

# WISCONSIN'S EDUCATIONAL EXCELLENCE

*Wisconsin is the  
"Education State."*

*Wisconsin is a  
national leader in  
education.*

*Wisconsin has a strong competitive advantage over the majority of other states in education. Education is at the heart of the state's job strategy for the 21<sup>st</sup> Century.*

## PRIMARY EDUCATION

- **Wisconsin has the second highest graduation rate in the country** with 87.5 percent of public high school students receiving a diploma. Wisconsin's dropout rate is the third lowest in the nation.
- **Wisconsin graduates have been first, second or third in the nation in ACT scores for 17 years.** In 2009, 67 percent of the state's 2009 graduates took the ACT Assessment, a college admissions test. Those 46,658 Wisconsin high school graduates posted a composite score of 22.3 - the third highest score among states in which the ACT is the predominant college admission test.
- **Wisconsin students rank second in the world on an international science test comparison.** Our eighth graders are 4th in the percentage scoring at the highest two levels in math and 6th in the percentage scoring at the highest two levels in reading in the National Assessment of Educational Progress.
- **Wisconsin schools are among the safest in the nation.** Wisconsin has the lowest number of high school students carrying guns to school. Wisconsin has the fourth-lowest level of students who felt too unsafe to go to school.
- **Technology is widely available in Wisconsin classrooms.** Wisconsin is one of the top eight states nationally in computer availability for students and 99 percent of all public schools have Internet access.
- **Wisconsin is first in the nation for the percentage of highly-qualified teachers.** Nearly 99.5% of our teachers meeting the standards for being "highly qualified" under the revised Elementary and Secondary Education Act.

## SECONDARY EDUCATION

- **The University of Wisconsin System is the eighth largest system of higher education in the country.** It is comprised of 26 campuses, statewide extension, more than 160,000 students, 30,000 faculty and staff and an annual budget of \$4.3 billion.
- **The UW-Madison** is the fourth largest research university, the fifth most productive intellectual property setting, and grants the third most science and engineering doctorates in the country. U.S. News & World Report ranked UW-Madison the seventh best public university in the nation.
- **The Wisconsin Technical College System** is divided into 16 regional college districts with a total of 48 campuses and numerous out reach centers statewide. It serves 460,000 Wisconsin adults each year.
- **More Wisconsin businesses choose the Wisconsin Technical College System than any other provider for their customized training and technical assistance needs.**
- **Wisconsin is home to 20 private colleges and universities including Marquette University and the Milwaukee School of Engineering.** These institutions educate more than 56,000 students.