



Wisconsin: Parent PLUS Median Debt at Independent Colleges

College Scorecard Planning Screen | Debt Originated at the Reporting Institution

Prepared by Campus Access Partners | July 2026

This report uses College Scorecard Parent PLUS median-debt data to identify where parent borrowing has historically functioned as a multi-year financing tool at independent colleges in Wisconsin. The principal planning marker is the new **\$65,000 Parent PLUS aggregate maximum**. Because these figures are medians, roughly half of measured completer borrower files are at or above the reported amount.

The primary measure is Parent PLUS debt originated at the reporting institution for students who completed. The figures reflect AY 2021-2023 public data and should be validated against current campus records before operational decisions.

Wisconsin: Statewide Planning Information

Metric	Read	Metric	Read
New Parent PLUS aggregate maximum	\$65,000	Independent colleges represented	21
Reported completer medians	17	Median of reported medians	\$33,389
At or above \$65K	0	Near \$65K (\$55K-\$64,999)	1
Highest reported median	\$59,814	Highest institution	Lawrence University

Independent Colleges

Rows are sorted by median Parent PLUS debt at the institution for completers. The completer median is the primary planning signal; the all-borrower median is included as secondary context. N/A indicates that a field was suppressed or not reported.

Institution	All Borrowers at Institution	Completers at Institution	Completer Files	Parent PLUS Share	Planning Signal
Lawrence University	\$34,174	\$59,814	48	5-10%	Near \$65K
Marquette University	\$44,805	\$51,900	769	10-15%	Elevated
Milwaukee Institute of Art & Design	\$25,176	\$43,555	85	20-25%	Elevated
Carthage College	\$28,617	\$43,048	254	10-20%	Elevated
Milwaukee School of Engineering	\$27,859	\$39,285	131	5-15%	Elevated
Saint Norbert College	\$27,074	\$39,026	137	10-15%	Elevated
Carroll University	\$27,172	\$35,677	207	5-15%	Elevated
Concordia University-Wisconsin	\$28,245	\$34,541	264	5-10%	Monitor
Beloit College	\$30,743	\$33,389	59	5-10%	Monitor
Wisconsin Lutheran College	\$24,040	\$30,000	79	10-15%	Monitor
Viterbo University	\$21,576	\$27,111	226	10-20%	Monitor
Lakeland University	\$18,376	\$26,481	77	5-10%	Monitor
Ripon College	\$18,857	\$25,546	40	5-15%	Monitor
Edgewood University	\$21,829	\$24,977	66	5-10%	Monitor
Alverno College	\$18,000	\$23,019	119	10-15%	Monitor
Mount Mary University	\$16,762	\$19,338	48	5-10%	Lower signal
Herzing University-Madison	\$9,245	\$12,082	174	0-5%	Lower signal

Institution	All Borrowers at Institution	Completers at Institution	Completer Files	Parent PLUS Share	Planning Signal
Bellin College	\$28,000	N/A	N/A	0-5%	Suppressed
College of Menominee Nation	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	Suppressed
Maranatha Baptist University	\$17,095	N/A	11	0-5%	Suppressed
Marian University	\$17,717	N/A	17	5-15%	Suppressed

Public Comparison Schools

The three largest public bachelor's-or-higher institutions in Wisconsin by undergraduate enrollment are included for reference and are not part of the independent-college distribution.

Institution	All Borrowers at Institution	Completers at Institution	Completer Files	Parent PLUS Share	Planning Signal
University of Wisconsin-Madison	\$30,000	\$31,924	848	0-5%	Monitor
University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee	\$15,500	\$17,352	779	0-5%	Lower signal
University of Wisconsin-Whitewater	\$16,056	\$20,032	524	0-10%	Monitor

Source and Method Note

Universe: Main-campus, private nonprofit colleges with reported undergraduate enrollment, plus the three largest main-campus public bachelor's-or-higher institutions by undergraduate enrollment. **Data:** U.S. Department of Education College Scorecard Most Recent Cohorts Institution file uploaded for this project. **Primary field:** Parent PLUS debt at the institution for completers. **Timing:** Figures reflect AY 2021-2023 public data. N/A indicates that a field was suppressed or not reported.