

WHEREAS; regardless of age, background, income status, or ZIP code, every Wisconsinite deserves the opportunity to access a high quality and affordable education, from early childhood to our public, private, and technical college and university systems; and

WHEREAS; as the cost of higher education continues to rise, outpacing the rate of inflation and median household income growth, students and their families are faced with the ever-increasing burden of paying for their education; and

WHEREAS; scholarships provide funds for students and can help minimize student loan debt, which college graduates have the burden of paying back, with payment obligations that often extend long after they have completed their degree; and

WHEREAS; in 2020, 58 percent of families nationwide used scholarships to help pay for college, and scholarships and grants helped to cover 19 percent of total college costs; and

WHEREAS; many communities provide scholarship opportunities through local schools, clubs and organizations, faith-based institutions, and employers, and the state of Wisconsin strives to assist students and families with identifying and accessing available resources; 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 through its "Look Forward to Your Future" website, which contains free resources to help plan for college, address student debt, and learn about responsible borrowing at LookForwardWI.gov; and

WHEREAS; guidance on financial aid options—including grant, scholarship, and 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 DFI, HEAB, and the National Scholarship Providers Association in a national campaign to raise awareness of the vital role that scholarships play in reducing student loan debt and expanding access to higher education;

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Tony Evers, Governor of the State of Wisconsin,
do hereby proclaim November 2021 as

NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP 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 29th day of October 2021.



TONY EVERS, Governor

By the Governor:



DOUGLAS LA FOLLETTE, Secretary of State