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CEEDAR Center teams with South Dakota to better prepare educators to serve students with disabilities

PIERRE, S.D. – South Dakota is one of only five states selected to receive intensive technical assistance from the newly created CEEDAR Center to improve educator preparation systems to advance the achievement of students with disabilities. CEEDAR stands for Collaboration for Effective Educator Development, Accountability and Reform.

CEEDAR Center technical assistance supports states in their efforts to develop teachers and leaders who can successfully prepare students with disabilities to achieve college- and career-ready standards. The goal is to ensure general and special educators have the skills and support necessary to improve the educational outcomes of students with disabilities.

“This is an exciting opportunity,” said Secretary of Education Dr. Melody Schopp. “We are fortunate that South Dakota is one of the first states chosen to collaborate with the CEEDAR Center. It’s one more way that we are working to prepare all South Dakota students for college, career and life.”

In order to be selected, the South Dakota Department of Education had to submit a competitive application. Each year, through 2017, five additional states will be selected to receive intensive technical assistance.

The CEEDAR Center, funded by the U.S. Department of Education, Office of Special Education Programs, is directed by the University of Florida.

“Providing students with disabilities effective, research-based instruction is the best way to ensure they achieve college and career readiness—a goal we have for all students. We are looking forward to being able to contribute to this agenda with our intensive and targeted TA partners,” said Dr. Mary Brownell, director of the CEEDAR Center.