

**CELEBRATING**

**10**

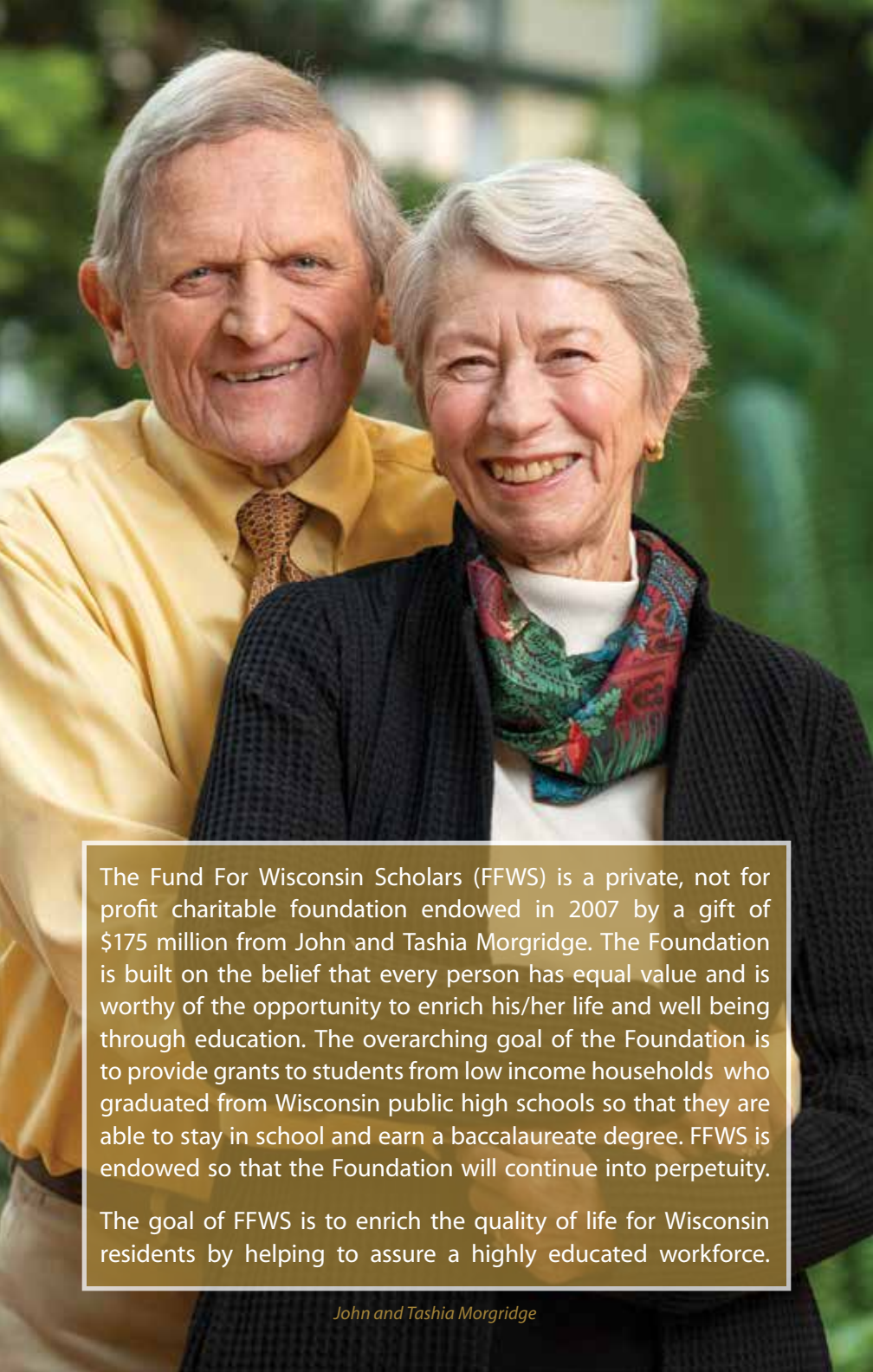


**YEARS**

**OF PROVIDING SCHOLARSHIPS  
TO WISCONSIN STUDENTS**



Fund for Wisconsin Scholars and UW System Reception



The Fund For Wisconsin Scholars (FFWS) is a private, not for profit charitable foundation endowed in 2007 by a gift of \$175 million from John and Tashia Morgridge. The Foundation is built on the belief that every person has equal value and is worthy of the opportunity to enrich his/her life and well being through education. The overarching goal of the Foundation is to provide grants to students from low income households who graduated from Wisconsin public high schools so that they are able to stay in school and earn a baccalaureate degree. FFWS is endowed so that the Foundation will continue into perpetuity.

The goal of FFWS is to enrich the quality of life for Wisconsin residents by helping to assure a highly educated workforce.

*John and Tashia Morgridge*

# PROGRAM

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March 6, 2019

4:30 to 6:30 p.m.

Tripp Commons – Memorial Union

Madison, WI

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*5:30 Welcome*

UW System President, Ray Cross, and Mary Gulbrandsen,  
Executive Director of the Fund For Wisconsin Scholars

Introduction to the Fund For Wisconsin Scholars

Impact on students across the UW System

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Video of FFWS recipient Jason Lam, UW–Platteville

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Comments from John Morgridge, co-founder of FFWS

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Video of FFWS recipient and mentor

Ana Ramirez – UW–Milwaukee

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Comments from Tashia Morgridge, co-founder of FFWS

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Comments from FFWS recipient Abbey George, UW–Madison

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Recognition of Financial Aid Officers across the UW System

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Closing Comments

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# WHAT IS THE FUND FOR WISCONSIN SCHOLARS?

## Grants

FFWS provides need-based grants to randomly selected, recent graduates of Wisconsin public high schools. Grants are gifted aid and do not have to be repaid. There is no application process; eligibility is determined using data from Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). After the list of eligible students is provided to UWSA, recipients are randomly selected to receive the grant.

### **To be initially eligible, one must:**

- ❑ be a resident of Wisconsin
- ❑ have been a full-time, resident student in a Wisconsin public school for four semesters prior to graduation
- ❑ have received a Wisconsin public high school diploma or HSED within the past three years
- ❑ be under the age of 21 years at initial eligibility
- ❑ be in a first degree program or moving directly from a WTCS or UWC with at least 24 successful credits
- ❑ be enrolled full time in a UW System university based in Wisconsin
- ❑ be a PELL recipient (required only first year of eligibility)
- ❑ have remaining unmet financial need after all grants and gift aid have been applied

### **Students may continue to receive FFWS grants for up to 10 semesters if:**

- ❑ student's college enrollment at a UW college or university or WTCS college is full time and continuous
- ❑ enrollment does not exceed six semesters in a WTCS or a UW two year college
- ❑ adequate academic progress is being made with degree completion expected
- ❑ student's school continues to follow the grant process
- ❑ FAFSA is completed each year
- ❑ student has remaining unmet need

## Grant Timeline

### *Mid-September*

University of Wisconsin (UW) four year campuses identify students who meet FFWS eligibility criteria to UWSA office of Academic and Student Affairs – Student Success

### *End of September*

Grant recipients randomly selected at UWSA

### *Early October*

Notification to Campus Financial Aid Offices of selected students  
Notification to students indicating selection

### *October*

Students reply to FFWS and accept grant

### *End of October – Early November – Ongoing*

FFWS notifies school of students' grant status  
Campus FAO's confirm student eligibility and request money from FFWS  
FFWS sends money to schools for students  
Schools post FFWS grant to the student's financial aid account

## **New FFWS Grant Recipients**

Each year, approximately 575 new four year UWSA students are randomly selected from a pool of between 4,000 and 5,000 eligible students, to receive a grant from FFWS. In addition, for the past two years, all students who transfer directly from a UW college or WTCS college with at least 24 successfully earned credits and who meet FFWS eligibility criteria are offered an FFWS grant.

Since the inception of FFWS, student grant recipients have come from every county in the State of Wisconsin. In 2018–19, only Florence, Forest, Iron and Marquette do not have a new FFWS student recipient.

## **FFWS Mentoring Program**

FFWS supports students through financial grants and campus support through peer mentoring. On most campuses, each freshman and transfer student is assigned a peer mentor, who can support them, answer questions, and connect them to the campus community and academic resources so that students feel connected to their school and decide to persist with their education. The mentors are junior or senior year students and recipients of a FFWS grant. Peer mentors are supervised on each campus by either the financial aid department or the advising department. A fall kickoff event is held to meet the mentors and supervisors on each campus.

## **Stipends**

Each year, an additional \$1 million dollars is divided among the campuses for providing FFWS stipends to certain institution-selected students. The stipend program is supplemental to the grant fund provided by FFWS to each school and must be awarded to students who have not previously and are not currently receiving a FFWS grant. Half of the annual allocation is provided fall term and half spring term. The intent of the stipend money is to provide resources for unpredictable needs to qualifying students.

# FFWS GRANTS AND STIPENDS

Since 2008 the Fund For Wisconsin Scholars has provided new grant awards to UW System and Wisconsin Technical College System colleges and universities. FFWS provides ongoing grants to eligible, continuing recipients and stipend money for distribution to qualified students. In 2017-18, instead of providing grants to both new WTCS and UW four year students, grants were offered to new four year students and WTCS and UW two year college students transferring to UW comprehensive colleges with the intent of increasing the number of students graduating from college.

Total grants and stipends provided to date\* for BOTH UW and WTCS schools

Total grants and stipends provided to date\* for UW schools ONLY

| Total Dollars for All Recipients | Total # New Stipends | Total # New Grants | Total # New Recipients |                | Total Dollars All UW Recipients | # New UW Stipends | # New UW Grants | # New UW Recipients |
|----------------------------------|----------------------|--------------------|------------------------|----------------|---------------------------------|-------------------|-----------------|---------------------|
| \$ 4,437,049                     | 2,010                | 900                | 2,910                  | 2008-09        | \$ 3,438,824                    | 1,367             | 645             | 2012                |
| \$ 5,279,131                     | 1,127                | 902                | 2,029                  | 2009-10        | \$ 4,275,847                    | 872               | 615             | 1,487               |
| \$ 5,840,252                     | 876                  | 811                | 1,687                  | 2010-11        | \$ 4,962,262                    | 621               | 580             | 1,201               |
| \$ 6,568,674                     | 812                  | 842                | 1,654                  | 2011-12        | \$ 5,748,334                    | 564               | 591             | 1,155               |
| \$ 7,856,282                     | 915                  | 937                | 1,852                  | 2012-13        | \$ 7,036,791                    | 615               | 704             | 1,319               |
| \$ 8,264,335                     | 1,030                | 879                | 1,909                  | 2013-14        | \$ 7,383,762                    | 718               | 635             | 1,353               |
| \$ 8,564,802                     | 938                  | 987                | 1,925                  | 2014-15        | \$ 7,586,188                    | 616               | 691             | 1,307               |
| \$ 9,294,736                     | 902                  | 890                | 1,792                  | 2015-16        | \$ 8,373,634                    | 632               | 644             | 1,276               |
| \$ 8,027,318                     | 756                  | 653                | 1,409                  | 2016-17        | \$ 7,595,034                    | 579               | 653             | 1,232               |
| \$ 8,883,611                     | 696                  | 686                | 1,382                  | 2017-18        | \$ 8,610,087                    | 536               | 686             | 1,222               |
| \$8,874,200                      | 549                  | 756                | 1,305                  | 2018-19*       | \$8,859,800                     | 549               | 756             | 1,305               |
| <b>\$81,890,390</b>              | <b>10,611</b>        | <b>9,243</b>       | <b>19,854</b>          | <b>TOTALS*</b> | <b>\$73,870,563</b>             | <b>7,669</b>      | <b>7,200</b>    | <b>14,869</b>       |

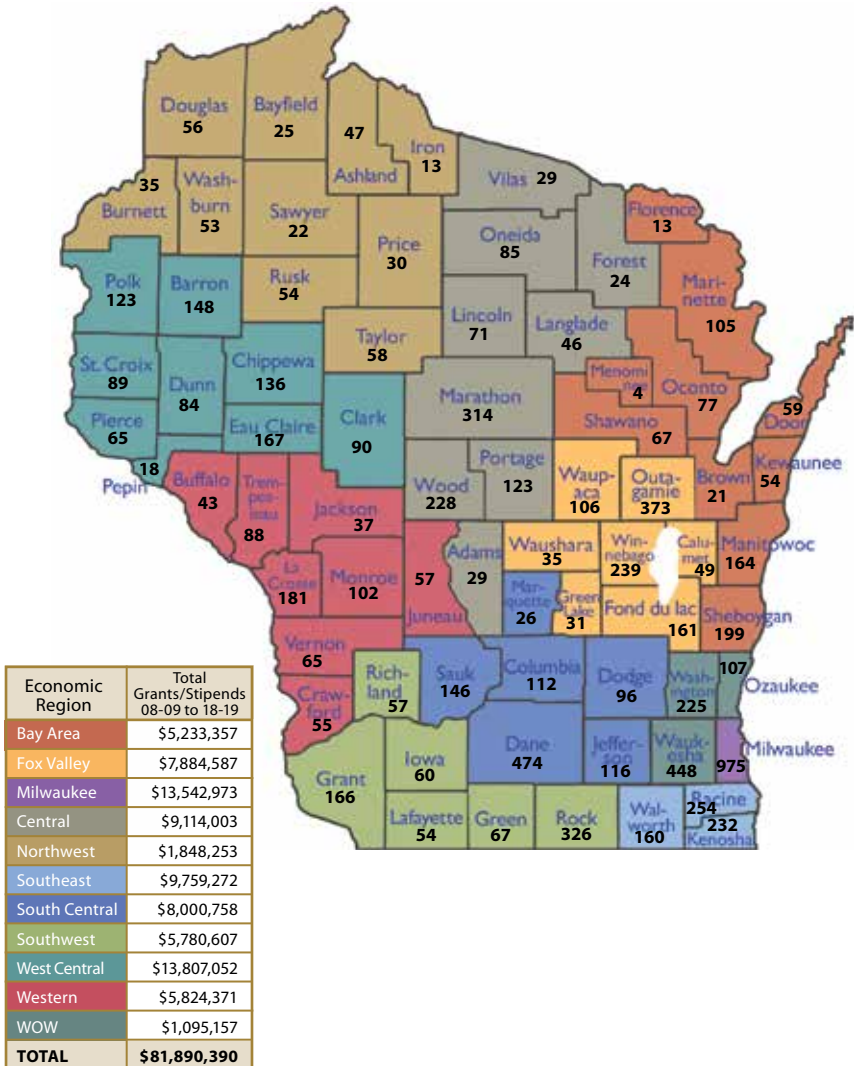
## UNIVERSITY OF WISCONSIN SYSTEM RECIPIENTS

Breakdown of dollars to UW system campuses



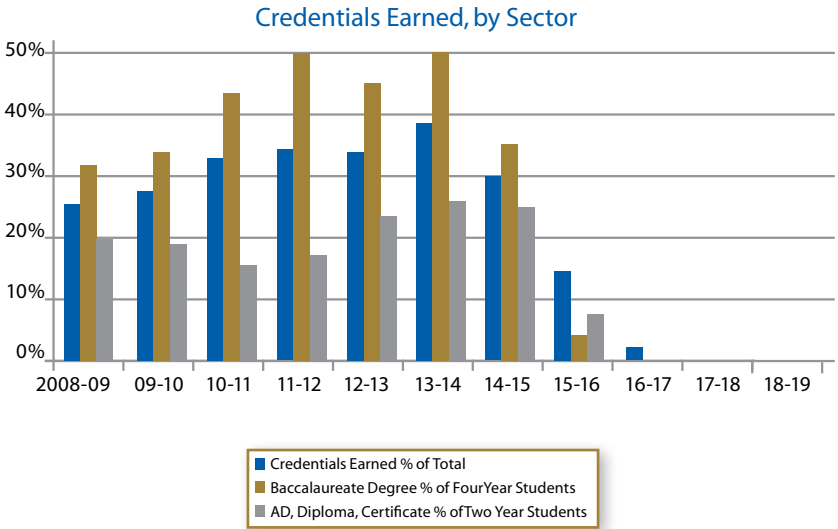
# WISCONSIN COUNTIES AND ECONOMIC REGIONS

Since the inception of FFWS in 2008-2009, 9,243 students responded to the invitation from FFWS to receive a grant. The numbers on the map show the county breakdown of new recipients by the high school from which they graduated. The Wisconsin Department of Workforce Development identifies 11 Workforce Development Grants/Stipend Areas. The amount of FFWS grant and stipend dollars to each area is shown on the chart below.



# CREDENTIALS EARNED

The chart below shows credentials that were earned by FFWS recipients who were continuously enrolled full time until graduation and continuously received the FFWS grant.



## Baccalaureate Degrees earned by UW four year campuses

|                  |     |
|------------------|-----|
| UW-Eau Claire    | 132 |
| UW-Green Bay     | 97  |
| UW-LaCrosse      | 144 |
| UW-Madison       | 170 |
| UW-Milwaukee     | 214 |
| UW-Oshkosh       | 123 |
| UW-Parkside      | 46  |
| UW-Platteville   | 84  |
| UW-River Falls   | 85  |
| UW-Stevens Point | 169 |
| UW-Superior      | 15  |
| UW-Whitewater    | 118 |

Total 1,466





# FINANCIAL AID CONTACTS

Below is a list of the Financial Aid Officers with whom FFWS interacts regularly. Many other staff in each financial aid office also contribute to implementing the FFWS grant and stipend program. Our thanks also go to the staff in the Registrar's and the Bursar's offices on each campus who also ensure that FFWS grants and stipends are delivered to the recipients in a timely and accurate manner. The FFWS Board of Directors acknowledges your commitment to the students attending your schools and appreciates all that you do for them.

Ina Dick, *UW Colleges*  
Bao Vue, *UW-Eau Claire*  
Laura Sinclair, *UW-Green Bay*  
Vernall Glenn, *UW-La Crosse*  
Nicole Schumacher, *UW-Madison*  
Ruth Schultze, *UW-Milwaukee*  
Karen Kennedy, *UW-Oshkosh*  
Blake Taylor, *UW-Parkside*  
Becky Digman, *UW-Platteville*  
Wendy Leach, *UW-River Falls*  
Elspeth Eckendorf, *UW-Stevens Point*  
Connie Andrist, *UW-Stout*  
Donna Dahlberg, *UW-Superior*  
Jacky Lueker, *UW-Whitewater*

## FFWS TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS

John W. Daniels, Jr., *Trustee*  
Mary Gulbrandsen, *Executive Director, Secretary, Trustee*  
Ted D. Kellner, *Treasurer, Trustee*  
John P. Morgridge, *Chairman of the Board of Trustees*  
Tashia F. Morgridge, *Trustee*  
Rebecca (Becky) Splitt, *Trustee*  
David Ward, *Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees*

## A MESSAGE FROM THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Thank you for joining us tonight to celebrate ten successful years of UW System colleges and universities and the Fund For Wisconsin Scholars (FFWS) working together to provide FFWS grants and stipends to Wisconsin students. Our commitment remains to help ensure that higher education is more accessible and affordable by providing need-based grants to recent graduates of Wisconsin public high schools attending University of Wisconsin comprehensive universities. One of the original intents of John and Tashia Morgridge and the FFWS board was to increase the number of adults in Wisconsin with college credentials, especially baccalaureate degrees.

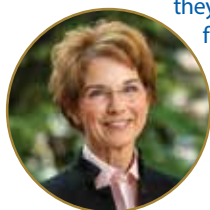
We have learned a lot this past ten years, and continue to realize that we have a lot more to learn about helping young people stay in college and complete a college degree. We have heard from students who tell us that this grant has meant that they do not have to take out as many loans or work as much as they might have had to do and that they have been able to take advantage of more campus activities and maybe even study abroad for a semester. This is certainly reinforcing to the FFWS board.

However, we have also seen that the grant alone has not necessarily increased the number of students who have stayed in college and earned their degree. Some students have become ineligible for the grant by dropping out of school, or reducing their credit load, or transferring to other non-UW colleges. Some students leave school because they are unsure of what to study, or do not have the necessary college readiness skills, or do not know how to navigate college, or have family or life issues that interfere with their ability to continue in school. What we have learned is that for many students and families, college attendance is quite complicated!

A mentoring program for new FFWS recipients started in 2015–16 on three UW campuses and now is available on ten campuses. The intent of the mentorship program is to support first year and transfer students so that they continue in college and complete a credential.

***We are most grateful for the support FFWS continues to receive from the UW financial aid officers and other staff of the University of Wisconsin System campuses. Using existing quality systems eliminates duplication and additional work by both college staff and families. FFWS could not provide the quantity of grants without their tremendous work.***

We meet with many of the students and they consistently remind us of their joy for learning, their enthusiasm for the future and their appreciation for the support that they receive both financially and emotionally from family and friends. It is a privilege to be part of their support system.



A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Mary W. Gulbrandsen".

Mary W. Gulbrandsen  
Executive Director, Fund For Wisconsin Scholars



# BY THE NUMBERS



\$73,870,563 was distributed to UW colleges and universities for FFWS grants and stipends.



14,869 students across UWSA received either a FFWS grant or stipend since the 2008–19 academic year.



13 UW two year colleges received \$4,507,409 to distribute FFWS grants and stipends to students.



13 UW four year colleges received \$8,352,413 to distribute FFWS grants and stipends to students.



Over \$75 million has been distributed to UW and WTCS students over the last ten academic years.



266 students from the 2010–11 cohort of 811 students continuously received the FFWS grant and earned a credential within five years, 199 earned baccalaureate degrees.



288 students from the 2011–12 cohort of 842 students continuously received the FFWS grant and earned a credential within five years, 226 earned baccalaureate degrees.



316 students from the 2012–13 cohort of 937 students continuously received the FFWS grant and earned a credential within five years, 250 earned baccalaureate degrees.



338 students from the 2013–14 cohort of 879 students continuously received the FFWS grant and earned a credential within five years, 2,516 earned baccalaureate degrees.



300 students from the 2014–15 cohort of 987 students continuously received the FFWS grant and earned a credential within five years, 1,726 earned baccalaureate degrees.



The current FFWS endowment is valued at \$187,500,000, with additional commitments of \$15,000,000.

