



General Assembly

Terminology Guide

Last Updated Monday, December 24, 2018

North Dakota University System (NDUS): The NDUS consists of all 11 public colleges and universities in North Dakota. It is governed by the State Board of Higher Education (SBHE). The NDUS Chancellor and their staff, known as the NDUS Office or System Office, support and help implement the SBHE's mission and goals. The NDUS Office manages the NDUS Councils, Core Technology Services, Campus Councils, Consortium for Substance Abuse and Prevention, and the NDUS Foundation.

State Board of Higher Education (SBHE): The SBHE governs all 11 public college and universities in North Dakota. It's made up of seven citizen members appointed to four-year terms by the governor and one student member appointed for a one-year term. There are two non-voting members, which includes a representative from the Council of College Faculties and NDUS Staff Senate, both of which are Campus Councils. Some of the duties of the board include appointing university presidents and setting standard policies for all institutions relating to academic and student affairs, financial affairs, and much more.

Core Technology Services (CTS): CTS is led by the NDUS Chief Information Officer and provides information management and technology services to NDUS students, faculty, staff, and state residents. Some of their projects include making sure all students have a .ndus email address, upgrading campus solutions - which includes room scheduling, parking, and financial aid - and having all institutions use Blackboard as their learning management system.

Student Government Association (SGA): Student Government at your respective institution.

Open Educational Resources (OERs): Materials and resources that anyone can use, improve, modify, and redistribute under an open licensed text. A common example is "open textbooks."

Funding Formula: A distribution formula created in 2013 that is used by state legislators to allocate funding to NDUS institutions in a fair and transparent manner. The formula awards money to campuses based on the number of credit hours their students complete in a biennium.

Legislative Session: The North Dakota State Legislature meets for 80 legislative days once every two years (a biennium). Unlike many other states, it is a "citizen legislature," which means many of the legislators hold other jobs as well.

Office 365 SharePoint: Holds all the files for NDSA, including committee documents and meeting agendas. Any student in the North Dakota University System can join it.

Resolution: A public statement regarding NDSA's position on a particular policy or issue.

Strategic Plan: Document providing the general strategy for an organization over a set period of time. NDSA's 2019-2023 Strategic Plan was approved in November 2018 and lays out a blueprint for how the organization should function for the next four years.

Challenge Fund Grant: Created in 2013 to stimulate philanthropic donations to institutions under the authority of the SBHE to directly fund scholarships, educational infrastructure, endowed chairs, and technology on campuses. Challenge Funds encourage institutional foundations to seek financial contributions through a two-for-one match program, so that a donor's \$2 contribution is matched by a \$1 contribution from the state.

Multi-Factor Authentication (MFA): Second layer of security to NDUS account logins that requires a physical device or alternate phone number to log in, as well as a password. This technology prevents hackers from accessing NDUS accounts.

Capital Project: Projects such as new buildings, renovations, and other public improvements funded by various means. Capital project proposals often need to be approved by the SBHE.

Legacy Fund: North Dakotans in 2010 voted to establish the North Dakota Legacy Fund to preserve some of the state's economic prosperity for the future. Since then, the Fund has collected 30% of oil and gas tax revenues, which equates to \$5.5 billion in 2018. The state constitution prevented lawmakers from spending the fund's principal and earnings until after June 30, 2017.