

## FINANCIAL AID

Student financial aid is designed to assist students who, without such aid, would be unable to attend college. The various types of aid available through federal and state programs are considered a supplement to the student's own financial resources. Grants, loans, scholarships, tuition waivers and part-time employment are the types of aid available from federal and state programs.

In addition, local scholarship programs are available to students on a basis other than financial need.

Students should apply for all types of financial aid before March 15 to receive full consideration. Application must be made each academic year because renewal of financial aid is not automatic.

Following are descriptions of federal, state and local programs available to Bismarck State College students. Further information is available from the Financial Aid Office in Schafer Hall, or visit our Web Site at [bismarck-state.edu](http://bismarck-state.edu).

## FEDERAL PROGRAMS

Students who wish to be considered for federal financial aid programs need to do the following:

1. Complete all admission requirements.
2. Complete the Free Application for Federal Student Aid. You may also complete the application for admission online at [bismarckstate.edu](http://bismarckstate.edu). The Free Application for Federal Student Aid is available online at [www.fafsa.ed.gov](http://www.fafsa.ed.gov).

The Financial Aid Office processes applications using a priority funding deadline date of March 15. The amount of aid awarded to students depends on the funds made available from the federal government. To be considered for federal financial aid programs, students must be enrolled in an eligible program, be a U.S. citizen or eligible non-citizen, demonstrate satisfactory progress in school (maintain at least a 2.00 cumulative grade point average), not be in default on any existing student loans, not owe a refund on any U.S. Department of Education grant, be registered with the Selective Service (if male) and demonstrate financial need.

For a complete detailed listing of the following federal financial aid programs, please request a copy of the "Student Guide" from the Financial Aid Office. This document is also available at <http://studentaid.ed.gov/guide>.

**Federal Pell Grant.** Grants are available to all students who qualify, regardless of their enrollment status.

**Federal Supplemental Educational Opportunity Grants (SEOG).** These grants are provided to a limited number of undergraduate students with financial need. They must be awarded to students who are eligible for the Federal Pell Grant and meet the priority deadline of March 15.

**Federal Perkins Loan.** Perkins Loans are funded by the federal government at a low interest rate and awarded to students who qualify and have met the priority funding deadline of March 15.

**Federal Stafford Loan.** The federal government pays the interest on the loan while the student is in school. Repayment and interest begin six months after the student graduates, leaves school, or drops below half-time enrollment.

**Federal PLUS Loan.** Repayment of principal and interest begins within 60 days of loan disbursement. Parents may borrow up to the cost of education, less other financial aid the student receives. Requires at least half-time enrollment.

**Federal Unsubsidized Stafford Loan.** The program has the same benefits and interest rates as the Federal Stafford Loan, except that the student is responsible for the interest from the time the loan is obtained.

**Federal Work-Study Program (FWS).** Work-study jobs are awarded to qualified students who have met the priority funding deadline date of March 15.

## STATE PROGRAMS

Some financial assistance is available through several state agencies. For further information and applications, contact the agency as indicated.

**North Dakota State Grant Program.** Grants are limited to North Dakota residents who attend North Dakota institutions of postsecondary education. For further information contact the N.D. Student Assistance Program, State Capitol, Bismarck, ND 58505. Phone 328-4114. Requires full-time enrollment.

**North Dakota Indian Scholarships** are available to qualifying Native American students. Contact ND Indian Affairs Commission, State Capitol, Bismarck, ND 58505. Phone 328-2166.

## BSC FOUNDATION SCHOLARSHIPS

The Trustees of the Bismarck State College Foundation award scholarships to students of outstanding ability, regardless of sex, race, creed or national origin. Half of the cash award is disbursed at the beginning of each semester. Several types of scholarships are available:

**Academic Scholarships.** More than 200 \$1,000 academic scholarships are awarded each year to students who have demonstrated academic excellence. The recipients, known as "Foundation Scholars," must carry a minimum of 15 credit hours both semesters and maintain at least a 3.00 GPA to remain eligible for this scholarship. Both entering freshmen and returning sophomores who have maintained a good academic record are encouraged to apply. Sixteen additional \$2,000 two-year academic scholarships will be awarded.

**Performing/Visual Arts Scholarships.** More than 40 \$1,000 scholarships are awarded each year requiring recipients to carry a minimum of 12 credit hours both semesters and maintain at least a 2.50 GPA to remain eligible. Four \$1,000 scholarships are awarded each year requiring 15 credit hours both semesters and a 3.0 GPA to remain eligible. These scholarships are awarded to students who have special talent in the areas of music, drama or visual

arts. Recipients of performing/visual arts scholarships also must participate in performing/visual arts activities in their area of talent. The recommendation for this scholarship should be submitted by an instructor in the applicant's area of talent.

**Journalism Scholarships.** Bismarck State College has several opportunities for students to get involved with campus publications: the student newspaper *Mystician*, the yearbook *Prairie Mystic*, the literary/arts magazine *Figments of Imagination*.

Journalism scholarships are available for interested students. The senior editor of the *Mystician* will receive the \$1000 Bismarck Tribune Celebrate 2000 Legacy Scholarship. The photo editor of the *Mystician* will be awarded a \$1000 scholarship. The senior editor of the *Prairie Mystic* will be awarded a \$1000 scholarship. Five additional \$1000 scholarships for assistant editors will be awarded each year to students with special journalism skills. The journalism instructor should submit the recommendation for these scholarships.

Two \$500 scholarships will be awarded for the layout editor and the editor-in-chief of *Figments of Imagination*.

In addition to satisfactory service in these positions, the recipients must carry a minimum of 12 credit hours both semesters and maintain at least a 2.50 GPA to remain eligible for this scholarship.

**Engineering Scholarships.** Three \$1,000 engineering scholarships will be awarded to students majoring in engineering. The recipients must carry a minimum of 15 credit hours both semesters and maintain at least a 3.00 GPA to remain eligible for this scholarship.

**Other scholarships** are also offered to students enrolled in specific programs. These scholarships state specific criteria involving the program and are awarded separately from the academic, performing/visual arts and journalism scholarships.

Specific program scholarships may include the following programs:

- Agriculture, Technology and Natural Resources
- Automotive Technology
- Carpentry
- Chemistry
- Electronics/Telecommunications
- Graphic Design and Communications
- Heating, Ventilation, Air Conditioning
- Power or Process Plant Technology

For updated information and applications, please visit [bismarckstate.edu/foundation/Scholarships.asp](http://bismarckstate.edu/foundation/Scholarships.asp)

**Transfer Student Scholarships.** Three \$4,000 scholarships are available to BSC graduates going on to four-year colleges. The Hites Family Foundation/Walter and Norma Fiedler Scholarship is awarded to help transferring students of high academic standing complete a baccalaureate degree. Scholarships are awarded annually and distributed over two years.

## OTHER AID PROGRAMS

**Tribal Grant.** Financial programs are available to deserving and qualified Native Americans. Interested students should contact the education specialist at their local tribal agency. Requires full-time enrollment.

**Veterans' Benefits.** Funds may be available to eligible veterans through the Veteran's Administration. Further information is available from any Veteran Administration regional office or visit the BSC Veteran's Services office or Web site: <http://www.bismarckstate.edu/student/veterans>.

**Other Scholarships.** Many local and state service clubs and professional organizations offer scholarships to students. Awarding of these scholarships may be based on talent and potential in a particular field of study, on recommendation from instructors and employers, on academic excellence, on financial need, or a combination of these. As these scholarships become available, they are posted on our Web site at [bismarckstate.edu/finaid](http://bismarckstate.edu/finaid).

**North Dakota Nursing Education/Loan** applicants must be North Dakota residents enrolled in a N.D. nursing program. Contact ND Nursing Education/Loan, ND Board of Nursing, Kirkwood Office Tower, 7th and Arbor Avenue, Suite 504, Bismarck, ND 58504. Phone 328-9777. The Web site is [www.ndbon.org](http://www.ndbon.org).

**Vocational Rehabilitation.** Students with a physical limitation or health problem may be entitled to certain benefits such as tuition, fees, and text book reimbursement. Contact the nearest Division of Vocational Rehabilitation at the district or general office.

**Workforce Investment Act.** This program helps economically disadvantaged persons who have limited job skills or experience. Contact the local Job Service office for information.

## WAIVERS

**Cultural Diversity Tuition Waiver.** To apply, students must complete a BSC CDTW application form. This waiver is for on-campus courses only. For more details, contact the Financial Aid Office or [BSC's Web site](#).

**Survivor of Firefighter or Peace Officer Tuition/Fee Waiver.** Pursuant to N.D.C.C. 15-10-18.4 and N.D.C.C. 15-10-18.5, tuition and fees shall be waived for survivors of firefighters, emergency medical services personnel or peace officers who died as a direct result of injuries received in the performance of official duties, subject to the limitations stated in those statutes.

**Veteran Dependent Tuition/Fee Waiver.** Pursuant to N.D.C.C. 15-10-18.2 and 15-10-18.3, tuition and fees shall be waived for dependents of resident veterans who were killed in action, died of service-related causes, were prisoners of war or declared missing in action, subject to the limitations stated in those statutes.

**ND National Guard Tuition Waiver.** Contact your ND National Guard Unit for application deadlines and qualifications. The National Guard submits the amount of tuition to be waived for qualified National Guard, subject to the limitations stated in N.D.C.C., ch 37-07 and National

Guard rules to BSC Student Finance Services at the end of the semester/term based on successfully completed courses.

**Senior Citizen Audit Fee Waiver.** Persons 65 years of age or older may audit courses at no charge. The audit fee waiver shall be for on-campus courses only and shall be limited to a “space available” basis after the last day to add the class. Students utilizing this audit fee waiver will be responsible for all mandatory fees and course related fees.

## OPTIONAL FINANCING PLAN

BSC students have the option of participating in a monthly payment plan for each semester enrolled. The plan makes it possible for students to pay their tuition, fees, room and board not covered by financial aid on a monthly basis each semester. Students enroll in the plan on a semester basis. **The cost of the plan is a non-refundable Enrollment Fee of \$25/semester.** Participation in this plan is optional. For more information go to the BSC Web site at: [bismarckstate.edu/campusconnection](http://bismarckstate.edu/campusconnection) and click on Student Finance info

## FURTHER INFORMATION

**Financial Aid** - Specific information on Grants, Loans, Scholarships, Waivers, Other Financial Aid, Forms can viewed at [bismarckstate.edu/student/finaid/](http://bismarckstate.edu/student/finaid/) The student policy on standards of satisfactory progress for financial aid eligibility can be found under Student Policies. Upon Request, the Financial Aid Office will forward the necessary applications and a brochure explaining in greater detail financial aid opportunities at Bismarck State College.

**Student Finance Services** - Specific information on Tuition and Fees, Billing & Payment Information, Payment plan options, Instructions on How to Pay Online, Dropping an Individual Class, Withdrawing to Zero Credits, Third Party Information, Bookstore Charging Against Financial Aid or a Third Party, Financial Aid FAQs, Other Student Finance Questions and 1098T Information can be viewed on the BSC website at [bismarckstate.edu/campusconnection](http://bismarckstate.edu/campusconnection) and clicking Student Finance Info or by calling Student Finance Services.

## ONLINE SELF-SERVICE

Students have the ability to apply to BSC and pay the application fee, complete the FAFSA, submit a Withdraw to Zero Credits form, view Dates and Deadlines, and obtain answers to most questions on the BSC Web site at: [bismarckstate.edu/campusconnection](http://bismarckstate.edu/campusconnection). Through the Campus Connection Portal students can obtain Student account information, 1098T information, make a payment with check, credit card, cash card, Drop an individual class, Add a Class(es), Accept Financial Aid, view financial aid. Sign into the Campus Connection Portal with your userid and password, click on either Student Center or Campus Finances.

