



## **Suggested Language for State Budget Comment to Support Increasing the Wisconsin Grant Appropriation for Students at Private Nonprofit Colleges and Universities**

*Please note that the following text presents some suggestions for your comment on the state budget. You are welcome to write your own message or customize our message below to highlight why you think this additional investment in the Wisconsin Grant program is important.*

My name is «First Name» «Last Name». I am «president, student, alum, faculty, staff, parent, etc.» at «Institution». I am writing to encourage your support for increasing the Wisconsin Grants appropriation by 30 percent or 25.5 million dollars for low-income and low-middle-income students attending private nonprofit colleges and universities. This increase is needed due to changes in federal financial aid methodology that will also impact Wisconsin students. It will also accommodate increases due to the modernization of the Wisconsin Grants formula for private, nonprofit students that has been in the statutes for over 50 years.

The Wisconsin Grant allows students to pursue their career aspirations by attending the institution that best fits their needs, whether that is a two- or four-year public college or university, or a private, nonprofit college like «Institution».

Wisconsin currently faces employment shortages in nearly every occupation including engineers, physicians, nurses, and teachers. For Wisconsin to remain 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 has one.

The Wisconsin Grant Program is a targeted investment in our state's economy and future workforce. Wisconsin Grants have significant statewide impacts and reduce debt for students from low- and low-middle-income families. This program has historically received bipartisan support.

[State Budget Comment Link](#)