| Superintendent Alternative Certification | |
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| Description | Leads to a Superintendent endorsement. Individuals going through this pathway must have a master's degree or higher and 3 or more years of experience in a management role. |
| Duration of certificate | 1 year; may be renewed 4 times |
| Cost | \$25 |
| Applicant eligibility requirements | Valid Alternative Preliminary or South Dakota Educator Certificate Master's degree or higher from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education 3 or more years of experience in a management role in a business, public school, or South Dakota Department of Education-accredited school, or employed as a teacher in a leadership role Offer of employment from a public or department-accredited school Submission of a professional development plan identifying how alternative certification requirements will be met Completion of an approved suicide awareness and prevention training |
| District requirements | Verify applicant has a valid Alternative Preliminary Certificate, teaching certificate or K-12 Principal Certificate Document district attempted but was unable to hire a certified administrator prior to hiring applicant with an alternative certificate Provide mentorship by an individual with experience as a school administrator Provide applicant with information about South Dakota Code of Professional Ethics for Teachers and South Dakota Code of Professional Ethics for Administrators Train applicant on administrator and teacher evaluation systems Annually recommend applicant for renewal, based on documented performance and progress |
| Endorsements | May act as Superintendent while completing program |
| Renewal requirements | Pass state-designated test prior to first renewal Suicide awareness and prevention training Submit recommendation for renewal from employing district Submit professional development plan identifying how alternative certification requirements will be met \$25 for 1-year renewal certificate |
| Requirements to complete program | 3-credit approved South Dakota Indian Studies course Pass state-designated content test 18 transcripted credits from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education with a grade of C or higher in the following: Leadership and district culture Organizational management Values and ethics of leadership Educational policy and law Communication Community relations Curriculum planning and development School finance Instructional management |