



NORTH DAKOTA

CERTIFICATION

According to its Title II report, North Dakota offers Type A, Type B, and Type C certification. Candidates receive licenses in North Dakota based on transcribed majors and minors from approved colleges of teacher education. Once an educator has received a valid license, he/she may add endorsements to the license. Endorsements can either extend the grade levels at which an educator may practice or add additional content areas.

Elementary Certification

Information pertaining to endorsements has been located, but no information on initial certification for elementary teachers has been found.

Middle-Level Certification

Information pertaining to endorsements for middle-level teachers has been located, but no information on initial certification for middle-level teachers has been found.

Secondary Certification

Social studies programs in North Dakota usually follow one of two patterns. The subject major pattern emphasizes one or more areas of the social studies and is supplemented by work in cognate areas. The composite major pattern requires a broad base of social studies including history, political science and civics, economics, geography, and sociology or psychology or cultural anthropology or global studies. Endorsements in history and composite social sciences are content area minor equivalency endorsements. The ME 16 level requires a minimum of 16 hours of content specific course work beyond the introductory level. The ME 24 endorsement requires a minimum of 24 hours in content specific course work beyond the introductory level and special methods of teaching in the content

area. The ME 24 is considered to be a full teaching minor. For the ME 16 a minimum of 6 hours of U.S. history and a minimum of 6 hours of world history are required. At the ME 24 level U.S. History I and II, Western Civilization I and II, or World History I and II and methods of teaching social science are required. The ME 16 is not available for the composite social science endorsement. The ME 24 requires courses in U.S. history, world civilization/world history, American government, world or physical geography, introduction to sociology, economics, psychology, and methods of teaching social science. A minimum of 6 hours is required in each course except American government to be teaching under the rules of accreditation.

STANDARDS

Standards for Teachers

The Educational Standards and Practices Board in North Dakota has created Program Approval Standards for social studies teachers. According to the state's Title II report, the standards parallel the INTASC Standards and NCATE requirements. The state explains, "In the subject major curriculum, the program requires the study of the nature and scope of history of the United States and globally and the study of a second social science beyond the introductory level." The program uses a variety of performance assessments of candidates' understanding and abilities to apply that knowledge. Examples of performance assessments may include how to

- ❖ identify and describe historical periods and patterns of change within and across civilizations such as the rise of nation-states, social, economic, and political revolutions;
- ❖ reconstruct and reinterpret the past using primary and secondary sources, checking their credibility, validating and weighing evidence for claims, and searching for causality;
- ❖ investigate, interpret, and analyze multiple historical and contemporary viewpoints within and across cultures related to important events, recurring dilemmas, and persistent issues, while employing skepticism and critical judgment; and
- ❖ examine the social, political, and economic interactions between peoples of different cultures and perspectives on gender relations and men's and women's contributions to historical change and compare and contrast these differing historic and contemporary experiences.

Standards for Students

North Dakota has devised content and performance standards for its students in social studies. There are nine social studies standards in North Dakota.

- ❖ Standard 1: Nature of History—Students understand the nature and scope of history.
- ❖ Standard 2: Political Institutions.
- ❖ Standard 3: Economic Systems.

- ❖ Standard 4: Social Studies Resources.
- ❖ Standard 5: Role of the Citizen.
- ❖ Standard 6: Geography.
- ❖ Standard 7: Culture.
- ❖ Standard 8: Sociology and Psychology.
- ❖ Standard 9: Sovereignty.

Each standard is followed by benchmarks that focus on specific areas of concentration within the theme. Examples of specific knowledge follow the benchmarks, and suggested activities integrate the specific knowledge, benchmarks, and broad theme. The standards are written in a way designed to indicate whether they require knowledge pertaining to information and ideas or skills and processes. Benchmarks are established at grades K–4, 5–8, and 9–12.

North Dakota’s document on performance standards in social studies describes levels of student performance and achievement as related to North Dakota’s standards and benchmarks. The state identifies students’ levels as advanced proficiency (Level 4), proficient (Level 3), partially proficient (Level 2), and novice (Level 1).

HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION/EXIT EXAM

Information pertaining to high school graduation has not been located.

Exit Exam

No evidence of an exit exam in history/social studies has been located.

ASSESSMENT

Standards-based assessment occurs in North Dakota in reading, writing, speaking, listening, and mathematics. There is no indication that assessment occurs in history/social studies.

