

# Non-resident Students at the University of Wisconsin–Madison

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## **A World-Class University**

National recruitment promotes this world-class University across the country to a broad audience and stimulates interest and visibility. This increased visibility can shape national opinion, break down stereotypes about life in Wisconsin, and enhance the reputation and importance of the University and the state of Wisconsin nationwide.

## **Boosting the Economy**

The city of Madison and the state of Wisconsin benefit from the economic stimulus that students, especially non-resident students, provide. Increased spending in and around the University includes students who use the bus system, retail, restaurants, arts/cultural events, parking and much more. For non-residents, those are dollars that would otherwise have been spent outside Wisconsin. UW-Madison's statewide economic effect is approximately \$4.7 billion dollars annually. (University Communications news release) Family visits to non-resident students bring an influx of out-of-state spending on restaurants, hotels, rental cars, entertainment, and tangible goods.

## **Wisconsin Taxpayers Benefit**

State resident students benefit from non-resident tuition. Each resident student pays approximately 39% of the actual cost of their education, with the rest being provided by state taxpayers. Non-resident students pay approximately 186% the actual cost of their education, providing more than \$26 million to subsidize the tuition of some 5200 resident students each year. This analysis includes all UW system institutions. (UW System Budget update)

## **A Multitude of Perspectives**

The student body, faculty and staff benefit from the diversity brought to Wisconsin by non-resident students. This concept of diversity encompasses not only racial diversity, but also the diversity of ideas, knowledge, culture, the arts, geographic perspectives and opinions. Non-resident students come from across the United States and from around the globe.

## **The Brain Drain**

The "brain drain" problem for Wisconsin is really a problem of "brain gain" or low in-migration of college-educated people from elsewhere to Wisconsin. The state of Wisconsin must attract and retain qualified workers to replace residents who are educated outside of the Wisconsin and choose to continue to live and work outside the state and other residents who leave the state. One way to bolster the "brain gain" is to recruit non-resident students to attend UW-Madison and encourage them to seek employment in the state and keep their skills and talents in Wisconsin.

## **Influential Alumni**

Non-resident students become alumni and bring experiences from the University and Wisconsin with them no matter where they end up across the country and the world. These alumni are key opinion leaders promoting the University and affecting change in other states if they choose not to remain in Wisconsin.

## **Tomorrow's Discoveries, Today**

Many non-resident students are our future researchers and scientists, especially at the graduate level. Scientific success requires expertise and collaboration of students other states and even students from other countries. Wisconsin alone cannot possibly provide enough of these professionals. This is the group of people that makes advances in science, healthcare, technology, national defense and stem cell research every day, spotlighting the state of Wisconsin and the University.

## **Resident and Non-Resident Admission Pools**

Board of Regent policy allows UW-Madison to enroll up to 25% of non-resident students. In the undergraduate admissions process, enrollment is managed to hit specific enrollment targets. Thus, the number of spaces for residents and non-residents is set by policy and the qualifications of individual students are not compared directly – residents are competing with other residents and non-residents are competing with non-residents. Efforts are made to keep the qualifications balanced to assure that the two pools are similarly prepared.