

Students, check out this scholarship & student loan repayment program as you consider your career goals!

ND Career Builders is a tool for business to recruit and retain talent in high-need and emerging occupations. This is a partnership between the state and businesses to grow the ND workforce.

■ **What programs of study qualify for the scholarship?**

- Those listed on the [High-Need and Emerging Occupations List](#).
 - Qualifying certificate or degree programs must be from a ND institution.
 - Qualifying programs are those at the associate's level and below, or other programs (up to and including bachelors) that are not longer than 4 semesters or 6 quarters in length.
- While not all high-need or emerging occupations have qualifying programs, most of them do.
- Check the "List" to see if your program of interest is listed.

■ **How much can scholarship recipients qualify for?**

- This depends on the matching private-sector dollars that are available for an individual.
 - The maximum award is \$17,000, funded 50% by the private-sector and 50% by the state.
 - The scholarship cannot exceed the cost of tuition, fees, books and supplies.

■ **What are "matching private sector dollars" and where will the funding come from?**

- This is a dollar-for-dollar public/private match program. Businesses, economic development, and even individuals can make donations to support ND Career Builders.
- The North Dakota University System (NDUS) may only make payment to the extent that one dollar of private funds for each dollar of public funds is received.
- Students should contact their college to discuss the scholarship and to see if there are private-sector funds available to award before applying for the scholarship.

■ **Does a student who receives the scholarship have any obligation?**

- YES! Students are required to live in ND (minimum of 3 years) and work in a high-need occupation within ND (minimum of 3 years) after program completion.
 - Students sign a legally binding *Scholarship Award Agreement*.
 - Failing to meet the terms of the *Agreement* will result in the scholarship funds being repaid by the student.

■ **How do students apply for the scholarship?**

Step 1: Review the High- Need & Emerging Occupations list to see if the program and college qualify.

Step 2: Contact the financial aid office at the institution you are attending to discuss the ND Career Builders Scholarship and if private-sector matching dollars are available.

Step 3: Complete the application. Your college will walk you through the application process.

■ **What is the ND Career Builders Loan Repayment?**

- Provides for up to \$17,000 in student loan repayment for qualifying new hires.
- After completing any program of study, employees should talk with their employer about incentives such as student loan repayment assistance.
- If your employer (or another business entity) is willing to provide the private-sector matching dollars, complete the loan repayment application with your employer.
- You must live within ND and work within ND in a high-need or emerging occupation to be considered.

Program information, the high-need & emerging occupations list, and applications can be found at ndus.edu/career-builders/.

Scholarship Details

- Students must be admitted into a qualifying degree or certificate program in the state.
- Qualifying programs are those at the associate's level and below, or other programs up to and including bachelor's degrees, that are not longer than 4 semesters or 6 quarters. Programs must relate to a high-need occupation.
- Students must have a 2.50 minimum GPA to qualify for the scholarship and to receive payment.
- The college will initiate the scholarship application process with the student.
- Payments may not exceed the cost of tuition, fees, books and supplies, up to \$17,000.
- Payments will be made on a semester, quarter or term basis once matching private-sector dollars are received by NDUS.
- Recipients have the obligation to reside in ND, and work (in a high need or emerging occupation) within ND for at least 3 years following program completion.
- Students accepted into the program will be required to sign a legally binding *Scholarship Award Agreement*.

Scholarship Award Agreement Obligations

- This is a legally binding agreement that the student will sign prior to being eligible for payment of the scholarship.
- The *Agreement* obligates the student to certain conditions, primarily, to graduate in the qualifying program, and to live and work in ND following program completion.
- Failure to meet the terms of the *Agreement* will result in the scholarship funds being repaid by the student.
- Repayment of both the state funds and private-sector funds will be required.
- Third-party agreements negotiated between a business and student are outside of this Agreement. Students may have additional obligations to meet if signing an agreement with a business.
- ***Repayment of the scholarship funds received could be triggered by:***
 - Failure to enroll full time according to program requirements;
 - Failure to maintain program academic progress;
 - Withdrawing from the program prior to completion, either voluntarily or involuntarily;
 - Failing to meet the residency and occupation requirements for 3 years following program completion.

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