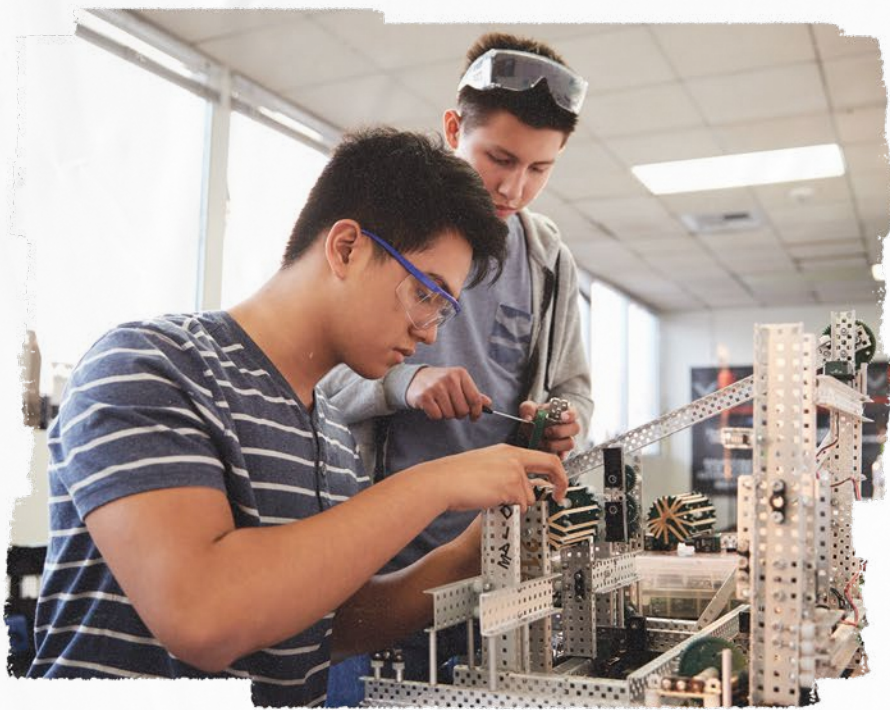


BUILD DAKOTA SCHOLARSHIP

HIGH SCHOOL
STAFF EDITION

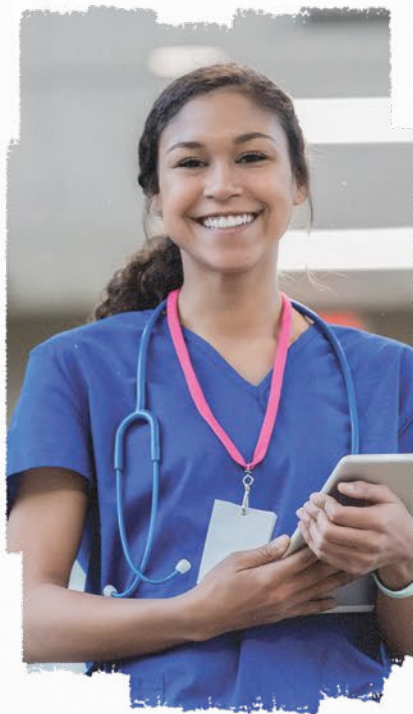


WHAT IS THE BUILD DAKOTA SCHOLARSHIP?

A GREAT PATH TO A LIFELONG CAREER

There's more than one path to a high-paying career. With the Build Dakota Scholarship, students can earn a full-ride scholarship at one of four South Dakota technical colleges.

\$0 IN STUDENT LOANS
98% JOB PLACEMENT
ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES



BENEFITS



**COST
EFFECTIVE**



**JOB BEFORE
COLLEGE
GRADUATION**



**HANDS-ON
LEARNING**



KEYS TO SUCCESS

CAREER EXPLORATION

**GOOD PAY. GREAT OPPORTUNITIES.
THESE FIELDS HAVE A HIGH DEMAND
FOR THE HIGHLY SKILLED:**

- Advanced Manufacturing
- Agriculture
- Automotive
- Building Trades/Construction
- Energy Technicians
- Engineering Technicians
- Healthcare
- Information Technology
- Public Service
- Welding

Some programs may require an industry partner.



**SCAN TO SEE THE
FULL PROGRAM LIST**

KEYS TO SUCCESS

SCHOLARSHIP DETAILS

HOW DOES IT WORK?

The Build Dakota Scholarship is a full ride, not a free ride. Following program completion, each student works in their field of study for a minimum of three years in South Dakota. In return, the scholarship covers costs for tuition, fees, books and other program expenses.

WHAT IS THE COMMITMENT?

A Build Dakota Scholar agrees to:

- Enroll full-time in a Build Dakota Scholarship-eligible program at a South Dakota technical college (Lake Area Technical College, Mitchell Technical College, Southeast Technical College, or Western Dakota Technical College). Diploma programs typically require 1 to 1.5 years to complete and AAS degree programs require 2 years.
- Work full-time in South Dakota in the field of study for a minimum of three years following program completion.
- Maintain a 2.5 cumulative grade point average.
- Adhere to the technical college's attendance policy.
- If the scholar has an industry partner, the partner may have additional requirements outlined in writing before the commitment is finalized.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

Scholars of all ages are welcome to apply. This includes both in-state and out-of-state students.

WHAT SETS AN APPLICATION APART?

Experience means everything. We look for students who have explored the career they're entering and can provide examples for this on their application.



KEYS TO SUCCESS

WORKING WITH BUILD DAKOTA

There's no replacement for real experience. Help students arrange part-time work and job shadows in areas they might be interested in. Something that starts small may even turn into an industry partnership and a lifelong career.

BUILD DAKOTA ROADSHOWS

Work with our Program Manager to line up a Build Dakota Roadshow at your school to highlight the benefits of technical education for students and the community.

We offer two types of presentations: One for students (ideally grades 11 and 12) to learn about South Dakota's workforce shortage, and a second geared towards businesses to explain how they can participate in the Build Dakota program.

Roadshows are most effective when we can collaborate with the high school, local businesses, and economic development/chamber organizations to offer both presentations, including the chance for businesses and students to connect.

Build Dakota will provide a flyer/invitation, but we will need help with setting up a presentation location, coordinating student attendance, and sharing the opportunity within the community. Learn more at **BuildDakotaScholarships.com/Roadshow-Visits/**



KEYS TO SUCCESS

INDUSTRY PARTNERSHIPS

Students can earn a Build Dakota Scholarship through the application process – or by finding an industry partner. An industry partner is a business that sponsors students and commits to paying a portion of their program expenses. Build Dakota picks up the rest. The student earns a degree, and the employer gains a skilled scholar.

IF THE STUDENT ALREADY HAS A PARTNER SECURED, there will be questions for them to provide this information in the application.

IF THE STUDENT DOESN'T HAVE AN EXISTING PARTNER, the student's technical college will share their application with partners hiring in that field.

Visit **BuildDakotaScholarships.com/Industry-Partners** to see a list of companies we work with. Even if a business isn't on the list yet, that doesn't mean they can't be a partner. Reach out to your technical college to inquire about more partnership opportunities.



THE ROLE OF HIGH SCHOOL STAFF

- Help students explore careers and find job shadowing and internship opportunities.
- Share Build Dakota Scholarship information with students, parents and local businesses.
- Promote the college visit days.
- Host roadshows.
- Help students navigate the industry partner process or direct to their technical college for assistance.



A young woman with dark hair in a braid, wearing a blue button-down shirt, is focused on working on a complex mechanical engine. She is using a flashlight to illuminate a specific part of the engine. The background is a blurred workshop or garage setting.

GETTING STARTED

THE PATH TO APPLICATION

STEP 1

Encourage students to gain real-world experiences in fields they are interested in. Through this exploration, they will learn more about careers they're interested in and build relationships with industry leaders.



STEP 2

Students should apply to a technical college and reserve a seat in the program. This can be done up to 18 months prior to applying for Build Dakota. Apply early! Some colleges allow their industry partners to start reviewing applications in January.



STEP 3

The student should visit the Build Dakota website. Click on the logo of the college they plan on attending – this will take them to the scholarship application at that college. All students are encouraged to apply even if they don't already have an industry partner. This is also when the applying student needs to complete their FAFSA.

PATHS TO PARTNER MATCHES

IF THE STUDENT ALREADY HAS A PARTNER SECURED, there will be questions for them to provide this information in the application.

The student's technical college will contact an employer on their behalf if they have questions or need assistance with that process.

APPLY WITHOUT A PARTNER and the student's technical college will share their application with partners hiring in that field.

The student may be contacted by employers for next steps. We recommend the student apply early in the application window as employers reach out quickly.

APPLICATION PERIOD JANUARY 1–MARCH 31

Learn more about the program and requirements at BuildDakotaScholarships.com.

BRINGING IT ALL TOGETHER

What does everyone get out of this? It's all about economic development: high schools, technical colleges and businesses working together as a team to identify workforce needs and ensuring students have opportunities to explore much-needed careers. Here's a summary of what the Build Dakota Scholarship does for all associated groups.



STUDENTS

- Increases opportunities for career exploration
- Gain important skills and a guaranteed job after college
- Start their next chapter free of debt and ready to excel
- Students with partners receive priority in scholarship awards and gain the extra benefit of having a job waiting for them following program completion at their technical college



INDUSTRY PARTNERS

- Use Build Dakota funds to train their own workforce
- Support their community by investing in its future
- Stay competitive with other businesses who understand the need of investing in training to get more people into high need fields
- Get involved directly with technical colleges to build the workforce their business needs
- Help change perceptions of these high-demand fields
- Increase the use of job shadowing, internships, and part-time work as a tool for recruiting
- Build relationships with potential employees and create a culture of recruitment and retention



COMMUNITIES

- Attract and retain workforce, especially in rural communities
- Send students off to school but have a job waiting for them at home
- Keeps local communities thriving and schools alive
- Grow relationships between employers and students, working together to improve opportunities for career exploration

**“BUILD DAKOTA HAS PROVIDED IMMENSE
SUPPORT IN MY EDUCATION EXPERIENCE.
HAVING A SPONSORSHIP GAVE ME PEACE OF
MIND KNOWING I’M GUARANTEED TO HAVE
A JOB AT THE END OF MY SCHOOLING.”**

BUILD DAKOTA SCHOLAR

DENI MARTIN, M.S.Ed

PROGRAM MANAGER

Build Dakota Scholarship

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