

Introduced by

Legislative Management

(Higher Education Committee)

1 | A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact sections 15-10-38.1, 15-10-38.2, 15-10-38.4, 15-10-59,
2 | 15-62.5-01, and 15-62.5-03, subdivision a of subsection 1 of section 15-62.5-04, and sections
3 | 15-63-01, 15-63-02, 15-63-03, 15-63-04, 15-63-05, 15.1-21-02.6, and 15.1-21-02.8 of the North
4 | Dakota Century Code, relating to skilled workforce student loan repayment and scholarships,
5 | dual-credit tuition scholarships, the North Dakota scholars program, Indian scholarships, and
6 | academic and career and technical education scholarships; to repeal section 15-63-07 of the
7 | North Dakota Century Code, relating to the use of Indian scholarship refunds; and to declare an
8 | emergency.

9 | **BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:**

10 | **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-10-38.1 of the North Dakota Century Code is
11 | amended and reenacted as follows:

12 | **15-10-38.1. Skilled workforce student loan repayment program - Skilled workforce**
13 | **student loan repayment program fund - Continuing appropriation - Report. (Repealed**
14 | **effective July 1, ~~2023~~2025)**

- 15 | 1. There is created in the state treasury the skilled workforce student loan repayment
16 | program fund. The fund consists of moneys transferred into the fund by the legislative
17 | assembly, matching funds received, and loan repayments. Moneys in the fund are
18 | appropriated to the state board of higher education on a continuing basis for the
19 | purpose of distributing student loan repayment grants directly to the Bank of North
20 | Dakota or other participating lender to repay outstanding student loan principal
21 | balances for eligible applicants.
- 22 | 2. The state board of higher education shall adopt policies and procedures to develop,
23 | implement, promote, and administer a skilled workforce student loan repayment
24 | program in cooperation with the Bank of North Dakota and the North Dakota workforce

- 1 development council with the intent of attracting and retaining individuals for
2 professional or technical skills in high demand in this state.
- 3 3. The North Dakota workforce development council in cooperation with job service North
4 Dakota shall use available labor market information to determine annually the eligible
5 high-demand professional and technical skills and emerging occupations in this state.
- 6 4. Graduates of degree or certificate programs from institutions or entities in any state
7 may apply for the skilled workforce student loan repayment program. To be eligible to
8 receive student loan repayment grants under the program, the applicant:
- 9 a. Must have successfully completed an educational program from an institution of
10 higher education;
- 11 b. Must have a student loan with the Bank of North Dakota or other participating
12 lender;
- 13 c. Following completion of an educational program, must reside and work in this
14 state in an eligible high-demand or emerging occupation; and
- 15 d. Must have met and shall continue to meet any requirements established in
16 applicable state board of higher education procedures.
- 17 5. The state board of higher education shall adopt procedures to ensure compliance with
18 residency and occupation requirements after completion of the educational program.
- 19 6. The state board of higher education shall distribute student loan repayment grants
20 from the skilled workforce student loan repayment program fund directly to the Bank of
21 North Dakota or other participating lender to repay outstanding student loan principal
22 balances for eligible applicants. The maximum annual student loan repayment grant
23 amount for which an applicant may qualify is five thousand six hundred sixty-seven
24 dollars, or one-third of the applicant's outstanding student loan principal balance upon
25 initial application for the program, whichever is less. The maximum total student loan
26 repayment grant amount for which any applicant may qualify is seventeen thousand
27 dollars.
- 28 7. If an individual is receiving loan forgiveness under any other state program, the
29 individual may not receive a student loan repayment grant under this section during
30 the same application year. ~~An individual who received a skilled workforce scholarship
31 under section 15-10-38.2 is not eligible for loan forgiveness under this section.~~

- 1 8. An individual may receive a combined total of no more than seventeen thousand
2 dollars under this section and the skilled workforce scholarship program under section
3 15-10-38.2.
- 4 9. The skilled workforce student loan repayment program must be a joint public and
5 private effort. The state board of higher education shall provide one dollar of funding
6 for each one dollar of funding raised from the private sector. Any matching funds
7 received must be deposited in the skilled workforce student loan repayment program
8 fund.
- 9 10. The state board of higher education shall provide a biennial program report to the
10 legislative management by September first of each even-numbered year. The report
11 must include information regarding:
- 12 a. The eligible high-demand professional and technical skills and emerging
13 occupations;
- 14 b. The number of applicants, eligible applicants, and applicants receiving awards;
- 15 c. The amount of private funding raised; and
- 16 d. The average and total amounts awarded under the program.

17 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-10-38.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is
18 amended and reenacted as follows:

19 **15-10-38.2. Skilled workforce scholarship program - Skilled workforce scholarship**
20 **fund - Continuing appropriation - Report. (Repealed effective July 1, ~~2023~~2025)**

- 21 1. There is created in the state treasury the skilled workforce scholarship fund. The fund
22 consists of moneys transferred into the fund by the legislative assembly, matching
23 funds received, and scholarship repayments. Moneys in the fund are appropriated to
24 the state board of higher education on a continuing basis for the purpose of providing
25 grants to institutions of higher education related to skilled workforce scholarships.
26 Institutions of higher education include institutions under the control of the state board
27 of higher education, North Dakota nonpublic accredited institutions of higher
28 education, tribally controlled community colleges, state-approved educator training
29 programs, and North Dakota institutions approved to operate by the North Dakota
30 board of career and technical education.

- 1 2. The state board of higher education shall adopt policies and procedures to develop,
2 implement, promote, and administer a skilled workforce scholarship program in
3 cooperation with the Bank of North Dakota and the North Dakota workforce
4 development council with the intent of attracting and retaining individuals for
5 professional or technical skills in high demand in this state.
- 6 3. The North Dakota workforce development council in cooperation with job service North
7 Dakota shall use available labor market information to determine annually the eligible
8 high-demand professional and technical skills and emerging occupations in this state.
- 9 4. The state board of higher education and the workforce development council shall
10 compile a list of qualifying educational programs annually. A qualifying educational
11 program is a program resulting in attainment of an associate's degree or lower
12 credential upon successful completion or a program that may be completed within four
13 semesters or six quarters. A qualifying educational program also must pertain to the
14 professional and technical skills and emerging occupations in high demand in this
15 state, as determined under subsection 3. Qualifying educational programs may include
16 degree or certificate programs.
- 17 5. Individuals enrolled in a qualifying educational program in this state may apply for a
18 scholarship under this section. Scholarships are limited to the amount charged each
19 quarter, semester, or term by the educational institution for the tuition, fees, books, and
20 supplies required for the qualifying educational program. The scholarships are
21 intended to supplement any other scholarship or financial aid grant received by a
22 student to assist the student with the costs of the qualifying educational program. An
23 individual may not receive a combined total exceeding seventeen thousand dollars
24 under this section and the skilled workforce loan repayment program under section
25 15-10-38.1.
- 26 6. To be eligible for a scholarship ~~and~~ payment under this section, a student must be
27 enrolled full time in an eligible program and have at least a 2.5 cumulative grade point
28 average, based on a 4.0 grading system, or maintain academic progress in the
29 program according to program requirements. A student may not receive scholarships
30 under this section for more than the equivalent of four semesters of full-time
31 enrollment or six quarters of full-time enrollment.

- 1 7. Upon completion of a qualifying educational program, a student who received a
2 scholarship under this section must reside and work in this state in an eligible
3 high-demand or emerging occupation for a minimum of three years.
- 4 8. An individual shall repay the scholarship pursuant to the terms in the individual's
5 scholarship award agreement if the individual fails to maintain either a 2.5 cumulative
6 grade point average or academic progress according to program requirements while
7 enrolled, withdraws voluntarily or involuntarily before the completion of the program for
8 which a scholarship has been received, or fails to reside and work in this state in an
9 eligible high-demand or emerging occupation for at least three years following degree
10 or certificate completion.
- 11 9. The state board of higher education, in conjunction with the Bank of North Dakota,
12 may allow an individual who received payment under this section to delay or cancel
13 repayment under this section due to financial difficulty, military service, death, or total
14 disability.
- 15 10. Each quarter, semester, or term, the state board of higher education shall distribute
16 grants to institutions of higher education to provide the amounts necessary for the
17 scholarships awarded to the students enrolled in each institution.
- 18 11. The skilled workforce scholarship program must be a joint public and private effort.
19 The state board of higher education may distribute grants only to the extent that the
20 private sector has provided one dollar of matching funds for each dollar of funding
21 provided by the state. Any matching funds received must be deposited in the skilled
22 workforce scholarship fund.
- 23 12. The state board of higher education shall provide a biennial program report to the
24 legislative management by September first of each even-numbered year. The report
25 must include information regarding:
 - 26 a. The eligible high-demand professional and technical skills and emerging
27 occupations;
 - 28 b. The qualifying educational programs;
 - 29 c. The number of applicants, eligible applicants, and applicants receiving awards;
 - 30 d. The amount of private funding raised; and
 - 31 e. The average and total amounts awarded under the program.

1 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-10-38.4 of the North Dakota Century Code is
2 amended and reenacted as follows:

3 **15-10-38.4. Dual-credit courses - Tuition scholarship program - Administered by the**
4 **board.**

- 5 1. The state board of higher education shall administer a dual-credit tuition scholarship
6 program to offer a tuition scholarship to students. The board shall adopt procedures to
7 administer the program.
- 8 2. An eligible student may apply to the board to receive a scholarship toward the cost of
9 tuition and fees at the accredited in-state public, private, or tribal institution of higher
10 education at which the student is enrolled. To be eligible to receive a scholarship, an
11 individual must:
- 12 a. Be enrolled and have completed at least one semester, quarter, or term at a
13 public, private, or tribal institution of higher education with a physical presence in
14 the state;
- 15 b. Have:
- 16 (1) Graduated from a high school in the state;
- 17 (2) Graduated from a high school in a bordering state under chapter 15.1-29;
- 18 (3) Graduated from a nonpublic high school in a bordering state while residing
19 with a custodial parent in this state; or
- 20 (4) Completed a program of home education under chapter 15.1-23; and
- 21 c. Have successfully completed at least one dual-credit course provided by an
22 accredited public, private, or tribal institution under the control of the state board
23 of higher education in the state while enrolled in high school or a program of
24 home education in the state.
- 25 3. The state board of higher education shall provide an eligible student with a tuition
26 scholarship equal to fifty percent of the cost of the two hundred fifty dollars for one
27 successfully completed dual-credit course, five hundred dollars for two successfully
28 completed dual-credit courses, or seven hundred fifty dollars for three or more
29 successfully completed dual-credit courses. The dual-credit courses must be provided
30 by an accredited public, private, or tribal institution under the control of the state board
31 of higher education in the state, and completed by the student while in high school or a

1 program of home education, ~~in an amount up to seven hundred fifty dollars.~~ A
2 scholarship received by a student during any semester, quarter, or term of enrollment
3 under this section may not exceed the cost of tuition and fees for the semester,
4 quarter, or term. ~~A student is not eligible to receive more than seven hundred fifty-~~
5 ~~dollars under this section.~~

6 **SECTION 4. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-10-59 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **15-10-59. Annual report - Scholarships. (Effective through July 31, 20242030)**

9 The state board of higher education shall provide to the legislative management an annual
10 report regarding the number of North Dakota scholarships, North Dakota academic
11 scholarships, and North Dakota career and technical education scholarships provided and
12 demographic information pertaining to the recipients.

13 **Annual report - Scholarships. (Effective after July 31, 20242030)** The state board of
14 higher education shall provide to the legislative management an annual report regarding the
15 number of North Dakota scholarships provided and demographic information pertaining to the
16 recipients.

17 **SECTION 5. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-62.5-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
18 amended and reenacted as follows:

19 **15-62.5-01. Scholars program.**

20 The state board of higher education shall administer the scholars program for the purpose
21 of providing a merit-based scholarship to an individual who:

- 22 1. a. Graduated from a high school in this state;
- 23 b. Graduated from a high school in a bordering state, pursuant to chapter 15.1-29;
- 24 c. Graduated from a nonpublic high school in a bordering state while residing with a
25 custodial parent in this state; or
- 26 d. Completed a program of home education supervised in accordance with chapter
27 15.1-23;
- 28 2. On the ACT achieved a composite score of 30 or higher, or an equivalent score on an
29 equivalent nationally recognized standardized test approved by the state board of
30 higher education, achieved composite scores that ranked the individual at or above-
31 the ninety-fifth percentile among those who took the ACT or an equivalent nationally

- 1 ~~recognized standardized test approved by the state board of higher education, prior to~~
2 ~~July first in the calendar year preceding the individual's post-secondary enrollment;~~
3 3. a. Is enrolled at an accredited institution of higher education with a physical
4 presence in this state that offers a program of instruction equal to at least two
5 academic years;
6 b. Because of a medically certifiable disability is enrolled at an accredited institution
7 of higher education outside of this state that offers the individual special services
8 or facilities not available in this state, provided the institution offers a program of
9 instruction equal to at least two academic years; and
10 4. Is pursuing a course of study determined by the board to be full-time.

11 **SECTION 6. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-62.5-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
12 amended and reenacted as follows:

13 **15-62.5-03. Scholars program - Ranking and selection of recipients.**

- 14 1. The state board of higher education shall rank scholars program applicants by their
15 ACT composite scores or equivalent scores on a nationally recognized standardized
16 test approved by the state board of higher education.
17 2. If two or more applicants have the same ~~composite scores~~ as determined in
18 subsection 1, they must be ranked by the numeric sum of their four scale scores on
19 the ACT or equivalent scores ~~on~~. If a nationally recognized standardized test approved
20 by the state board of higher education does not calculate scale scores, the equivalent
21 will be zero.
22 3. If two or more applicants have the same ~~composite scores and the same numeric sum~~
23 ~~of the four scale scores~~ as determined in subsections 1 and 2, they must be ranked by
24 the numeric sum of their English and mathematics scores. If a nationally recognized
25 standardized test approved by the state board of higher education does not calculate
26 equivalent English and mathematics scores, the equivalent will be zero.
27 4. The state board of higher education may establish additional criteria to rank applicants
28 who have the same ~~numeric sum of their English and mathematics scores~~ as
29 determined in subsections 1 through 3.

- 1 5. Scholarships must be offered to applicants in descending order according to this
2 ranking until available funds have been expended or until the pool of applicants has
3 been exhausted.

4 **SECTION 7. AMENDMENT.** Subdivision a of subsection 1 of section 15-62.5-04 of the
5 North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

- 6 a. Each semester, the state board of higher education shall provide to an eligible
7 student a scholarship in an amount not exceeding the tuition charged at the
8 institution in which the student is enrolled, provided the amount ~~may~~does not
9 exceed the highest undergraduate semester tuition charged at an institution of
10 higher education under the control of the state board of higher education.

11 **SECTION 8. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-63-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
12 amended and reenacted as follows:

13 **15-63-01. State board for ~~Indian~~Native American scholarships.**

14 There is hereby established a state board for ~~Indian~~Native American scholarships
15 consisting of an ~~Indiana~~ Native American appointed by the governor, the executive director of
16 the state Indian affairs commission, and the commissioner of higher education or the
17 commissioner's designee. The commissioner of higher education or the commissioner's
18 designee shall serve as chairperson and the executive director of the state Indian affairs
19 commission shall serve as secretary of the board for ~~Indian~~Native American scholarships. The
20 state board of higher education shall request scholarship funds and staff to administer the
21 ~~Indian~~Native American scholarship program in the board's biennial budget request.

22 **SECTION 9. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-63-02 of the North Dakota Century Code is
23 amended and reenacted as follows:

24 **15-63-02. Duties of board.**

25 The state board for ~~Indian~~Native American scholarships shall:

- 26 1. Award ~~scholarship grants~~scholarships as provided in this chapter.
27 2. Direct the North Dakota university system in administration of awards under this
28 chapter.
29 3. Make necessary rules and establish standards, requirements, and procedures for the
30 administration of this chapter.

1 ~~3.4.~~ Encourage members of federally recognized Indian tribes to attend and be-
2 ~~graduated~~graduate from any accredited institution of higher learning or ~~state~~accredited
3 career and technical education program ~~within~~with a physical presence in this state,
4 and to ~~make application~~apply for scholarships.

5 **SECTION 10. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-63-03 of the North Dakota Century Code is
6 amended and reenacted as follows:

7 **15-63-03. Number and nature of scholarships.**

8 The state board for ~~Indian~~Native American scholarships shall provide scholarships each
9 year for resident members of federally recognized Indian tribes to ~~entitle persons so selected to~~
10 ~~enter and~~ attend any accredited institution of higher learning or ~~state~~accredited career and
11 technical education program ~~within~~with a physical presence in this state upon compliance with
12 all requirements for admission and to pursue any course or courses offered in such institutions
13 or programs.

14 **SECTION 11. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-63-04 of the North Dakota Century Code is
15 amended and reenacted as follows:

16 **15-63-04. Eligibility of candidates - Determination.**

17 ~~The initial and continuing scholarship~~Scholarship eligibility of state residents who are
18 enrolled members of federally recognized Indian tribes must be determined by the state board
19 for ~~Indian~~Native American scholarships ~~after the candidate has gained admission to any~~
20 ~~institution of higher learning or state career and technical education program within this state~~
21 ~~and has had this fact certified to the board~~annually for applicants. Factors to be considered in
22 the award of these scholarships are the candidate's financial need and probable and continuing
23 success as a student.

24 **SECTION 12. AMENDMENT.** Section 15-63-05 of the North Dakota Century Code is
25 amended and reenacted as follows:

26 **15-63-05. Scholarship payments - Conditions.**

27 Upon the ~~granting~~award of a scholarship and ~~acceptance thereof~~, the recipient is eligible for
28 a credit ~~in fees in~~at the enrolling institution of higher learning or ~~state~~accredited career and
29 technical education program ~~to apply toward the cost of registration, health, activities, board,~~
30 ~~books, and other necessary items of~~with a physical presence in this state. The scholarship may
31 be applied to tuition, fees, room and board, books and supplies, and other educational

1 ~~expenses~~ not to exceed six hundred sixty-seven dollars per quarter ~~for three quarters, or~~
2 ~~clock-hour term~~ or one thousand dollars per semester ~~for two semesters, Awards may not~~
3 ~~exceed two thousand dollars~~ in any academic year. The board for Indian Native American
4 scholarships may reduce the amount of any scholarship to accord with individual financial need
5 or funds available. ~~After the enrolling institution or program has deducted the amount due such~~
6 ~~institution, the remaining balance must be given to the recipient for necessary expenses during~~
7 ~~the quarter or semester. The board for Native American scholarships may set a priority~~
8 ~~application date.~~ At the beginning of each quarter, ~~clock-hour term,~~ or semester of a regular
9 academic year, the board for Indian scholarships shall certify to the director of the office of
10 management and budget the name of each recipient and the amount payable, and the director
11 of the office of management and budget shall issue a warrant to the state treasurer who shall
12 pay the amount of the scholarship to the institution of higher learning or state career and
13 technical education program in which the recipient is enrolled. Renewal of the scholarship
14 award is subject to the maintenance of a minimum grade average of "C" in the courses taken,
15 the North Dakota university system shall verify enrollment and other eligibility criteria set forth
16 by the state board for Native American scholarships for awarded applicants before issuing
17 payment to the enrolling institution. After the enrolling institution has deducted the amount due
18 to the institution, the remaining balance must be distributed to the awarded applicant for
19 necessary expenses during the quarter, clock-hour term, or semester.

20 **SECTION 13. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-02.6 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **15.1-21-02.6. North Dakota scholarship - Amount - Applicability. (Effective through**
23 **July 31, 20242030)**

24 1. a. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student certified as
25 being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota
26 scholarship, a North Dakota academic scholarship, or a North Dakota career and
27 technical education scholarship in the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars for
28 each semester during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited
29 institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state, maintains a
30 cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program
31 completion.

- 1 b. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student certified as
2 being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota
3 scholarship, a North Dakota academic scholarship, or a North Dakota career and
4 technical education scholarship in the amount of five hundred dollars for each
5 quarter or clock-hour term during which the student is enrolled full time at an
6 accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state or
7 an accredited private career school with a physical presence in this state,
8 maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress
9 toward program completion.
- 10 2. The state board shall monitor each scholarship recipient to ensure that the student
11 meets the academic and other requirements of this section. Upon determining a
12 recipient student has failed to meet the requirements of this section, the board shall
13 provide notification to the student within ten business days.
- 14 3. A student is not entitled to receive more than six thousand dollars under this section.
- 15 4. The state board of higher education shall forward the scholarship directly to the
16 institution in which the student is enrolled.
- 17 5. a. This section does not require a student to be enrolled in consecutive semesters,
18 quarters, or clock-hour terms.
- 19 b. A scholarship under this section is valid only for six academic years after the
20 student's graduation from high school and may be applied to a graduate or
21 professional program.
- 22 6. A scholarship under this section is available to any eligible resident student who fulfills
23 the requirements of section 15.1-21-02.4, section 15.1-21-02.5, or section
24 15.1-21-02.10 and who:
 - 25 a. Graduates from a high school in this state;
 - 26 b. Graduates from a high school in a bordering state under chapter 15.1-29;
 - 27 c. Graduates from a nonpublic high school in a bordering state while residing with a
28 custodial parent in this state; or
 - 29 d. Completes a program of home education supervised in accordance with chapter
30 15.1-23.

- 1 7. a. For purposes of North Dakota scholarship eligibility under this section, "full-time"
2 has the same meaning as the term is defined by the institution the student is
3 attending.
- 4 b. A student who is enrolled less than full-time may retain scholarship eligibility if the
5 student is in the final semester, quarter, or clock-hour term before program
6 completion. The waiver of the full-time enrollment status requirement for
7 scholarship eligibility may not apply to a student more than once.
- 8 c. For the purpose of North Dakota scholarship eligibility under this section,
9 "progress toward program completion" means earning the following minimum
10 number of credits after each semester, quarter, or clock-hour term disbursement
11 to qualify for the subsequent disbursement:
- 12 (1) Twenty-four credits after disbursement two;
13 (2) Thirty-nine credits after disbursement three;
14 (3) Fifty-four credits after disbursement four;
15 (4) Sixty-nine credits after disbursement five;
16 (5) Eighty-four credits after disbursement six; and
17 (6) Ninety-nine credits after disbursement seven.
- 18 8. For purposes of scholarship eligibility under this section, "clock-hour term" has the
19 same meaning as the term is defined by the state board of higher education. The state
20 board of higher education shall determine the conversion of:
- 21 a. Clock hours to credit hours; and
22 b. Percentage-based grading to grade point average.

23 **15.1-21-02.6. North Dakota scholarship - Amount - Applicability. (Effective after**
24 **July 31, 20242030)**

- 25 1. a. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student certified as
26 being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota
27 scholarship in the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars for each semester during
28 which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher
29 education with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative grade
30 point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.

- 1 b. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student certified as
2 being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota
3 scholarship in the amount of five hundred dollars for each quarter or clock-hour
4 term during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of
5 higher education with a physical presence in this state or an accredited private
6 career school with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative
7 grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.
- 8 2. The state board shall monitor each scholarship recipient to ensure the student meets
9 the academic and other requirements of this section. Upon determining a recipient
10 student has failed to meet the requirements of this section, the board shall provide
11 notification to the student within ten business days.
- 12 3. A student is not entitled to receive more than six thousand dollars under this section.
- 13 4. The state board of higher education shall forward the scholarship directly to the
14 institution in which the student is enrolled.
- 15 5. a. This section does not require a student to be enrolled in consecutive semesters,
16 quarters, or clock-hour terms.
- 17 b. A scholarship under this section is valid only for six academic years after the
18 student's graduation from high school and may be applied to a graduate or
19 professional program.
- 20 6. A scholarship under this section is available to any eligible resident student who fulfills
21 the requirements of section 15.1-21-02.10 and who:
22 a. Graduates from a high school in this state;
23 b. Graduates from a high school in a bordering state under chapter 15.1-29;
24 c. Graduates from a nonpublic high school in a bordering state while residing with a
25 custodial parent in this state; or
26 d. Completes a program of home education supervised in accordance with chapter
27 15.1-23.
- 28 7. a. For purposes of North Dakota scholarship eligibility under this section, "full-time"
29 has the same meaning as the term is defined by the institution the student is
30 attending.

- 1 b. A student who is enrolled less than full-time may retain scholarship eligibility if the
2 student is in the final semester, quarter, or clock-hour term before program
3 completion. The waiver of the full-time enrollment status requirement for
4 scholarship eligibility may not apply to a student more than once.
- 5 c. For the purpose of North Dakota scholarship eligibility under this section,
6 "progress toward program completion" means earning the following minimum
7 number of credits after each semester, quarter, or clock-hour term disbursement
8 to qualify for the subsequent disbursement:
- 9 (1) Twenty-four credits after disbursement two;
10 (2) Thirty-nine credits after disbursement three;
11 (3) Fifty-four credits after disbursement four;
12 (4) Sixty-nine credits after disbursement five;
13 (5) Eighty-four credits after disbursement six; and
14 (6) Ninety-nine credits after disbursement seven.
- 15 8. For purposes of scholarship eligibility under this section, "clock-hour term" has the
16 same meaning as the term is defined by the state board of higher education. The state
17 board of higher education shall determine the conversion of:
- 18 a. Clock hours to credit hours; and
19 b. Percentage-based grading to grade point average.

20 **SECTION 14. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-02.8 of the North Dakota Century Code is
21 amended and reenacted as follows:

22 **15.1-21-02.8. North Dakota scholarship - Eligibility - One-time exception. (Effective**
23 **through July 31, 2024~~2030~~)**

- 24 1. a. Notwithstanding section 15.1-21-02.6, if a student's cumulative grade point
25 average as determined by the state board of higher education at the conclusion
26 of a semester, quarter, or clock-hour term is below 2.75, the board shall grant an
27 exception and provide the North Dakota scholarship to which the student would
28 otherwise be entitled for the next semester, quarter, or clock-hour term in which
29 the student is enrolled full time. The exception provided by this section is
30 applicable to a student only one time.

1 b. If a student's cumulative grade point average as determined by the state board of
2 higher education at the conclusion of a semester, quarter, or clock-hour term is
3 below 2.75 for a second time, the student is no longer eligible to receive a North
4 Dakota, North Dakota academic, or North Dakota career and technical education
5 scholarship.

6 2. For purposes of scholarship eligibility under this section, "clock-hour term" has the
7 same meaning as the term is defined by the state board of higher education. The state
8 board of higher education shall determine the conversion of:

9 a. Clock hours to credit hours; and

10 b. Percentage-based grading to grade point average.

11 **15.1-21-02.8. North Dakota scholarship - Eligibility - One-time exception. (Effective**
12 **after July 31, 2024~~2030~~)**

13 1. a. Notwithstanding section 15.1-21-02.6, if a student's cumulative grade point
14 average as determined by the state board of higher education at the conclusion
15 of a semester, quarter, or clock-hour term is below 2.75, the board shall grant an
16 exception and provide the North Dakota scholarship to which the student would
17 otherwise be entitled for the next semester, quarter, or clock-hour term in which
18 the student is enrolled full time. The exception provided by this section is
19 applicable to a student only one time.

20 b. If a student's cumulative grade point average as determined by the state board of
21 higher education at the conclusion of a semester, quarter, or clock-hour term is
22 below 2.75 for a second time, the student is no longer eligible to receive a North
23 Dakota scholarship.

24 2. For purposes of scholarship eligibility under this section, "clock-hour term" has the
25 same meaning as the term is defined by the state board of higher education. The state
26 board of higher education shall determine the conversion of:

27 a. Clock hours to credit hours; and

28 b. Percentage-based grading to grade point average.

29 **SECTION 15. REPEAL.** Section 15-63-07 of the North Dakota Century Code is repealed.

30 **SECTION 16. EMERGENCY.** Sections 1 and 2 of this Act are declared to be an emergency
31 measure.