



# SCOTT WALKER

OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

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## **Governor Walker Highlights Growing Economy, Highlights Efforts to Make College More Affordable at Wisconsin Credit Unions Lobby Day**

**Madison** – Governor Scott Walker spoke at the Wisconsin Credit Unions Lobby Day today where he highlighted the importance of the state's partnership with credit unions, banks, and other financial institutions in the effort to make college more affordable by helping students and families better manage debt. Governor Walker also highlighted Wisconsin's growing economy and [the state's 4.0 percent unemployment rate, the lowest since 2001](#).

"Finding a better way for Wisconsin students and families to manage potential student debt is an important part of our college affordability efforts," Governor Walker said. "Our financial institutions, including the state's credit unions, make student debt less daunting and offer refinancing rates that are the same or better than what is offered by many government-supported programs in other states. College affordability has always been a top priority for us. In fact, our upcoming state budget builds upon our previous efforts by not just freezing UW-System tuition, but actually cutting it for Wisconsin residents. Credit unions in Wisconsin serve as one of our crucial allies as we continue to help students afford the higher education path that's best for them."

Wisconsin is a national leader when it comes to the number of state-chartered credit unions. Of Wisconsin's 147 credit unions, 97 percent are state-chartered. More than 2.7 million Wisconsin citizens are members of a credit union.

Visit [lookforwardwi.gov](http://lookforwardwi.gov) for a list of Wisconsin banks and credit unions that provide student loans and student loan refinancing. This financial planning tool also raises awareness about the importance of planning ahead for college and provides resources for current and future college students to help keep their student debt load manageable.

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