

Counselor Connection

Division of Student Support & Innovation
Office of School Approval and Opportunity

October
2017



2017-2018 Updates for Academic and CTE Scholarship Course Requirements

Effective for the 2017-2018 school year, there are some additional courses that can be used to satisfy the requirements of the North Dakota Academic and Career and Technical Education Scholarships.

In the area of science, students are no longer required to take physical science, provided they have a full unit of chemistry, as well as a full unit of physics. Students may either take one unit of physical science, one unit of biology, and one unit of any other science course, or one unit of chemistry, and one unit of physics.

In the area of math, one unit of a computer science course approved by the Superintendent of Public Instruction may be used as a math credit. Two courses have currently been approved for this: Integrated Mathematics for Computer Science/Information Technology (11041), and AP Computer Science (11583).

Please contact [Jim Upgren](#), Assistant Director—Office of School Approval and Opportunity at 701-328-2244 with questions.

EVENTS & TRAINING

NDDPI Dropout Prevention and Reengagement Summit	October 11, 2017
Fall Educators Conference	October 11-13, 2017

Bank of North Dakota Shares New Resources

Just in time for the new school year, the Bank of North Dakota (BND) has updated their website. We hope it helps find resources more easily and provides valuable resources for students and families. Visit bnd.nd.gov and click on College Funding to begin.

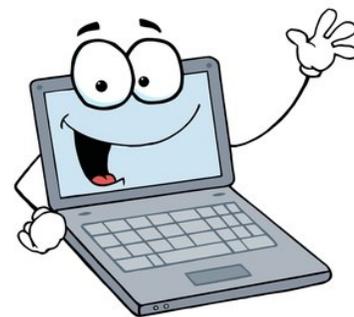
First on the list, under College Funding, you will see the College Handbook which is an online reference replacing the College Planning Center website. It provides reliable, easy-to-use information to assist students with the college planning process. The website has step-by-step checklists so you don't miss a detail; a section on skills you need to succeed; insights on choosing a major, a college and a career; paying for college; and the ACT exam.

Also under College Funding, there is a Counselor Resources tab. This tab contains a full page of materials at your fingertips, including a link to Why Apply?; a website geared toward Native American students considering college. BND and the North Dakota Indian Affairs Commission have partnered to create the site. It's recently been updated with many videos featuring Erica Wondrasek and Brad Hawk from the Indian Affairs Commission sharing their insights of their college experiences and advice for those considering it today.

Another helpful tool is the new Financial Literacy page. It offers links to programs we've vetted for excellent content you can trust and use to educate people of all ages.

Finally, the footer of the website contains a Resources section. Here a scholarship link has been added that directly links you to the scholarship listings within the College Handbook.

Let us know how we've done with the new materials. If we're missing something you'd like to know more about or you feel would be beneficial to students and families, please email [janel.schmitz](mailto:janel.schmitz@bnd.nd.gov).



Career Discovery Events

BND will be hosting several Career Discovery events at school districts across the state this fall! These events cover a variety of topics, including scholarship opportunities, student loans, job opportunities, and career planning. Students in grades 7-12 and their parents are encouraged to register. A list of the events can be found below.

- Beulah High School-Wednesday, September 20, 1:00-3:00 p.m. CT
- Hazen High School-Wednesday, September 20, 5:30-8:00 p.m. CT
- Belcourt High School-Tuesday, October 3, 5:30-8:00 p.m. CT
- Ellendale High School-Thursday, October 5, 5:30-8:00 p.m. CT
- Scranton High School-Wednesday, October 18, 1:00-3:00 p.m. MT
- Elgin/New Leipzig High School-Wednesday, October 18, 5:30-8:00 p.m. MT
- Dakota Prairie High School-Monday, October 23, 1:00-3:00 p.m. CT
- Devils Lake High School-Monday, October 23, 5:30-8:00 p.m. CT
- Wahpeton High School-Monday, October 30, 5:30-8:00 p.m. CT
- Tioga High School-Monday, November 13, 1:00-3:00 p.m. CT
- Kenmare High School-Monday, November 13, 5:30-8:00 p.m. CT

In addition to the on-site events, an hour-long Facebook Live session of Career Discovery will be available on Tuesday, November 7 from 7:00-8:00 p.m. CT.

For more information on the events and to register, contact [Char Skjonsby](mailto:Char.Skjonsby@bnd.nd.gov) at 701-328-5753.

Bank of North Dakota Hosts Fall Opportunities

BND is swinging into full gear right beside you this fall. We have updated the format of our programs and look forward to receiving your feedback.

- College Application Month update: There are over 110 high schools signed up for this year's College Application Month events in October! That is up from 84 high schools last year. Thank you on behalf of your students for offering them this opportunity.
- [Career Discovery ND](#): Ten schools have signed up to host events this year, and for the first time, we'll be trying an abbreviated version on Facebook Live!
- [Financial Aid Information Nights](#) are switching to the Facebook Live format. You can host in your school or let parents know how to watch from home. They are held every Wednesday from 7:00-7:45 p.m. October 4 through November 15, 2017.

If you have questions about Career Discovery ND or Financial Aid Information Nights, contact [Char Skjonsby](#) at 328-5753. Contact [Amanda Woidyla](#) with questions about College Application Month at 701-328-5655.

Dual Credit

It's not too late for students to take advantage of dual credit assistance offered through BND.

BND will cover the cost of up to two college courses per school year if the student qualifies for dual credit assistance.

These requirements must be met in order to be eligible:

- Student must be a sophomore, junior, or senior attending a North Dakota high school.
- The school district superintendent or designee must approve the student taking the course.
- Student must qualify for Free and Reduced Lunch.
- Student must complete the [Dual Credit Assistance Application](#).

If you have questions, please contact [Amanda Woidyla](#) at BND.

REMINDER

All school counselors in North Dakota must have a School Counselor Credential issued by the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction (NDDPI).

This credential is in addition to licensure obtained from the Education Standards and Practices Board. Please contact [Jim Upgren](#) at 701-328-2244.

Bank of North Dakota's Facebook Live events are a hit!

Mark it on your calendar! Every Tuesday at 4:00 p.m. CT, Staci Holzheimer or Amanda Woidyla, BND's University and Student Development Coordinators, go live on Facebook to share information on planning and paying for college. The events last 5 to 15 minutes each, and cover important topics like choosing a college, student loans, staying safe on campus, and test tips for the ACT.

BND has heard from some of the state's counselors on how valuable the videos are to share with parents at presentations. Please let your parents know about this resource so they can follow BND on Facebook and be informed.

CREAM – Onsite Developmental Coursework Opportunity

College Ready English and Math (CREAM), along with its North Dakota Center for Distance Education's (NDCDE) counterpart [CLEM](#), is taking a new, prominent role within our state's [Every Student Succeeds Act](#) (ESSA) plan. North Dakota's new [Choice Ready](#) component within the school accountability portion of our ESSA plan requires schools to be accountable, in part, on the number of graduates deemed Choice Ready.

CREAM is a program implemented in response to the many high school graduates planning to attend college who are in need of some remediation to prepare them for college-level, credit-bearing math and/or English courses. During the 2015 Legislative Assembly, the NDDPI received funding earmarked to address college remediation needs, also referred to as developmental coursework. The 2017 Legislative Assembly appropriations allowed for this funding to continue for the current biennium.

The NDDPI partnered with the Dakota College at Bottineau (DCB) to make CREAM available for high schools to offer their students at no cost to the student or school. The program is designed to identify high school students who are in need of English and/or math remediation based largely on their ACT/SAT scores, and to provide those students with the knowledge and skills to make them college ready during their senior year.

If you are contemplating offering CREAM, please consider the following:

- Are your high school instructors willing to incorporate onsite courses of College Learning Lab – English 12 (course code 05078) and/or College Learning Lab - Math 12 (course code 11118) into the course schedule during the 2017-2018 school year?
- Is your high school ready to offer additional student tutoring and intervention onsite in math and English?

If so, contact Harmony Richman from DCB to learn more about how CREAM can benefit the students in your school. To understand the differences between CREAM and CLEM, visit the comparison guide at <https://www.nd.gov/dpi/uploads/10/CLEMVSCREAMFactsheet.pdf> as a reference to make a decision which program is best for your students.



CREAM Contact Information

[Harmony Richman](#)

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School Approval and Opportunity

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