



## **UW-Extension Student Financial Aid Attestation Fiscal Year 2017-18**

### **Background**

The University of Wisconsin (UW) Flexible Option program allows enrolled students to earn a degree or certificate through a self-paced, competency-based education format. In fiscal year (FY) 2017-18, UW-Extension was the third-party servicer that administered federal student financial aid for certain students who participated in the UW Flexible Option program. As a third-party servicer, UW-Extension is required to have an examination of its administration of federal student financial aid. Our examination included obtaining assertions from UW-Extension related to its compliance with applicable requirements, testing internal controls, and determining whether UW-Extension complied with applicable requirements for the administration of federal student financial aid.

### **Examination Results**

We provided an [unmodified opinion](#) on UW-Extension's compliance with applicable requirements described in the 2016 edition of the U.S. Department of Education's *Guide for Audits of Proprietary Schools and For Compliance Attestation Engagements of Third-Party Servicers Administering Title IV Programs* for the year ended June 30, 2018. We provide an unmodified opinion when evidence supports the conclusion that the entity complied with applicable requirements.

### **Key Findings**

During our examination, we found:

- For FY 2017-18, UW-Extension entered into contracts with UW Colleges and UW-Milwaukee to administer federal student financial aid for students participating in the UW Flexible Option program.
- During FY 2017-18, UW Flexible Option degrees and certificates were offered at UW Colleges, UW-Extension, UW-Madison, UW-Milwaukee, and UW-Parkside. However, federal student financial aid was only available for degrees offered at UW Colleges and UW-Milwaukee.
- During FY 2017-18, UW-Extension disbursed nearly \$1.4 million in federal student financial assistance to 41 students from UW Colleges and 269 students from UW-Milwaukee who participated in the UW Flexible Option program.