

Introduced by

Senators J. Lee, Dever, Mathern

Representatives Hawken, Silbernagel, Delmore

1 A BILL for an Act to create and enact a new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota
2 Century Code, relating to North Dakota foster care scholarships.

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

4 **SECTION 1.** A new section to chapter 15.1-21 of the North Dakota Century Code is created
5 and enacted as follows:

6 **North Dakota foster care scholarship.**

7 1. Any individual who voluntarily remains in this state's foster care system after age
8 eighteen is eligible to receive a North Dakota foster care scholarship provided the
9 individual:

10 | a. Graduated from a high school in North Dakota;

11 | b. Is enrolled full time at an accredited institution of higher education in this state;
12 | and

13 | c. Maintains a cumulative grade point average of 2.75.

14 | 2. Each North Dakota foster care scholarship is in the amount of seven hundred fifty
15 | dollars per semester or five hundred dollars per quarter. An individual may not receive
16 | more than six thousand dollars under this section.

17 | 3. An individual receiving a North Dakota foster care scholarship is not required to be
18 | enrolled in consecutive semesters or quarters. However, a scholarship awarded under
19 | this section is valid for only six academic years after the recipient's graduation from
20 | high school and may not be applied to graduate programs.

21 | 4. The state board of higher education shall adopt rules to implement the program and
22 | monitor each individual receiving a North Dakota foster care scholarship to ensure that
23 | the individual meets the stated requirements. Upon determining that an individual no

- 1 longer meets the stated requirements, the board shall provide notification to the
2 individual within ten days.
- 3 5. For purposes of scholarship eligibility under this section, "full time" means enrollment
4 in at least twelve credits during a student's first two semesters and enrollment in at
5 least fifteen credits during each semester thereafter or enrollment in the equivalent
6 number of credits, as determined by the state board of higher education, with respect
7 to students in a quarter system.
- 8 6. This section does not preclude an individual from applying for or receiving any other
9 scholarship for which the individual is otherwise eligible.