

2022-23 ACADEMIC YEAR

\$1.51M
TOTAL SAVED

by CNMI students
in AY 2022 through WICHE
Student Access Programs

\$1.33M
SAVED
through WUE
AY 2022

\$67,005
SAVED
through WRGP
AY 2022

\$114,333
SAVED
through PSEP
AY 2022

WESTERN UNDERGRADUATE EXCHANGE



Saves **UNDERGRADUATE** students on out-of-state tuition. They pay no more than 150% of in-state tuition at partner institutions across the West.

Top out-of-state WUE schools for CNMI undergraduate students:

- ▶ **University of Nevada Las Vegas (26)**
- ▶ **Boise State University (23)**
- ▶ **Western Oregon University (19)**

WESTERN REGIONAL GRADUATE PROGRAM



Saves students on out-of-state **GRADUATE** certificate, master's, and doctoral programs. They pay no more than 150% of in-state tuition at partner institutions across the West.

Top out-of-state WRGP schools for CNMI graduate students:

- ▶ **University of Hawai'i at Mānoa (2)**
- ▶ **University of Alaska Anchorage (2)**
- ▶ **Arizona State University (1)**

PROFESSIONAL STUDENT EXCHANGE PROGRAM



Helps students pursuing careers in **10 HEALTH FIELDS**. They can enroll in programs in the WICHE region and receive substantial tuition support from their home state/territory.

5 CNMI students paid reduced tuition for healthcare studies for healthcare studies not offered by public institutions in their home state.

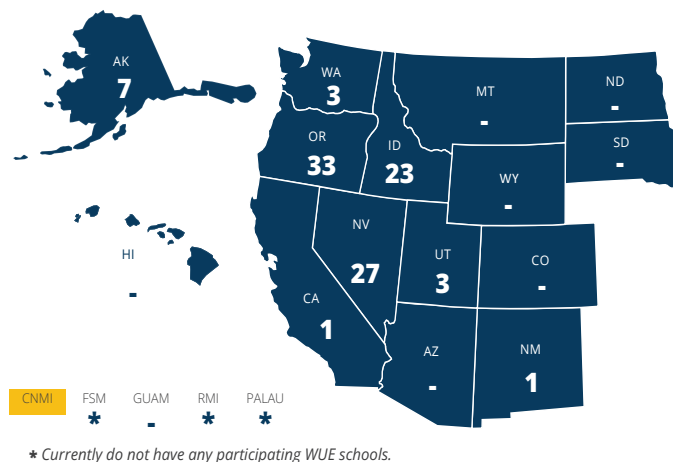
Residents can access affordable healthcare education at some 129 participating programs in the Western United States due to legislation passed by the CNMI in 2017.

CNMI considers applicants in the fields of allopathic medicine, dentistry, occupational therapy, osteopathic medicine, pharmacy, physician assistant, physical therapy, and veterinary medicine.

1,036% ROI gained on CNMI's WICHE membership dues (\$31,800/FY 2023)

WUE

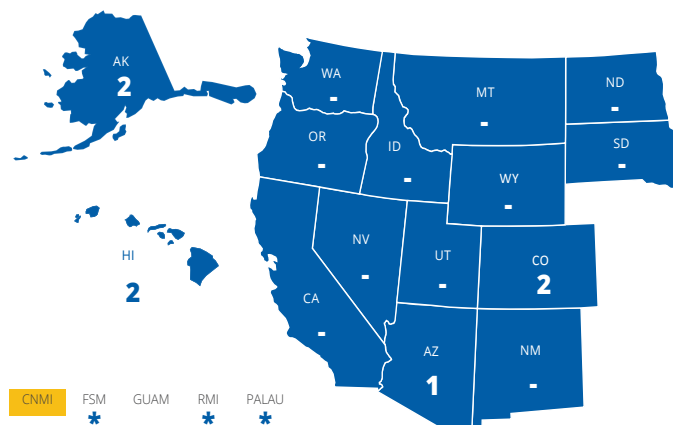
WUE STUDENTS FROM CNMI: **98**



* Currently do not have any participating WUE schools.

WRGP

WRGP STUDENTS FROM CNMI: **7**



* Currently do not have any participating WRGP schools.

PSEP

FIELD	STUDENTS ENROLLED	SUPPORT FEES PAID
Dentistry	0	\$0
Medicine	1	\$34,175
Occupational Therapy	0	\$0
Osteopathic Medicine	2	\$49,000
Pharmacy	1	\$11,633
Physician Assistant	1	\$19,525
Physical Therapy	0	\$0
Veterinary Medicine	0	\$0
TOTAL	5	\$114,333

PSEP students from CNMI saved \$114,333 in tuition ↗

WHAT STUDENTS ARE SAYING



“ I was born and raised in Saipan and consider it my home. Before starting my studies, I ran rescue as a nationally certified EMT and volunteered at a cancer camp for kids. Thanks to PSEP I will have less debt after graduation, allowing me to work with the medically underserved populations there. ”

HEATHER CNMI resident, Physician Assistant, University of Washington

Regional collaboration



OUR GROWING PARTNERSHIP in the region is thanks in part to substantial collaboration and leadership, as well as a grant from the U.S. Department of Interior, Office of Insular Affairs, which was renewed for a second consecutive year in 2022 to cover WICHE's annual dues. Participation in WICHE is open to all the U.S. Pacific Territories and Freely Associated States, once they pass the necessary legislation; currently this includes the CNMI, Guam, the Federated States of Micronesia, the Republic of the Marshall Islands, and the Republic of Palau.

LEADERSHIP DEVELOPMENT WICHE brings together senior academic leaders to foster dialogue about issues facing individual institutions through its leadership and professional development networks.

- ▶ **Western Alliance of Community College Academic Leaders** – 2-year institutions
- ▶ **Western Academic Leadership Forum** – 4-year institutions
- ▶ **Western Academic Leadership Academy** is a year-long professional development program for academic leaders aspiring to become chief academic officers in the WICHE region.

NO HOLDING BACK Twelve WICHE institutions participate in a community of practice in which institutions are analyzing data and revising policies related to transcript and student holds in 2022-23.

INTERSTATE PASSPORT[®] is a national network of institutions that simplifies the transfer process, as well as saves students time and money as they successfully complete their degree.

COSTS-SAVINGS PROGRAMS Thanks to collaboration with the Midwestern Higher Education Compact (MHEC), one of four U.S. regional higher education compacts, WICHE-region educational institutions, nonprofits, and public education entities can benefit from three programs: MHECtech, which provides competitively bid purchasing contracts for an array of hardware, software, and technology services; MHECare, which provides a student health insurance plan and teletherapy services; and a MHEC Cyber Insurance Program, which offers risk transfer and advisory solutions.

Optimal behavioral healthcare



WICHE Behavioral Health Program (BHP) administers the **RURAL COMMUNITIES OPIOID RESPONSE PROGRAM (RCORP)**, a multiyear initiative supported by the Health Resources & Services Administration to identify treatment barriers and best practices for preventing and treating substance use disorder. BHP provides technical assistance to 76 grantees across the U.S., supporting 36 grantees in the WICHE region.



Sound public policy

KNOCKING AT THE COLLEGE DOOR is the leading U.S. resource for projections of college-ready students. *Knocking*, which includes a quadrennial publication with additional analysis, is essential for postsecondary policymakers, planning and workforce efforts, and economic development. Visit knocking.wiche.edu to access reports, interactive dashboards, webinars, presentations, as well as state-level data.

DATA RESOURCES WICHE offers curated data and policy resources to support better-informed decision-making. WICHE's research projects and collaborations cover postsecondary completion, health workforce development, behavioral health in postsecondary education, open educational resources (OER), state finance, prior learning assessment, and more.

- ▶ **Tuition and Fees in the West** includes tuition, fees, and enrollment data about 350+ public institutions in the West.
- ▶ **Benchmarks: WICHE Region** presents information on the West's progress in improving access to, success in, and financing of higher education.
- ▶ Data on over 35 indicators in WICHE's **Regional Fact Book for Higher Education in the West**.

DATA EXPERTS WICHE staff provide analysis on finance, financial aid, articulation and transfer, strategic planning, student demographics, and more, as well as host peer-to-peer calls of state, system, and institutional chief academic officers to identify areas of potential collaboration and resource sharing across the West.

SPECIAL PROJECTS WICHE has provided technical assistance for education and workforce strategic planning in the CNMI. Additionally, WICHE continues to advocate for considering the unique challenges faced by the Pacific Islands and the need for incorporating their data in federal collections and analysis.



Innovative solutions

WCET – THE WICHE COOPERATIVE FOR EDUCATIONAL TECHNOLOGIES is the leader in the practice, policy, and advocacy of technology-enhanced learning in higher education. Its growing membership includes institutions, higher education agencies and systems, nonprofit organizations, government agencies, and corporations in all U.S. states and several Canadian provinces. Northern Marianas College is a member.

WICHE has convened the **OERWEST NETWORK**, which is part of a nationwide collaborative to scale the development and adoption of free course materials. Open educational resources (OER) have shown promise in improving student outcomes, particularly for poverty-affected students, for whom the high cost of textbooks can be a barrier to postsecondary success.

HELPING OUR COMMUNITIES In 2014, WICHE helped the CNMI identify a significant shortage of social workers as part of a needs assessment of its Child and Family System of Care Grant. The only degree option available at the time required students to leave the CNMI, which for many was cost prohibitive. In response, WICHE established a partnership between Northern Marianas College (NMC) and the University of Alaska-Fairbanks (UAF) to enable CNMI students to earn a Bachelor of Social Work degree. Through this program, students complete their first two years of study at NMC and then complete the upper-division study virtually through UAF. The UAF program was developed to serve students in remote Alaska villages and is specifically designed around Indigenous and rural/remote students and culture, making this unique program especially attractive to students from the Pacific region. The first two students graduated in May 2022, and nine students are currently enrolled.

U.S. PACIFIC TERRITORIES AND FREELY ASSOCIATED STATES COMMISSIONERS



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