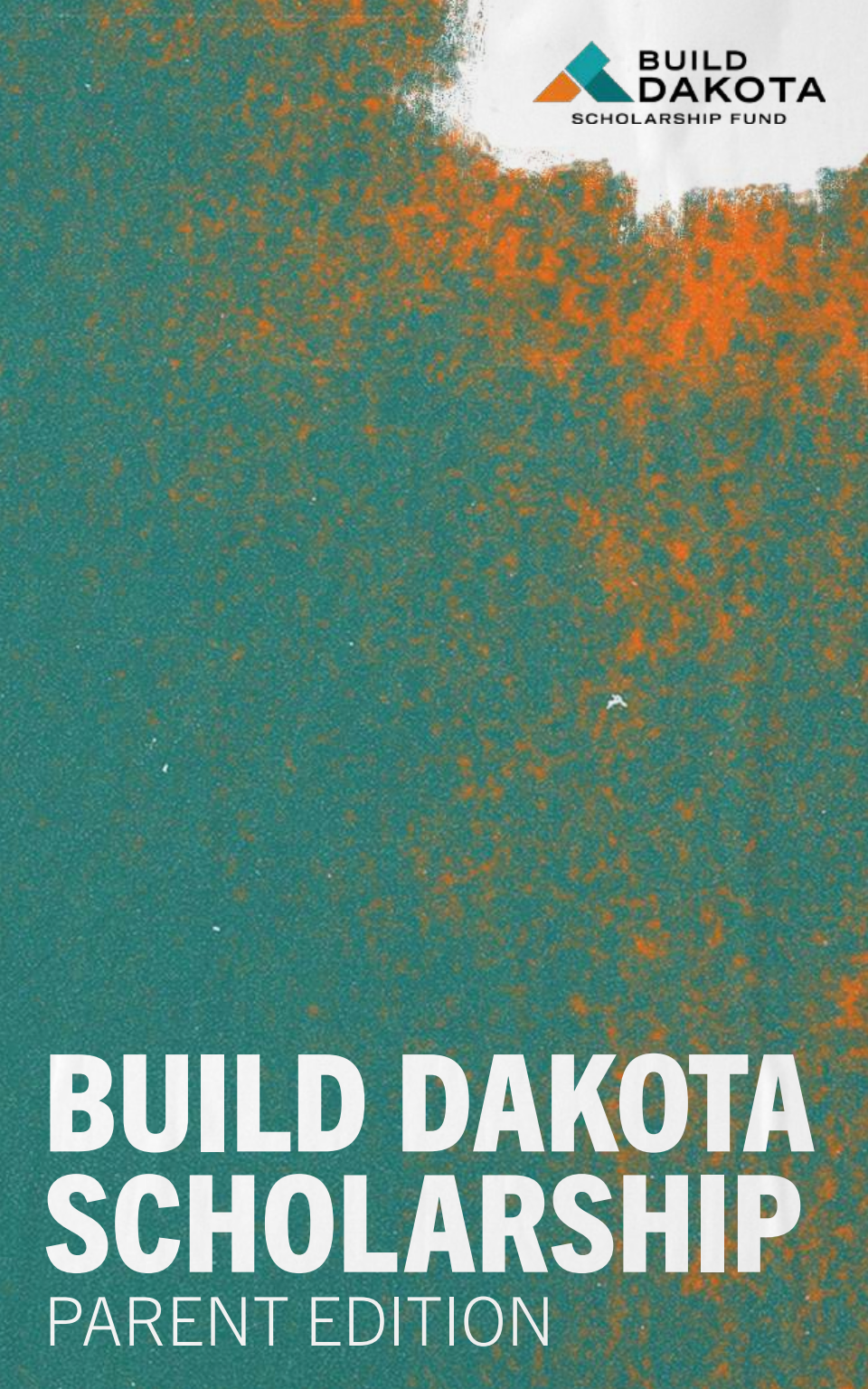

BUILD
DAKOTA
SCHOLARSHIP FUND
BUILD DAKOTA
SCHOLARSHIP
PARENT EDITION



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. Read on to see how parents can help.

$0 IN STUDENT LOANS

98% JOB PLACEMENT

ENDLESS POSSIBILITIES





BENEFITS

COST EFFECTIVE

JOB BEFORE COLLEGE GRADUATION

HANDS-ON LEARNING



CAREER EXPLORATION

IN-DEMAND CAREERS

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

APPLYING FOR BUILD DAKOTA

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 at least three years in South Dakota. In return, the scholarship covers tuition, fees, books and other program expenses.

WHO IS ELIGIBLE?

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

WHAT'S 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.



A PARENT'S GUIDE TO BUILD DAKOTA

WHAT YOU CAN DO TO HELP

GET A HEAD START

There's no replacement for real experience. One of the biggest advantages for any Build Dakota Scholarship application is proof that the student has explored their chosen career. Help your student 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.

VISIT TECHNICAL COLLEGES

It's good to know what to expect before you go. All four South Dakota technical colleges host free program exploration days. Visit the technical colleges' admission pages to see the latest dates and upcoming events. You can also work with the admission team to schedule one-on-one visits for a personalized experience.



ASSIST WITH REVIEWING CONTRACTS

The Build Dakota Scholarship is a life-changing opportunity. But it's also a big commitment. Not only is there a contract the student signs with Build Dakota, but a separate contract they agree to with their industry partner. Help your student review the contract and understand exactly what is expected of them when they put their name on the dotted line.



HELP FIND AN INDUSTRY PARTNER

Students can earn a Build Dakota Scholarship through the application process – or by finding an industry partner. What are those? An industry partner is a business that sponsors students and commits to paying a portion of their program expenses. Build Dakota picks up the other portion. With a partner, students strengthen their scholarship application and have a job waiting for them upon program completion.

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.

PATHS TO PARTNER MATCHES

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

The technical college will contact an employer on the student's behalf if they have questions or if assistance is needed.

APPLY WITHOUT A PARTNER and a technical college will share the application with industry partners.

Students might be contacted by an employer for next steps. We recommend applying early in the application window as employers reach out quickly.

PROGRAM CONTACTS

Got questions? We have experts who are ready to help.

LAKE AREA TECHNICAL COLLEGE
MELISSA WALDNER
(605) 882-5284
Melissa.Waldner@lakeareatech.edu

MITCHELL TECHNICAL COLLEGE
ROBIN JACOBSEN
(605) 995-7144
Robin.Jacobsen@mitchelltech.edu

SOUTHEAST TECHNICAL COLLEGE
KELLI ROGOTZKE
(605) 367-5768
Kelli.Rogotzke@southeasttech.edu

WESTERN DAKOTA TECHNICAL COLLEGE
CHANDRA CALVERT
(605) 718-2419
Chandra.Calvert@wdt.edu



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

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