



# INDUSTRIAL COMMISSION OF NORTH DAKOTA

John Hoeven  
Governor

Wayne Stenehjem  
Attorney General

Roger Johnson  
Commissioner of Agriculture

News Release

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For Immediate Release

## **Bank of North Dakota unveils new CD-ROM as a one-stop shop for students and parents seeking college information**

BISMARCK - The Industrial Commission and Bank of North Dakota (BND) today unveiled "College Connection Center," a new, innovative CD - ROM, which is a computer CD that is in read only format. The CD-ROM is a one-stop shop as an educational resource designed to inform high school students about North Dakota colleges and universities, and to help them understand the financial aid process.

"We are giving students and parents information about our North Dakota colleges in a new, innovative and simple way." Gov. Hoeven said. "The College Connection Center provides comprehensive information, meets the needs of our students and promotes our schools. North Dakota has one of the finest higher education systems in the nation and we are linking students to that system and to the information needed to make decisions and to be prepared."

College Connection Center will be mailed out this week to the homes of high school juniors and seniors in North Dakota, in addition to high school seniors in select areas of Minnesota and South Dakota. They will also be mailed to high school counselors throughout North Dakota and be included in College SAVE information packets mailed to customers located out of state.

"By providing relevant information about the schools in the state," said Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, "we have an opportunity to showcase one of North Dakota's most valued and marketable assets - our higher education system. High school students can get a feel for campus life at each college by viewing videos and web sites through the CD."

"Choosing a college and applying for financial aid can be overwhelming experiences for students and families," said Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson. " Many don't know where to start or where to turn for help. College Connection Center, is a one-stop shop for students and families to help them on the path to a successful and enjoyable college experience."

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Bank of North Dakota worked in partnership with colleges throughout the state in attaining the information needed to create the project. "This is a perfect example of how we can work together to promote our quality higher education system both within the state and out of state," said Larry Isaak, Chancellor of the North Dakota University System. "The North Dakota University System appreciates the positive messages this project sends to students about our state's 11 public colleges and universities."

Bank of North Dakota president Eric Hardmeyer said the CD-ROM is a new approach in educating youth about a crucial part of their future. "At BND we invest in the people of North Dakota. By providing College Connection Center to North Dakota's youth, we can help them with one of their most important investments- their college education."

As the only state-owned bank in the nation, Bank of North Dakota is overseen by the Industrial Commission of North Dakota, consisting of Governor John Hoeven as Chairman, Attorney General Wayne Stenehjem, and Agriculture Commissioner Roger Johnson.

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Further Information: Contact Peggy Anderson (701) 328-5657