Skilled Workforce Scholarship and Loan Repayment
Quick Facts

- The skilled workforce programs are a state-wide effort to recruit individuals into high need and emerging occupations in the state.
- Workforce Development Council (WDC) and ND Job Service establish the qualifying high need and emerging occupation(s) list annually.
- ND University System (NDUS) and WDC map the qualifying occupations to qualifying programs.
- Qualifying programs for the SCHOLARSHIP must be 4 semesters or 6 quarters or less in length.
- Qualifying programs for the LOAN REPAYMENT may be any degree or certificate.
- Qualifying degrees or certificates must be earned from a ND institution or entity.
- This is a dollar-for-dollar public/private match program. Private-sector contributions include new dollars raised for ND Career Builders. The NDUS may only make payment to the extent that one dollar of private funds for each dollar of public funds is received.
- Businesses may designate funds to one or both programs, up to $8,500 per recipient. Businesses can designate specific institutions, specific programs, and even specific recipients. Individual donors may designate funds to a specific institution or a specific program.
- Once donations are remitted to the program, businesses and individuals may not request a return of funds. Contact a tax preparer to discuss benefits of donating to a state-sponsored program.
- The maximum public support is $3 million for each program; awards will be made until funds are exhausted.
- Not all occupations or programs will have funding available.
-Qualifying recipients may continue to be eligible in subsequent years even if a high need or emerging occupation is removed from the current year’s list.
- Recipients may not qualify for more than $17,000 lifetime under either program, which is made up of $8,500 of private-sector funding and $8,500 of state funding. Individuals may only qualify for the scholarship or loan repayment, not both.
- The NDUS is the program administrator and will process donations, track recipient eligibility and issue payments for qualifying recipients.
- The ND Career Builders website contains resources for businesses and institutions to use in the promotion of the program. Please visit the website at ndus.edu/career-builders/.
- Contact the NDUS at 701-328-2906 or ndfinaid@ndus.edu with questions.
Scholarship Program Specifics

- Students must be admitted into a qualifying program in the state.
- The institution will initiate the scholarship application process.
- Payments may not exceed the cost of tuition, fees, books and supplies, but the scholarship may supplement other scholarships/grants up to total cost of attendance.
- Payments to institutions will be made on a semester, quarter or term basis once matching private dollars are received by NDUS.
- Recipients have the obligation to reside and work (in a high need or emerging occupation) in North Dakota for at least 3 years following program completion.
- Students accepted into the program will be required to sign a Scholarship Award Agreement, which will be legally binding.
- Failure to meet the terms of the Agreement will result in the scholarship funds being repaid by the student.
- Repayment of the funds received could be triggered by:
  ✓ Failure to enroll full time according to program requirements;
  ✓ Failure to maintain a 2.50 cumulative GPA, or other 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.

Loan Repayment Specifics

- Apply for loan repayment via the application on the program website: ndus.edu/career-builders/.
- Applicants newly hired in 2019 or later into qualifying occupations will be considered.
- Applicants will be required to provide proof of ND residency, employment verification, proof of degree completion, and a current student loan billing statement from the lender.
- An applicant’s employer, or other business entity, must have committed matching dollars; payments will not be made without matching dollars being received by NDUS.
- Payments may not exceed $5,667 per year, or one-third of the applicant’s outstanding student loan principal balance at the time of application, whichever is less.
- Eligible loans include FEDERAL Subsidized, Unsubsidized, Consolidated and Perkins loans, the Bank of ND DEAL Loan, and other private alternative student loans. Private loan/debt that is not a “student loan”, will not be considered.
- Recipients must reside in ND, and work in a high need or emerging occupation in ND; eligibility criteria will be verified prior to each payment.

Please download the donation form at ndus.edu/career-builders.
The donation form must accompany all donations to ND Career Builders.

For more information on the scholarship and loan repayment programs, please contact NDUS at 701-328-2906 or at ndfinaid@ndus.edu