

**INFORMATION**  
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**HIGHER EDUCATIONAL AIDS BOARD**

**BOARD REPORT #18-05**

**2016-17 MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT  
ANNUAL REPORT**

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State of Wisconsin  
Higher Educational Aids Board  
October 2017

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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 2016-17 academic year, sixteen technical colleges, twenty-four 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 2016-17 academic year, 851 students received a Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant award. 272 grant recipients attended a non-profit, independent college/university or tribal college, and 579 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 2016-17 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: 2015-16 Student Minority Populations as Reported by Participating Schools
- Table VII: 2016-17 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 84.80% of grant recipients either completed their degree/certificate programs or will continue to work towards degree/certificate completion during the 2017-18 academic year. All of the grant recipients who responded to the survey indicated that they either earned a degree or certificate during the 2016-17 academic year, or will return to school to continue to pursue their educational goals. In addition, 95.19% 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**

<b>COMBINED DATA:</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Students who completed a degree/certificate in 16-17	322	38.24%
Students enrolled for 17-18 and continuing toward degree/certificate	392	46.56%
Students not enrolled for 17-18 who did not complete degree/certificate	128	15.20%
<b>COMBINED TOTALS</b>	<b>842</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>INDEPENDENT COLLEGES AND UNIVERSITIES/TRIBAL COLLEGES:</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Students who completed a degree/certificate in 16-17	74	27.92%
Students enrolled for 17-18 and continuing toward degree/certificate	155	58.49%
Students not enrolled for 17-18 who did not complete degree/certificate	36	13.59%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>265</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM SCHOOLS:</b>	<b>NUMBER</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE</b>
Students who completed a degree/certificate in 16-17	248	42.98%
Students enrolled for 17-18 and continuing toward degree/certificate	237	41.07%
Students not enrolled for 17-18 who did not complete degree/certificate	92	15.95%
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>577</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**Note:** The students reported as “students not enrolled for 17-18 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**

<b>COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>DOLLARS SPENT</b>	<b>NUMBER OF AWARDS</b>	<b>AVERAGE AWARD</b>
MILWAUKEE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 220,060	254	\$ 866
ALVERNO COLLEGE	\$ 59,765	33	\$ 1,811
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY	\$ 48,525	30	\$ 1,618
CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY	\$ 43,455	21	\$ 2,069
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	\$ 37,590	21	\$ 1,140
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>\$ 409,395</b>	<b>359</b>	<b>\$ 1,140</b>

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**TABLE III: SPENDING BY SCHOOL FOR INDEPENDENT/TRIBAL SCHOOLS**

<b>COLLEGE OR UNIVERSITY</b>	<b>DOLLARS SPENT</b>	<b>NUMBER OF AWARDS</b>	<b>AVERAGE AWARD</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS SPENT</b>
ALVERNO COLLEGE	\$ 59,765	33	\$ 1,811	14.64%
BELLIN COLLEGE	\$ 1,195	1	\$ 1,195	0.29%
BELOIT COLLEGE	\$ 3,085	2	\$ 1,543	0.76%
CARDINAL STRITCH UNIVERSITY	\$ 43,455	21	\$ 2,069	10.64%
CARROLL UNIVERSITY	\$ 17,900	19	\$ 942	4.38%
CARTHAGE COLLEGE	\$ 23,070	11	\$ 2,097	5.65%
COLLEGE OF THE MENOMINEE NATION	\$ 8,750	10	\$ 875	2.14%
COLUMBIA COLLEGE OF NURSING	\$ 1,790	5	\$ 358	0.44%
CONCORDIA UNIVERSITY	\$ 37,590	21	\$ 1,790	9.21%
EDGEWOOD COLLEGE	\$ 14,408	8	\$ 1,801	3.53%
HERZING	\$ 12,337	8	\$ 1,542	3.02%
LAC COURTE OREILLES	\$ 30,925	19	\$ 1,628	7.58%
LAKELAND COLLEGE	\$ 7,855	6	\$ 1,309	1.92%
LAWRENCE UNIVERSITY	\$ 3,085	3	\$ 1,028	0.76%
MARANATHA	\$ 895	1	\$ 895	0.22%
MARIAN UNIVERSITY	\$ 10,980	12	\$ 915	2.69%
MARQUETTE UNIVERSITY	\$ 48,525	30	\$ 1,618	11.89%
MILWAUKEE INSTITUTE OF ART AND DESIGN	\$ 8,355	9	\$ 928	2.05%
MILWAUKEE SCHOOL OF ENGINEERING	\$ 14,620	9	\$ 1,624	3.58%
MOUNT MARY COLLEGE	\$ 30,330	20	\$ 1,517	7.43%
NORTHLAND COLLEGE	\$ 1,390	1	\$ 1,390	0.34%
RIPON COLLEGE	\$ 2,285	2	\$ 1,143	0.56%
ST NORBERT COLLEGE	\$ 11,735	5	\$ 2,347	2.87%
SILVER LAKE COLLEGE	\$ 3,880	4	\$ 970	0.95%
VITERBO UNIVERSITY	\$ 4,375	3	\$ 1,458	1.07%
WISCONSIN LUTHERAN COLLEGE	\$ 5,670	9	\$ 630	1.39%
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$ 408,250</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>\$ 1,501</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**2016-17 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Recipient:**

“It helped with my financial needs.”

*--Denise, 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
<b>YEAR IN SCHOOL</b>				
2 <sup>ND</sup> YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 133,928	91	\$ 1,472	32.81%
3 <sup>RD</sup> YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 112,516	75	\$ 1,500	27.56%
4 <sup>TH</sup> YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 130,376	82	\$ 1,590	31.94%
5 <sup>TH</sup> YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 31,430	24	\$ 1,310	7.70%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 408,250</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>\$ 1,501</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>STATUS OF RECIPIENTS</b>				
DEPENDENT	\$ 246,546	161	\$ 1,531	60.39%
INDEPENDENT	\$ 161,704	111	\$ 1,457	39.61%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 408,250</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>\$ 1,478</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY GROUP</b>				
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	\$ 181,075	115	\$ 1,575	44.35%
AMERICAN INDIAN	\$ 48,365	35	\$ 1,382	11.85%
ASIAN-AMERICAN	\$ 29,767	21	\$ 1,417	7.29%
HISPANIC	\$ 149,043	101	\$ 1,476	36.51%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 408,250</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>\$ 1,501</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY SECTOR</b>				
INDEPENDENT	\$ 368,575	243	\$ 1,517	90.28%
TRIBAL	\$ 39,675	29	\$ 1,368	9.72%
	<b>\$ 408,250</b>	<b>272</b>	<b>\$ 1,501</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**2016-17 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Recipients:**

“As the first person from my family to attend college, it is important to me to attend and finish college. Without the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant I would not have been able to attend college this semester. The grant was important to be because it allowed me to continue attending college.”

---Alejandra, Cardinal Stritch University

“I’m a parent of three and on a set budget. The grant allowed me to continue my education at Marian University in hopes to start my career as a secondary education teacher to inspire future generations of college bound students.”

---Terrance, Marian University

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**TABLE V: SPENDING BY SCHOOL FOR WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM**

<b>WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM</b>	<b>DOLLARS SPENT</b>	<b>NUMBER OF AWARDS</b>	<b>AVERAGE AWARD</b>	<b>PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS SPENT</b>
BLACKHAWK TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 7,440	32	\$ 233	1.82%
CHIPPEWA VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 10,760	11	\$ 978	2.63%
FOX VALLEY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 23,010	27	\$ 852	5.63%
GATEWAY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 33,775	80	\$ 422	8.26%
INDIANHEAD TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 1,840	2	\$ 920	0.45%
LAKESHORE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 7,350	19	\$ 387	1.80%
MADISON AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 22,400	32	\$ 700	5.48%
MID-STATE TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 4,550	15	\$ 303	1.11%
MILWAUKEE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 220,060	254	\$ 866	53.80%
MORAINES PARK TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 6,565	16	\$ 410	1.61%
NICOLET AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 2,715	5	\$ 543	0.66%
NORTHCENTRAL TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 7,175	16	\$ 448	1.75%
NORTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 18,050	19	\$ 950	4.41%
SOUTHWEST WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 1,575	1	\$ 1,575	0.39%
WAUKESHA COUNTY TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 28,175	38	\$ 741	6.89%
WESTERN TECHNICAL COLLEGE	\$ 13,560	12	\$ 1,130	3.32%
<b>TOTALS:</b>	<b>\$ 409,000</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>\$ 706</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**2016-17 Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant Recipients:**

“Receiving the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant was critical in my success this academic year. I realize that not all students are eligible for grants so I was incredibly grateful for the assistance. It allowed me to pursue a higher education without accruing debilitating student loan debt. It was an integral piece in my path for long term success.”

---Alexandrea, Northeast Wisconsin Technical College

“I am a single mom of two children and receiving this grant allowed for money to stretch a little farther. It has been a blessing.”

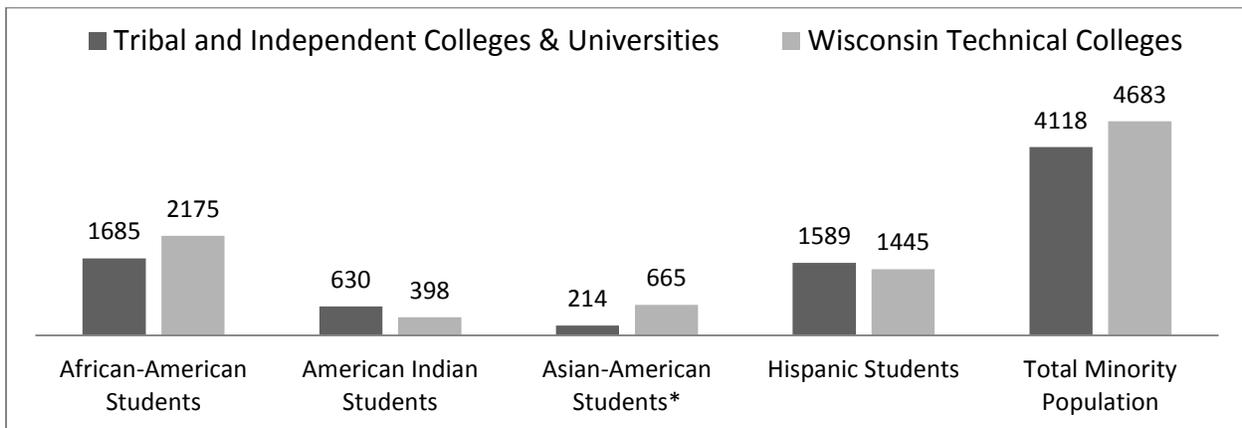
---Dori, Blackhawk Technical College

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**TABLE VI: RECIPIENT DEMOGRAPHICS FOR WISCONSIN TECHNICAL COLLEGE SYSTEM**

	DOLLARS SPENT	NUMBER OF AWARDS	AVERAGE AWARD	PERCENTAGE OF DOLLARS SPENT
<b>YEAR IN SCHOOL</b>				
2 <sup>nd</sup> YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 345,547	455	\$ 759	84.49%
3 <sup>rd</sup> YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 36,831	75	\$ 491	9.01%
4 <sup>th</sup> YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 18,030	34	\$ 530	4.41%
5 <sup>th</sup> YEAR STUDENTS	\$ 8,592	15	\$ 573	2.10%
	<b>\$ 409,000</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>\$ 706</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>STATUS OF RECIPIENTS</b>				
DEPENDENT	\$ 57,036	77	\$ 741	13.95%
INDEPENDENT	\$ 351,964	502	\$ 701	86.05%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 409,000</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>\$ 706</b>	<b>100.00%</b>
<b>MINORITY UNDERGRADUATE RETENTION GRANT BY GROUP</b>				
AFRICAN-AMERICAN	\$ 219,834	302	\$ 728	53.75%
AMERICAN INDIAN	\$ 29,158	41	\$ 711	7.13%
ASIAN-AMERICAN	\$ 55,483	75	\$ 740	13.57%
HISPANIC	\$ 104,525	161	\$ 649	25.56%
<b>TOTAL</b>	<b>\$ 409,000</b>	<b>579</b>	<b>\$ 706</b>	<b>100.00%</b>

**GRAPH I: 2015-16 STUDENT MINORITY POPULATIONS AT PARTICIPATING SCHOOLS**



*Note: Population data collected from the 2016-17 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: 2016-17 MINORITY RETENTION GRANT RECIPIENT SURVEY RESULTS**

	Number of Respondents	Percentage of Respondents
<b>How did the Minority Undergraduate Retention Grant award influence your decision to attend college during the 2016-17 academic year?</b>		
The award allowed me to attend school. Without it, I would not have been able to attend.	39	37.14%
The award positively influenced by decision to attend school. Without it, it would have been difficult for me to attend school.	46	43.81%
The award had no influence on my decision to attend school. Without it, I would have still attended school.	20	19.05%
<b>Did you earn a Bachelor, an Associate Degree, or a certificate during the 2016-17 academic year?</b>		
Yes	46	43.81%
No	59	56.19%
<b>If you did not earn a degree or certificate during the 2016-17 academic year, how soon do you anticipate earning a degree or certificate?</b>		
2017-18 academic year	31	52.54%
2018-19 academic year	21	35.59%
2019-20 academic year	7	11.87%
I do not plan on completing a degree or certificate	0	0.00%
Other (please explain):	0	0.00%
<b>If you did NOT earn a degree or certificate during the 2015-16 academic year, will you be attending a college or university during the 2016-17 academic year?</b>		
Yes	54	93.10%
Enrollment Status:                      Full-time: 37                      Part-time: 17		
No	4	6.90%
<b>Were you employed during the 2015-16 academic year?</b>		
Yes	78	77.23%
32 hours/week or more: 23                      Less than 32 hours/week: 55		
No	23	22.77%
<b>Do you plan to be a Wisconsin resident for most of your working career?</b>		
Yes	99	95.19%
No	5	4.81%