



DEVELOPMENT FUND FACTS

INVESTMENTS
CONTRIBUTED TO
12,403
PRIMARY
SECTOR
JOBS

677
COMPANIES
FUNDED

**PRIMARY
SECTOR
ECONOMIC
DEVELOPMENT
TOOL**

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ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT TOOL

The North Dakota Development Fund was created through legislation in 1991 as an economic development tool. It provides flexible gap financing through debt and equity investments for new or expanding North Dakota primary sector businesses. The Development Fund makes investments of up to \$1 million. The board of directors may adjust the limit when deemed appropriate.

The following criteria apply to Development Fund investments:

- The entrepreneur must have a realistic financial commitment at stake. Usually, principals are required to have a minimum of 15% equity in the project.
- Refinancing of debt is not eligible.
- Principal shareholders with 20% or greater ownership are generally required to guarantee the debt. Other shareholders may also be required to guarantee.
- Financing is available to any North Dakota primary sector business project with the exception of production agriculture.
- Primary sector includes individuals and businesses which, through the employment of knowledge or labor, add value to a product, process or service which results in the creation of new wealth.
- Primary sector includes tourism and specific types of investor-owned agriculture, and is typically businesses such as manufacturers, food processors or export service companies. Investor-owned agriculture includes livestock feeding or milking operations or other value-added agriculture located apart from an individual farm operation that is professionally managed and has employees.
- Financing is available to any North Dakota licensed child care operator up to \$100,000.

"The Development Fund offers the financing resources needed to help support business startups and expansion projects that create jobs while also providing taxpayers with a strong return on investment. Businesses in need of equity financing can look to the Development Fund as a possible solution. The North Dakota Development Fund is a valuable tool in developing strategies for business growth."

North Dakota Governor Doug Burgum