

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;

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 monitor each individual receiving a North
22 Dakota foster care scholarship to ensure that the individual meets the stated
23 requirements. Upon determining that an individual no longer meets the stated
24 requirements, the board shall provide notification to the individual within ten days.

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