Proclamation

CITY OF RACINE, WISCONSIN

WHEREAS, regardless of age, background, income, or ZIP code, every Racine resident deserves the opportunity to access high-quality and affordable education, from early childhood to postsecondary education or career training after high school, and the completion of the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA®) is an important step toward postsecondary education for students; and

WHEREAS, it is critical to Racine's workforce development, economic development, and overall success that postsecondary education is accessible, affordable, and attainable for all students, including public, private, and technical college and university systems; and

WHEREAS, filing the FAFSA is the single most important step for students to access federal, state, and institutional financial aid, including grants, work-study, and low-interest loans; and

WHEREAS, it is crucial that all high school seniors and returning college students complete the FAFSA to maximize their eligibility for financial assistance; and

WHEREAS, the U.S. Department of Education has implemented a "simplified" FAFSA process, making it faster and easier for students—particularly those from underserved communities, foster care, or experiencing homelessness—to apply for aid; and

WHEREAS, our community is committed to ensuring every student has the opportunity to pursue technical, two-year, or four-year educational opportunities.

NOW, THEREFORE, I, Cory Mason, Mayor of the City of Racine, do hereby proclaim October 2026 as 'FAFSA Completion Month' in the City of Racine and encourage all educational institutions, counselors, and community leaders to assist students in completing their forms.

IN WITNESS WHEREOF, I have hereunto set my hand and caused the Seal of the City of Racine to be affixed.

Accomplished at the City Hall

this 17th day of September 2026.

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Mayor