonprofit Internship programs provide valuable career experience.

Photo credit: Corey Wilson

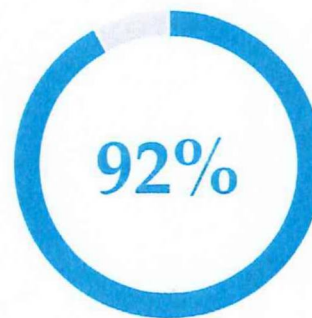
*“This internship has significantly impacted my life. Prior to this opportunity, I lacked confidence in the workplace – socially, professionally, etc. Now, I am much more confident in my ability to communicate effectively with others and complete tasks in an efficient manner. In the professional realm, I learned the importance of office etiquette, professional dialogue, and the importance of creating a portfolio.”*

-- Former program intern

## Career Services for Students

The career service offices at WAICU-member institutions provide a wide array of professional career services:

- Career exploration and counseling
- Résumé assistance and critique
- Mock interviews
- Internship placement support
- Networking and educational events
- Mentorship
- Professional resources for alums



*An estimated 92 percent of 2021 graduates from private, nonprofit colleges are employed or in graduate school within six months of graduation.<sup>1</sup>*

## WORKFORCE FAIR

JOBS, INTERNSHIPS, and GRADUATE SCHOOLS



Over the past five years, more than 3,500 WAICU students and alums have attended the WorkForce Fair. The 31st annual **WorkForce Fair: Jobs, Internships, and Graduate Schools** took place February 21, 2023, at the Wisconsin State Fair Park, where approximately 150 top employers connected with WAICU students and alums.

1. NACE's First Destination Survey, 2022.



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Milwaukee, WI  
[www.alverno.edu](http://www.alverno.edu)



Concordia University  
Mequon, WI  
[www.cuw.edu](http://www.cuw.edu)



Marquette University  
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[www.marquette.edu](http://www.marquette.edu)



Northland College  
Ashland, WI  
[www.northland.edu](http://www.northland.edu)



Bellin College  
Green Bay, WI  
[www.bellincollege.edu](http://www.bellincollege.edu)



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Madison, WI  
[www.edgewood.edu](http://www.edgewood.edu)



Medical College of Wisconsin  
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[www.mcw.edu](http://www.mcw.edu)



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Plymouth, WI  
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[www.wlc.edu](http://www.wlc.edu)



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[www.carthage.edu](http://www.carthage.edu)



Marian University  
Fond du Lac, WI  
[www.marianuniversity.edu](http://www.marianuniversity.edu)



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[www.waicu.org](http://www.waicu.org) | [www.WisconsinsPrivateColleges.org](http://www.WisconsinsPrivateColleges.org)

