

Introduced by

Senators Davison, Bakke, Oban

Representative Pyle

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota  
2 Century Code, relating to a student teacher scholarship program; and to provide an  
3 appropriation.

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

5 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15-10 of the North Dakota Century Code is created  
6 and enacted as follows:

7 **Student teacher scholarship program - Administered by the board.**

8 1. For purposes of this section:

9 a. "Remote school district" has the same meaning as the term is defined in the 2006  
10 national center for education statistics locale codes.

11 b. "Rural school district" has the same meaning as the term is defined in the 2006  
12 national center for education statistics locale codes.

13 b.c. "Student teacher" means an individual enrolled ~~at an institution under the control~~  
14 ~~of the state board of higher education, a private institution of higher education~~  
15 ~~located in this state, or a tribal college located in this state~~ in a state-approved  
16 educator preparation program in this state who is completing an education-  
17 degree~~the~~ qualifications to become a licensed teacher, and who has signed a  
18 contract to teach at a rural school district under the supervision of a licensed  
19 teacher.

20 2. The state board of higher education shall administer a student teacher scholarship  
21 program. The board shall adopt rules to administer the program including rules  
22 establishing an application process, ~~eligibility criteria,~~ and distribution of program  
23 scholarships. An eligible student teacher may apply to the board to receive a  
24 scholarship under the program.

- 1       3. To be eligible to receive a scholarship under this section, an individual:
- 2           a. Must be enrolled ~~at an institution under the control of the state board of higher~~
- 3           education, a private institution of higher education located in this state, or a tribal
- 4           college located in a state-approved educator preparation program in this state;
- 5           b. Must be completing a degree the qualifications to become a licensed teacher in
- 6           compliance with chapter chapters 15.1-13 and 15.1-18;
- 7           c. Must be enrolled in a teacher preparation program, accredited by the education
- 8           standards and practices board, at an institution under the control of the state-
- 9           board of higher education, a private institution of higher education located in this-
- 10          state, or a tribal college located in this state; and
- 11          d. Must have signed a contract to student teach at a grade level or in a content area
- 12          and in a geographical location in the state identified by the board as having an
- 13          existing teacher shortage or critical need.
- 14       4. To be eligible to hire a student teacher awarded a scholarship under this section, a
- 15       school district:
- 16           a. Must be a rural and remote school district;
- 17           b. Must demonstrate a teacher shortage, as determined by the board;
- 18           c. Must be willing to supervise, mentor, and train a student teacher; and
- 19           d. Must be able to provide the student teacher lodging accommodations within a
- 20           reasonable distance from the school of placement and at a reasonable rental
- 21           rate, as determined by the board.
- 22       5. Subject to legislative appropriation:
- 23           a. The board may award and distribute up to thirty-three scholarships during each
- 24           year of the biennium; and
- 25           b. The board shall distribute up to fifteen thousand dollars to an eligible individual
- 26           awarded a scholarship under the program. A scholarship may be used to pay:
- 27           (1) The cost of tuition at the institution under the control of the state board of
- 28           higher education, private institution of higher education located in this state,
- 29           or tribal college located in this state at which the student teacher is enrolled;
- 30           and

1                   (2) Living expenses while student teaching, including rent, food, clothing, and  
2                                   travel to the school and district of placement.

3           6. The board may contract with a third-party organization to administer the program and  
4                   supervise the student teachers participating in the program.

5           **SECTION 2. APPROPRIATION.** There is appropriated out of any moneys in the general  
6 | fund in the state treasury, not otherwise appropriated, the sum of ~~\$1,000,000~~\$500,000, or so  
7 | much of the sum as may be necessary, to the state board of higher education for the purpose of  
8 | providing scholarships to eligible student teachers under the student teacher scholarship  
9 | program, for the biennium beginning July 1, 2021, and ending June 30, 2023. A school district  
10 | shall provide one dollar of matching funds for each one dollar from the general fund for student  
11 | teachers hired under this Act.