

# North Dakota Senate **APPROPRIATIONS COMMITTEE**

BISMARCK STATE COLLEGE | NORTH DAKOTA'S POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION

Brent Sanford, BSC Interim President  
Jan. 16, 2025

# KEY TOPICS



**ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

**ONE-TIME FUNDING UPDATE**

**NEXT BIENNIUM GOALS**

**CHALLENGES**



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# ACCOMPLISHMENTS



ND Senate Appropriations Committee

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>> ENROLLMENT GROWTH

Since the last biennium BSC is:

UP 15.72% IN HEADCOUNT

UP 14.46% IN CREDIT HOURS

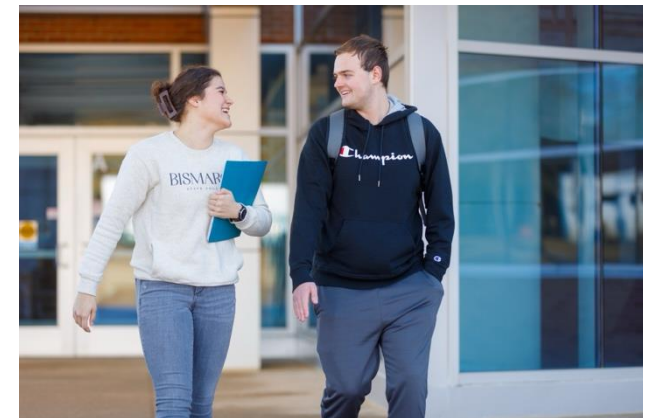
UP 14% IN ND & ND MILITARY STUDENTS

This year, BSC is on track to:

MARK OUR 6th CONSECUTIVE SEMESTER OF GROWTH

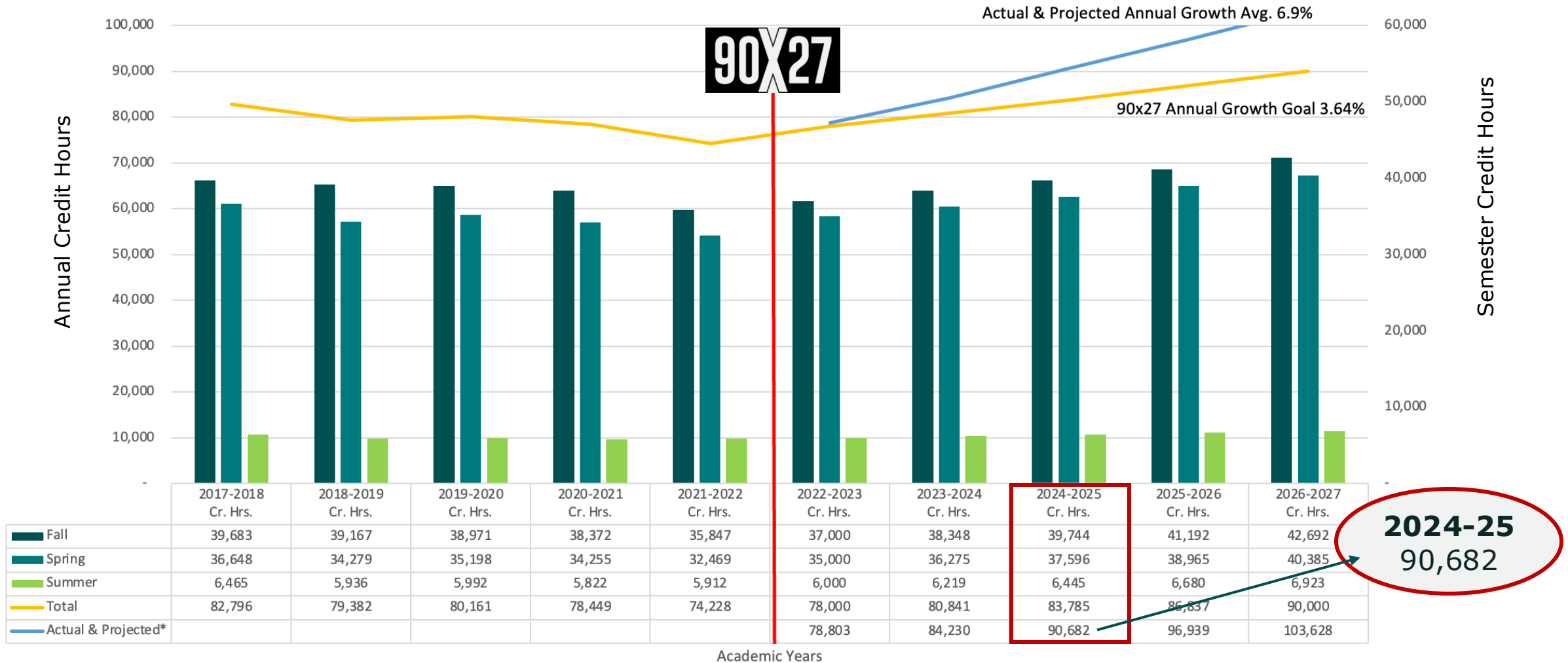
HIT OUR HIGHEST ENROLLMENT IN BSC HISTORY

MEET OUR 5-YR ENROLLMENT GOAL 2 YEARS EARLY



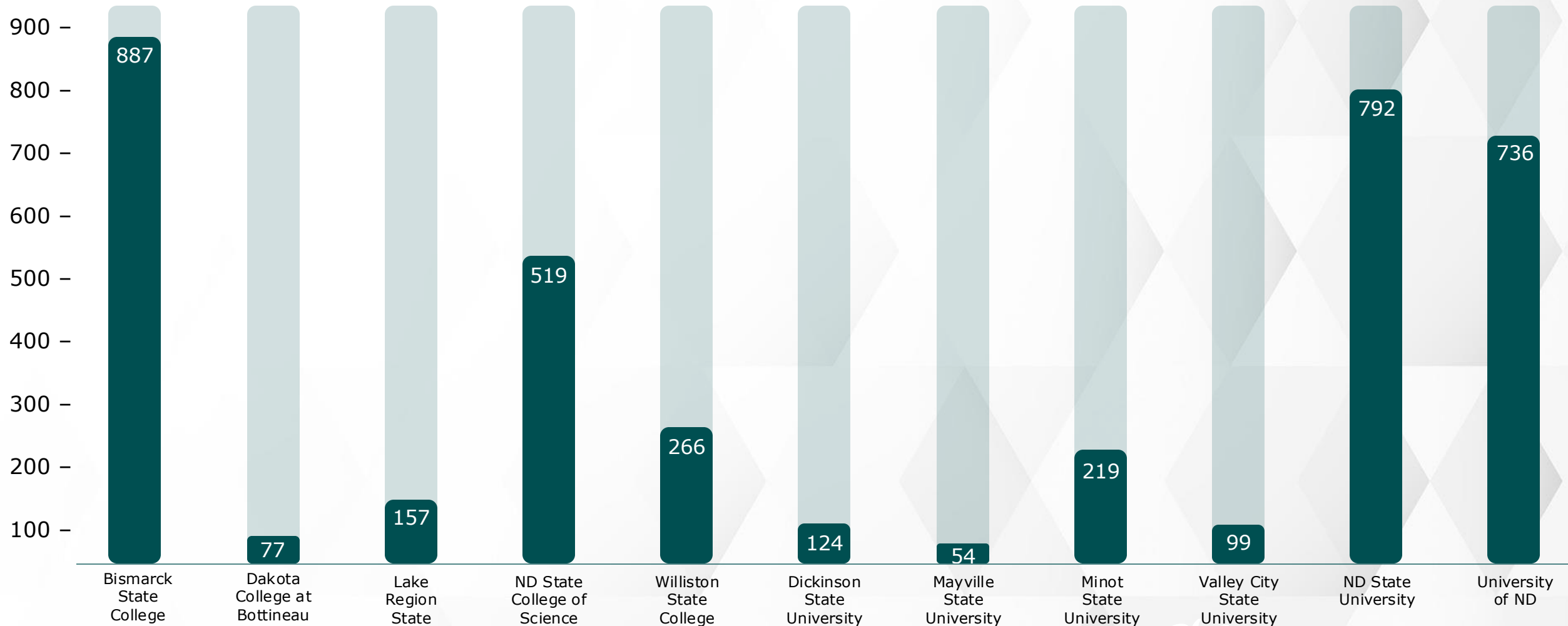
# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>> ENROLLMENT GROWTH

## 2017-2027 BSC Census Credit Hours



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>>

## FALL 24 ND TRADITIONAL FRESHMEN



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS



# PROGRAM GROWTH

since the ND 68<sup>th</sup> Legislative Assembly

HEAVY EQUIPMENT OPERATOR

**Insurance**

**SECURITY OPERATIONS**

**ELECTRICIAN TECHNICIAN**

Digital Forensics & Incident Response

Web Programming Foundations

Arts Entrepreneurship & Management

Secure Web Programming

Business End User Security

**Automation**

**DENTAL CAREER EXPLORATION**

IT and Cybersecurity Governance

**Software Analysis**

**BUSINESS FUNDAMENTALS**

Applied Communication

COMPUTER APPLICATIONS

**Geospatial Technology**

Land Surveying Technology

Foundations in Emerging Technologies

Additive Manufacturing

**NEW DEGREES**

25 Certificates

6 Associate

4 Bachelor's

**Medical Assistant**

Arts Business

**DIALYSIS TECHNICIAN**

Artificial Intelligence & Machine Learning Specialist

**HEALTH**

APPLIED ARTS

Civil Engineering Technology

**ADMINISTRATION**

**UNMANNED AERIAL SYSTEMS**

Dental Hygiene

DENTAL ASSISTING

{EXERCISE AND SPORTS STUDIES

INTELLIGENT MACHINE LEARNING}

UNIVERSITY STUDIES

*Pending HLC Approval*

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>> NEW WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

## OFFICE OF WORKFORCE AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



Works closely with industry partners to ensure workers are equipped with the necessary skills to meet current and future job market needs



Focuses on upskilling and reskilling to create a more resilient workforce resulting in long-term economic stability

**WORKFORCE**  
& ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT  
BISMARCK STATE COLLEGE



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>> NEW WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

## GRAND ENERGY



Focuses on creating a talent pipeline to deliver a workforce with the innovative skills needed to drive the energy industry.

## BLUE HALO PARTNERSHIP



Leverages BlueHalo's advanced technologies and BSC's expertise in training systems mechanics and technicians to address complex national security and defense challenges

 GRAND ENERGY

BLUEHALO 

# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>> NEW WORKFORCE INITIATIVES

## BSC DENTAL PROGRAM TRAINING FACILITY & CLINIC



BSC industry partner, **SDY Dental**, has built a new facility and BSC is renting their former facility and purchasing their equipment



### **BSC Mystic Smiles Clinic**

- Provides BSC dental students hands-on experience
- Very little remodeling needed
- No state funding was needed to start this clinic
- Planning for facility to be ready Fall 2025
- Due to the 4-yr lag, BSC will not receive credit hour funding from the state until Fall 2029



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>> SPECIAL PROJECTS

## SECURED \$9.9M GRANT: "XR FOR VR" PROJECT



Addresses **manufacturing** workforce shortages by using extended and virtual reality to introduce individuals with disabilities to potential career paths

## PURCHASED 4 ANATOMAGE TABLES



State-of-the-art digital anatomy tables that provide high-tech hands-on learning for **exercise science** and **health science** students

## RESOLVED FACILITY TITLE IX COMPLIANCE ISSUES



Students voted to use student fees to support building the BSC Bavendick Center—a multipurpose student/athletic facility—to address inequalities in the Armory and repurpose that building



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>> SPECIAL PROJECTS

## SECURED \$75K GRANT TO FUND TRADES SCHOLARSHIPS



Responding to a workforce need by providing 35 students with **Mechanical Maintenance** and **Welding** scholarships to increase the number of graduates for those industries

## CREATED BSC SECURITY OPERATIONS CENTER

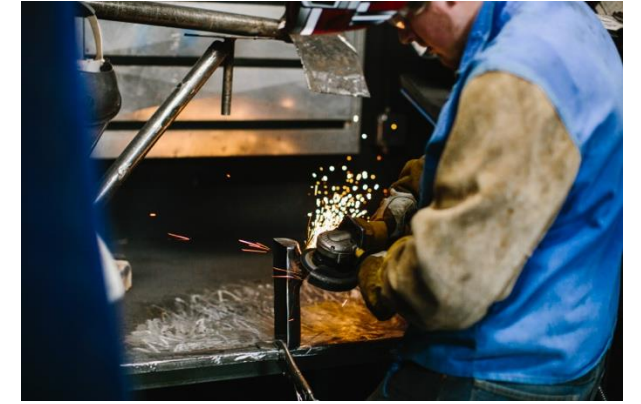


Located in the Advanced Technology Center, the SOC was developed for hands-on learning in **Cybersecurity** through a technical skills grant and a ND Commerce partnership

## SOUGHT PRISON EDUCATION PROVIDER APPROVAL



Designation was approved by the Department of Ed and inmates will now have the opportunity to apply for Pell Funding



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>> SPECIAL PROJECTS

## ADDRESSING ENERGY & MANUFACTURING WORKFORCE SHORTAGES



BSC provides workforce solutions by offering a 2-week introduction to **Oil & Gas** career pathways at the Bakken Area Skills Center in Watford City



Starting Fall 25 BSC will offer dual credit for **Automation & Robotics, Energy Services & Renewable Generation, Mechanical Maintenance, Process Technology** and **Petroleum Production** pathways in western and central ND K-12 CTE centers and affiliated schools

## SECURED \$2M "EnerGETic" GRANT



Supports the development of career pathways and student enrollment in **Engineering Technology, GIS** and **UAS** programs



# ACCOMPLISHMENTS >>> FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY

## COMPOSITE FINANCIAL INDEX (CFI)



The CFI is measured on a scale of -4 to 10 and measures four separate aspects of a college's financial health. It includes debt ratios, reserves to expenditures, and the size of endowments.



Unit Cost reductions and reducing low enrollment sections helped BSC improve our CFI from 0.6 in 2016 to 9.22 in 2024.



BSC had zero audit findings.

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# ONE-TIME FUNDING UPDATE



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# ONE-TIME FUNDING & RELIEF FUNDS UPDATE >>> **ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTER**



Jan 13, 2025 – Substantial Completion Date  
March 4, 2025 – Ribbon Cutting Event



Project completed on budget

**\$9.96M** from State General Fund

**\$38M** from Fed/State Fiscal Relief Fund

- \$35M for the building + \$3M for program start-up



\$400K of the start-up funding remains

Will be used in the next year for new Heavy Equipment Operator and Electrician Technician programs, and additional seats in Nursing



***Lack of program start-up funding will limit the addition of new programs***





# ONE-TIME FUNDING & RELIEF FUNDS UPDATE >>> **ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY CENTER**



Building was designed for current and future workforce needs



Designated areas for the development of new technologies to create an accelerator for new entrepreneurship



Special features include collaboration rooms, an immersive room, Security Operations Center, Digital Hive, flex labs, live event venue, offices for the Polytechnic Outreach and XR for VR staff



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# NEXT BIENNIUM GOALS



ND Senate Appropriations Committee

# NEXT BIENNIUM GOALS >>> ND'S POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION

## EXPAND NORTH DAKOTA'S WORKFORCE

- >>> Prepare skilled graduates to meet industry demand
- >>> Develop career-ready professionals with hands-on training in high-demand fields such as energy, healthcare, ag, technology and manufacturing
- >>> Partner with business and industry leaders to identify workforce gaps and align programs with workforce needs
- >>> Provide opportunities for adult learners and non-traditional students to reskill or upskill for emerging careers

# NEXT BIENNIUM GOALS >>> ND'S POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION

## ADVANCE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT THROUGH PUBLIC-PRIVATE PARTNERSHIPS

- >>> Drive economic growth in ND by collaborating with business, industry and gov't
- >>> Continue to develop customized training programs and stackable certifications to meet the needs of industry partners
- >>> Foster innovation and entrepreneurship through joint ventures, applied research and collaborative initiatives with private organizations
- >>> Host industry-specific conferences, workshops and networking events to strengthen public-private relationships

# NEXT BIENNIUM GOALS >>> ND'S POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION

## GROW ENROLLMENT, DEVELOP STUDENT PIPELINES AND EXPAND PROGRAMMING

- >>> Build a diverse and robust student pipeline through targeted recruitment in ND and continue to broaden the pipeline that brings out-of-state students to ND
- >>> Expand programs to include advanced technology, sustainable innovation and other high-demand growth sectors
- >>> Implement innovative education models to attract a broader audience such as 90-credit BAS degrees and competency-based education
- >>> BSC supports increasing the Challenge Grant to \$50M to make education more affordable by incentivizing donors and creating public/private partnerships to support scholarships – \$18.8M awarded to BSC students from 2013-25

# NEXT BIENNIUM GOALS >>> ND'S POLYTECHNIC INSTITUTION

## STRENGTHEN RELATIONSHIPS WITH CTE & K-12 PROGRAMMING

- >>> Partner with CTE Centers and K-12 schools to introduce students to high-demand workforce careers earlier
- >>> Continue offering dual-credit courses, technical workshops and summer camps to high school students interested in STEM careers and trades
- >>> Train educators and advisors in K-12 to promote advanced technology with career opportunities in the high-demand workforce fields as a viable career option
- >>> Host on-campus events to inspire young learners, including open houses, industry demonstrations and skills competitions

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# CHALLENGES



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# 2025-2027 >>> CHALLENGES

**CURRENT FUNDING FORMULA**

**3<sup>RD</sup> LARGEST INSTITUTION**

**5<sup>TH</sup> IN APPROPRIATIONS**

**10<sup>th</sup> IN STATE FUNDING PER STUDENT PER SEMESTER**

INSTITUTION	2023-25 Final Base Funding	Equity General Fund	Employer Retirement Increase General Fund	TOTAL	FTE Student Count (2022 Fall Enrollment Report)	State Support per Student per Semester (Assumes Fall & Spring Semesters for 2 years) (SB2164) (2019)
BSC	36,354,055	996,414	31,441	37,381,910	2,466	3,790
DCB	11,130,278	304,074	8,526	11,442,878	550	5,201
LRSC	15,073,051	411,788	14,693	15,499,532	797	4,862
NDSCS	38,761,924	1,049,248	43,662	39,854,834	2,064	4,827
WSC	13,118,332	358,386	8,607	13,485,325	646	5,219
DSU	23,801,610	623,324	15,061	24,439,995	1,155	5,290
MASU	21,698,810	568,255	11,331	22,278,396	784	7,104
MISU	47,677,097	1,256,166	31,980	48,965,243	2,167	5,649
VCSU **	27,612,092	723,115	14,606	28,349,813	1,073	6,605
NDSU	154,844,139	4,250,375	97,772	159,192,286	10,701	3,719
UND	176,704,163	4,850,392	100,821	181,655,376	9,418	4,822
UND SMHS	70,189,742	1,926,476	38,691	72,154,909	1,342	15,431
UND SMHS-H	10,676,150			10,676,150		
<b>TOTALS</b>	<b>647,641,445</b>	<b>17,318,013</b>				



# 2025-2027 >>> CHALLENGES

## FUNDING FOR ENERGY



The Energy sector is one of the largest economic generators for ND



Funding is needed for Energy programs to address workforce shortage of skilled workers



**All** Energy programs should be weighted as career/technical for funding

- Interim Higher Ed Committee approved wind energy to be weighted as career/technical\*
- All other Energy programs are currently weighted as engineering

*\*Senate Bill 2034*



# 2025-2027 >>> CHALLENGES

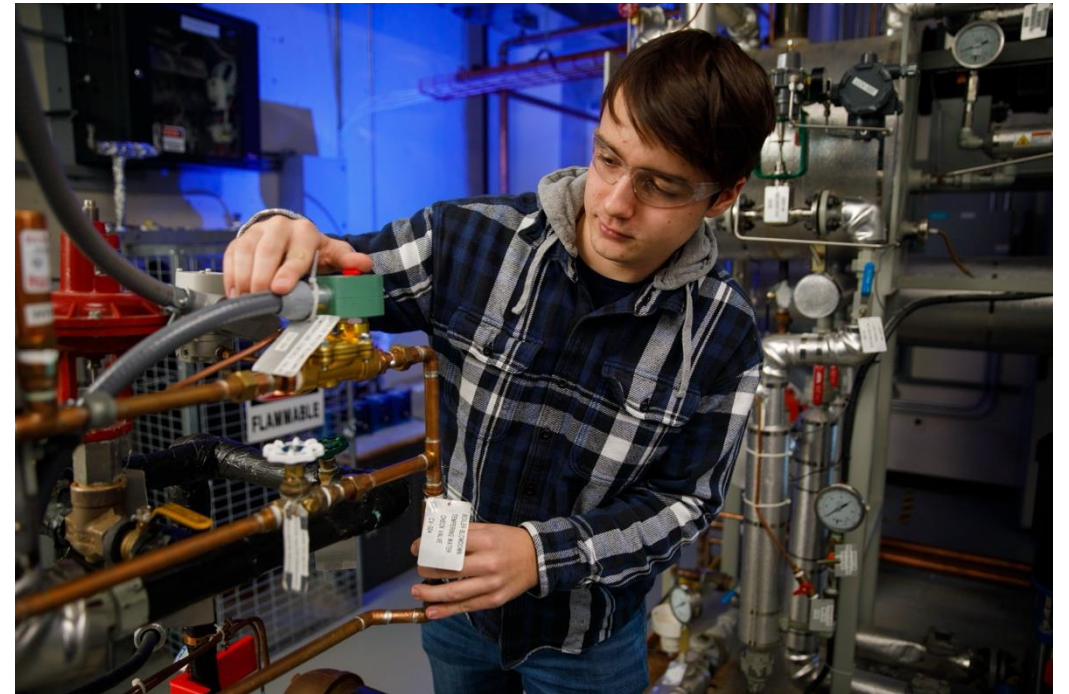
## LACK OF PROGRAM STARTUP FUNDING



High-cost technical programs are too expensive to fund on tuition alone



Start-up funding is needed for new workforce programs and equipment in high-demand, high-priority occupations due to the 4-yr lag in reimbursement



# 2025-2027 >>> CHALLENGES

## CRITICAL HOUSING SHORTAGE

- >>> BSC needs to expand student housing to support growing enrollment, opportunities for students and the community's workforce needs
- >>> This fall BSC had 524 housing applications and 54 students on a waitlist after increasing capacity from 448 beds to 470 (*within fire code*)
- >>> It costs students \$3,084 more to live off campus
  - BSC's single-room is \$5,133/9 mo. and the Bismarck average is \$8,217/9 mo. (*Per HUD*)
- >>> BSC needs authorization to utilize \$1.4M in existing state-tier funding to convert 34 offices to resident hall rooms
- >>> BSC supports HB1128 to create a Higher Ed Infrastructure Revolving Loan Fund

# 2025-2027 >>> CHALLENGES

## HEALTHCARE EDUCATION SPACE AT CAPACITY



Substantial growth in applications for healthcare programs



The demand for BSC graduates from healthcare programs exceeds the current facility's instructional space capacity



\$43M is needed for a 62,000 sq. ft. expansion of the BSC Health Sciences Building to accommodate new healthcare programs, students and equipment

BSC has a list of approximately 50 medical/dental industry providers requesting and/or supporting a BSC expansion of programs



# THANK YOU

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