

ND SLDS FAQs

What is the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS)?

The Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) is a data warehouse currently comprised of education and workforce training data and maintained by the ND Information Technology Department (ITD). This data will allow assessment of business and industry identified needs (skills, certifications, degrees attained, etc), which can then be used to help make decisions when allocating resources in our state. The SLDS provides information to connect workforce needs and career preparation.

How did the SLDS originate?

In 2007, the state legislature authorized the formation of a Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS) Committee under the leadership of the Chief Information Officer of the Information Technology Department. House Bill 1021 revised North Dakota Century Code 15.1-02-18 to establish this committee and identified membership to include representation from the Information Technology Department, Job Service North Dakota, Department of Commerce, the Department of Human Services, the Board of Higher Education, Department of Career and Technical Education, and the Department of Public Instruction, and one person appointed by the governor. Currently, representatives from the North Dakota Council of Education Leaders, the Education Technology Council, the North Dakota Senate and the North Dakota House of Representatives are also on the committee.

Who supported creation of the SLDS?

The initiative began with the cooperative efforts of the ND Department of Commerce and the Governor's Commission on Education Improvement. Recommendations for the SLDS were to provide data warehouses with the ability to produce a comprehensive picture of the effectiveness of workforce development initiatives and state education programs.

Who initially funded the project?

The State Legislature created the SLDS committee in 2007 to plan and prepare for a statewide longitudinal data system. The committee was tasked with following through on recommendations to build foundational data warehouses for the workforce (Job Service North Dakota and Economic Development) post-secondary institutions (higher education) and primary and secondary schools (K-12).

Which agencies are involved?

Current members of the SLDS Committee include representatives from:

- Information Technology Department
- Department of Career and Technical Education
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Human Services
- Department of Public Instruction
- Education Technology Council
- Job Service North Dakota
- North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders
- North Dakota Governor's Office
- North Dakota House of Representatives
- North Dakota Senate
- North Dakota University System