

Introduced by

Senator Krebsbach

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to the re-energize North Dakota scholarship; to provide an appropriation;
3 and to provide an expiration date.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Re-energize North Dakota scholarship.**

- 8 1. The state board of higher education may award scholarships for the purpose of
9 recruiting and retraining individuals to work in the North Dakota oil and gas industry.
- 10 2. An applicant is eligible for the re-energize North Dakota scholarship if the applicant is
11 a resident of the state and:
- 12 a. Is or was employed in the oil and gas industry in an oil and gas-producing county
13 for a minimum of ~~six~~twelve months during the past thirty-six months; or
- 14 b. Is an immediate family member of a current ~~or former~~ employee who ~~was~~has
15 been employed in the oil and gas industry in an oil and gas-producing county for
16 a minimum of ~~six~~twelve months.
- 17 3. Scholarships must be awarded in the eligibility priority order identified in subsection 2.
- 18 4. The scholarship recipient must attend a qualifying educational program resulting in
19 attainment of a workforce training credential, certificate, associate's degree, bachelor's
20 degree, or master's degree. The educational program must be provided at an
21 institution under the control of the state board of higher education.
- 22 5. After the initial award, recipients must remain a resident of the state and maintain
23 academic progress in the eligible program according to program requirements to
24 continue receiving the re-energize North Dakota scholarship.

1 6. Scholarships may be awarded in the amount of up to ~~two thousand~~ **one thousand five**
2 **hundred** dollars per quarter, semester, or term. Individuals may receive combined
3 awards totaling no more than ~~sixteen~~ **twelve** thousand dollars **and the combined award**
4 **for all family members associated with an individual employee in the oil and gas**
5 **industry may not exceed twenty-four thousand dollars.** Scholarships are limited to the
6 amount charged each quarter, semester, or term by the educational institution for
7 tuition, fees, books, and supplies required for the qualifying educational program.

8 7. The state board of higher education shall adopt policies and procedures to administer
9 the re-energize North Dakota scholarship program.

10 8. For the purposes of this section, an oil and gas-producing county means Billings,
11 Bottineau, Bowman, Burke, Divide, Dunn, Golden Valley, McHenry, McKenzie,
12 McLean, Mountrail, Renville, Slope, Stark, Ward, or Williams County.

13 **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION - FULL-TIME**

14 **EQUIVALENT POSITION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the
15 state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of ~~\$10,250,000~~ **\$5,125,000**, or so much of
16 the sum as may be necessary, to the state board of higher education for the purpose of
17 awarding re-energize North Dakota scholarships, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and
18 ending June 30, 2025. Of the amount appropriated, the state board of higher education may
19 use up to ~~\$250,000~~ **\$125,000** for student financial assistance and scholarship programs
20 coordination and marketing. The state board of higher education is authorized one full-time
21 equivalent position.

22 **SECTION 3. EXPIRATION DATE.** Section 1 of this Act is effective through June 30, 2027,
23 and after that date is ineffective.