

**Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 7, 2003**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1125
(Education Committee)
(At the request of the State Board of Higher Education)

AN ACT to amend and reenact subsection 1 of section 15-62.2-00.1 and sections 15-62.2-03.2 and 15-62.2-03.3 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the state scholars program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Subsection 1 of section 15-62.2-00.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

1. "Eligible candidate" means a graduate of a high school in this state or a resident of this state for tuition purposes whose assessment composite scores on the test of academic achievement administered by the American college testing program place the student in at least the ninety-fifth percentile of all students taking the test by ~~November~~ July first of the year preceding ~~January~~ first of the year in which the student is applying for a scholarship, and who ranks in the upper twentieth percentile of the student's high school class.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 15-62.2-03.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15-62.2-03.2. Reapplication eligibility - Amount of scholarships - Duration. Scholars are eligible ~~to reapply~~ for scholarships for subsequent academic years provided they maintain ~~a 3.6~~ at least a 3.50 cumulative grade point average based upon a 4.0 grading system. ~~Scholars entering the scholars program during or after the 1994 fall semester are eligible to reapply for scholarships for subsequent academic years provided they maintain a 3.50 grade point average.~~ The amount of the scholarship must equal the tuition charged at the scholar's eligible institution ~~but may not exceed the amount charged for highest resident undergraduate tuition at the state universities rate in the North Dakota university system.~~ In addition, a state scholar may receive an annual stipend of not more than two thousand dollars. A state scholar may receive a scholarship for not more than eight semesters or twelve quarters of undergraduate study, or until the attainment of the student's baccalaureate degree, whichever comes first.

SECTION 3. AMENDMENT. Section 15-62.2-03.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15-62.2-03.3. Selection of scholars. All eligible candidates must be ranked by their composite scores on the test of academic achievement administered by the American college testing program. If two or more eligible students have the same scores, they must be ranked by their high school class rank calculated on a percentile basis. Scholarships must be offered to students in descending order according to this ranking until available funds have been expended, or until the pool of eligible applicants has been exhausted. ~~Scholarships must be awarded in January of each year for the following academic year, or as soon thereafter as practical.~~

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Fifty-eighth Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1125.

House Vote: Yeas 91 Nays 0 Absent 3

Senate Vote: Yeas 46 Nays 0 Absent 1

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2003.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2003.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2003,

at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State