Informational Sheet – High School Seniors

ND Career Builders is a skilled-workforce program designed to recruit and retain Individuals into high-need and emerging occupations in the state. This NEW opportunity is a partnership between the state, business, institutions, employees and students!

- What programs might qualify for the scholarship?
  - Those listed on the high-need and emerging occupations list.
  - Certificate or degree programs from ND institutions may be eligible.
  - Programs must be 4 semesters or 6 quarters or less in length to be considered.
  - The High-Need & Emerging Occupations list and qualifying programs can be found on the website at ndus.edu/career-builders/.
    - Not all high-need or emerging occupations have qualifying programs.
    - Not all institutions have qualifying programs.
    - Not all qualifying programs have funding available.

- How much could scholarship recipients qualify for?
  - Awards may not exceed tuition, fees, books and supplies, up to a maximum of $17,000.
  - The actual amount depends on the matching private sector dollars available to a recipient.
  - Individuals may only qualify for the scholarship or loan repayment, not both.

- What are “matching private sector dollars” and where will the funding come from?
  - This is a dollar-for-dollar public/private match program. The NDUS may only make payment to the extent that one dollar of private funds for each dollar of public funds is received.
  - 50% comes from the private sector (business) and 50% will be matched with state dollars.
  - Students should contact their institution and local businesses to seek out opportunities for private matching dollars. The best scenario for a student is where he/she is sponsored by a business and is mentored throughout their program!

- Does the recipient of the scholarship have any obligation?
  - Yes. This program is a partnership. The student will 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. Student agree to live and work in ND for 3 years following program completion.

- How do I apply for the scholarship?
  - Review the High-Need & Emerging Occupations list to see if the degree and college are listed.
  - Contact the financial aid office at the institution you are attending to discuss your options and if there are private matching dollars available.
  - Your college will walk you through the application process.

- What about the loan repayment option? How would I apply for that?
  - Review the High-Need & Emerging Occupations list to see if you are in a qualifying occupation.
  - After completing a qualifying program of study, which may be any degree or certificate program from a ND college or university, visit with your employer about student loan repayment and if they have loan repayment incentives.
  - If your employer (or another business entity) is willing to provide the private matching dollars, complete the loan repayment application with your employer.
  - You must live in North Dakota and work in North Dakota in a high-need or emerging occupation.
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<tr>
<th>Scholarship Program Specifics</th>
<th>Scholarship Award Agreement</th>
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<tr>
<td>▪ Students must be admitted into a qualifying program in the state.</td>
<td>▪ This is a legally binding agreement that the student will sign prior to being eligible for payment of the scholarship.</td>
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<td>▪ Contact the financial aid office to inquire on the availability of the program at your college. If private funds are available, the college will start the application process with you.</td>
<td>▪ 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.</td>
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<td>▪ Payments may not exceed the cost of tuition, fees, books and supplies. The scholarship may supplement other scholarships/grants up to total cost of attendance.</td>
<td>▪ Failure to meet the terms of the Agreement will result in the scholarship funds being repaid by the student.</td>
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<td>▪ Payments to institutions will be made on a semester, quarter or term basis once matching private dollars are received by NDUS.</td>
<td>▪ <strong>Important: Repayment of the funds received could be triggered by:</strong></td>
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<td>▪ Recipients have the obligation to reside in ND, and work (in a high need or emerging occupation) in ND for at least 3 years following program completion.</td>
<td>✔ Not enrolling full time according to program requirements;</td>
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<td>▪ Students accepted into the program will be required to sign a Scholarship Award Agreement.</td>
<td>✔ Not maintaining a 2.50 cumulative GPA, or other academic progress;</td>
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<td>✔ Withdrawing from the program prior to completion, either voluntarily or involuntarily;</td>
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<td>✔ Not living in ND and working in ND in a high-need or emerging occupation for the required 3 years following program completion.</td>
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**Questions?**  Contact the program administrator at:
North Dakota University System (NDUS)
701-328-2906
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