

NDSCS Alumni Foundation
Foundation Board Members
800 6th St N
Wahpeton ND 58075

NDSDCS Legislative Committee,

We, the members of the NDSCS Foundation Board, would like to express our strong support for increasing funding for the North Dakota Challenge Grant during the 2025 legislative session.

We believe that a significant increase in funding is essential for raising more scholarship endowments and enhancing program equipment and program endowments at North Dakota State College of Science (NDSCS).

In the past two biennium years, the NDSCS Foundation has successfully raised \$3.4 million. However, we note that nearly \$400,000 remained unclaimed this past year due to lacking funds available for matching challenges. By increasing the Challenge Grant allocation, we can utilize these potential funds effectively and attract even more financial support.

Furthermore, we advocate for implementing a 1:1 match program as part of this initiative. We believe this approach will not only engage new donors but also incentivize existing supporters to contribute additional funds. Our foundation has experienced remarkable growth since its inception with the Challenge Grant—our Endowment has expanded from \$11 million to just over \$36 million today.

This growth is evident in our scholarship awards; in 2013, just over \$400,000 was awarded, compared to an impressive \$1.4 million awarded this past year.

Increased funding for the ND Challenge Grant is vital not only for sustaining our momentum but also for ensuring that future students have access to valuable educational resources and opportunities through scholarships and program enhancements.

Thank you for considering our request as you deliberate on budget allocations during this legislative session. We are confident that with your support, we can continue making a significant impact on students' lives at NDSCS.

Sincerely,

Chad Wehri

Chad Wehri – Foundation President
On behalf of the NDSCS Alumni Foundation Board