



INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

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Governor

Wayne Stenejem
Attorney General

Doug Goehring
Agriculture Commissioner

For Immediate Release

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College Application Month activities set to help ND seniors apply

BISMARCK – October has long been known for baseball playoffs and Halloween. Add one more item to the list in North Dakota: College Application Month. More than 80 high schools across the state will host College Application Month events to assist seniors with their first applications to college. It is projected that more than half of the state's 8,000 high school seniors will take advantage of the activities in their schools on their designated days.

"This is part of our ongoing work to assist high school students who pursue higher education and to build our workforce for the future," Gov. Jack Dalrymple said. "Postsecondary education is more important than ever before, and we encourage North Dakota's high school seniors to take full advantage of the many resources available to help them achieve a lifetime of success."

College Application Month is part of a national initiative known as the American College Application Campaign which started in 2005. Today, it reaches more than 250,000 schools in all 50 states. The goal of the initiative is to increase the number of first-generation and low-income students pursuing a college degree or other higher education credential. In order to accomplish this goal, Bank of North Dakota is paying one \$35 application fee per student if they apply during their school's event to a North Dakota college or university.

"It is an opportunity for North Dakota's youth to pursue higher education," said Agriculture Commissioner Doug Goehring. "College Application Month encourages seniors in high school to take the first step early by applying to college during the month of October."

To ensure the effort is successful, college admissions staff members, bankers and economic developers across the state are volunteering time at their local high schools to assist students in completing the applications. Each high school has a designated site coordinator who is responsible for the event.

"We are grateful to the hundreds of volunteers who are contributing to make this initiative a success," said Attorney General Wayne Stenejem. "There are students who would never pursue higher education without this commitment from their communities and schools to assist them with the application process."

Bank of North Dakota has partnered with the North Dakota Office of the Governor, the North Dakota Department of Public Instruction, and colleges and universities across the state for College Application Month.

"Bank of North Dakota is pleased to lead this effort with our partner agencies," said Eric Hardmeyer, president of the Bank of North Dakota. "The Bank's mission is to promote agriculture, commerce and industry. This can only be accomplished with an educated workforce."

More details about the initiative's activities are available at www.collegeplanning.nd.gov/cam or by calling Bank of North Dakota at 701.328.5880.

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