

INFORMATION
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HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD

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2014-15 MINORITY RETENTION GRANT ANNUAL REPORT

MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT

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State of Wisconsin
Higher Educational Aids Board
October 2015

**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2014-15 ANNUAL REPORT
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 2014-15 academic year, sixteen technical colleges, twenty-three 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 2014-15 academic year, 867 students received a Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant award. 294 grant recipients attended a non-profit, independent college/university or tribal college, and 573 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 2014-15 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: 2013-14 Student Minority Populations as Reported by Participating Schools
- Table VII: 2014-15 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 80% of grant recipients either completed their degree/certificate programs or will continue to work towards degree/certificate completion during the 2014-15 academic year. All of the grant recipients who responded to the survey indicated that they either earned a degree or certificate during the 2014-15 academic year, or will return to school to continue to pursue their educational goals. In addition, 88% 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/Technical Colleges/Tribal Colleges

COMBINED DATA:	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Students who completed a degree/certificate in 14-15	265	29.58%
Students enrolled for 15-16 and continuing toward degree/certificate	455	50.78%
Students not enrolled for 15-16 who did not complete degree/certificate	176	19.64%
COMBINED TOTALS	896	100.00%
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES/TRIBAL COLLEGES:	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Students who completed a degree/certificate in 14-15	105	34.43%
Students enrolled for 15-16 and continuing toward degree/certificate	167	54.75%
Students not enrolled for 15-16 who did not complete degree/certificate	33	10.82%
TOTALS	305	100.00%
TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM SCHOOLS:	NUMBER	PERCENTAGE
Students who completed a degree/certificate in 14-15	160	27.07%
Students enrolled for 15-16 and continuing toward degree/certificate	288	48.73%
Students not enrolled for 15-16 who did not complete degree/certificate	143	24.20%
TOTALS	591	100.00%

Note: The students reported as “students not enrolled for 15-16 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
MILWAUKEE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 222,255	253	\$ 878
CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY	\$ 80,855	54	\$ 1,497
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	\$ 49,530	24	\$ 2,064
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY	\$ 48,805	34	\$ 1,435
ALVERNO COLLEGE	\$ 48,285	26	\$ 1,857
TOTALS	\$ 449,730	391	\$ 1,150

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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	\$ 48,285	26	\$ 1,857	11.66%
BELOIT COLLEGE	\$ 2,690	2	\$ 1,345	0.65%
CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY	\$ 80,855	54	\$ 1,497	19.53%
CARROLL UNIVERSITY	\$ 14,270	13	\$ 1,098	3.45%
CARTHAGE COLLEGE	\$ 10,274	5	\$ 2,055	2.48%
EDGEWOOD COLLEGE	\$ 13,854	6	\$ 2,309	3.35%
SILVER LAKE COLLEGE	\$ 5,895	6	\$ 983	1.42%
LAKELAND COLLEGE	\$ 8,995	11	\$ 818	2.17%
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY	\$ 2,070	2	\$ 1,035	0.50%
MARIAN UNIVERSITY	\$ 19,130	16	\$ 1,196	4.62%
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY	\$ 48,805	34	\$ 1,435	11.79%
MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING	\$ 9,410	7	\$ 1,344	2.27%
MOUNT MARY UNIVERSITY	\$ 31,535	26	\$ 1,213	7.62%
COLUMBIA COLLEGE OF NURSING	\$ 1,450	3	\$ 483	0.35%
NORTHLAND COLLEGE	\$ 1,035	1	\$ 1,035	0.25%
RIPON COLLEGE	\$ 2,790	4	\$ 698	0.67%
SAINT NORBERT COLLEGE	\$ 10,440	5	\$ 2,088	2.52%
VITERBO UNIVERSITY	\$ 7,755	4	\$ 1,939	1.87%
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY WISCONSIN	\$ 49,530	24	\$ 2,064	11.96%
MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART & DESIGN	\$ 7,444	5	\$ 1,489	1.80%
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE	\$ 7,690	11	\$ 699	1.86%
MARANATHA BAPTIST UNIVERSITY	\$ 620	2	\$ 310	0.15%
BELLIN COLLEGE	\$ 1,035	1	\$ 1,035	0.25%
LA COURTE OREILLES OJIBWA COMMUNITY COLLEGE	\$ 17,785	12	\$ 1,482	4.29%
COLLEGE OF MENOMINEE NATION	\$ 10,440	14	\$ 746	2.52%
TOTALS:	\$ 414,082	294	\$ 1,408	100.00%

2014-15 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Recipient:

“This grant was important because it directly led to my ability to enroll in the fall semester. The grant paid off my remaining balance, allowing me to continue my educational career.”

---Adam, College of Menominee Nation

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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	\$ 106,074	78	\$ 1,360	25.62%
3 RD YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 134,121	99	\$ 1,355	32.39%
4 TH YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 133,067	85	\$ 1,565	32.14%
5 TH YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 40,820	32	\$ 1,276	9.85%
TOTAL	\$ 414,082	294	\$ 1,408	100.00%
STATUS OF RECIPIENTS				
DEPENDENT	\$ 248,393	180	\$ 1,380	59.99%
INDEPENDENT	\$ 165,689	114	\$ 1,453	40.01%
TOTAL	\$ 414,082	294	\$ 1,408	100.00%
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY GROUP				
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	\$ 205,773	141	\$ 1,459	49.69%
AMERICAN INDIAN	\$ 44,158	36	\$ 1,227	10.66%
ASIAN-AMERICAN	\$ 33,057	25	\$ 1,322	7.99%
HISPANIC	\$ 131,094	92	\$ 1,425	31.66%
TOTAL	\$ 414,082	294	\$ 1,408	100.00%
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY SECTOR				
INDEPENDENT	\$ 385,857	268	\$ 1,440	93.18%
TRIBAL	\$ 28,225	26	\$ 1,086	6.82%
	\$ 414,082	294	\$ 1,408	100.00%

2014-15 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Recipient:

“I come from a single mother household and do not receive any help in paying for school from my family. They simply cannot afford to put me through nursing school which is over \$14,000 a semester. I do not receive any grants through FASFA and have maxed out the loans I am eligible to take out without a parent/cosigner. This money helped decrease my tuition balance and take away a small amount of money I would have had to come up with on my own. It is very much appreciated.”

---Venecia, Columbia College of Nursing

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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
FOX VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 18,850	23	\$ 820	4.56%
CHIPPEWA VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 20,650	27	\$ 765	5.00%
SOUTHWEST TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 1,450	1	\$ 1,450	0.35%
MORAINÉ PARK TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 3,245	7	\$ 464	0.79%
NORTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 18,440	20	\$ 922	4.46%
GATEWAY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 37,150	87	\$ 427	8.99%
WESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 21,200	17	\$ 1,247	5.13%
MADISON AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 22,925	29	\$ 791	5.55%
MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 222,255	253	\$ 878	53.80%
LAKESHORE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 2,280	6	\$ 380	0.55%
WAUKESHA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 23,019	47	\$ 490	5.57%
NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 5,110	12	\$ 426	1.24%
BLACKHAWK TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 8,220	28	\$ 294	1.99%
MID-STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 3,800	8	\$ 475	0.92%
NICOLET AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 2,485	6	\$ 414	0.60%
WISCONSIN INDIANHEAD TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 2,070	2	\$ 1,035	0.50%
TOTALS:	\$ 413,149	573	\$ 721	100.00%

2014-15 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Recipients:

“ The grant provided me the opportunity to continue with being a full-time employee and a full-time student. The grant also motivated me and allowed me to realize my true potential to continue my education and consider going beyond my Associates degree.”

---Mary, Mid-State Technical College

“I am the first generation of my family to attend college. My mother came over from Laos and does not speak any English. She did not know that she needed to save any money for me to go to college. So this grant has helped me a lot financially with obtaining a higher education.”

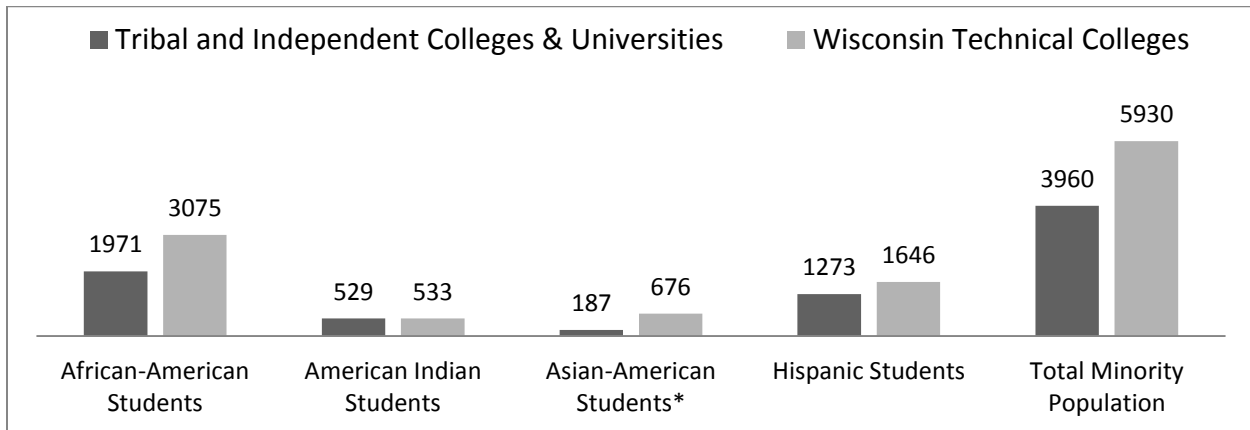
---Pheng, Northeastern Wisconsin Technical College

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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	\$ 347,316	453	\$ 767	84.06%
3 RD YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 47,883	89	\$ 538	11.59%
4 TH YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 13,250	22	\$ 602	3.21%
5 TH YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 4,700	9	\$ 522	1.14%
	\$ 413,149	573	\$ 721	100.00%
STATUS OF RECIPIENTS				
DEPENDENT	\$ 68,724	84	\$ 818	16.63%
INDEPENDENT	\$ 344,425	489	\$ 704	83.37%
TOTAL	\$ 413,149	573	\$ 721	100.00%
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY GROUP				
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	\$ 235,177	323	\$ 728	56.92%
AMERICAN INDIAN	\$ 30,717	37	\$ 830	7.44%
ASIAN-AMERICAN	\$ 64,565	84	\$ 769	15.63%
HISPANIC	\$ 82,690	129	\$ 641	20.01%
TOTAL	\$ 413,149	573	\$ 721	100.00%

GRAPH I: 2013-14 STUDENT MINORITY POPULATIONS AT PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS



Note: Population data collected from the 2014-15 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: 2014-15 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 2014-15 academic year?		
The award allowed me to attend school. Without it, I would not have been able to attend.	37	31.6%
The award positively influenced by decision to attend school. Without it, it would have been difficult for me to attend school.	60	51.3%
The award had no influence on my decision to attend school. Without it, I would have still attended school.	20	17.1%
Did you earn a Bachelor, an Associate Degree, or a certificate during the 2014-15 academic year?		
Yes	53	45.3%
No	64	54.7%
If you did not earn a degree or certificate during the 2014-15 academic year, how soon do you anticipate earning a degree or certificate?		
2015-16 academic year	33	51.6%
2016-17 academic year	24	37.5%
2017-18 academic year	6	9.4%
I do not plan on completing a degree or certificate	0	0.0%
Other (please explain): "I am attending on a part-time basis. My graduate degree time is uncertain."	1	1.5%
If you did NOT earn a degree or certificate during the 2014-15 academic year, will you be attending a college or university during the 2015-16 academic year?		
Yes	60	93.8%
Enrollment Status: Full-time: 46 Part-time: 14		
No	4	6.2%
Were you employed during the 2014-15 academic year?		
Yes	79	77.5%
32 hours/week or more: 32 Less than 32 hours/week: 59		
No	23	22.5%
Do you plan to be a Wisconsin resident for most of your working career?		
Yes	102	88.7%
No	13	11.3%