



NORTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY
Welcomes applications and nominations for the position of
PRESIDENT

NDSU NORTH DAKOTA
STATE UNIVERSITY

FARGO, NORTH DAKOTA



TABLE OF CONTENTS

| | |
|--|----|
| Introduction..... | 1 |
| Mission Statement..... | 2 |
| About North Dakota State University | 3 |
| Fast Facts..... | 4 |
| Points of Pride..... | 5 |
| A University Rising with Purpose | 6 |
| Charting a Path from Momentum to Action | 7 |
| Realizing NDSU’s Future | 8 |
| Fargo and the Greater Region..... | 9 |
| North Dakota: A State Built for Possibility..... | 10 |
| Academic Overview..... | 11 |
| Honors College Established..... | 12 |
| Fiscal Position and Management | 13 |
| Research and Innovation | 14 |
| Agriculture Research and Extension | 15 |
| Athletics..... | 16 |
| Bison Life and Success..... | 17 |
| Foundation and Philanthropy | 18 |
| The Opportunity for the Next President..... | 19 |
| Search Details..... | 20 |

A NEW HORIZON

North Dakota State University begins its presidential search at a defining moment for both the institution and the state it serves. As North Dakota's land-grant research university and a Carnegie R1 institution, NDSU advances knowledge and opportunity across all 53 counties—driving innovation, strengthening communities, and preparing students to lead in a changing world.

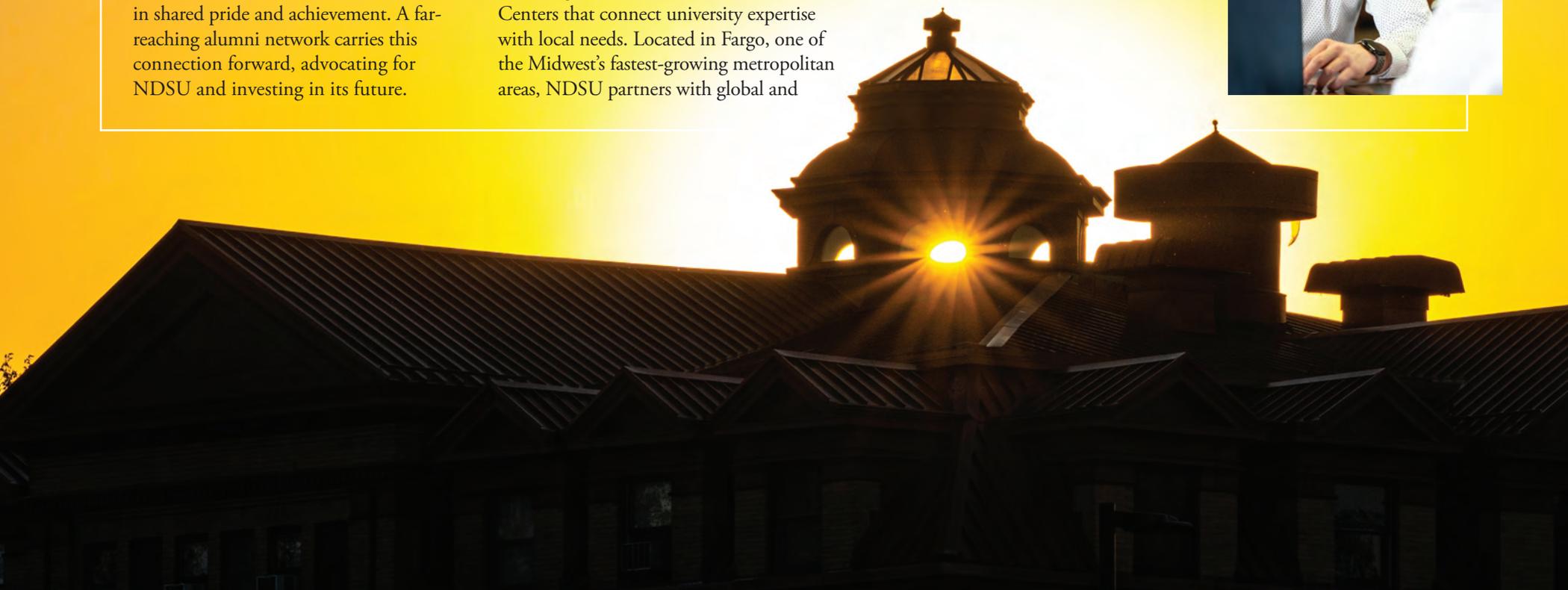
At its core, NDSU is shaped by the spirit of the Bison (pronounced Bi-zin): grounded, forward-thinking, and authentic. That spirit shows up in classrooms and laboratories, in the field and job sites, and across Division I athletics that unite students, alumni, and North Dakotans in shared pride and achievement. A far-reaching alumni network carries this connection forward, advocating for NDSU and investing in its future.

Students are at the center of everything NDSU does. They learn from world-class faculty, including scholars ranked among the top 2% of most cited researchers globally, and benefit from an environment that blends academic excellence with hands-on, real-world experience. In FY2025 alone, the university secured \$93.5 million in external funding to advance research in agriculture, materials science, food, energy and water security, cybersecurity and computer science, and the life sciences—work that translates discovery into practice and impact.

NDSU's land-grant mission is lived every day through its statewide presence, including seven Research Extension Centers that connect university expertise with local needs. Located in Fargo, one of the Midwest's fastest-growing metropolitan areas, NDSU partners with global and

regional leaders creating strong pathways from education to innovation to workforce. The results speak clearly. NDSU graduates the largest number of bachelor's students in the North Dakota University System, with 95% employed or continuing their education within six months. Most graduates remain in the region, reinvesting their talent and leadership in North Dakota's communities and economy.

Together, these strengths define a university on the rise—deeply mission-driven, people-centered, and positioned for its next chapter of leadership and impact.



MISSION STATEMENT

We provide transformational education, create knowledge through innovative research, and share knowledge through community engagement that meets the needs of North Dakota and the world.



**YEAR
FOUNDED** 1890

**ACADEMIC
COLLEGES** 5

- AGRICULTURE, FOOD SYSTEMS AND NATURAL RESOURCES
 - ARTS AND SCIENCES
 - BUSINESS
 - ENGINEERING
 - HEALTH AND HUMAN SCIENCES
-

**UNDERGRADUATE
MAJORS** 94

**GRADUATE
PROGRAMS** 116

**STUDENT-
FACULTY RATIO** 17:1

**AVERAGE
CLASS SIZE** 35

FACULTY 749

STAFF 1,868

ALUMNI 104,000





11,952 (fall 2025)
ENROLLMENT

| | |
|---------------------|-------|
| Undergraduate | 9,709 |
| Graduate | 2,243 |

98.4%
**FULL-TIME UNDERGRADUATE
ENROLLMENT**

NEW STUDENT PROFILE

| | |
|-------------------------------|------|
| Average high school GPA | 3.53 |
|-------------------------------|------|

GEOGRAPHIC ORIGIN

| | |
|---|-----|
| North Dakota..... | 39% |
| Minnesota..... | 44% |
| Other states, D.C. and Puerto Rico..... | 10% |
| International (from 73 countries) | 7% |

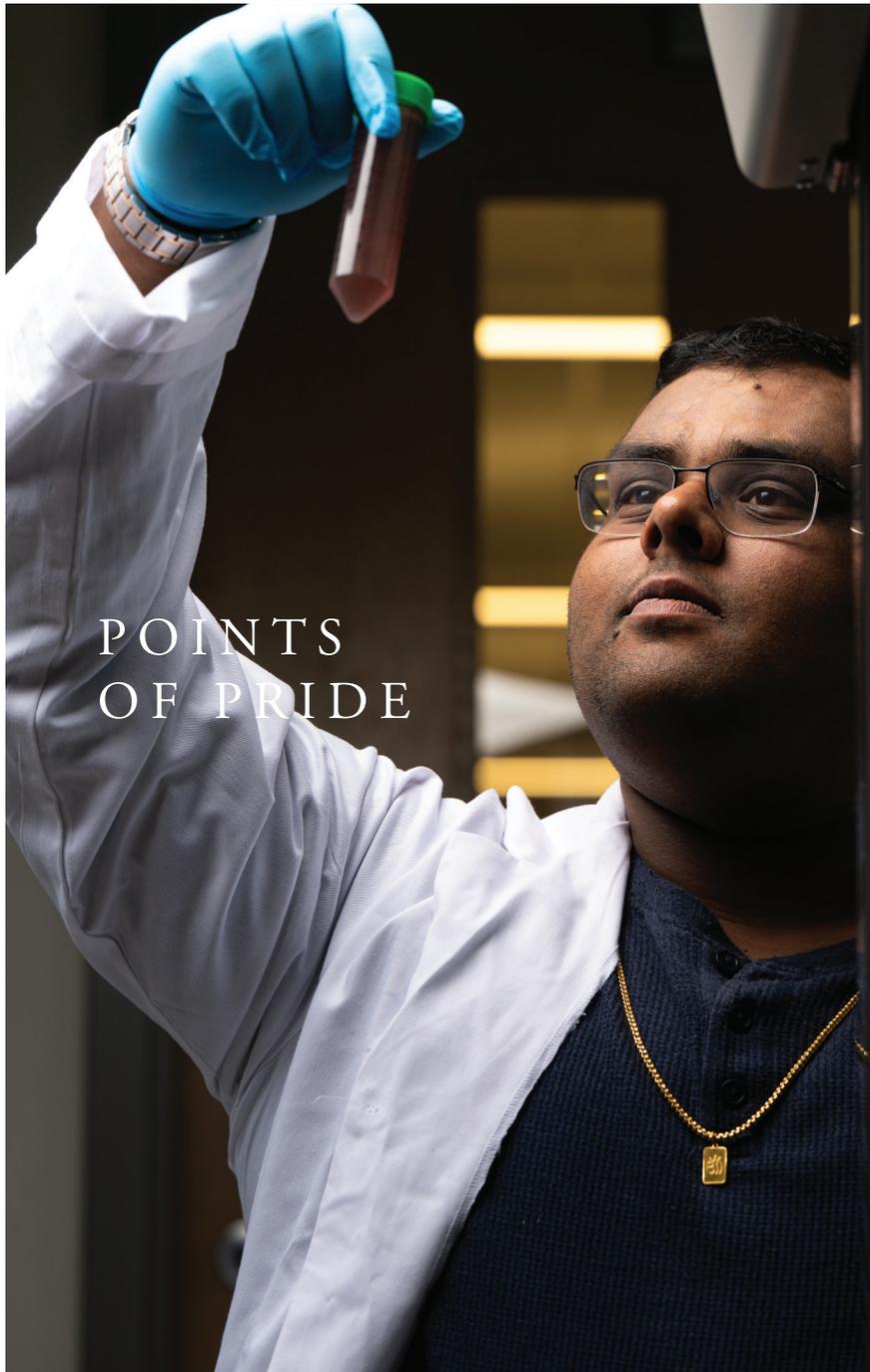
24%
PELL-ELIGIBLE STUDENTS

GENDER (UNDERGRADUATE)

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| Female..... | 51.2% |
| Male..... | 48.8% |

RACE/ETHNICITY

| | |
|-------------------------|-------|
| White..... | 77.7% |
| Asian | 5.8% |
| Black | 5.2% |
| Hispanic..... | 4.3% |
| Two or more races | 4.2% |
| Native American | 0.7% |
| Hawaiian..... | 0.2% |
| Not specified | 2% |



POINTS OF PRIDE

TOP 100 IN RESEARCH

NDSU ranks in the top 100 public research institutions with its fifth year of record-breaking expenditures (Most recent report: \$190.3 million in FY23).

STRONG FINANCIAL SUPPORT

State support for higher education in North Dakota remains strong, with advocacy for the impact of research and financial support that allows for competitive salaries.

LEADING DEGREE COMPLETION

NDSU awarded 3,090 degrees from Summer 2024 to Spring 2025, graduating the largest number of bachelor's and doctoral students in the North Dakota University System.

SUPPLYING THE WORKFORCE

When they graduate, 86% of our North Dakota students and 45% of our Minnesota students stay in North Dakota for their first job.

RISING RETENTION RATES

Retention rates have increased from 77% (Fall 2023) to 78.3% (Fall 2025) for first-time, first-year students.

OPPORTUNITIES BEYOND CLASSROOMS

More than 275 student clubs and organizations at NDSU provide platforms for personal growth, skill development and the creation of lifelong connections.

ATHLETIC EXCELLENCE

Bison student-athletes have earned 96 conference championships and 10 Division I football titles. Beginning in 2026, the football program will compete at the FBS level as a member of the Mountain West Conference.



PELTIER COMPLEX

A UNIVERSITY RISING WITH PURPOSE

NDSU’s forward momentum is taking shape with purpose, powered by strategic investments that advance learning, research impact, and statewide service.

On campus, next-generation facilities are accelerating discovery. The Richard Offerdahl ’65 Engineering Complex, opening next fall, expands capacity in engineering, computer science, and applied technologies through collaborative, hands-on learning, while Sugihara Hall, built in 2023, elevates teaching and research in the sciences with laboratory-intensive, technology-rich environments.

The Agricultural Corridor rises along the western edge of campus anchored by the Peltier Complex and strengthened by the forthcoming Bolley Agricultural Laboratory (2026), where teaching, applied research, and industry collaboration will intersect. NDeavor, the NDSU Research and Technology Park, connects industry partners, entrepreneurs, and faculty to develop new technologies, accelerate commercialization, and expand high-impact student opportunities.

In downtown Fargo, the College of Business establishes an innovation

district with nearby Klai Hall, home to architecture and landscape architecture, and Renaissance Hall, home to visual arts and design. The Challey Institute for Global Innovation and Growth convenes students, faculty, and partners around evidence-based research that informs policy and drives economic opportunity.

Equally central is NDSU’s statewide Extension network, translating university knowledge into action through county offices, Research Extension Centers, and field days that connect campus expertise to communities across North Dakota.



SUGIHARA HALL



BARRY HALL (DOWNTOWN FARGO)



CHARTING THE PATH FROM MOMENTUM TO ACTION

New Horizon: NDSU 2035, an investment made in NDSU from the North Dakota legislature, provides the next president with a clear and actionable framework for advancing NDSU's academic future. Developed through broad engagement across campus and the state, the plan directs investment toward programs that strengthen NDSU's mission and expand its impact.

The framework calls for a continued focus on student success and supports growth in the university's strongest academic areas, including agriculture, engineering, health professions, and biosciences. It also encourages expansion into emerging fields such as robotics and automation, agricultural technology, materials science and engineering, and artificial intelligence.

For the next president, New Horizon represents an opportunity to guide academic innovation, strengthen faculty excellence, and ensure that NDSU remains a responsive, relevant, and future-focused university for North Dakota and the region.



REALIZING NDSU'S FUTURE

NDSU is ready to accelerate innovation and build a more future-ready university for North Dakota and the region. The institution has laid a strong foundation by prioritizing student success, advancing its R1 research enterprise, investing in its people, and embracing its essential land-grant role.

The next president will have the opportunity to take this work further and faster, by helping guide a new strategic planning process that will set priorities through 2030. NDSU is prepared to reimagine academic models that align with workforce needs; expand enrollment by opening new student markets and delivery pathways; and build innovative partnerships that diversify revenue and deepen community and industry engagement. Technology-enabled solutions, new program structures, and a stronger ecosystem for innovation are all within reach.

This is a moment for bold leadership. **The next president will join a campus eager for forward movement, ready to design new approaches, and committed to building a resilient NDSU that drives student achievement, research impact, and economic growth for the entire state.**



FARGO AND THE GREATER REGION

One of the most compelling aspects of this presidency is the opportunity to live and lead in the Fargo-Moorhead region, one of the Midwest’s fastest-growing metropolitan areas. Home to more than 260,000 residents, the region blends the energy of a modern city with the friendliness, resilience, and ingenuity that define the Red River Valley. Its economy extends far beyond its agricultural roots, with strengths in technology, healthcare,

finance, education, manufacturing, and government. A strong start-up ecosystem and deep talent pipeline have earned Fargo national attention as a rising tech center and one of the nation’s most promising destinations for entrepreneurs.

Industry and community leaders such as Aldevron, American Crystal Sugar Company, Bell Bank, Border States, Doosan Bobcat, Emerging Prairie, Folkways, Gate City Bank,

Grand Farm, John Deere, Marvin, Microsoft, Mortenson, Sanford Health, the Fargo Moorhead West Fargo Chamber and Greater Fargo-Moorhead Economic Development Corporation drive a dynamic regional economy. With low unemployment, a favorable tax climate, and a cost of living below the national average, the community attracts talent and continues to rank among the nation’s top regions for opportunity and quality of life.

The region also embraces its “North of Normal” identity with a vibrant arts scene, a revitalized downtown, and outdoor recreation. Community gatherings and traditions span all seasons, providing opportunities to build community and connection to the university. **For the next president of NDSU, Fargo-Moorhead offers an exceptional place to work, lead, and call home.**

NORTH DAKOTA: A STATE BUILT FOR POSSIBILITY

North Dakota offers a rare blend of natural beauty, economic strength, and community spirit. From the prairies and badlands to the growing metro of Fargo–Moorhead, the state pairs wide-open landscapes with a culture defined by connection, resilience, and optimism.

Yes—Fargo can be cold, but summers are unmatched, and year-round traditions keep people woven together. Farmers' markets, outdoor concerts, a winter parade of lights, and community gatherings make this a place where

people show up for one another in every season.

North Dakota's economy is strong and forward-moving. Agriculture remains foundational, and the state's position as a major energy producer is supported by its abundant natural resources and ongoing innovation, in the Bakken formation and beyond. Growing sectors in technology, health, manufacturing, and ag-tech create a dynamic environment where businesses invest and talent thrives.

Momentum is rising with the upcoming opening of the Theodore Roosevelt Presidential Library and its promise to bring national attention to the region, sparking new opportunities in education, tourism, and innovation.

For the next president, North Dakota offers not just a place to lead, but a place to belong—an environment that values its flagship university, embraces innovation, and looks confidently toward the future.





ACADEMIC OVERVIEW

NDSU's academic enterprise reflects the strength of a leading R1 land-grant university. With more than 200 undergraduate and graduate degree programs, NDSU prepares students for high-demand careers and fuels a research culture where graduate students and undergraduates work alongside faculty to address real-world challenges across North Dakota and the region. The university awarded 3,090 degrees from Summer 2024 to Spring 2025, graduating the largest number of bachelor's students in the North Dakota University System. Student outcomes are strong: 95% of graduates are employed or pursuing further education within six months, and NDSU serves as a powerful workforce engine with 86% of North Dakota students and 45% of Minnesota students staying in state for their first job. NDSU is also the top out-of-state destination for Minnesota high school graduates.

In recent years, NDSU has taken intentional steps to align its academic offerings with student demand and workforce needs. The university strengthened pathways in high-growth fields, modernized academic

structures to enhance collaboration, and expanded online and hybrid programs to reach more learners across North Dakota, Minnesota, and beyond. Enrollment is stabilizing with 11,952 students in Fall 2025, rising first-year retention, and the largest in-person student population in the state. With 89% of students pursuing on-campus programs, NDSU delivers the kind of immersive educational experience that supports persistence, engagement, and success.

AGRICULTURE

NDSU's leadership in agriculture, food systems, natural resources, and AgTech is nationally recognized. These programs are supported by advanced research facilities, industry partnerships, and faculty who are widely cited for excellence, including many recognized among the top 2% of researchers in the world.

ENGINEERING AND ROBOTICS

Engineering represents another cornerstone of academic excellence. NDSU produces 64% of the engineers and computer scientists employed in North Dakota, making it the state's primary talent pipeline.

This strength is reflected in substantial investment, including \$59 million in state funding and \$40 million in philanthropic support for the new Richard Offerdahl '65 Engineering Complex, a next-generation facility opening in fall 2026 that will elevate interdisciplinary learning, discovery, and industry engagement.

HEALTH

Health professions strengthen NDSU's reach and impact across North Dakota and provide a critical asset for the state's healthcare workforce. NDSU has the largest undergraduate nursing program in the state, with 973 students in Fargo and Bismarck, and is home to North Dakota's only accredited pharmacy program. Degree options in Public Health serve to improve the health and well-being of communities in the state, region and beyond.

DISTINCTIVE ACADEMIC AREAS

The College of Business strengthens the region's economic engine through high-demand programs in supply chain management and business analytics, ensuring students stay on pace with rapidly evolving fields.

Across the arts, humanities, and the sciences—including signature strengths such as the Coatings and Polymeric Materials program—students gain the communication, creativity, critical thinking, and civic leadership skills that define adaptable, future-ready graduates.

NDSU also offers the state's only accredited architecture program. Together, these disciplines fuel innovation and meet the evolving workforce needs of North Dakota and the broader region.

Together, these strengths reflect a university committed to student success, faculty excellence, and statewide service. NDSU graduates launch strong careers, stay in the region, and reinvest their talent in North Dakota—demonstrating exceptional return on investment for students and for the state. **For the next president, this academic foundation offers extraordinary opportunity to extend NDSU's reach, strengthen its impact, and lead the university into its next era of growth and discovery.**



HONORS COLLEGE ESTABLISHED

NDSU's newly established Honors College represents a bold step forward in the university's academic evolution. Rooted in a belief in abundance—of curiosity, talent, and possibility—the Honors College will create a distinctive learning environment where high-achieving students are encouraged to stretch their imagination, pursue ambitious questions, and engage deeply across disciplines.

Through enriched coursework, close faculty mentorship, undergraduate research, and experiential learning, the Honors College elevates academic excellence while strengthening NDSU's broader intellectual ecosystem. **This will be an opportunity for the next president to elevate NDSU's academic experience through the Honors College, with its new leadership, and for students and the broader campus and community.**

FISCAL POSITION AND MANAGEMENT

NDSU maintains a solid financial foundation and a reputation for disciplined, strategic resource management. The annual budget for FY2026 exceeds \$650M, and the university consistently earns strong credit ratings—AA- from S&P Global and Aa3 from Moody's—and posted a Composite Financial Index of 5.19 in FY2024, well above the benchmark for institutional strength.

While higher education faces significant pressures nationwide, NDSU has demonstrated resilience through adaptive budgeting, program realignment, and innovative financial models. The institution carries a comparatively low debt burden (\$127.9M) and maintains strong liquidity, positioning it to navigate uncertainty while continuing to invest in mission-critical priorities.

NDSU benefits from strong support from the State of North Dakota and unparalleled donor engagement, with long-standing relationships that provide stability and opportunity for future growth. This financial strength is paired with a disciplined financial management team using sound practices of responsibility-centered management. **It provides a foundation for the next president to lead with confidence, balancing fiscal responsibility with strategic growth in an evolving landscape.**

AA- S&P GLOBAL RATING
(STABLE OUTLOOK)

AA3 MOODY'S
BOND RATING

5.19 COMPOSITE FINANCIAL
INDEX FY2024

OLD MAIN

RESEARCH AND INNOVATION: A FOUNDATION OF STRENGTH

NDSU's research enterprise reflects the capacity and vision of a dynamic R1 land-grant university. Its work is deeply applied, industry-connected, and rooted in service to North Dakota, translating ideas into practical solutions, strengthening critical sectors, and fueling statewide innovation.

SIGNATURE RESEARCH STRENGTHS

- Biosciences and health research spanning molecular biology, biomedical sciences, pharmaceutical sciences, and public health
- Engineering research in advanced composites and nanomaterials, energy technologies, water quality improvement, resilient transportation infrastructure, and sustainable building practices
- Agriculture research excellence in crop breeding and production systems and emerging AgTech tools such as UAV weed mapping and AI-driven analytics for resilient, low-input crops

RESEARCH INFRASTRUCTURE AND ECOSYSTEM

NDSU's Peltier Complex houses the Northern Crops Institute (NCI), NDSU's food, meat, and cereal-science labs, as well as US Department of Agriculture (USDA) offices, and the North Dakota Trade Office. Such facilities create a unified hub of agricultural research, trade, and innovation.

Applied research, policy analysis, and economic modeling are generated by collaborative groups such as the Challey Institute for Global Innovation and Growth, the Center for Agricultural Policy and Trade Studies, the Agricultural Risk Policy Center, and the Upper Great Plains Transportation Institute.

The NDeavor Barry D. Batcheller Tech Park connects industry partners, entrepreneurs, and university researchers to solve problems, test technologies, and accelerate commercialization.

The university's strong portfolio of funding includes support from NSF, USDA, NIH, DoD, DOE, NOAA, and DHS.

NDSU is the lead organization for an NSF Regional Innovation Engine and an NSF I-Corps Hub.

\$190.3 million
IN RESEARCH EXPENDITURES*

97
RANKED 97 OUT OF 420 PUBLIC
RESEARCH UNIVERSITIES*

\$93.5 million
EXTERNAL RESEARCH AWARDS

\$93.5 million in external research and instructional awards from federal, state, and private partners (FY25)

740+
ACTIVE RESEARCH PROJECTS
Supported by federal, state, commodity, industry, and nonprofit partners

TOP 2%
RESEARCH FACULTY

36 faculty members named among the top 2% most-cited researchers in the world (2024 Stanford University and Elsevier list)

150
ACTIVE PATENTS

150 active patents and 123 active plant variety protections managed by the NDSU Research Foundation, generating \$1.1 million in FY25

*FY23 NSF HERD Survey, most recent data available

AGRICULTURE RESEARCH AND EXTENSION

NDSU Agriculture's Research and Extension network is one of the strongest expressions of the university's land-grant mission, carrying education and innovation into communities across North Dakota. Through Extension county offices, Research Extension Centers, and hands-on programming, NDSU Agriculture empowers farmers, families, youth, and local leaders to solve challenges and strengthen their communities. Its work spans food systems, 4-H youth development, leadership, family wellbeing, and ag-tech. It fosters university research that is practical with big impact as solutions meet community needs. NDSU Agriculture's statewide outreach offers the next president meaningful opportunities to connect directly with stakeholders, deepen partnerships across the state, and reinforce NDSU's role as North Dakota's trusted partner in service, discovery, and opportunity.

53
COUNTIES, PLUS 4 NATIVE
AMERICAN RESERVATIONS
SERVED BY NDSU EXTENSION

7
STATEWIDE RESEARCH
EXTENSION CENTERS

~20,000
ACRES IN RESEARCH
OPERATIONS

\$840+ million
CAPITAL RESEARCH ASSETS





ATHLETICS

NDSU athletics embody the energy, pride, and competitive spirit that define the university. Competing in NCAA Division I across 16 varsity sports, the Bison are nationally recognized for excellence and resilience. Student-athletes have earned 96 conference championships, and the football program stands among the most successful in college sports history, with 10 Division I FCS national championships since 2011 and 18 national titles overall. NDSU enters a new chapter in 2026 as the university transitions its football program to the Football Bowl Subdivision as a football-only member of the Mountain West Conference, advancing to one of college athletics' most visible national stages.

Game-day energy is amplified by the Gold Star Marching Band, whose unmistakable sound rallies fans and strengthens pride across North Dakota and beyond. Across all sports, student-athletes excel academically and athletically, supported by an engaged alumni network and passionate fan base.

Team Makers, the university's dedicated athletic fundraising partner, plays a vital role in supporting scholarships, facilities, and programs that keep NDSU competitive at the highest level. **For the next president, Bison athletics offer a highly visible platform to engage alumni, inspire community pride, and reinforce the spirit of the Herd.**

WOMEN'S
BASKETBALL
CROSS COUNTRY
GOLF
SOCCER
SOFTBALL
TRACK AND FIELD
VOLLEYBALL

MEN'S
BASEBALL
BASKETBALL
CROSS COUNTRY
FOOTBALL
GOLF
TRACK AND FIELD
WRESTLING





BISON LIFE AND SUCCESS

For a president, the rhythm of NDSU's campus life is unmistakable. Students arrive with a deep sense of purpose and quickly find a culture where ambition is shared, support is personal, and belonging is real. Traditions such as Homecoming, a first walk through the university gates, Serve with the Herd service days, performances in Challey Hall, and game days that rally the entire region create visible moments of pride and shared experience among students, families, alumni, and the broader community.

Bison life thrives in connectivity. Living-learning communities, student organizations, undergraduate research, intramurals, leadership programs, and community celebrations keep campus vibrant from morning through evening.

NDSU's commitment to student success is clear and intentional. Centralized professional advising for first- and second-year students provides consistent, personalized guidance, while shared governance ensures students have a real voice in shaping the university, including student leaders serving on the President's cabinet.

Students consistently describe NDSU as a place where they are known, challenged, and supported. For the next president, this is a campus rich with energy and pride—where leadership is visible, impact is personal, and the Bison experience shapes lives long after graduation.



FOUNDATION AND PHILANTHROPY: POWERING NDSU'S NEXT CHAPTER

The NDSU Foundation is a strategic partner in advancing the university's mission, aligning philanthropy with institutional priorities, and accelerating impact across North Dakota. With a purpose of building enduring relationships that maximize advocacy and giving in support of NDSU, the Foundation serves alumni, industry partners, donors, and the broader Bison community with clarity and intention. In the past decade the Foundation has raised more than \$800 million in philanthropic support and grown its endowment from \$134 million in 2015 to more than \$550 million as of September 2025, enabling the university to expand scholarships, research, teaching, athletics, and capital investments. Powering the next era of growth, the Foundation's 2025-2027 strategic plan

is structured around four key priorities: Connect, Give, Impact, and Serve—each designed to deepen relationships, drive fundraising, deliver measurable support to campus, and strengthen the Foundation's own capabilities.

For the next president, the Foundation offers an extraordinary opportunity: a dynamic philanthropic engine with a strong track record, aligned strategic goals, and a broad partner network ready to mobilize. The next leader will partner with the Foundation to support NDSU's initiatives that focus on student success, faculty excellence, program innovation, industry alignment, and statewide reach—and ensure that every gift advances the land-grant mission of service, discovery, and opportunity.

PHILANTHROPY AT A GLANCE

- \$800 million+ raised in the past decade
- Endowment growth from \$134 million (2015) to \$550 million (Sept. 2025)
- 2025-2027 strategic goals: Connect • Give • Impact • Serve
 - » Raise \$200 million+ in fundraising over three years
 - » Provide \$121 million in campus support
- Recent strategic capital investments enabled:
 - » Challey Hall
 - » Peltier Complex
 - » Bolley Agricultural Lab
 - » Richard Offerdahl '65 Engineering Complex
 - » Nodak Insurance Company Football Performance Complex



THE OPPORTUNITY FOR THE NEXT PRESIDENT

This is an extraordinary opportunity to be part of a university on the rise, in a state that fosters innovation and a city built for bold ideas. NDSU calls upon strategic, visionary leaders to help ignite a future driven by impact and lasting success.

The next president of NDSU will embody the values, vision, and spirit of a land-grant, R1 institution rising with purpose. NDSU seeks a leader who reflects the strength of the Bison community and who is prepared to guide a university that serves the entire state.

DESIRED LEADERSHIP QUALITIES AND PRIORITIES

Leads with integrity and clarity

Demonstrates principled decision-making, communicates openly about challenges and solutions, and sets clear expectations while holding self and others accountable.

Advances enrollment and student success

Bolsters innovative, technology-driven strategies to attract learners of all ages; embraces enrollment practices that prioritize flexibility, personalization, and accessibility, creating meaningful connections between students and the university to support lifelong learning and success.

Puts students at the center

Maintains a strong campus presence, listens actively, and prioritizes student success, safety, and affordability.

Supports excellence in teaching and learning

Champions high-quality instruction in the classroom and laboratory; invests in faculty development, modern learning environments, and hands-on experiences that prepare students for research, careers, and lifelong learning.

Places research at the forefront

Protects and advances NDSU's R1 research status; invests in recruiting and retaining top faculty; strengthens research infrastructure; and champions interdisciplinary discovery, applied innovation, and commercialization that benefit North Dakota and the region.

Elevates NDSU's land-grant mission

Champions agriculture, Extension, and statewide service; ensures teaching and research address the economic, workforce, and community needs of North Dakota.

Brings strategic, forward-thinking leadership

Navigates financial pressures and enrollment dynamics with discipline and adaptability; leads planning and budgeting with a long-view approach that strengthens institutional resilience.

Builds strong state relationships

Earns trust with legislators and policymakers; communicates NDSU's value to the state's economy; and secures fair, sustainable support for the university.

Expands educational access and affordability

Implements strategies to recruit and retain a diverse student body; grows online and hybrid offerings; and strengthens affordability through scholarships and thoughtful cost management.

Cultivates philanthropy and partnerships

Demonstrates success with donors, alumni, industry partners, and community leaders; diversifies revenue streams to fuel academic innovation, research excellence, and student opportunity.



Strengthens a culture of collaboration and shared governance

Engages transparently with faculty, staff, and students; fosters consensus while driving timely action; recognizes employee well-being as essential to teaching, research, and service excellence; and upholds academic freedom and the integrity of the university's processes.

Aligns programs with workforce needs and emerging fields

Ensures NDSU's academic offerings meet the state's talent demands; embraces innovation in digital learning and AI while safeguarding academic excellence.

Navigates the complexities of Division I athletics

Understands the strategic role of athletics in institutional identity; supports student-athlete success; builds strong relationships with athletic leadership and Team Makers; and adeptly manages the evolving NCAA Division I landscape—including NDSU's transition to FBS competition in the Mountain West Conference—to sustain competitive excellence and institutional pride.

Embodies North Dakota values and long-term commitment

Understands the character, pace, and priorities of the state; builds authentic relationships; and demonstrates a dedication to leading NDSU for the long term—not as a stepping stone, but as a calling.



SEARCH DETAILS

FEBRUARY 16 AT 5 P.M.

Applications required
for full consideration

MARCH 2 - 3

First-round virtual interviews

MARCH 9 - 10

Semi-finalist interviews in-person

MARCH 23-27

Finalist campus visits

WEEK OF MARCH 30

Interview with State Board of Higher
Education and selection



APPLICATIONS AND NOMINATIONS

Academic Search is assisting NDSU and the Presidential Search Committee in this search. Applications and nominations may be sent in confidence to NDSUPresident@academicsearch.org.

Applications should consist of a substantive cover letter, a curriculum vitae, and a list of five professional references with full contact information. No references will be contacted without the explicit permission of the candidate. The search will remain open until the position is filled, but only applications received by February 16, 2026, can be assured full consideration.

Confidential discussions about this opportunity are encouraged and may be arranged by contacting Jay Lemons (jay.lemons@academicsearch.org), Lisa Ryan (lisa.ryan@academicsearch.org), or Jennifer Kooken (jennifer.kooken@academicsearch.org).



NDSU does not discriminate in its programs and activities on the basis of age, color, gender expression/identity, genetic information, marital status, national origin, participation in lawful off-campus activity, physical or mental disability, pregnancy, public assistance status, race, religion, sex, sexual orientation, spousal relationship to current employee, or veteran status, as applicable. Direct inquiries to: Vice Provost, Title IX/ADA Coordinator, Old Main 201, 701-231-7708, ndsueoaa@ndsuedu.