2023 HOUSE EDUCATION

HB 1451

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

HB 1451
1/31/2023

Relating to the North Dakota scholarship; and to provide an appropriation.

3:17 PM

Chairman Heinert opened the hearing. Members present: Chairman Heinert, Vice Chairman Schreiber-Beck, Representatives Conmy, Dyk, Hager, Hauck, Heilman, Hoverson, Jonas, Longmuir, Marschall, Murphy, Novak, and Timmons.

Discussion Topics:

- Scholarship amounts
- Fiscal note
- Tuition rise
- HS yearly graduates
- In state requirement
- 2.75 GPA
- Total cost of attendance
- Financial aide

Rep Mitch Ostlie, Dist 12, Jamestown, introduced HB 1451, Testimony 18403
Brenda Zastoupil, Financial Aid Director, ND University System, Testimony 18095
Jim Upgren, Assistant Director of School and Approval and Opportunity, DPI, Testimony 18177
Eric Ripley, Director of Career Technical Education, Grand Forks, Testimony 18198

Additional written testimony:
Connor Ferguson, Testimony 18186

3:38 PM Chairman Heinert closed the hearing.

Kathleen Davis, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

HB 1451
1/31/2023

Relating to the North Dakota scholarship; and to provide an appropriation.

4:25 PM

Chairman Heinert opened the meeting. Members present: Chairman Heinert, Vice Chairman Schreiber-Beck, Representatives Conmy, Dyk, Hager, Hauck, Heilman, Hoverson, Jonas, Longmuir, Marschall, Murphy, Novak, and Timmons.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee work

Rep Schreiber-Beck moved a Do Pass, seconded by Rep Conmy.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Pat D. Heinert	N
Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck	Y
Representative Liz Conmy	Y
Representative Scott Dyk	N
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Dori Hauck	N
Representative Matt Heilman	N
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	N
Representative Jim Jonas	Y
Representative Donald W. Longmuir	N
Representative Andrew Marschall	N
Representative Eric James Murphy	Y
Representative Anna S. Novak	N
Representative Kelby Timmons	N

5-9-0 Motion failed.

Rep Schreiber Beck moved to amend Page 2 Line 26, change $10,000 to $7500, seconded by Rep Murphy. #21166

It was decided to hold this until Wednesday to get an answer from Jim Upgren, DPI.

4:40 PM Chairman Heinert closed the meeting.

Kathleen Davis, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Education Committee
Coteau AB Room, State Capitol

HB 1451
2/1/2023

Relating to the North Dakota scholarship; and to provide an appropriation.

9:00 AM

Chairman Heinert opened the meeting. Members present: Chairman Heinert, Vice Chairman Schreiber-Beck, Representatives Conmy, Dyk, Hager, Hauck, Heilman, Hoverson, Jonas, Longmuir, Marschall, Murphy, Novak, and Timmons.

Discussion Topics:

- Committee work

Vice Chairman Schreiber Beck moved to withdraw her motion left open from yesterday afternoon's 01/31/23 4:25 PM meeting, seconded by Rep Murphy. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Vice Chairman Schreiber Beck moved Line 26 on Page 2 be changed to read $10,000 to $7496, and Page 5 Line 13 replace $10,000 with $7496, seconded by Rep Murphy. Voice vote. Motion carried.

Rep Murphy moved a Do Pass as Amended and Rerefer to Appropriations, seconded by Vice Chairman Schreiber Beck.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Pat D. Heinert	Y
Representative Cynthia Schreiber-Beck	Y
Representative Liz Conmy	Y
Representative Scott Dyk	N
Representative LaurieBeth Hager	Y
Representative Dori Hauck	N
Representative Matt Heilman	N
Representative Jeff A. Hoverson	N
Representative Jim Jonas	Y
Representative Donald W. Longmuir	Y
Representative Andrew Marschall	N
Representative Eric James Murphy	Y
Representative Anna S. Novak	Y
Representative Kelby Timmons	N

8-6 0 Motion carried. Vice Chairman Schreiber-Beck is carrier.

9:07 AM Chairman Heinert closed the meeting.

Kathleen Davis, Committee Clerk

Adopted by the House Education Committee

February 1, 2023

2-1-23

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO HOUSE BILL NO. 1451

Page 2, line 26, replace "ten thousand" with "seven thousand four hundred ninety-six"

Page 5, line 13, replace "ten thousand" with "seven thousand four hundred ninety-six"

Renumber accordingly

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1451: Education Committee (Rep. Heinert, Chairman) recommends **AMENDMENTS AS FOLLOWS** and when so amended, recommends **DO PASS** and **BE REREFERRED** to the **Appropriations Committee** (8 YEAS, 6 NAYS, 0 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). HB 1451 was placed on the Sixth order on the calendar.

Page 2, line 26, replace "ten thousand" with "seven thousand four hundred ninety-six"

Page 5, line 13, replace "ten thousand" with "seven thousand four hundred ninety-six"

Renumber accordingly

2023 HOUSE APPROPRIATIONS

HB 1451

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

HB 1451
2/15/2023

Relating to the North Dakota scholarship; and to provide an appropriation.

10:08 AM Chairman Vigesaa- Called the meeting to order and roll call was taken-

Members present; Chairman Vigesaa, Representative Kempenich, Representative B. Anderson, , Representative Brandenburg, Representative Hanson, Representative Kreidt, Representative Martinson, Representative Mitskog, Representative Meier, Representative Mock, Representative Monson, Representative Nathe, Representative J. Nelson, Representative O'Brien, Representative Pyle, Representative Richter, Representative Sanford, Representative Schatz, Representative Schobinger, Representative Strinden, Representative G. Stemen and Representative Swiontek.

Members not Present- Representative Bellew

Discussion Topics:

- Raises Scholarship Amounts

Representative Heinrt- Introduces the bill.

10:12 AM Chairman Vigesaa- Closes the meeting to HB 1451

Risa Berube, Committee Clerk

2023 HOUSE STANDING COMMITTEE MINUTES

Appropriations Committee
Brynhild Haugland Room, State Capitol

HB 1451
2/16/2023

Relating to the North Dakota scholarship; and to provide an appropriation.

4:41 PM Chairman Vigesaa- Called the meeting to order and roll was taken-

Members present; Chairman Vigesaa, Representative B. Anderson, Representative Bellew, Representative Brandenburg, Representative Hanson, Representative Kreidt, Representative Martinson, Representative Mitskog, Representative Meier, Representative Mock, Representative Monson, Representative J. Nelson, Representative Pyle, Representative Richter, Representative Sanford, Representative Schatz, Representative Schobinger, Representative Strinden, Representative G. Stemen and Representative Swiontek.

Members not Present- Representative Kempenich, Representative O'Brien and Representative Nathe

Discussion Topics:

- Scholarship Fund
- Increase Award Amount

Brenda Zastoupil -ND University System- Further explains the intent of the bill.

Representative Martinson moves a Do Not Pass

Representative Meier Seconds the motion.

Roll call vote.

Representatives	Vote
Representative Don Vigesaa	Y
Representative Keith Kempenich	A
Representative Bert Anderson	Y
Representative Larry Bellew	Y
Representative Mike Brandenburg	A
Representative Karla Rose Hanson	Y
Representative Gary Kreidt	Y
Representative Bob Martinson	Y
Representative Lisa Meier	Y
Representative Alisa Mitskog	N
Representative Corey Mock	N
Representative David Monson	Y
Representative Mike Nathe	A
Representative Jon O. Nelson	Y

Representative Emily O'Brien	A
Representative Brandy Pyle	N
Representative David Richter	Y
Representative Mark Sanford	Y
Representative Mike Schatz	Y
Representative Randy A. Schobinger	Y
Representative Greg Stemen	Y
Representative Michelle Strinden	Y
Representative Steve Swiontek	N

Motion Carries 16-4-3 Representative Richter will carry the bill.

5:01 PM Chairman Vigesaa – Closes the meeting for HB 1451

Risa Berube, Committee Clerk

REPORT OF STANDING COMMITTEE

HB 1451, as engrossed: Appropriations Committee (Rep. Vigesaa, Chairman) recommends **DO NOT PASS** (16 YEAS, 4 NAYS, 3 ABSENT AND NOT VOTING). Engrossed HB 1451 was placed on the Eleventh order on the calendar.

TESTIMONY

HB 1451

NORTH DAKOTA
UNIVERSITY SYSTEM
ACCESS. INNOVATION. EXCELLENCE.

HB1451

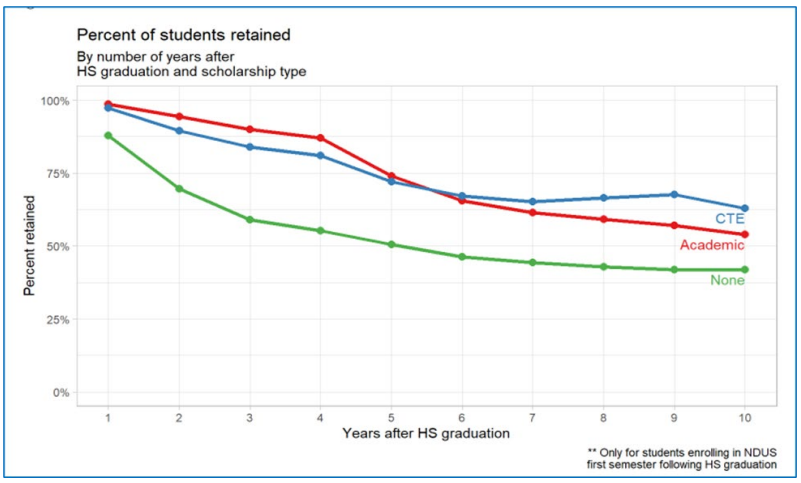
House Education Committee
January 31, 2023

Brenda Zastoupil, Financial Aid Director, NDUS
701.328.2906 | brenda.zastoupil@ndus.edu

Good afternoon, Chair Heinert, and members of the House Education Committee. My name is Brenda Zastoupil, and I serve as the Financial Aid Director for the North Dakota University System (NDUS). I am here today to provide information in support of HB1451 which increases the ND Academic, Career and Technical Education and ND Scholarship amounts.

The ND University System (NDUS) administers the Academic, Career and Technical Education (CTE) and ND Scholarships for students enrolled at qualifying institutions of higher education within the state. Current statute provides a $6,000 award that may be used toward post-secondary enrollment at the state's accredited public, private or tribal institutions, including accredited career schools. Students earn the scholarship in high school by taking challenging coursework and attaining minimum grades, including an overall GPA of 3.0 out of 4.0. Awards are issued at a rate of $750 per semester or $500 per quarter or clock hour term. Approximately 23% of high school seniors qualify for the scholarship, and 89% of those awarded receive at least one disbursement of the scholarship. HB1451 increases the award beginning in 2023 to $10,000, paid at a rate of $1,250 per semester or $833 per quarter or clock hour term. The estimated 2023-25 cost of this change is $5.554 million, for which an appropriation is included in section 2.

The ND Academic, CTE and ND Scholarships have proven to be successful at retaining individuals in the state. Up to 10 years following high school graduation, scholarship recipients are retained in North Dakota for either work or post-secondary education at a higher rate than those not receiving a scholarship. The increased award amount will help students to continue accessing an affordable education within North Dakota. I request a do pass on HB1451 and will stand for questions.



TESTIMONY ON HB 1451
HOUSE EDUCATION COMMITTEE
January 31, 2023
By: Jim Upgren, Assistant Director of School Approval and Opportunity
701-328-2244
North Dakota Department of Public Instruction

Chairman Heinert and Members of the Committee:

My name is Jim Upgren, Assistant Director in the Office of School Approval and Opportunity with the Department of Public Instruction. I am here on behalf of the department to speak in support of HB 1451.

The Academic and CTE Scholarships were created in 2009, at an amount of $6000. The first students to receive the scholarship graduated from high school in 2010, being able to use the scholarship in college starting with the 2010-2011 school year. At that time, the annual cost of attendance at UND and NDSU was $17,338, Minot State University was $14,802, the regional four-year universities was $14,005, and the two-year colleges was $12,799. The scholarship is paid at a rate of $750 per semester ($1500 per school year), meaning that for the 2010-2011 school year, the scholarship covered between eight and twelve percent of a student's cost of attendance.

The $6000 scholarship amount has not been increased since the program's inception in 2009. Today, the annual cost of attendance for UND and NDSU is $24,900, Minot State University is $20,550, the regional four-year universities is

$21,568, and the two-year colleges is $18,187. That means that today, the scholarship only covers between six and eight percent of a student's cost of attendance. The cost of college has continued to rise over the last twelve years, but the amount of the scholarship has remained constant at $6000.

NDDPI supports HB 1451 to increase the scholarship amount and provide students the same level of overall scholarship benefit available when the program was first created.

Chairman Heinert and Members of the Committee that concludes my prepared testimony and I will stand for any questions that you may have.

NORTH DAKOTA STUDENT ASSOCIATION | THE VOICE OF THE STUDENTS

HB 1451

January 31st, 2023

Connor Ferguson, North Dakota Student Association

(612) 454-8288 | connor.ferguson@und.edu

Chair Heinert and Members of the Committee: My name is Connor Ferguson, and I am the Director of Policy, Advocacy, and Research for the North Dakota Student Association (NDSA). I am testifying today on behalf of the NDSA in support of HB 1451.

The North Dakota Student Association is a student organization established in 1969 dedicated to ensuring that students have a voice at the table in policy that affects Higher Education. We consist of delegates from each of the 11 public institutions meeting monthly to engage students in ND Higher Education policy. Our mission is to empower students, create collaboration between the student bodies of the North Dakota public universities, and to give a student perspective on higher education policy.

On November 5th, 2022 the NDSA passed the resolution NDSA-09-2223: A Resolution in Support of the NDSA's Legislative Priorities for the 23-25 Biennium. One of the priorities enumerated by the resolution is the increase of access to financial aid for NDUS students. The North Dakota Student Association also passed NDSA-08-2223: A Resolution in Support of NDUS Scholarships, which emphasizes the importance of scholarships for NDUS students. We believe that scholarships are essential for many students to access a quality education concern of severe financial burden. Finally, the NDSA passed NDSA-12-2223: A Resolution in Support of HB 1003: Higher Education Budget Allocation for the 23-25 Biennium on Saturday, January 21st, 2023. In this resolution, the NDSA discussed the importance of affordable education for retention of skilled workers and the economic development of emerging technologies.

The passage of HB 1451 will significantly increase the financial well-being of NDUS students from the state of North Dakota. If passed, this bill will continue to promote ND institutions of higher education as a competitive, appealing option for those considering moving out of state for college by lowering the cost of enrollment for high achieving students. These students will likely work in flourishing and productive industries which have high demand for intelligent, new workers. It is important that the state of North Dakota leverages this population and keeps students in the state for sustainable economic development. The scholarship funded by HB 1451 is an investment in the next generation of North Dakotans that will pay off for years to come.

The NDSA also believes that affordable access to education is essential. Affordable education will continuously fuel and develop North Dakota's economy by offering more opportunities for success to those concerned by the severe economic burden. As students, we value access to quality education and we believe that providing scholarship opportunities to students from North Dakota will be essential for bringing students into high demand jobs and retaining a youthful workforce in the state. On behalf of the North Dakota Student Association and students across the NDUS, I urge the committee to provide a Do Pass recommendation on HB 1451.

GRAND FORKS AREA Career & Technology CENTER

2400 47th Avenue South, Grand Forks, ND 58201 Phone 701-787-4872 Fax 701-787-4351 Email gfactc@mygfschools.org Website www.gfareactc.org

January 31, 2023

Chairman Heinert and Members of the House Education Committee:

My name is Eric Ripley, Executive Director of Career & Technical Education (CTE) for the Grand Forks Public Schools and Director of the virtual Grand Forks Area Career & Technology Center. I am communicating my support of HB1451, relating to increasing the amount of the North Dakota Scholarship for qualifying students.

The development of the North Dakota Academic and North Dakota Career and Technical Education Scholarship originated into law with the first eligible graduating class being the 2009 – 2010 school year. In 2011, the eligibility requirements were changed to include specific coursework, in addition to a minimum requirement on the ACT or WorkKeys exams. Over the course the next several years, modifications and small adjustments to the requirements of the North Dakota Academic and North Dakota Career and Technical Education Scholarship were made, and others proposed during session that were rejected. During the 67th Legislative Assembly in 2021, the new North Dakota Scholarship was created through the passage of SB2289. However, since the very first graduating class in 2010, the maximum amount granted per student under this state scholarship has always remained at $6,000.

According to educationdata.org, college tuition inflation averaged 4.63% annually from 2010 to 2020 (*http://educationdata.org/college-tutition-inflation-rate#*). Certainly, the cost of higher education has increased since 2010, providing a strong case for this committee to examine the North Dakota state scholarship program. The proposed $4,000 increase would represent a 66.7% increase in the overall amount, which would actually slightly exceed the average cost of tuition inflation since the inception of the state scholarship.

In visiting with families and students, I can attest that the presence of the North Dakota Scholarship is one of the key factors when examining post-secondary options. Within our state, strategies for addressing our workforce needs includes keeping our current youth within the state. Support of HB1451 with an increase to the overall maximum amount awarded to eligible students would be helpful in this regard.

Sincerely,

Eric Ripley
Executive Director of CTE & Technology
Grand Forks Public Schools
Grand Forks Area Career & Technology Center

HB 1451

Good afternoon, Chairman Heinert, Vice Chair Schreiber-Beck and members of the House Education Committee. For the record, my name is Mitch Ostlie, Representative D12 Jamestown.

I am here to introduce HB 1451. This bill is to increase the existing North Dakota Scholarship from $6,000 to $10,000.

While visiting with some high school counselors and school administrators this past summer about some of the new potential requirements of this scholarship, I asked if anyone had ever asked about increasing this amount. To their knowledge, this had not been addressed. It has not changed since its inception in 2009.

I subsequently had conversations with DPI and Higher Ed regarding the increased cost of attendance during this period of time. The information I received from those conversation is the justification I used in requesting the increased amount to $10,000. This amount is pretty much just keeping up with that increased cost of attendance.

I want to thank you for your time, and I appreciate your consideration for an increase in the amount to this valuable scholarship program.

I will stand for any questions.

23.0941.01001

Sixty-eighth
Legislative Assembly
of North Dakota

HOUSE BILL NO. 1451

Introduced by

Representatives Ostlie, Jonas, Schreiber-Beck

Senators Axtman, Conley

A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-21-02.6 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to the North Dakota scholarship; and to provide an appropriation.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-21-02.6 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-21-02.6. North Dakota scholarship - Amount - Applicability. (Effective through July 31, ~~2024~~2030)

1. a. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student who graduated from high school in 2022 or before and who is certified as being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota scholarship, a North Dakota academic scholarship, or a North Dakota career and technical education scholarship in the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars for each semester during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.

   b. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student who graduated from high school in 2022 or before and who is certified as being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota scholarship, a North Dakota academic scholarship, or a North Dakota career and technical education scholarship in the amount of five hundred dollars for each quarter or clock-hour term during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state or an accredited private career school with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.

c. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student who graduated from high school in 2023 or after and who is certified as being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota scholarship, a North Dakota academic scholarship, or a North Dakota career and technical education scholarship in the amount of one thousand two hundred fifty dollars for each semester during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state or an accredited private career school with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.

d. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student who graduated from high school in 2023 or after and who is certified as being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota scholarship, a North Dakota academic scholarship, or a North Dakota career and technical education scholarship in the amount of eight hundred thirty-three dollars for each quarter or clock-hour term during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state or an accredited private career school with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.

2. The state board shall monitor each scholarship recipient to ensure ~~that~~ the student meets the academic and other requirements of this section. Upon determining a recipient student has failed to meet the requirements of this section, the board shall provide notification to the student within ten business days.

3. A student who graduated from high school in 2022 or before is not entitled to receive more than six thousand dollars under this section. A student who graduated from high school in 2023 or after is not entitled to receive more than ~~ten thousand~~seven thousand four hundred ninety-six dollars under this section.

4. The state board of higher education shall forward the scholarship directly to the institution in which the student is enrolled.

5. a. This section does not require a student to be enrolled in consecutive semesters, quarters, or clock-hour terms.

b. A scholarship under this section is valid only for six academic years after the student's graduation from high school and may be applied to a graduate or professional program.

6. A scholarship under this section is available to any eligible resident student who fulfills the requirements of section 15.1-21-02.4, section 15.1-21-02.5, or section 15.1-21-02.10 and who:

a. Graduates from a high school in this state;

b. Graduates from a high school in a bordering state under chapter 15.1-29;

c. Graduates from a nonpublic high school in a bordering state while residing with a custodial parent in this state; or

d. Completes a program of home education supervised in accordance with chapter 15.1-23.

7. a. For purposes of North Dakota scholarship eligibility under this section, "full-time" has the same meaning as the term is defined by the institution the student is attending.

b. A student who is enrolled less than full-time may retain scholarship eligibility if the student is in the final semester, quarter, or clock-hour term before program completion. The waiver of the full-time enrollment status requirement for scholarship eligibility may not apply to a student more than once.

c. For the purpose of North Dakota scholarship eligibility under this section, "progress toward program completion" means earning the following minimum number of credits after each semester, quarter, or clock-hour term disbursement to qualify for the subsequent disbursement:

(1) Twenty-four credits after disbursement two;

(2) Thirty-nine credits after disbursement three;

(3) Fifty-four credits after disbursement four;

(4) Sixty-nine credits after disbursement five;

(5) Eighty-four credits after disbursement six; and

(6) Ninety-nine credits after disbursement seven.

8. For purposes of scholarship eligibility under this section, "clock-hour term" has the same meaning as the term is defined by the state board of higher education. The state board of higher education shall determine the conversion of:
   a. Clock hours to credit hours; and
   b. Percentage-based grading to grade point average.

15.1-21-02.6. North Dakota scholarship - Amount - Applicability. (Effective after July 31, ~~2024~~2030)

1. a. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student who graduated from high school in 2022 or before and who is certified as being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota scholarship in the amount of seven hundred fifty dollars for each semester during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.
   b. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student who graduated from high school in 2022 or before and who is certified as being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota scholarship in the amount of five hundred dollars for each quarter or clock-hour term during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state or an accredited private career school with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.
   c. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student who graduated from high school in 2023 or later and who is certified as being eligible by the superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota scholarship in the amount of one thousand two hundred fifty dollars for each semester during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.
   d. The state board of higher education shall provide to any student who graduated from high school in 2023 or later and who is certified as being eligible by the

superintendent of public instruction a North Dakota scholarship in the amount of eight hundred thirty-three dollars for each quarter or clock-hour term during which the student is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher education with a physical presence in this state or an accredited private career school with a physical presence in this state, maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75, and maintains progress toward program completion.

2. The state board shall monitor each scholarship recipient to ensure the student meets the academic and other requirements of this section. Upon determining a recipient student has failed to meet the requirements of this section, the board shall provide notification to the student within ten business days.

3. A student who graduated from high school in 2022 or before is not entitled to receive more than six thousand dollars under this section. A student that graduated from high school in 2023 or after is not entitled to receive more than ~~ten thousand~~seven thousand four hundred ninety-six dollars under this section.

4. The state board of higher education shall forward the scholarship directly to the institution in which the student is enrolled.

5. a. This section does not require a student to be enrolled in consecutive semesters, quarters, or clock-hour terms.

   b. A scholarship under this section is valid only for six academic years after the student's graduation from high school and may be applied to a graduate or professional program.

6. A scholarship under this section is available to any eligible resident student who fulfills the requirements of section 15.1-21-02.10 and who:

   a. Graduates from a high school in this state;

   b. Graduates from a high school in a bordering state under chapter 15.1-29;

   c. Graduates from a nonpublic high school in a bordering state while residing with a custodial parent in this state; or

   d. Completes a program of home education supervised in accordance with chapter 15.1-23.

7. a. For purposes of North Dakota scholarship eligibility under this section, "full-time" has the same meaning as the term is defined by the institution the student is attending.

b. A student who is enrolled less than full-time may retain scholarship eligibility if the student is in the final semester, quarter, or clock-hour term before program completion. The waiver of the full-time enrollment status requirement for scholarship eligibility may not apply to a student more than once.

c. For the purpose of North Dakota scholarship eligibility under this section, "progress toward program completion" means earning the following minimum number of credits after each semester, quarter, or clock-hour term disbursement to qualify for the subsequent disbursement:

(1) Twenty-four credits after disbursement two;

(2) Thirty-nine credits after disbursement three;

(3) Fifty-four credits after disbursement four;

(4) Sixty-nine credits after disbursement five;

(5) Eighty-four credits after disbursement six; and

(6) Ninety-nine credits after disbursement seven.

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

a. Clock hours to credit hours; and

b. Percentage-based grading to grade point average.

SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION - STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION - ACADEMIC, CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION, AND NORTH DAKOTA SCHOLARSHIPS. There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of $5,554,000, or so much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state board of higher education for the purpose of providing financial assistance to students eligible for the academic, career and technical education, and North Dakota scholarship program, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2023, and ending June 30, 2025.