



DUEY STROEBEL

STATE SENATOR • 20TH DISTRICT

For Immediate Release:
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UW Should Focus on Best and Brightest High School Students
Stroebel calls for improved recruitment of Wisconsin's highest achievers

Madison, WI – Senator Duey Stroebel issued the following statement in light of UW System President Ray Cross requested funding increases for the Wisconsin Grant program:

UW System President Ray Cross has been doing a great job leading the UW System. I applaud his leadership to improve tenure and focus on the total cost on education.

For several months, President Cross and I have been discussing ways to ensure Wisconsin's best and brightest high school graduates become UW System students. Wisconsin is seeing our highest achieving students flee Wisconsin for other states' universities and lucrative scholarship packages. These students are future entrepreneurs, job creators, engineers, and community leaders.

While Cross' idea to improve Wisconsin Grants is laudable, he should continue to focus attention on developing merit-based grants and scholarships. Next session, I plan to reintroduce my proposal to make the [Academic Excellence Scholarship \(AES\)](#) more substantial and tied to higher merit metrics.

The AES model is broken with dozens of scholarships going unused every year. The program is not working for Wisconsin students.

Wisconsin has some of the best students graduating from our high schools. We must do more to retain them.

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