

**NORTH DAKOTA
STATE BOARD OF HIGHER EDUCATION
Policy Manual**

Policy: 461 Digital Literacy

Effective: May 23, 2023

1. DEFINITION:
 - a. Digital literacy is the ability to use technology to find information, evaluate sources, create content, and communicate with others effectively. It's a skill set used to navigate the new technological paradigm in which society operates.
2. Each institution must have a digital literacy requirement for all associate and baccalaureate-level programs.
3. These requirements may be accomplished through any of the following instructional methods:
 - a. A specific course requirement ranging from 1-3 semester credits;
 - b. Adding or embedding within an existing course;
 - c. Presented through a series of self-paced modules with documentation of a completed series; or
 - d. Designated courses offered through the Dakota Digital Academy.
4. Learning outcomes include:
 - a. Evaluate and interpret the accuracy, credibility, and relevance of digital information;
 - b. Describe the ways in which society and culture interact with digital technology;
 - c. Demonstrate the knowledge to use digital technology safely and ethically at a basic level;
 - d. Understand the applicability of digital literacy and artificial intelligence to the current and emerging workforce.
5. There shall be no increase in the number of credits required to earn an associate or baccalaureate-level degree because of this policy.
6. Documentation of a completed digital literacy requirement at a NDUS institution will be honored in transfer to another NDUS institution.
7. Each institution must meet the following program implementation deadlines:
 - a. By July 1, 2024, all institution academic catalogs and corresponding degree audit materials must reflect how students meet the digital literacy requirement;
 - b. By May 2026, first-year students with a term to enter of fall semester, 2024, graduating from an associate-level program must meet the published digital literacy requirement.; and

- c. By May 2028, first-year students with a term to enter of fall semester, 2024, graduating from a baccalaureate-level program must have met the published digital literacy requirement.
- d. If campuses cannot identify the resources to implement the requirements of this policy, the Board shall be notified.