

**HOUSE BILL NO. 1163**

Introduced by

Representatives Monson, Hoverson, O'Brien, Richter, Schreiber-Beck, Swiontek

Senators Davison, Kreun, Rust, Schaible

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to optional career and technical education high school curriculum; and to  
3 amend and reenact section 15.1-21-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to  
4 minimum requirements for high school graduation.

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

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is  
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **15.1-21-02.2. High school graduation - Minimum requirements. (Effective through**  
9 **July 31, 2025)**

- 10 1. Except as provided in section 15.1-21-02.3, section 2 of this Act, and subsection 2, the  
11 following twenty-two units of high school coursework constitute the minimum  
12 requirement for high school graduation:
- 13 a. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature,  
14 composition, and speech;
  - 15 b. Three units of mathematics, which may include one unit of computer science  
16 approved by the superintendent of public instruction;
  - 17 c. Three units of science, consisting of:
    - 18 (1) (a) One unit of biology;
    - 19 (b) One unit of chemistry; and
    - 20 (c) One unit of physics; or
    - 21 (2) (a) One unit of biology;
    - 22 (b) One unit of physical science; and
    - 23 (c) One unit or two one-half units of any other science;
  - 24 d. Three units of social studies, including:

- 1 (1) One unit of United States history;
- 2 (2) (a) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of
- 3 economics; or
- 4 (b) One unit of problems of democracy; and
- 5 (3) One unit or two one-half units of any other social studies, which may include
- 6 civics, civilization, geography and history, multicultural studies, North Dakota
- 7 studies, psychology, sociology, and world history;
- 8 e. (1) One unit of physical education; or
- 9 (2) One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health;
- 10 f. Three units of:
- 11 (1) Foreign languages;
- 12 (2) Native American languages;
- 13 (3) Fine arts; or
- 14 (4) Career and technical education courses; and
- 15 g. Any five additional units.
- 16 2. If approved by the board of a school district or nonpublic school, a school district or
- 17 nonpublic school may develop eligibility criteria or programmatic requirements to allow
- 18 a passing score on the relevant portions of the GED assessment to receive credit for
- 19 the corresponding requirements of subdivisions a through d of subsection 1.

**High school graduation - Minimum requirements. (Effective after July 31, 2025)**

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- 21 1. Except as provided in section 15.1-21-02.3, section 2 of this Act, and subsection 2, the
- 22 following twenty-two units of high school coursework constitute the minimum
- 23 requirement for high school graduation:
- 24 a. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature,
- 25 composition, and speech;
- 26 b. Three units of mathematics, which may include one unit of computer science
- 27 approved by the superintendent of public instruction;
- 28 c. Three units of science, consisting of:
- 29 (1) (a) One unit of biology;
- 30 (b) One unit of chemistry; and
- 31 (c) One unit of physics; or

- 1                   (2) (a) One unit of biology;
- 2                   (b) One unit of physical science; and
- 3                   (c) One unit or two one-half units of any other science;
- 4           d. Three units of social studies, including:
  - 5                   (1) One unit of United States history, including Native American tribal history;
  - 6                   (2) (a) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of
  - 7                                economics; or
  - 8                   (b) One unit of problems of democracy; and
  - 9                   (3) One unit or two one-half units of any other social studies, which may include
  - 10                            civics, civilization, geography and history, multicultural studies, North Dakota
  - 11                            studies, psychology, sociology, and world history;
  - 12           e. (1) One unit of physical education; or
  - 13                   (2) One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health;
  - 14           f. Three units of:
    - 15                   (1) Foreign languages;
    - 16                   (2) Native American languages;
    - 17                   (3) Fine arts; or
    - 18                   (4) Career and technical education courses; and
    - 19           g. Any five additional units.
  - 20           2. If approved by the board of a school district or nonpublic school, a school district or
  - 21                   nonpublic school may develop eligibility criteria or programmatic requirements to allow
  - 22                   a passing score on the relevant portions of the GED assessment to receive credit for
  - 23                   the corresponding requirements of subdivisions a through d of subsection 1.

24           **SECTION 2.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
25 and enacted as follows:

26           **Optional career and technical education high school curriculum.**

- 27           1. If a student's parent consents in writing to the student pursuing the optional career and
- 28                   technical education high school curriculum, the student is eligible to receive a high
- 29                   school diploma upon completing the following requirements, including twenty-one units
- 30                   of high school coursework:

- 1           a. Three units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature,  
2           composition, and speech;
- 3           b. Three units of mathematics, which may include one unit of computer science  
4           approved by the superintendent of public instruction;
- 5           c. Two units of social studies, including:
- 6           (1) One unit of United States history, including native American tribal history;  
7           (2) One of the following:
- 8                 (a) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of  
9                 economics; or
- 10                (b) One unit of problems of democracy;
- 11          d. Two units of science;
- 12          e. Two units of career and technical education within a career and technical  
13          education coordinated plan of study;
- 14          f. One unit in career and technical education work-based learning, which may  
15          include a school-to-work or cooperative experience;
- 16          g. Three units of career and technical education;
- 17          h. One of the following:
- 18               (1) One unit of fine arts;
- 19               (2) One unit of foreign language; or
- 20               (3) One unit of native American language;
- 21          i. One of the following:
- 22               (1) One unit of physical education; or
- 23               (2) One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health;
- 24          j. Any four additional units;
- 25          k. One of the following:
- 26               (1) A composite score of at least twenty-two on an ACT or an equivalent score  
27               on a nationally recognized standardized test approved by the state board of  
28               higher education; or
- 29               (2) A score of at least five on each of three WorkKeys assessments or an  
30               equivalent score on a nationally recognized standardized test.

- 1 recommended by the department of career and technical education and
- 2 approved by the superintendent of public instruction; and
- 3 1. A minimum cumulative grade point average of 1.666 on a 4.0 grading scale.
- 4 2. One career and technical unit can be earned by completing an industry certification
- 5 within a career and technical education course.