

INFORMATION
October 9, 2009

HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD

BOARD REPORT #10-09

2008-09 MINORITY RETENTION GRANT ANNUAL REPORT



State of Wisconsin
Higher Educational Aids Board

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James E. Doyle
Governor

Connie L. Hutchison, Ph.D.
Executive Secretary

September 29, 2009

Executive Secretary Michael Morgan
Department of Administration
101 West Wilson Street, 10th Floor
Madison, WI 53707

Dear Secretary Morgan:

Enclosed is the 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 the report or about the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant, please contact me at any time.

Sincerely,

Connie Hutchison
Executive Secretary

Cc: Dennis Rhodes, Department of Administration
Emily Pope, Legislative Fiscal Bureau
Mary Lou Kuzdas, Grant Coordinator, HEAB
Sherrie Nelson, HEAB

MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT

2008-2009

Annual Report

The Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant (MRG) Program was established by the State of Wisconsin Legislature in the 1985-87 biennial budget. The first award was made in 1986-87.

Minority 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 and universities, and tribal colleges. All sixteen technical colleges, twenty-two non-profit colleges and universities, and both tribal colleges participate in the program. (The University of Wisconsin System Administration has a similar program, the Lawton Grant, for students attending those institutions.) According to statutes, a minority student is defined as a student who is either a Black American, American Indian, Hispanic, or Southeast Asian from Laos, Cambodia, or Vietnam admitted to the United States after December 1, 1975.

Awards are based on financial need, with a minimum grant of \$250 and a maximum grant of \$2,500 per year. If eligible, a student may receive the grant for up to eight semesters or 12 quarters. Assignment of funds to sectors (WTCS, Tribal, and Private/Independent) is based on the minority student population reported annually by each participating school.

There were 800 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant recipients in the 2008-2009 academic year. 326 recipients attended a non-profit, independent college or university, or tribal college, and 474 recipients attended a Wisconsin technical college. To help gauge the effectiveness of this program an annual survey is sent to grant recipients and participating schools. The survey and results are found on page 5. Tables and graphs on pages 2-9 illustrate where and how the grant money is spent, and shows the progress of the recipients.

- Table I illustrates the educational progress of grant recipients who responded to the survey.
- Table II identifies the five schools with the highest grant distribution.
- Tables III and IV break out spending by schools and student demographics.
- Graphs I and II illustrate distribution of funds by dependency status.
- Page 6 provides the student survey and the results of the survey.
- Graphs III through XI illustrate the survey results.

The data that was collected and the results of the grant recipient survey show that the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant is very successful. Individuals who were surveyed included students who received MRG dollars during the 2008-2009 academic year. Participating schools report that 79% of student recipients either completed their degree/certificate programs or continued to work towards obtaining their degree/certificate in 2008-2009.

Of recipients who responded to the survey, 88% indicated that the grant positively affected their decision to return to or stay in school, and all respondents indicated they either have earned or are continuing to work toward a degree or certificate. Finally, over 92% of the respondents indicated that they plan on living in Wisconsin for their working career.

**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2008-2009 ANNUAL SURVEY**

TABLE I

Educational Progress of Grant Recipients		
Independent Colleges and Universities/ Technical Colleges/Tribal Colleges Combined Data		
	Number	Percentage
Students who completed a degree/certificate	191	23.88%
Students continuing toward degree/certificate	441	55.13%
Students not returning to school attended in 07-08	168	21.00%
TOTALS	800	100.00%
 Independent Colleges and Universities/Tribal Colleges		
	Number	Percentage
Students who completed a degree/certificate	68	20.86%
Students continuing toward degree/certificate	211	64.72%
Students not returning to school attended in 07-08	47	14.42%
TOTALS	326	100.00%
 Technical College System Schools		
	Number	Percentage
Students who completed a degree/certificate	123	25.95%
Students continuing toward degree/certificate	230	48.52%
Students not returning to school attended in 07-08	121	25.53%
TOTALS	474	100.00%
 Note: The students reported as "not returning to school" did not return to the school they attended in 2007-08. They could be attending a different school or working on an advanced degree.		

TABLE II

TOP FIVE COLLEGES OR UNIVERSITIES BASED ON FUNDING PROVIDED TO STUDENTS			
College or University	\$ Spent	# of Awards	Average Award
MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$262,116	226	\$1,160
ALVERNO COLLEGE	\$101,708	74	\$1,374
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY	\$90,210	40	\$2,255
CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY	\$52,083	35	\$1,488
MADISON AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$35,408	45	\$787
TOTALS	\$541,525	420	\$1,289

**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2008-2009 ANNUAL SURVEY**

**TABLE III
SPENDING BY SCHOOL AND STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES/UNIVERSITIES AND TRIBAL COLLEGES**

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY	DOLLARS SPENT	NUMBER OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD	PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS SPENT
ALVERNO COLLEGE	\$101,708	74	\$1,374	24.77%
BELLIN COLLEGE	\$1,320	1	\$1,320	0.32%
BELOIT COLLEGE	\$3,290	5	\$658	0.80%
CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY	\$52,083	35	\$1,488	12.69%
CARROLL COLLEGE	\$9,220	9	\$1,024	2.25%
CARTHAGE	\$2,625	12	\$219	0.64%
COLLEGE OF THE MENOMINEE NATION	\$27,550	42	\$656	6.71%
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	\$12,750	13	\$981	3.11%
LAC COURTE OREILLES	\$15,000	7	\$2,143	3.65%
LAKELAND COLLEGE	\$9,900	10	\$990	2.41%
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY	\$3,950	2	\$1,975	0.96%
MARIAN COLLEGE	\$9,753	19	\$513	2.38%
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY	\$90,210	40	\$2,255	21.97%
MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART AND DESIGN	\$6,250	6	\$1,042	1.52%
MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING	\$12,070	9	\$1,341	2.94%
MOUNT MARY COLLEGE	\$27,776	21	\$1,323	6.77%
RIPON COLLEGE	\$2,505	4	\$626	0.61%
ST NORBERT COLLEGE	\$4,529	5	\$906	1.10%
SILVER LAKE COLLEGE	\$1,320	1	\$1,320	0.32%
VITERBO COLLEGE	\$5,250	3	\$1,750	1.28%
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE	\$11,500	8	\$1,438	2.80%
TOTAL	\$410,559	326	\$1,259	100.00%

YEAR IN SCHOOL	DOLLARS SPENT	# OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD
SOPHOMORES	\$164,559	133	\$1,237
JUNIORS	\$124,370	103	\$1,207
SENIORS	\$82,010	62	\$1,323
5TH YEAR STUDENTS	\$39,620	28	\$1,415
TOTAL	\$410,559	326	\$1,259

STATUS OF RECIPIENTS	DOLLARS SPENT	# OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD
DEPENDENT	\$202,445	154	\$1,315
INDEPENDENT	\$208,114	172	\$1,210
TOTAL	\$410,559	326	\$1,259

MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY GROUP	DOLLARS SPENT	# OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	\$245,118	181	\$1,354
AMERICAN INDIAN	\$40,515	49	\$827
ASIAN-AMERICAN	\$33,921	30	\$1,131
HISPANIC	\$91,005	66	\$1,379
TOTAL	\$410,559	326	\$1,259

MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT INDEPENDENT BY SECTOR	DOLLARS SPENT	# OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES	\$368,009	277	\$1,329
TRIBAL COLLEGES	\$42,550	49	\$868
TOTAL	\$410,559	326	\$1,259

TABLE IV

**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2008-2009 ANNUAL SURVEY**

**SPENDING BY SCHOOL AND STUDENT DEMOGRAPHICS
WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM**

COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY	DOLLARS SPENT	NUMBER OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD
BLACKHAWK TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$8,000	10	\$800
CHIPPEWA VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$8,160	11	\$742
FOX VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$6,800	11	\$618
GATEWAY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$33,600	77	\$436
INDIANHEAD TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$5,210	3	\$1,737
MADISON AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$35,408	45	\$787
MIDSTATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$3,920	9	\$436
MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$262,116	226	\$1,160
MORAIN PARK TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$3,650	4	\$913
NORTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$12,540	19	\$660
NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$6,100	16	\$381
SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$590	1	\$0
WAUKESHA COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$8,500	21	\$405
WESTERN WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$13,130	21	\$625
TOTALS	\$407,724	474	\$860

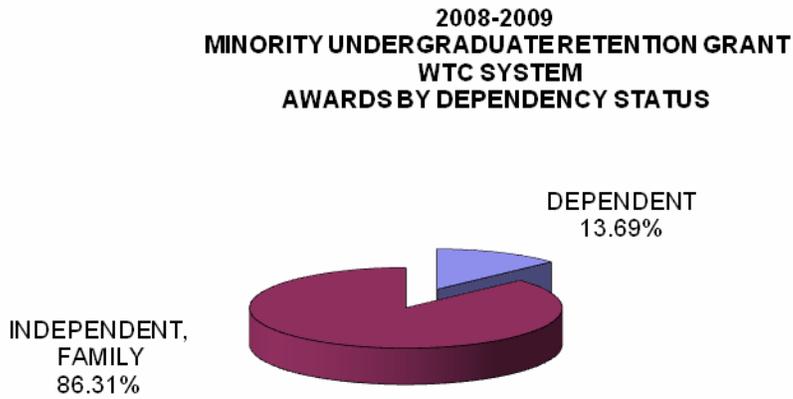
YEAR IN SCHOOL	DOLLARS SPENT	# OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD
SOPHOMORES	\$355,034	386	\$920
JUNIORS	\$32,042	56	\$572
SENIORS	\$15,128	24	\$630
5TH YEAR STUDENTS	\$5,520	8	\$0
TOTAL	\$407,724	474	\$860

STATUS OF RECIPIENTS	DOLLARS SPENT	# OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD
DEPENDENT	\$55,808	63	\$886
INDEPENDENT	\$351,916	411	\$856
TOTAL	\$407,724	474	\$860

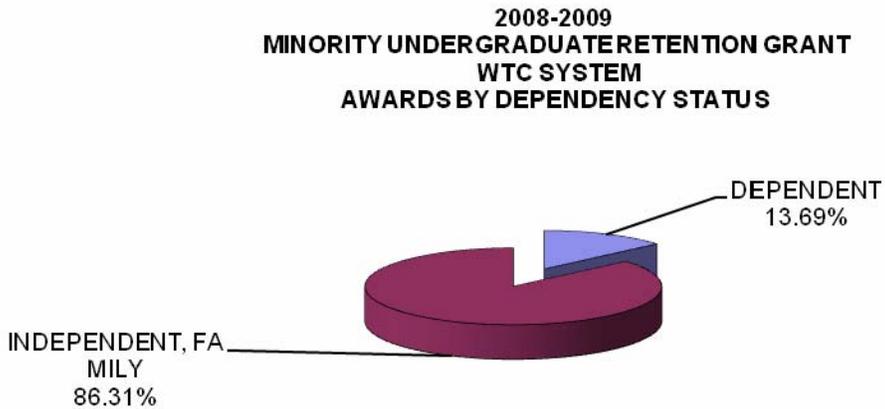
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY GROUP	DOLLARS SPENT	# OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	\$295,658	322	\$918
AMERICAN INDIAN	\$9,689	13	\$745
ASIAN-AMERICAN	\$60,025	79	\$760
HISPANIC	\$42,352	60	\$706
TOTAL	\$407,724	474	\$860

**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2008-2009 ANNUAL SURVEY**

**GRAPH I
AWARDS BY DEPENDENCY STATUS**



**GRAPH II
AWARDS BY DEPENDENCY STATUS**



**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2008-2009 ANNUAL SURVEY**

**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2007 – 2008
GRANT RECIPIENTS SURVEY
AND RESPONSES**

Responses by Student Recipients

1. Did receiving the Minority Retention Grant positively influence your decision to return to school?		
YES	74	88.10%
NO	10	11.9%
2. Have you earned a bachelor or an associate degree/certificate?		
YES	38	45.24%
NO	46	57.76%
3. If you have not earned a degree or certificate, do you anticipate doing so?		
YES	60	71.83%
NO	3	26.76%
4. Are you or will you be enrolled at a college or university during the 2009-10 academic year?		
YES	71	84.52%
NO	9	10.71%
No Answer	4	4.8%
5. If yes, are you or will you be enrolled:		
Full-time	51	71.83%
Part-time	19	26.76%
6. Are you employed?		
YES	62	73.81%
NO	19	22.62%
No Answer	3	
7. If yes, are you employed:		
Full-time	25	40.32%
Part-time	37	59.68%
8. Do you plan to be a Wisconsin resident for most of your working career?		
YES	77	91.67%
No Answer	7	5.88%

The majority of recipients who responded are still in school. Some are continuing their work on a degree/certificate or are working on an advanced degree or certificate. This continuing work may or may not be at the school the recipient attended in 2007-08.

Many recipients of the MRG are continuing to pursue degrees. The continuing recipients are:

- * Transferring from a technical college to a 4-year college
- * Transferring from one technical college program to a different technical college program
- * Moving from a 4-year college program to a Masters Degree program.
- * Moving from one 4-year college program to a second 4-year college program.

It is also of note that most of these students are working at least 20 hours a week if not full time while pursuing their education.

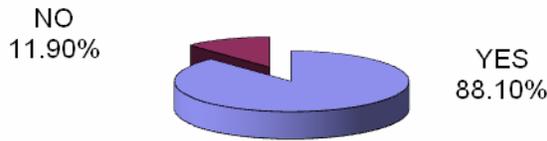
Many of these students work in health care professions.

Many students are having a more difficult time completing programs due to expenses, books, transportation and tuition costs.

**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2008-2009 ANNUAL SURVEY**

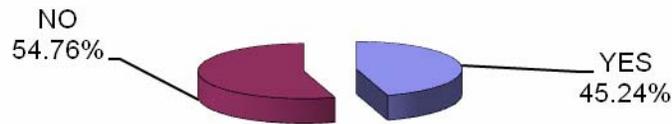
GRAPH III

**2008-09
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT RECIPIENTS**
Recipients responded if the MRUG had a positive affect on their decision to remain in school.



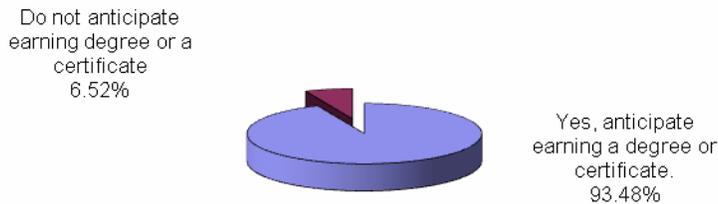
GRAPH IV

**2008-09
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT RECIPIENTS**
Recipients who earned a degree/certificate



GRAPH V

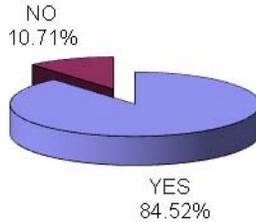
**2008-09
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT RECIPIENTS**
Recipients anticipation to earn a degree/certificate



**MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2008-2009 ANNUAL SURVEY**

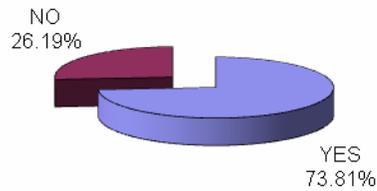
GRAPH VI

**2008-09
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT RECIPIENTS**
Recipients's enrollment status for the 2008-09 academic year



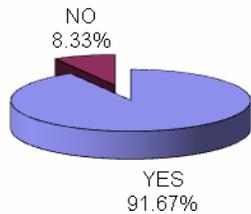
GRAPH VII

**2008-09
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT SURVEY OF
RECIPIENTS**
Recipient's employment status for the 2008-09 academic year



GRAPH VIII

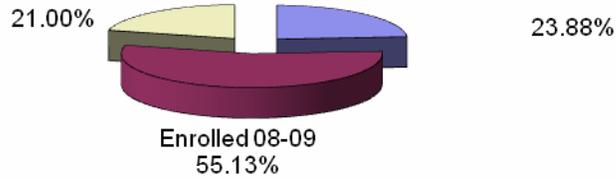
**2008-09
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT SURVEY OF RECIPIENTS**
Recipient's plans to stay in Wisconsin for most of their career



MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT
2008-2009 ANNUAL SURVEY

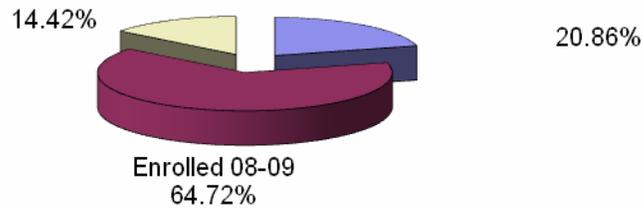
GRAPH IX

2008-09
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT SURVEY
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES,
TECHNICAL COLLEGES AND TRIBAL COLLEGES
Enrollment Status of Recipients



GRAPH X

2008-09
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT SURVEY
INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES
AND TRIBAL COLLEGES
Enrollment Status of Recipients



GRAPH XI

2008-09
MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT SURVEY
TECHNICAL COLLEGES
Enrollment Status of Recipients

