



GLOSSARY OF TERMS - 2023

504	Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act: federal law that guarantees certain rights to people with disabilities
ACA	Affordable Care Act: signed into law by President Barack Obama in 2010, also known as the Patient Protection and Affordable Care Act (PPACA), responsible for the most sweeping reforms of the United States' healthcare system since the 1965 passage of Medicare and Medicaid; designed to lower the uninsured rate and introduce insurance exchanges
ACT	A standardized test to measure high school achievement. It is also often used for college and university admission.
ADA	Americans with Disabilities Act: federal law that prohibits discrimination against individuals with disabilities
ADM	Average Daily Membership: number of students enrolled in a class or school district, averaged over the school year
AG	Attorney General: chief legal counsel and advisor to state government in North Dakota
ARPA	American Rescue Plan Act: passed by Congress in 2021 and included \$122.7 billion in supplemental ESSER funding
BCI	Bureau of Criminal Investigation: assists local, state, and federal law enforcement agencies in criminal and drug enforcement investigations; maintains criminal history and sex offender registration systems
BIA	Bureau of Indian Affairs: responsible for the administration and management of land held in trust by the United States for Native Americans in the United States, Native American Tribes, and Alaska Natives
BIE	Bureau of Indian Education: funds and provides oversight to elementary and secondary schools located on reservations throughout the United States
BIP	Behavioral Intervention Plan: lays out how a school will improve difficult behavior that inhibits a student's academic success
CFR	Code of Federal Regulations: a codification of regulations implemented by agencies of the federal government
COBRA	Consolidated Omnibus Budget Reconciliation Act: allows former employees and retirees to continue medical insurance that had been offered by their employer (for up to 18 months); premiums are paid by the former employee/retiree
Cognia	A nonprofit organization that provides school accreditation and school improvement services
COSA	Council of School Attorneys: national association of school law attorneys

CTE	Career and Technical Education: provides students with academic and technical skills, knowledge, and training to succeed in future careers.
DPI	Department of Public Instruction: North Dakota's state agency for public education
ED	U. S. Department of Education: oversees implementation of and compliance with federal education programs
EduTech	Provides information technology services and education technology professional development to K-12 educators in North Dakota
EEOC	Equal Employment Opportunity Commission: federal agency in charge of administrative and judicial enforcement of the federal civil rights laws and the provision of compliance education and technical assistance
EL	English Learner: a student who is linguistically diverse and who is identified using state approved assessment and evidence as having a level of English proficiency that requires language support to achieve standards in grade level coherent in English
ESEA	Elementary and Secondary Education Act: federal law governing all public K-12 schools that originated in 1965
ESPB	Education Standards and Practices Board: North Dakota's licensing board for teachers and administrators
ESSA	Every Student Succeeds Act: federal law passed in December 2015 that governs K-12 education policy; replaced the <i>No Child Left Behind Act</i>
ESSER	Elementary and Secondary School Emergency Relief Fund: In 2020-21, Congress passed three stimulus bills that provided nearly \$190.5 billion to public schools via states
FAPE	Free Appropriate Public Education: educational right of children with disabilities in the United States that is guaranteed by the Rehabilitation Act of 1973 and the Individuals with Disabilities Education Act (IDEA)
FERPA	Family Educational Rights and Privacy Act: federal law protecting the privacy of student education records
FLSA	Fair Labor Standards Act: federal law that establishes minimum wage, overtime pay, record-keeping, and youth employment standards affecting full-time and part-time workers in the private sector and in federal, state, and local governments
FMLA	Family and Medical Leave Act: federal law granting up to 12 weeks of unpaid leave for an employee's illness, serious illness of a member of employee's immediate family, or to care for a newborn child or newly placed adopted or foster child during the first year of the newborn's life or the placement
FTE	Full-Time Equivalent: artificial number that is found by adding full- and part-time positions and dividing by 1

GAC	Government Affairs Committee: NDSBA committee that reviews resolutions and recommends legislative positions to the Association
IDEA	Individuals with Disabilities Education Act: federal law that makes available a free, appropriate public education to eligible children with disabilities and ensures special education and related services to these children
IEP	Individual Education Program: education plan developed by a team of educators along with the parents of a child with disabilities designed to improve educational results for children with disabilities
ITD	Information Technology Department: North Dakota ITD hosts and maintains the Statewide Longitudinal Data System (SLDS)
LEA	Local Education Agency: term used in federal law to refer to a local school district
LEP	Limited English Proficient: individuals unable to communicate effectively in English
LRE	Least Restrictive Environment: term used under the IDEA meaning that a student with a disability should have an opportunity to be educated with non-disabled peers as much as possible
Mill	Represents 1/1000 of a dollar (e.g., a mill rate of 100 mills represents taxes of \$.10 per \$1 of taxable valuation)
MOE	Maintenance of Effort: federal requirement that schools must show that the level of state and local funding remains relatively constant from year to year
MTSS	Multi-Tier System of Supports: framework to provide all students with the best opportunities to succeed academically and behaviorally in school
NDAC	North Dakota Administrative Code: administrative rules issued by state agencies
NAEP	National Assessment of Educational Progress: the “Nation’s Report Card”; assesses achievement of students and provides data for comparing performance among states
NDASBM	North Dakota Association of School Business Managers: affiliate organization of the ND School Boards Association, founded in 1981, that provides training, networking, and professional growth to school business managers
NDCC	North Dakota Century Code: laws passed by the North Dakota Legislative Assembly
NDCEL	North Dakota Council of Educational Leaders: association of eleven organizations of school administrators
NDHSAA	North Dakota High School Activities Association: organization of public and private high schools that controls school-sponsored extracurricular activities in the state
NDIRF	North Dakota Insurance Reserve Fund: insurance pool that insures North Dakota governmental entities; includes most North Dakota public school districts

NDPERS	North Dakota Public Employees Retirement System: retirement program for public employees in the state; employees of political subdivisions may participate in NDPERS if their governing boards elect to participate
NDSBA	North Dakota School Boards Association: voluntary organization of public school district boards in North Dakota
NDSBMCP	North Dakota School Business Manager Certification Program: structured training program for school district business managers offered through NDSBA
NDSOS	North Dakota Small Organized Schools: organization formed to support small rural schools in the state
NDU	North Dakota United: an organization created by the merger of the North Dakota Education Association (NDEA) and the North Dakota Public Employees Association (NDPEA); includes teachers employed by North Dakota school districts--often referred to as the "teachers' union"
NDUC GROUP ACCOUNT	
	North Dakota Unemployment Compensation Group Account: program offered by NDSBA to handle unemployment issues that include monitoring of claims and payment of claims from the Group Account pool
NDUS	North Dakota University System: public system of higher education and policy coordination in North Dakota
NEA	National Education Association: largest national labor union; includes teachers and school support staff
NSLP	National School Lunch Program: federally assisted meal program operating in public and nonprofit private schools and residential childcare institutions that provides nutritionally balanced, low-cost or free lunches to children each school day
OCR	Office of Civil Rights: agency that is part of the U. S. Department of Education and is charged with enforcing civil rights laws applicable to public schools and universities; most commonly known for its involvement in bullying and harassment investigations
PII	Personally Identifiable Information: includes information that can be used alone or in combination to trace a student's identity directly or indirectly
PLC	Professional Learning Community: group of educational professionals assembled for the purposes of collaborative learning and professional accountability
REA	Regional Education Associations: school districts across the state working cooperatively to improve educational services to students
RIF	Reduction in Force: term used for nonrenewal of a teacher's contract when the nonrenewal is for necessities of the district, such as lack of funds or declining enrollment, and is not based on the teacher's performance or qualifications

RTI	Response to Intervention: method of early identification and assistance to students with perceived learning difficulties
SLDS	Statewide Longitudinal Data System: stores current and historical data from K-12 education, higher ed, and workforce sources that gives decision makers access to data to help them make informed decisions
SNAP	Supplemental Nutrition Assistance Program: formerly the food stamp program
SRO	School Resource Officer: law enforcement officer assigned to provide security services in public schools
STARS	State Automated Reporting System: main reporting system used by the state to gather data from school districts
STEAM	Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math
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TFFR	Teachers' Fund for Retirement: North Dakota's retirement program for teachers and administrators
Title 1	A federal aid program under ESEA to provide schools with a high percentage of low-income families with additional funds to improve academic achievement
U.S.C.	United States Code: a codification of laws enacted by the U. S. Congress
USDA	United States Department of Agriculture: responsible for overseeing the National School Lunch Program (NSLP), School Breakfast Program (SBP), Fresh Fruit and Vegetable Program, and Special Milk Program
WSI	Workforce Safety and Insurance: formerly known as Workers Compensation; allows employees to file medical insurance and disability claims for injuries that occur while working for an employer