

WHEREAS; regardless of age, background, income, or ZIP code, every Wisconsinite deserves the opportunity to access high-quality and affordable education, from early childhood to postsecondary education or career training after high school, and the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) is an important step toward postsecondary education for students in Wisconsin and across the country; and

WHEREAS; it is critical to Wisconsin's workforce development, economic development, and overall success that postsecondary education is accessible, affordable, and attainable for all students, including public, private, and technical college and university systems; and

WHEREAS; applying for financial aid is the first step in qualifying for funding to pay for college and career training programs, and submitting the FAFSA® provides Wisconsinites with opportunities to access critical financial aid resources; and

WHEREAS; according to the National College Attainment Network FAFSA® Tracker, Wisconsin currently ranks 38th in the nation for the percentage of high school seniors completing the FAFSA® with less than half of Wisconsin's high school class of 2024 having completed the FAFSA® as of November 1, 2024, underscoring the importance of initiatives such as Wisconsin's FAFSA® Completion Project, which plays a vital role in assisting students and families in completing this important application by providing resources, support, and guidance throughout the process; and

WHEREAS; the Wisconsin Department of Financial Institutions (DFI) provides Wisconsin's students, parents, and educators with information about the Wisconsin 529 College Savings Program and college affordability, including free resources to help plan for college and address student debt; and

WHEREAS; guidance on financial aid options, including grants, scholarships, loan programs, tuition reciprocity agreements, and tuition capitation contracts, is also available through the Wisconsin Higher Educational Aids Board (HEAB); and

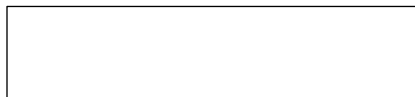
WHEREAS; this month, the state of Wisconsin joins the DFI and HEAB in encouraging students who choose to pursue postsecondary education to file the FAFSA® and in helping ensure they can reach their postsecondary goals with the tools and resources to maintain financial security;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim December 2024 as

FAFSA® FILING MONTH

throughout the State of Wisconsin and I commend this observance
to all our state's residents.

IN TESTIMONY WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Great Seal of the State of Wisconsin to be affixed. Done at the Capitol in the City of Madison this 15th day of November 2024.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



SARAH GODLEWSKI, Secretary of State