Date: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Contact: \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_

Re: College Application Month activities being held at \_\_\_\_\_ High School

**MEDIA RELEASE**

[City] –Students at [\_\_\_\_\_] High School will participate in College Application Month on [\_\_\_\_\_\_], 2023. High school seniors can apply to a North Dakota college or university, and Bank of North Dakota will pay one $35 application fee.

College Application Month is part of a national effort to increase the numbers of people applying to college early in the year. In North Dakota, Job Service’s Labor Market information projects that entry level jobs in the state across all education paths will increase through 2031.

[\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_], counselor at [\_\_\_\_\_] High School states, “This is the [first, second, third] year our school is participating in this event. It is an excellent way to help students who feel a bit overwhelmed with the college application process to actually experience it and realize they can figure it out.”

In addition to Bank of North Dakota, other partners in the effort include Dakota Association of College Admissions Counselors, North Dakota University System, North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, University of Jamestown and University of Mary.

“College Application Month is a first step for many high school seniors in committing to a plan beyond high school,” stated BND President/CEO Todd Steinwand. “Helping young people achieve their higher education goals is a priority for Bank of North Dakota.”

In addition to College Application Month, Bank of North Dakota has information on its website to help families research and plan on ways to pay for postsecondary education. BND wants students to be confident in their student loan and career planning decisions.

For more information, visit bnd.nd.gov/confident.

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