

LEGISLATURE OF NEBRASKA  
ONE HUNDRED NINTH LEGISLATURE  
FIRST SESSION

**LEGISLATIVE BILL 681**

Introduced by Education Committee: Murman, 38, Chairperson; Conrad, 46;  
Hughes, 24; Juarez, 5; Lonowski, 33; Meyer, 17; Sanders,  
45.

Read first time January 22, 2025

Committee: Education

- 1 A BILL FOR AN ACT relating to postsecondary education; to amend section
- 2 85-931, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska; to change provisions
- 3 relating to the definition of graduate degree programs; and to
- 4 repeal the original section.
- 5 Be it enacted by the people of the State of Nebraska,

1           **Section 1.** Section 85-931, Reissue Revised Statutes of Nebraska, is  
2 amended to read:

3           85-931 Graduate degree programs means ~~shall mean~~ those programs for  
4 which the following degrees are awarded:

5           (1) First professional degree being the first earned degree in the  
6 following fields: (a) Dentistry; (b) medicine, general; (c) optometry;  
7 (d) osteopathic medicine; (e) pharmacy; (f) podiatry; (g) veterinary  
8 medicine; (h) chiropractic; (i) law, general; (j) theology, general; and  
9 (k) architecture, general;

10          (2)(a) ~~(2)~~ Master's degree being the earned degree carrying the  
11 title Master. The master's degree is the first advanced graduate degree  
12 conferred in professional programs and general academic and occupational  
13 programs.

14          (b) Master's degree professional programs include, but are not  
15 limited to: (i) ~~(a)~~ Engineering; (ii) ~~(b)~~ education; (iii) ~~(c)~~ allied  
16 health professions; (iv) ~~(d)~~ nursing; (v) ~~(e)~~ architecture, specialties;  
17 (vi) ~~(f)~~ community and regional planning; (vii) ~~(g)~~ dentistry; (viii) ~~(h)~~  
18 medicine, specialties; (ix) ~~(i)~~ optometry; (x) ~~(j)~~ osteopathic medicine;  
19 (xi) ~~(k)~~ pharmacy; (xii) ~~(l)~~ podiatry; (xiii) ~~(m)~~ social work; (xiv) ~~(n)~~  
20 veterinary medicine; (xv) ~~(o)~~ chiropractic; (xvi) ~~(p)~~ law, specialties;  
21 and (xvii) ~~(q)~~ theology, specialties.

22          (c) Master's degree programs in general academic and occupational  
23 areas include but are not limited to: (i) ~~(a)~~ Mathematics; (ii) ~~(b)~~  
24 languages; (iii) ~~(c)~~ biological and physical sciences; (iv) ~~(d)~~ letters;  
25 (v) ~~(e)~~ fine arts; (vi) ~~(f)~~ social sciences; (vii) ~~(g)~~ agriculture and  
26 natural resources; (viii) ~~(h)~~ communications; (ix) ~~(i)~~ business and  
27 management; (x) ~~(j)~~ computer and information sciences; (xi) ~~(k)~~ home  
28 economics; and (xii) ~~(l)~~ fine and applied arts; and

29          (3) Doctoral degree being an earned academic degree conveying the  
30 title of Doctor. Doctoral degrees include, but are not limited to: Doctor  
31 of Philosophy; Doctor of Education; and Doctor of Arts.

1           **Sec. 2.**   Original section 85-931, Reissue Revised Statutes of  
2 Nebraska, is repealed.