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

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.

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For more information, contact Jessica Nygaard at jnygaard@nd.gov