

**Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota
In Regular Session Commencing Tuesday, January 5, 2021**

SENATE BILL NO. 2147
(Senators Oban, Holmberg, Schaible)
(Representatives Guggisberg, Monson, Pyle)

AN ACT to amend and reenact sections 15.1-21-02.2 and 15.1-21-02.3 of the North Dakota Century Code, relating to high school graduation and curriculum requirements.

BE IT ENACTED BY THE LEGISLATIVE ASSEMBLY OF NORTH DAKOTA:

SECTION 1. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-21-02.2 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-21-02.2. High school graduation - Minimum requirements.

1. Except as provided in section 15.1-21-02.3 and subsection 2, the following twenty-two units of high school coursework constitute the minimum requirement for high school graduation:
 1. a. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature, composition, and speech;
 2. b. Three units of mathematics, which may include one unit of computer science approved by the superintendent of public instruction;
 3. c. Three units of science, consisting of:
 - a. (1) (a) One unit of biology;
 - (2) (b) One unit of chemistry; and
 - (3) (c) One unit of physics; or
 - b. (1)(2) (a) One unit of biology;
 - (2) (b) One unit of physical science; and
 - (3) (c) One unit or two one-half units of any other science;
 4. d. Three units of social studies, including:
 - a. (1) One unit of United States history;
 - b. (1)(2) (a) One-half unit of United States government and one-half unit of economics; or
 - (2) (b) One unit of problems of democracy; and
 - e. (3) One unit or two one-half units of any other social studies, which may include civics, civilization, geography and history, multicultural studies, North Dakota studies, psychology, sociology, and world history;
5. a.e. (1) One unit of physical education; or
- b. (2) One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health;
6. f. Three units of:
 - a. (1) Foreign languages;

- b. (2) Native American languages;
 - e. (3) Fine arts; or
 - d. (4) Career and technical education courses; and
7. g. Any five additional units.
2. If approved by the board of a school district or nonpublic school, a school district or nonpublic school may develop eligibility criteria or programmatic requirements to allow a passing score on the relevant portions of the GED assessment to receive credit for the corresponding requirements of subdivisions a through d of subsection 1.

SECTION 2. AMENDMENT. Section 15.1-21-02.3 of the North Dakota Century Code is amended and reenacted as follows:

15.1-21-02.3. Optional high school curriculum - Requirements.

1. If after completing at least two years of high school a student has failed to pass at least one-half unit from three ~~subsections~~subdivisions in subsection 1 of section ~~15.1-21-02.1~~15.1-21-02.2 or has a grade point average at or below the twenty-fifth percentile of other students in the district who are enrolled in the same grade, the student may request ~~that~~ the student's career advisor, guidance counselor, or principal meet with the student and the student's parent to determine ~~if~~whether the student should be permitted to pursue an optional high school curriculum, in place of the requirements set forth in section ~~15.1-21-02.1~~15.1-21-02.2. If a student's parent consents in writing to the student pursuing the optional high school curriculum, the student is eligible to receive a high school diploma upon completing the following requirements:
- 4. a. Four units of English language arts from a sequence that includes literature, composition, and speech;
 - 2. b. Two units of mathematics;
 - 3. c. Two units of science;
 - 4. d. Three units of social studies, which may include up to one-half unit of North Dakota studies and one-half unit of multicultural studies;
 - 5. ~~a-e.~~ (1) One unit of physical education; or
 - b. (2) One-half unit of physical education and one-half unit of health;
 - 6. f. Two units of:
 - a. (1) Foreign languages;
 - b. (2) Native American languages;
 - e. (3) Fine arts; or
 - d. (4) Career and technical education courses; and
 - 7. g. Any seven additional units.
2. If approved by the board of a school district or nonpublic school, a school district or nonpublic school may develop eligibility criteria or programmatic requirements to allow a passing score on the relevant portions of the GED assessment to receive credit for the corresponding requirements of subdivisions a through d of subsection 1.

B. Sanford
President of the Senate

Karen A. Hoegh
Speaker of the House

Brandi Meyer
Secretary of the Senate

Bruce I. Reist
Chief Clerk of the House

This certifies that the within bill originated in the Senate of the Sixty-seventh Legislative Assembly of North Dakota and is known on the records of that body as Senate Bill No. 2147.

Senate Vote: Yeas 44 Nays 2 Absent 1

House Vote: Yeas 89 Nays 3 Absent 1

Brandi Meyer
Secretary of the Senate

Received by the Governor at 10:33 AM on March 18, 2021.

Approved at 5:44 PM on March 22, 2021.

Doug Burgum
Governor

Filed in this office this 23rd day of March, 2021,

at 8:21 o'clock A. M.

Abigail Spanberger
Secretary of State