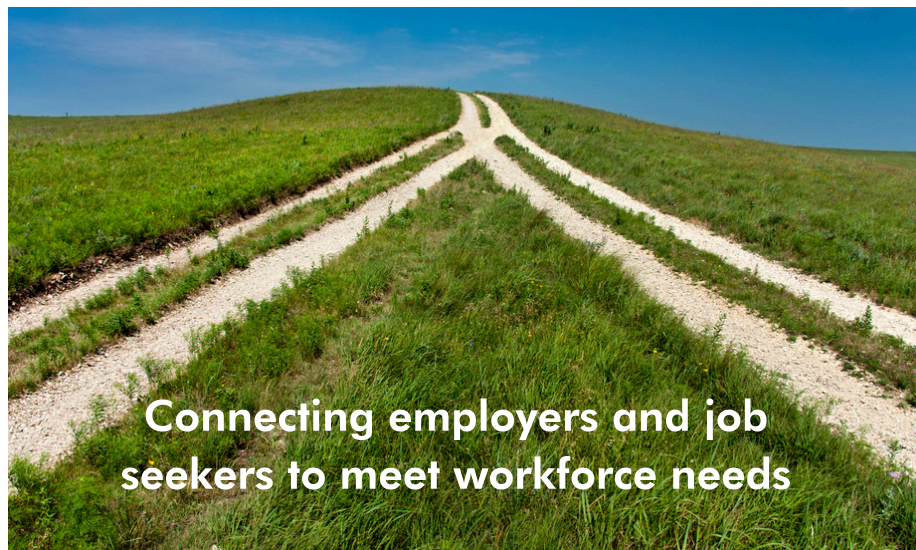


The Bismarck Con•nect•or



Connecting employers and job
seekers to meet workforce needs

TOP NEWS

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- Mock Interview Event
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Meet the WIOA Staff



Kristi Heupel- WIOA Team Lead

What do you like most about your position? Knowing that what I do makes a difference and seeing the positive outcomes.

How long have you been at Job Service? It's coming up on 5 years now. I started as a temp in UI, moved into a permanent PRIDE position, and made my way to WIOA Team Lead.

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? A veterinarian.

If you could have any fictional character as your imaginary friend, who would you pick? Veronica Mars, her wit is all I need in an imaginary friend.



Caitlin Georgina- WIOA Case Manager

What do you like most about your position? Getting to see the kids succeed.

How long have you been at Job Service? 2.5 years.

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? A fashion designer.

If you could have any fictional character as your imaginary friend, who would you pick? Katniss Everdeen from *The Hunger Games*.



John Shirado- WIOA Case Manager

What do you like most about your position? I like the ability to help people find their own path.

How long have you been at Job Service? In January it will be 2 years.

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? Happy, I wasn't really tied to any profession.

If you could have any fictional character as your imaginary friend, who would you pick? Perrin Aybara, from the book series *The Wheel of Time*.



Shania Eagle- WIOA Case Manager

What do you like most about your position? I enjoy helping people achieve their career goals and see them succeed.

How long have you been at Job Service? About a year and a half.

As a child, what did you want to be when you grew up? An astronaut, because I love learning about space, planets, and the solar system.

If you could have any fictional character as your imaginary friend, who would you pick? Hermoine Granger from the *Harry Potter* series.

Mock Interview Day a Fun-Filled Learning Experience

On September 29th, staff from the Job Service Bismarck Workforce Center collaborated with area agencies and employers to host a day of interview practice for young people with disabilities. Students in the Life Education class at Century High School brought resumes they had prepared in class to interview with volunteers from the business community. Students received feedback and grew in confidence through the experience, with interviewers learning from the event, too.

While students were waiting to interview, they were able to try out a virtual reality headset pre-loaded with work experiences provided by the BSC XR for VR (Virtual Reality for Vocational Rehabilitation) program. All participants were able to debrief the day over lunch, having the opportunity to get to know each other and converse further about their experiences.



Representatives from Designer Genes (a Down Syndrome support network), North Dakota State Council on Developmental Disabilities, and Job Service assisted in the planning process, and staff from Vocational Rehabilitation, Bismarck Public Schools, and Bismarck State College contributed to the inaugural event's success. Two more Life Skills mock interview days are planned for January 2026, with the goal of helping more students in the Bismarck-Mandan area prepare for participation in the workforce.



Life Education Class & Volunteers



Volunteers



Finding Purpose

Helping others is a family trait for Jada Berger. She grew up watching her dad, a chiropractor, help others to regain their health. Jada also watched her brother pursue his nursing degree and something just felt right. Watching both find purpose in caring for others, she realized that the healthcare field is where she belonged too. To Jada, nursing is “a career that combines compassion, knowledge, and hands on care in a way that truly makes a difference.”

In high school Jada discovered that she liked helping others, and the more she learned about healthcare the clearer her career path became. Knowing each day would bring something different excited Jada and her eagerness to learn and grow. Being able to make a positive impact on patients and their families is the most important aspect of being a nurse for Jada. Having small moments with patients and their families, making them feel safe or comforting them, and seeing the difference it makes is Jada’s favorite part of being a nurse.

During her clinical work for her degree, Jada was assigned to work at CHI St. Alexius. Throughout her time there, she had a co-worker who made her job so informative and enjoyable that she didn’t want to leave. Jada was able to apply for a RN position in the NICU at CHI St. Alexius and was overjoyed to get the position. She knows what she is doing is making a difference in the parents’ and children’s lives that she works with.

While she is happy with her position, Jada isn’t stopping there. Currently her main goal is to learn all she can to become the best NICU nurse that she can be. She also isn’t done with her education. In the next five years, Jada plans on going back to school to get her Bachelor of Science in Nursing specializing in neonatal nursing. Jada is excited to see herself grow personally and professionally and is focusing on making a difference in the lives of others. With her passion and ambition, there is no doubt that Jada will achieve all her goals.

Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics

Labor Market Information is collected through various surveys conducted by Job Service North Dakota’s Labor Market Information Center throughout the year. The data gathered is published on NDLMI.com and reported to the U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics.

This quarter, the Occupational Employment and Wage Statistics (OEWS) survey is underway. This important survey provides insights into employment demand and competitive wage rates by occupation across North Dakota.

The OEWS report is a valuable resource for:

- Employers, to ensure they are offering competitive wages.
- Schools and training providers, to align programs with labor market needs.
- Workforce agencies and career planners, to guide individuals toward high-demand, well-paying careers.



2026 CAPITAL CAREER FAIR

 **BISMARCK
EVENT CENTER**



NORTH
Dakota | Bismarck Workforce Center
Be Legendary.™ JOB SERVICE

Tuesday, February 10 , 2026
3:00pm - 6:00pm Central Time

REGISTER NOW!



Scan QR Code or go to
www.jobsnd.com/capitalcareerfair

Important Contact Information:

Bismarck Workforce Center - 701.328.5000
infojsbis@nd.gov
Unemployment Insurance Claims -
701.328.4995
Unemployment Insurance Employer -
701.328.2866
Employer Unemployment Tax - 701.328.2814

Recurring Local Events:

- WIOA Orientation- Weekly Tuesday, 9am
- Bismarck Veterans Memorial Library - Last Wednesday of every month, 1-5pm
- Workforce Wednesday Hiring Event - 1st Wednesday of every month, 3-5pm
- Job Readiness Workshops - Every Wednesday, 8:30-12pm
- Dream Center - 2nd Monday of every month, 5-7pm
- Dream Center - 4th Tuesday of every month, 7-9am

Other Resources:

Secretary of State - 701.328.2900
Workforce Safety Insurance - 800.777.5033
Department of Labor 701.328.2600

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