

# WORKING FAMILIES GRANT PROGRAM

*For single parents concerned about the cost of college, Marian University offers one of the nation's most comprehensive educational programs available.*

The **Working Families Grant Program (WFG)** awards tuition and stipend grants to economically disadvantaged single parents who possess the desire and determination to achieve an undergraduate degree. Once accepted into the program students receive support services and tuition, rent, childcare, and food assistance.

Participants create new social and economic opportunities for their future through a "partnership" philosophy that embraces academic advising, and support services, career assessment and development resources, community service/volunteerism experiences, counseling, financial aid assistance, freedom of spiritual exploration, life skills development, and mentoring.

Marian University and the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes co-sponsored the Education Grant for Women and Children in 1996, following Wisconsin's inception of the "Work not Welfare" program. In 2002, the program was created through a unique collaboration with an anonymous donor to expand CSA's mission. Inspired to further one's education, the WFG works to advance Marian's mission, core values and legacy of service.

## MARIAN UNIVERSITY

### WORKING FAMILIES GRANT PROGRAM

45 S. National Ave.

Fond du Lac, WI 54935-4699

920.923.8974 or 920.923.8953

wfg@marianuniversity.edu • marianuniversity.edu

Founded 1936 • Sponsored by the Congregation of Sisters of St. Agnes



## We're here to help

Students are eligible to apply if they meet the following criteria:

- Single custodial parent — or divorced or widowed — with primary or physical placement of children. The youngest dependent must have as many years in secondary education as the single parent does for their bachelor's degree.
- Accepted and enrolled full-time at Marian University in the traditional day program.
- Minimum GPA of 2.5 or above

# 89.7%

of WFG students graduate. This exceeds the national graduation rate for students of all income levels (59%).

## Ways that we can help

Benefits of the program include:

- **Tuition Grant**
  - Partial tuition awards are presented to reduce student loan debt
- **Stipend Grant** assists with monthly living expense costs
  - **Rent:** WFG pays maximum of \$555/month, lease cannot exceed \$650
  - **Childcare:** WFG pays maximum of \$650/month for certified or licensed childcare providers
  - **Food:** Gift cards are available from local grocers and is based on the number of children
- **Support Services**
  - Services available to WFG students include mentoring, counseling, career assessments, academic planning, budgeting, life skills workshops, social events, and employment preparation.

## How you can succeed

Students chosen are expected to:

- Enroll as a full-time student in the traditional day program on the Fond du Lac campus
- Meet with a financial aid counselor to establish federal and state loan and grant assistance
- Complete an online career assessment and meet with a career counselor for interpretation
- Complete 12–15 credits/semester, 30 credits annually, which may include a winter session (3 credits) and summer
- Meet with an academic advisor to establish target graduation date and maintain four-year plan
- Maintain a 2.5 GPA or higher if required by the major
- Perform 20 hours of community service each semester, 40 hours annually
- Meet with a personal counselor at least twice per semester and one home visit per year
- Meet each month with the WFG Director

## How you can benefit

Applications are accepted year round and kept on file for up to one year. The application process is competitive and involves an in-depth application and panel interview. Packets are available for pick up at the WFG office, email, or online at [www.marianuniversity.edu/wfg](http://www.marianuniversity.edu/wfg).