

Introduced by

1 A BILL for an Act to amend and reenact section 15.1-21-01, subsection 1 of section 15.1-21-02,
2 and section 15.1-21-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to computer science and
3 cybersecurity required instruction and graduation requirements; and to provide an effective
4 date.

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

6 **SECTION 1. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-01 of the North Dakota Century Code is
7 amended and reenacted as follows:

8 **15.1-21-01. Elementary and middle schools - Required instruction.**

9 In order to be approved by the superintendent of public instruction, each public and
10 nonpublic elementary and middle school shall provide to students instruction in:

- 11 1. English language arts, including reading, composition, creative writing, English
12 grammar, and spelling.
- 13 2. Mathematics, including computer science and cybersecurity unless this requirement is
14 met under subdivision b of subsection 4.
- 15 3. Social studies, including:
 - 16 a. The United States Constitution;
 - 17 b. United States history;
 - 18 c. Geography;
 - 19 d. Government; and
 - 20 e. North Dakota studies, with an emphasis on geography, history, the federally
21 recognized Indian tribes in the state, and agriculture of this state, in the fourth
22 and eighth grades.
- 23 4. Science, including ~~agriculture~~;
24 a. Agriculture; and

1 b. Computer science and cybersecurity, unless this requirement is met under
2 subsection 2.

3 5. Physical education.

4 6. Health, including physiology, hygiene, disease control, and the nature and effects of
5 alcohol, tobacco, and narcotics.

6 **SECTION 2. AMENDMENT.** Subsection 1 of section 15.1-21-02 of the North Dakota
7 Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

8 1. In order to be approved by the superintendent of public instruction, each public and
9 nonpublic high school shall provide instruction in or make available to each student:

10 a. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature,
11 composition, and speech;

12 b. Four units of mathematics, including:

13 (1) One unit of algebra II; ~~and~~

14 (2) One unit for which algebra II is a prerequisite; and

15 (3) One unit of computer science and cybersecurity, unless this requirement is
16 met under paragraph 3 of subdivision c;

17 c. Four units of science, including:

18 (1) One unit of physical science; ~~and~~

19 (2) One unit of biology; and

20 (3) One unit of computer science and cybersecurity, unless this requirement is
21 met under paragraph 3 of subdivision b;

22 d. Four units of social studies, including:

23 (1) One unit of world history;

24 (2) One unit of United States history, including Native American tribal history;
25 and

26 (3) (a) One unit of problems of democracy; or

27 (b) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of
28 economics;

29 e. One-half unit of health;

30 f. One-half unit of physical education during each school year, provided that once
31 every four years the unit must be a concept-based fitness class that includes

- 1 instruction in the assessment, improvement, and maintenance of personal
2 fitness;
- 3 g. Two units of fine arts, at least one of which must be music;
- 4 h. Two units of the same foreign or native American language;
- 5 i. One unit of an advanced placement course or one unit of a dual-credit course;
- 6 and
- 7 j. Two units of career and technical education from a coordinated plan of study
8 recommended by the department of career and technical education and
9 approved by the superintendent of public instruction.

10 **SECTION 3. AMENDMENT.** Section 15.1-21-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is
11 amended and reenacted as follows:

12 **15.1-21-02.2. High school graduation - Minimum requirements. (Effective through**
13 **July 31, 2025)**

- 14 1. Except as provided in section 15.1-21-02.3 and subsection 2, the following twenty-two
15 units of high school coursework constitute the minimum requirement for high school
16 graduation:
- 17 a. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature,
18 composition, and speech;
- 19 b. Three units of mathematics, which may include one unit of computer science
20 approved by the superintendent of public instruction;
- 21 c. Three units of science, consisting of:
- 22 (1) (a) One unit of biology;
- 23 (b) One unit of chemistry; and
- 24 (c) One unit of physics; or
- 25 (2) (a) One unit of biology;
- 26 (b) One unit of physical science; and
- 27 (c) One unit or two one-half units of any other science;
- 28 d. Three units of social studies, including:
- 29 (1) One unit of United States history;
- 30 (2) (a) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of
31 economics; or

- 1 (b) One unit of problems of democracy; and
2 (3) One unit or two one-half units of any other social studies, which may include
3 civics, civilization, geography and history, multicultural studies, North Dakota
4 studies, psychology, sociology, and world history;
5 e. (1) One unit of physical education; or
6 (2) One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health;
7 f. Three units of:
8 (1) Foreign languages;
9 (2) Native American languages;
10 (3) Fine arts; or
11 (4) Career and technical education courses; and
12 g. Any five additional units.
13 2. If approved by the board of a school district or nonpublic school, a school district or
14 nonpublic school may develop eligibility criteria or programmatic requirements to allow
15 a passing score on the relevant portions of the GED assessment to receive credit for
16 the corresponding requirements of subdivisions a through d of subsection 1.

17 **High school graduation - Minimum requirements. (Effective after July 31, 2025)**

- 18 1. Except as provided in section 15.1-21-02.3 and subsection 2, the following twenty-two
19 units of high school coursework constitute the minimum requirement for high school
20 graduation:
21 a. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature,
22 composition, and speech;
23 b. Three units of mathematics, which ~~may~~must include one unit of computer science
24 and cybersecurity approved by the superintendent of public instruction, unless
25 this requirement is met under paragraph 3 of subdivision c;
26 c. Three units of science, consisting of one of the following:
27 (1) (a) One unit of biology;
28 (b) One unit of chemistry; and
29 (c) One unit of physics; ~~or~~
30 (2) (a) One unit of biology;
31 (b) One unit of physical science; and

- 1 (c) One unit or two one-half units of any other science; or
2 (3) If the requirement under subdivision b does not include one unit of computer
3 science and cybersecurity:
4 (a) One unit of biology;
5 (b) One-half unit of chemistry;
6 (c) One-half unit of physics; and
7 (d) One unit of computer science and cybersecurity;
8 d. Three units of social studies, including:
9 (1) One unit of United States history, including Native American tribal history;
10 (2) (a) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of
11 economics; or
12 (b) One unit of problems of democracy; and
13 (3) One unit or two one-half units of any other social studies, which may include
14 civics, civilization, geography and history, multicultural studies, North Dakota
15 studies, psychology, sociology, and world history;
16 e. (1) One unit of physical education; or
17 (2) One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health;
18 f. Three units of:
19 (1) Foreign languages;
20 (2) Native American languages;
21 (3) Fine arts; or
22 (4) Career and technical education courses; and
23 g. Any five additional units.
24 2. If approved by the board of a school district or nonpublic school, a school district or
25 nonpublic school may develop eligibility criteria or programmatic requirements to allow
26 a passing score on the relevant portions of the GED assessment to receive credit for
27 the corresponding requirements of subdivisions a through d of subsection 1.

28 **SECTION 4. EFFECTIVE DATE.** This Act becomes effective on July 1, 2023.