

**Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 9, 2001**

HOUSE BILL NO. 1283
(Representatives Ekstrom, N. Johnson, Kliniske)
(Senators Every, D. Mathern, Robinson)

AN ACT to provide for a technology occupations student loan program.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. Technology occupations student loan program.

1. The state board of higher education shall administer a technology occupations student loan program that encourages college students to pursue technology-based studies, to participate in technology internship programs, and to remain in the state after graduation. The board shall adopt rules to implement the program, including internship requirements, guidelines to determine which technology-related courses of study are eligible under the program, and standards for eligibility.
2. Students of board-approved colleges may apply for the technology occupations student loan program. To be eligible to receive student loan grants under the program, the applicant:
 - a. Must have graduated from a board-approved college;
 - b. Must have successfully completed the board-approved technology-related courses;
 - c. Must have maintained at least a 3.0 grade point average, based on a 4.0 grading system, at a board-approved college;
 - d. Must have actively participated in a board-approved technology internship with a business in the state;
 - e. Must have a student loan with the Bank of North Dakota;
 - f. Following graduation must be employed in the state in a board-approved technology occupation; and
 - g. Must have met and shall continue to meet any requirements established by rule.
3. The state board of higher education shall distribute student loan grants directly to the Bank of North Dakota to repay outstanding student loan principal balances for eligible applicants. The maximum student loan grant amount for which an applicant may qualify is one thousand dollars per twelve months of employment for a maximum of five years.

SECTION 2. TECHNOLOGY OCCUPATIONS STUDENT LOAN PROGRAM FUNDING. The funds appropriated in the student grant programs line item included in subdivision 1 of section 1 of Senate Bill No. 2003 of the fifty-seventh legislative assembly, include \$400,000 from the general fund for providing grants as authorized in section 1 of this Act, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2001, and ending June 30, 2003.

Speaker of the House

President of the Senate

Chief Clerk of the House

Secretary of the Senate

This certifies that the within bill originated in the House of Representatives of the Fifty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as House Bill No. 1283.

House Vote: Yeas 73 Nays 18 Absent 7

Senate Vote: Yeas 48 Nays 0 Absent 1

Chief Clerk of the House

Received by the Governor at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Approved at _____ M. on _____, 2001.

Governor

Filed in this office this _____ day of _____, 2001,
at _____ o'clock _____ M.

Secretary of State