

**SENATE BILL NO. 2160**

Introduced by

Senators J. Lee, Grindberg, Heckaman

Representatives Heilman, J. Nelson, Sanford

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 repayment notes from participants in professional student exchange  
3 programs.

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 ~~**Professional student exchange programs – Notes – Repayment.**~~

8 ~~1. Before the state board of higher education makes a payment to an out-of-state~~  
9 ~~institution on behalf of an individual participating in a professional student exchange~~  
10 ~~program in dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine, that individual must sign a~~  
11 ~~note in an amount equal to that by which the individual's tuition is reduced as a result~~  
12 ~~of a contract between the institution and the board.~~

13 ~~2. Upon graduation, if the individual who signed the note in accordance with subsection 1~~  
14 ~~elects not to practice dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine in this state, the~~  
15 ~~individual shall begin repaying the note, together with interest accruing from the date~~  
16 ~~of signing, at the rate of six percent per annum.~~

17 ~~3. Upon graduation, if the individual who signed the note in accordance with subsection 1~~  
18 ~~elects to practice dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine in this state, the board~~  
19 ~~shall reduce the amount of the note by one third for each full year the individual serves~~  
20 ~~in that capacity. If an individual ceases to practice dentistry, optometry, or veterinary~~  
21 ~~medicine in this state before the note is waived in its entirety, the individual shall repay~~  
22 ~~the remaining portion of the note, together with interest accruing at the rate of six~~  
23 ~~percent per annum, from the date that the individual ceased such practice.~~

1 ~~4. The board shall determine all other terms applicable to the time and manner in which~~  
2 ~~the notes must be repaid.~~

3 ~~5. The board shall waive the repayment of a note for the period of time the individual who~~  
4 ~~signed the note is:~~

5 ~~a. Pursuing full-time postdoctoral studies; or~~

6 ~~b. Serving as a full-time active duty member of the armed forces.~~

7 ~~6. This section is applicable only to individuals entering a professional student exchange~~  
8 ~~program in dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine after June 30, 2013.~~

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

11 **Professional student exchange programs - Notes - Repayment.**

12 1. Before the state board of higher education makes a payment to an out-of-state  
13 institution on behalf of an individual participating in a professional student exchange  
14 program in dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine, that individual must sign an  
15 annual note with the Bank of North Dakota in an amount equal to that by which the  
16 individual's tuition is reduced as a result of a contract between the institution and the  
17 board.

18 2. If the individual who signed the note in accordance with subsection 1 is not practicing  
19 dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine in this state thirty-six months after the  
20 individual's date of graduation, the individual shall begin repaying the note, together  
21 with interest accruing from the date of signing, at the rate per annum established by  
22 the Bank of North Dakota.

23 3. a. If the individual who signed the note in accordance with subsection 1 elects to  
24 practice dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine in this state, or if the  
25 individual begins to practice in this state at any time between the individual's  
26 graduation and thirty-six months thereafter, the Bank of North Dakota shall  
27 reduce the amount of the note by one-third, together with all accrued interest, for  
28 each full year the individual serves in that capacity.

29 b. If an individual ceases to practice dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine in  
30 this state before the note is waived in its entirety, the individual shall repay the  
31 remaining portion of the note, together with interest accruing at the rate per

- 1                    annum established by the Bank of North Dakota, from the date that the individual  
2                    ceased such practice.
- 3                    4. If the individual who signed the note in accordance with subsection 1 departs before  
4                    graduation from a program in dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine, the  
5                    individual shall begin repaying the note, at the time of departure, together with interest  
6                    accruing from the date of signing, at the rate per annum established by the Bank of  
7                    North Dakota.
- 8                    5. The Bank of North Dakota shall determine all other terms applicable to the time and  
9                    manner in which the notes must be repaid.
- 10                   6. The Bank of North Dakota shall defer any repayment of a note otherwise due under  
11                   this section, for the period of time the individual who signed the note is:
- 12                   a. Pursuing full-time graduate or postdoctoral studies; or  
13                   b. Called to active duty as a member of the armed forces.
- 14                   7. The state board of higher education shall consult with the Bank of North Dakota and  
15                   adopt rules implementing this section.
- 16                   8. This section is applicable only to individuals initially entering a professional student  
17                   exchange program in dentistry, optometry, or veterinary medicine after June 30, 2014.