



ND GATEWAY

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Information Technology

ND GATEWAY

Executive Summary

ND Gateway: A Unified Digital Portal for North Dakota State Services

North Dakota has launched the first phase of ND Gateway, a major initiative led by North Dakota Information Technology (NDIT) in partnership with five key state agencies. Designed to streamline how business owners and entrepreneurs interact with state government, ND Gateway offers a centralized, user-friendly digital portal for accessing essential business services and information.

By simplifying access to services and adopting a “no wrong door” approach, ND Gateway reinforces North Dakota’s commitment to being the most business-friendly state in the nation. It enhances transparency, reduces bureaucratic hurdles, and puts the needs of citizens and business leaders at the center of service delivery—supporting continued economic growth across the state.

Project Description

Simplifying State Services for Business Owners and Entrepreneurs

ND Gateway is the first step toward a fully centralized, user-friendly digital experience for accessing essential state services. It empowers users with a seamless way to start, manage, and grow businesses in North Dakota—cutting through red tape and eliminating the guesswork. Whether you’re launching a startup, expanding operations, or simply navigating state requirements, ND Gateway puts the tools you need at your fingertips.

North Dakota Launches ND Gateway, Laying the Foundation for a One-Stop Portal for State Services

NORTH DAKOTA – In a major step toward modernizing and simplifying the user experience with state government, North Dakota has launched the first phase of ND Gateway. Led by North Dakota Information Technology (NDIT) and other partner agencies, ND Gateway creates a single portal through which business owners and entrepreneurs can access essential state government services.

ND Gateway's first digital experience gives citizens and business owners access to a centralized source of business tools and resources. It will continue to evolve into a one-stop location for business-related services, including registrations, annual reports, tax and insurance compliance, and general tutorials for North Dakota's growing economic community.

"This is an exciting first step of many for ND Gateway. Business leaders should spend their time on the needs of their customers and staff, not drowning in redundant layers of bureaucracy. ND Gateway is one more way North Dakota continues to be the best state in the country to do business," said Evonne Amundson, Chief Business Application Officer. "This portal puts citizens and other users in the hub of business support, with a 'no wrong door' approach. If someone currently knows where to get business-related services, they will still have direct access through individual agency websites. But new and returning users alike will find NDGateway.ND.gov a convenient option for services and information."

Key Features of ND Gateway

Business Interest Form: A convenient way for entrepreneurs and users to share new business ideas with the state, ensuring that potential opportunities are quickly identified and supported.

Business Checklist: A personalized checklist created from five business-related state agencies to guide users through creating or modifying a business in North Dakota.

Starting a Business Form: An updated "Starting a Business" web form from the Department of Commerce. This enhanced version immediately connects users to resources at the Small Business Development Center, as well as the North Dakota Department of Commerce's Community Development and Economic Development & Finance teams.

Five state government agencies are inaugural leaders of ND Gateway: Secretary of State, Office of the State Tax Commissioner, Job Service North Dakota, Workforce Safety & Insurance, and Department of Commerce. Additional agencies and services will be added with the development of future phases.

For more information about ND Gateway, visit NDGateway.nd.gov.

Idea

What problem or opportunity does the project address?

North Dakota's State Data Hub responds to fragmented, underutilized data systems by offering a centralized, accessible platform. It enhances government efficiency, economic decision-making, and public engagement—positioning the state to harness data for future growth and innovation.

Why does it matter?

The North Dakota State Data Hub matters because it makes government data easier to find, understand, and use—helping state leaders, communities, and businesses make smarter, faster decisions. It improves transparency, saves time and money, and lays the groundwork for more data-driven, efficient public services in the future.

What makes it different?

The North Dakota State Data Hub is different because it brings data from across state agencies into one easy-to-use, visual platform that's built for the public, not just analysts. It's centralized, interactive, and designed to grow—making it easier for leaders, businesses, and citizens to make smarter, faster decisions with trusted information.

What makes it universal?

The State Data Hub is universal because it's built for everyone—not just experts. It's easy to use, open to the public, and covers a wide range of topics, so anyone—from citizens to businesses to local leaders—can use it to make informed decisions.

Implementation

What was the roadmap?

North Dakota made the Data Hub possible by first creating a statewide data strategy in 2022. From there, NDIT gathered input from agencies and users, organized and integrated key data sources, built user-friendly dashboards, launched a pilot with core data, and then expanded it—all while aligning with broader state IT modernization goals.

Who was involved?

The key players behind the North Dakota State Data Hub have included leaders and data experts from NDIT (like Kim Weis, Chief Data Officer), the state demographer, data scientists, and partner agencies like the Department of Commerce and the Department of Health. Together, they combined expertise and data to build and manage the Hub.

How did you do it?

In a nutshell, here's how North Dakota made the State Data Hub possible:

1. **Set a clear statewide data strategy** to guide the project's goals and priorities.
2. **Engaged stakeholders**—state agencies, businesses, and the public—to understand their data needs.
3. **Collected and organized key data sources** from multiple departments into one place.
4. **Built user-friendly dashboards and visuals** so data is easy for anyone to use.
5. **Launched a pilot platform** with core datasets to test and gather feedback.
6. **Expanded the Hub gradually**, adding more data and improving features over time.
7. **Aligned the project with broader state IT modernization efforts** to ensure sustainability and growth.

The process combined strategy, collaboration, technology, and continuous improvement to create a centralized, accessible data platform for all North Dakotans.

Impact

What did the project make better?

The project made several things better:

1. **Data Access:** It centralized scattered data from multiple agencies into one easy-to-use platform, so people don't have to hunt for information.
2. **Decision-Making:** Leaders, businesses, and communities can now make smarter, faster decisions using timely, reliable data.
3. **Transparency:** The public gains clear visibility into state data, boosting trust and engagement.
4. **Efficiency:** It reduces duplication of effort and speeds up how government agencies share and use data.
5. **Inclusivity:** Data is presented in simple visuals, making it accessible to non-experts.
6. **Future-Ready:** It lays the foundation for expanding data capabilities and adopting advanced analytics over time.

In short, it made data easier to find, understand, and use—improving how North Dakota plans, governs, and grows.

How do you know?

We know the State Data Hub has been successful because people are using it regularly, it keeps growing with new data, users say it's helpful, it supports state goals, and it's making government work more efficiently.

What now?

Next up for the North Dakota State Data Hub is to expand by adding more data sources and agencies, improve features with advanced analytics and AI, enhance user experience, and continue supporting data-driven decision-making across the state—making it an even more powerful, all-in-one resource for everyone.