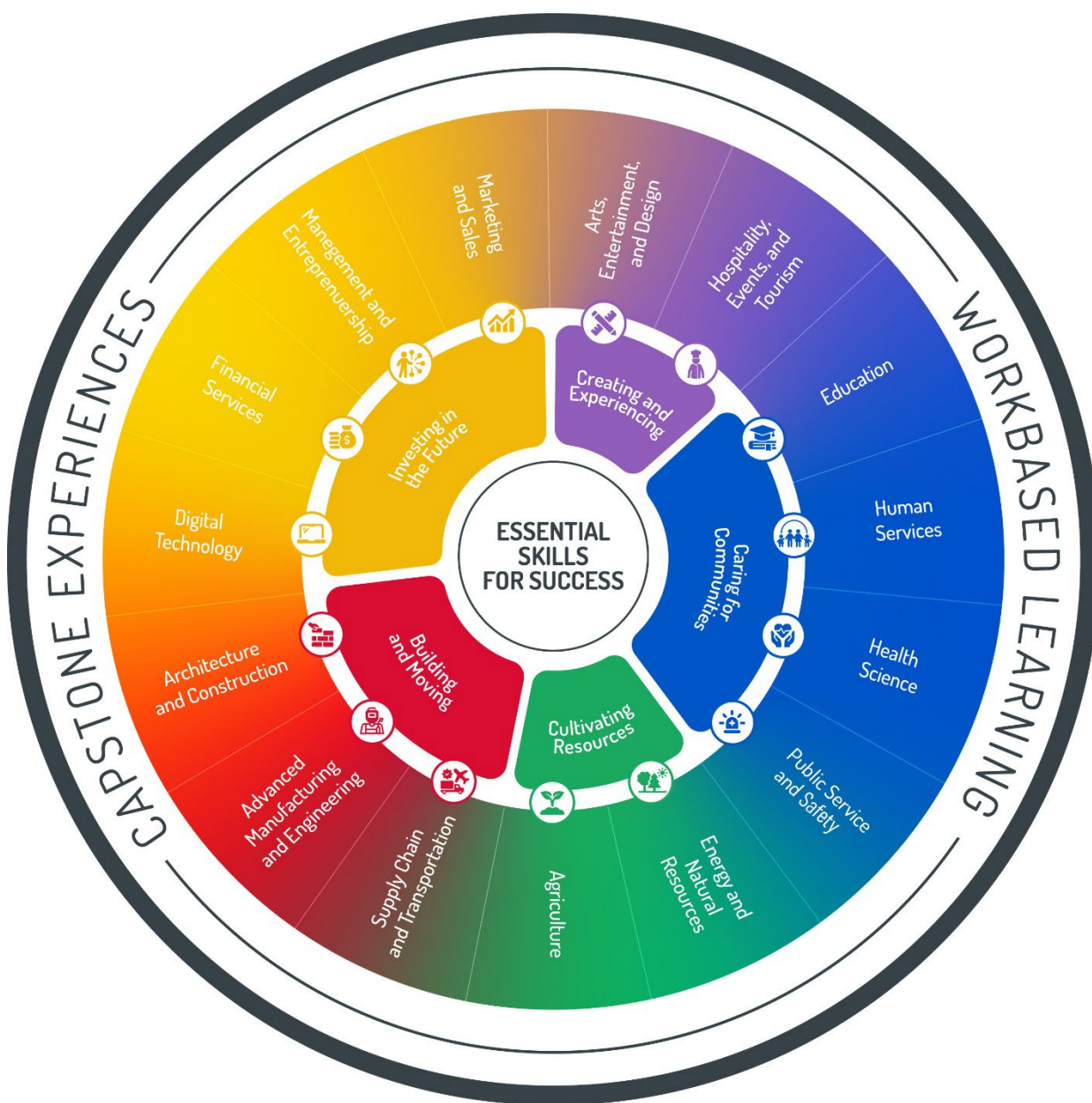




SOUTH DAKOTA CTE STANDARD REVISION

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South Dakota CTE Standards Revision

Introduction

Career and Technical Education (CTE) in South Dakota prepares students for success in a rapidly changing workforce by providing relevant, engaging, and standards-based learning experiences aligned with high-demand careers. Through comprehensive programs of study, students explore career opportunities, develop skills, and apply their learning through hands-on experiences. CTE equips learners with the academic, technical, and essential skills needed to thrive in postsecondary education, military service, apprenticeships, and the workforce while fostering innovation, problem-solving, collaboration, and lifelong career success.

This project modernized South Dakota's Career and Technical Education standards by reviewing and revising career clusters, standards, and sub-indicators across all CTE areas. The work was guided by South Dakota's existing standards while incorporating the structure of the *Modernized National Career Clusters Framework* to ensure students are prepared for today's workforce and tomorrow's opportunities.

Process

The review and revision process was coordinated by the South Dakota Department of Education with facilitation provided by Advancing Connections, Inc. The standards were developed through the collaborative efforts of South Dakota educators, South Dakota business and industry representatives, South Dakota post-secondary partners, and other South Dakota stakeholders to ensure they reflect the knowledge, skills, and experiences students need for future success.

The revision teams considered the priorities established by the South Dakota Department of Education- Office of Career and Technical Education (DOE/CTE), using them as guiding principles throughout the review and development process. In addition to evaluating existing standards, teams considered emerging technologies, evolving industry practices, workforce trends, and future career opportunities to ensure the standards remain relevant in a rapidly changing economy.

The following criteria guided the review and development of all standards:

- Research-based and informed by current educational and industry best practices.
- Rigorous, providing meaningful progression of technical knowledge and skills.
- Responsive to current and emerging workforce needs and technologies.

- Aligned to post-secondary education, apprenticeship, military, and career pathways.
- Promote technical, academic, and essential skills.
- Provide a clear progression of learning from career exploration through capstones.
- Support authentic, hands-on, and work-based learning experiences.
- Flexible enough to adapt to evolving industries.

Step One

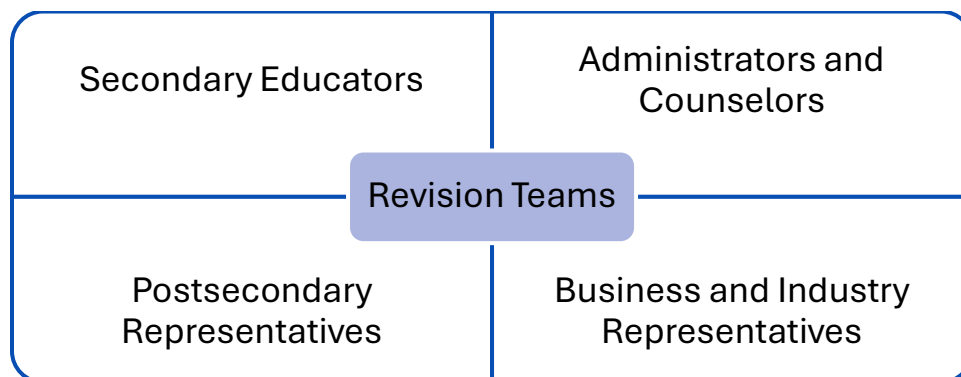
DOE/CTE Program Staff conducted a comprehensive review of the standards to support implementation of the *Modernized National Career Clusters Framework*. This process included evaluating the alignment of the previous Career Clusters Framework, identifying the revisions necessary to ensure a seamless transition to the modernized model, and assessing statewide workforce needs to align programs with current and emerging industry trends.

Step Two

DOE/CTE Specialists reviewed each career cluster and updated the sequence of courses documents to better align with South Dakota's workforce priorities, industry needs, and the *Modernized National Career Clusters Framework*. This review also identified opportunities to strengthen CTE programming by addressing gaps in existing course offerings and guiding the need for new courses and pathways.

Step Three

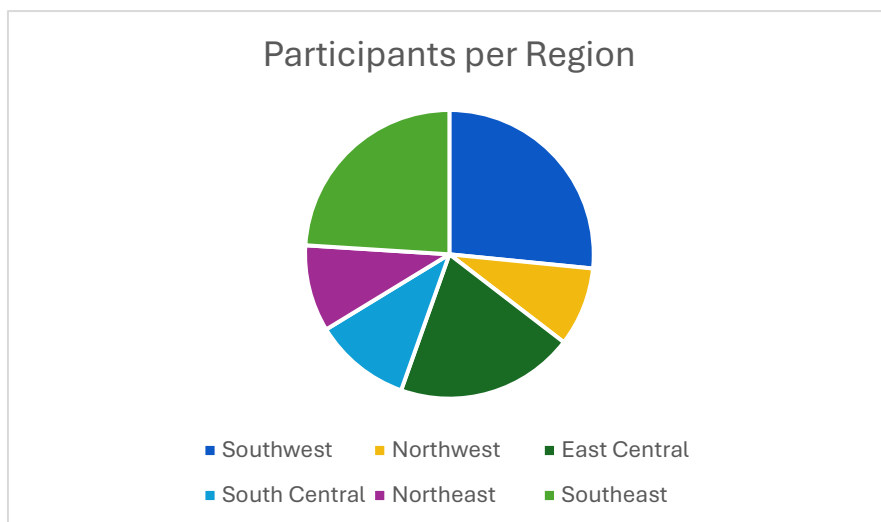
Stakeholders were recruited to serve on revision teams through a statewide virtual application process. The opportunity was promoted through DOE/CTE distribution lists and direct outreach to ensure broad representation from secondary education, postsecondary education, business and industry, and other key stakeholders. Revision teams included representatives from the following groups:



Step Four

Online surveys were developed and widely distributed to stakeholders to review current standards and participate in the process. Stakeholder types included:

- Teachers
- Post-secondary
- Administrators
- School counselors
- Business and industry
- Community members



The survey was designed to gather input on current and emerging industry needs, workforce priorities, and emerging technologies. It was distributed through South Dakota Department of Education communication networks, with revision team members encouraged to share it through their professional organizations and local networks. More than 345 stakeholders representing all six of South Dakota's CTE regions participated, providing broad statewide representation.

Participants reviewed individual standards, sub-indicators, and levels of knowledge, understanding, and skill. They evaluated whether standards should be retained, revised, or removed while also recommending new topics, courses, and other improvements. The survey generated both quantitative ratings and qualitative recommendations that informed the revision of the CTE Standards presented in this report.

Step Five

Revision teams met virtually in eighteen separate standards workgroups between June 2025 and June 2026. Each team participated in two to four days of collaborative work sessions to review course descriptions, standards, and sub-indicators. Teams received comprehensive survey results, including quantitative data, participant comments, and summarized recommendations prepared by the consultants. Using this stakeholder feedback alongside their professional expertise, revision teams evaluated existing standards, identified areas for improvement, and developed recommendations that strengthened the overall quality and relevance of the revised standards.

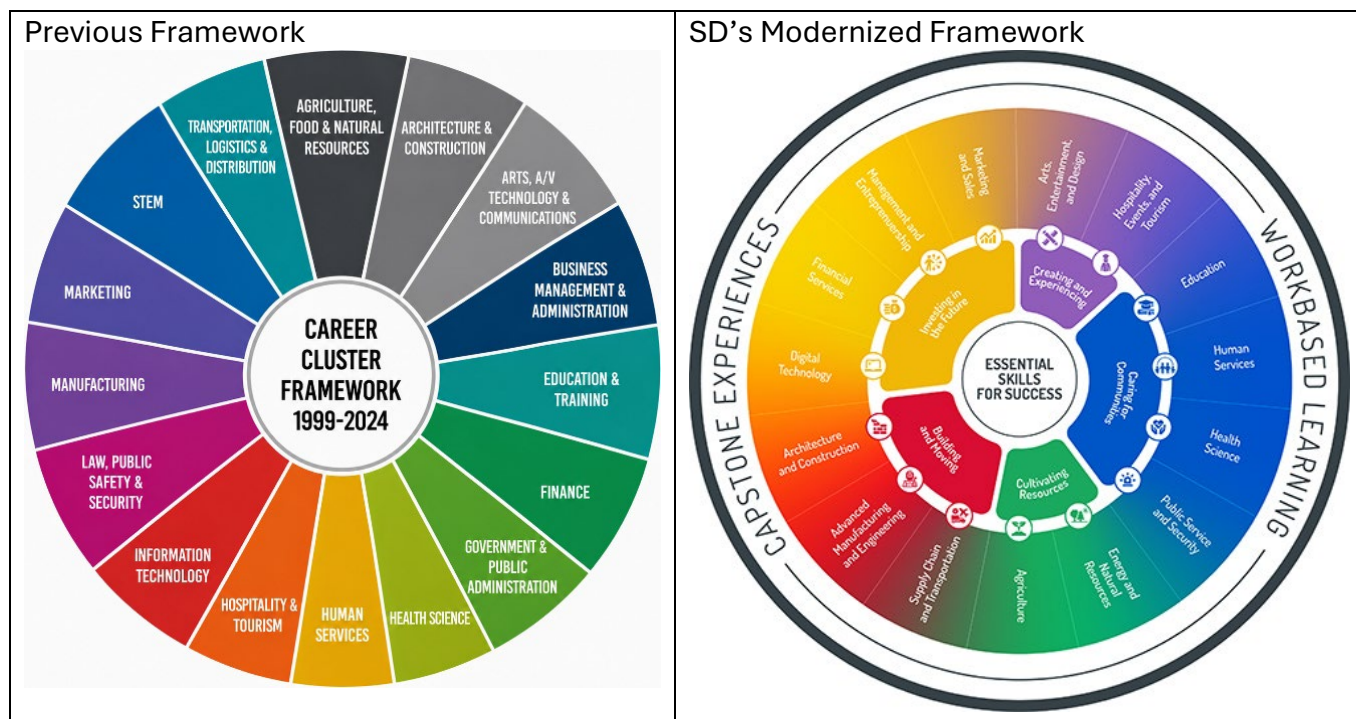
Step Six

DOE/CTE staff synthesized the recommendations from each standards review committee to develop a comprehensive, refreshed set of standards for every CTE course across all career clusters.

Completing the review and revision of every career cluster within a single year provided a unique opportunity to ensure consistency, coherence, and a shared vision as South Dakota transitions to the Modernized National Career Clusters Framework. This coordinated effort updated course content, aligned standards with current and emerging workforce needs, addressed gaps in programming, retired outdated courses, and identified opportunities for new and innovative course offerings.

The proposed standards were then finalized and submitted to the South Dakota Board of Education Standards for consideration. Public hearings will be held during the 2026–2027 school year, providing educators, business and industry representatives, and the public an opportunity to review the proposed standards and provide feedback. Following consideration of public comments, the Board of Education Standards will take action on the adoption of the revised standards.

Modernized Career Cluster Framework



Essential Skills for Success

The Essential Skills Standards were reviewed and refined as part of the statewide standards revision process. While stakeholder feedback informed these revisions, the importance of essential skills reflects a consistent and ongoing priority identified by South Dakota employers. For this reason, the standards are embedded throughout every career cluster to reinforce the transferable competencies needed for success in any career pathway.

Essential Skills for Success are the transferable personal and professional competencies that prepare students to succeed in any educational or workplace setting. CTE provides hands-on opportunities for students to develop these skills through classroom instruction, labs, shops, work-based learning, and Career and Technical Student Organizations (CTSOs). Rather than serving as a standalone course, the Essential Skills Standards are designed to be flexible and integrated throughout all CTE courses, allowing educators to reinforce the skills most relevant to their program and students.



Foundational CTE Courses

Foundational CTE courses provide students with a starting point for success across all career clusters. As students progress through their CTE experiences, these courses establish a common foundation by fostering career exploration, developing essential professional skills, and building the technical knowledge needed to make informed decisions about postsecondary education, training, and future careers.

Foundational CTE Courses Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Kristin Larson	South Dakota DOE – Office of Student Wellness and Supports
Jamie Boettcher	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Tracia Rentsch	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Andrea Effling	South Dakota DOE – Office of Student Wellness and Supports
Kara Schweitzer	South Dakota DOE – Office of Student Wellness and Supports
Tara Bartekoske	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Allison Green	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Kaitlin Foster	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Amanda Hotz	Lakota Tech High School
Morgan Heuer	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Kyle R Sander	Lead / Deadwood School District
Jennifer Byall	Southeast Technical College
Howard H Bonnemann	South Dakota State University
Nathaniel Raak	Mitchell Technical College

Notable Changes to Foundational CTE Courses

The Foundational CTE Courses have been strategically updated to better prepare students for success across all career clusters and future career pathways. The revised standards place greater emphasis on intentional career exploration, workforce readiness, digital and emerging technologies, leadership, and the real-world application of skills. Career Exploration now provides a stronger foundation for developing informed education and career plans, Employability aligns with workplace expectations, Workplace Technology Skills emphasizes digital productivity, cybersecurity, and artificial intelligence, and Leadership and Service promotes collaboration, civic engagement, and professional leadership. Additionally, Personal Finance has been elevated to a foundational course, recognizing that financial literacy is an essential life skill for every student, regardless of their chosen career pathway.

Capstone CTE Standards

Capstone Experiences provide students with the opportunity to apply the knowledge and skills developed throughout their CTE journey in real-world workplace and community settings. Completed near the end of high school, these experiences connect students with industry or community mentors through high-quality work-based learning. These experiences strengthen technical and essential skills while helping students solidify their career and post-secondary plans.

Capstone Experience Revision Team Members

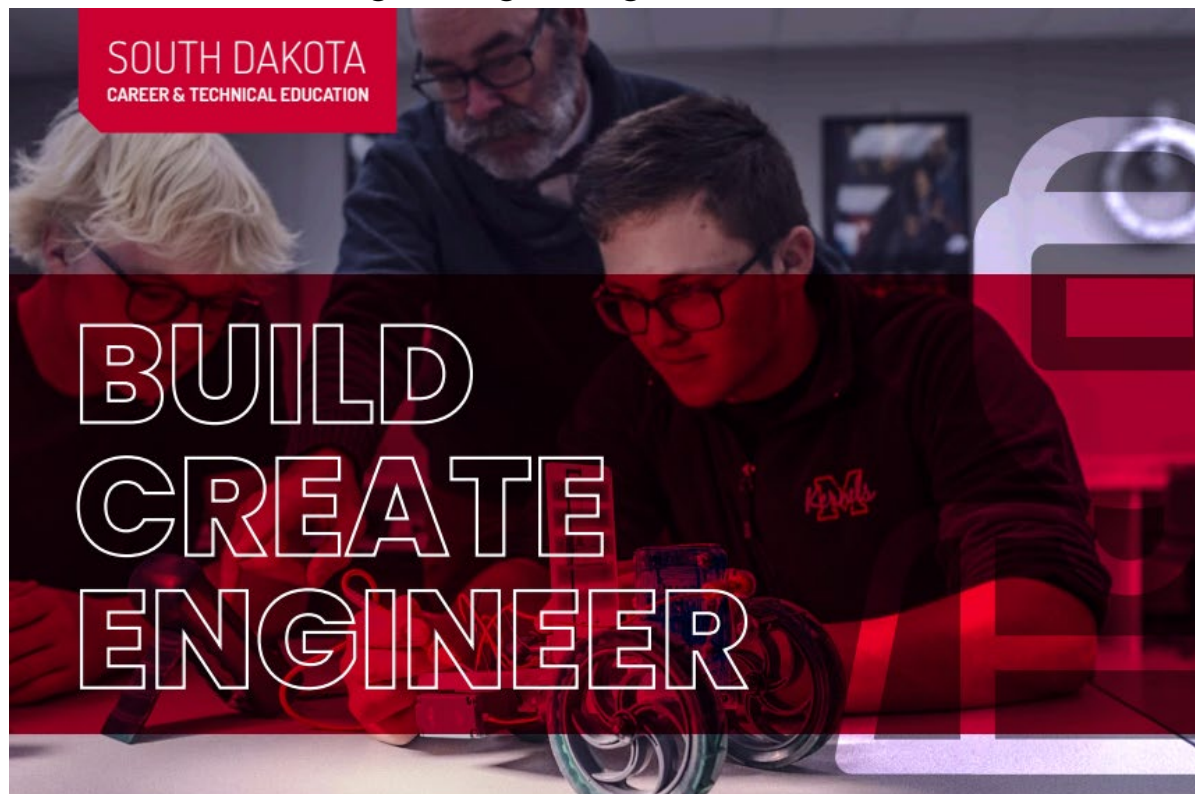
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Kristin Larson	South Dakota DOE – Office of Student Wellness and Supports
Andrea Effling	South Dakota DOE – Office of Student Wellness and Supports
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Tara Bartekoske	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Caitlin Kemnitz	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Morgan Heuer	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Stephanie Gelderman	South Dakota FCCLA, Mitchell, SD
Laura Hasselquist	South Dakota State University
Derek Sukstorf	Job Corps / Lead-Deadwood CTE - Box Elder, SD
Breanne Marie Lynch	Harrisburg School District
Logan Gassman	Sanborn Central School District
Renae Oines	Sioux Falls School District
Carrie Henrickson	Ethan School District
Lindsay Nolte	De Smet High School
Shelby Popham	Hamlin School District
Adam Rudebusch	Castlewood School & University of South Dakota
Becky Baker	Central High School-Rapid City Area Schools
Ryan Van Zee	Mitchell Technical College

Notable Changes to Capstone Experience Courses

The Capstone Experience Standards have been updated to better reflect the purpose of each course while strengthening work-based learning opportunities. Every capstone now includes collaboration with an industry or community mentor, clearly defined learning goals, documentation of workplace or community experiences, ongoing reflection, and a public presentation of learning. Each course has also been differentiated to serve a distinct purpose. Internship emphasizes workplace immersion, Apprenticeship aligns with approved apprenticeship pathways, Service-Learning addresses community needs through nonprofit and civic partnerships, Senior Experience centers on a mentor-guided project or product, and Entrepreneurship focuses on developing and validating a business opportunity.

CTE Cluster Standards

Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering Career Cluster



BUILDING AND MOVING

ADVANCED MANUFACTURING AND ENGINEERING

Design and build the future.

South Dakota's manufacturing and engineering industries are shaping the world with cutting-edge technology, automation, and sustainable solutions. Whether you're crafting precision tools, welding, or innovating new products, this is where ideas become reality.



INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Autodesk Certified User
Certified SolidWorks Associate
AWS Certified Welder
OSHA Safety



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte/.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

CNC Machinist
Precision Welder
Electrical Engineer
Robotics Controls Technician
Industrial Maintenance Technician
Heavy Equipment Mechanic
Energy Operations Technician



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Advanced Manufacturing Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Tracia Rentsch	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Mercedes Snedeker	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Aaron Lalley	Southeast Technical College
Andy Rossow	Lake Area Technical College
Bryce Holter	Hanson School
Kyle R Sander	Lead / Deadwood school
Travis Santistevan	Hill City High School
Todd Gannon	Tea Area Schools
Chris Benshoof	Sioux Falls CTE Academy
Cyle Miller	Meade School District
Lee W. Kaffar	HDR Engineering, Inc. – Sioux Falls, SD
Nikki Mark	SD FBLA/SkillsUSA – Watertown, SD
Darin Waldner	Dakota Pump and Control – Watertown, SD
Tim Hannigan	Prairie Tool Company/ Aberdeen Dev. Corp – Aberdeen, SD
Aimee Miritello	Marmen Energy – Sioux Falls, SD
William Venis	Gehl Manufacturing/ Manitou – Madison, SD
Christopher Swier	FlexIT USA – Sioux Falls, SD
Michelle Kakacek	SD Manufacturing & Technology Solutions
Beau Larson	Webster Area High School
Curtis Lee	Private Engineering & Operations Consultant – Madison, SD

Notable Changes in Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering

The Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering Career Cluster was renamed from Manufacturing to better reflect the highly technical and innovative nature of the industry, as well as the integration of engineering following the transition from the former STEM Career Cluster. This expanded focus recognizes the convergence of engineering, automation, robotics, welding, and precision machining that defines modern manufacturing. The revised standards emphasize engineering design, systems thinking, technical problem-solving, innovation, and workplace safety.

Updated Courses in Advanced Manufacturing and Engineering

13001 – Introduction Technical Skills and Application - Title Changed from Introduction to Technology Education.

Architecture and Construction Career Cluster

SOUTH DAKOTA
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

BUILD DESIGN DEVELOP

BUILDING AND MOVING

ARCHITECTURE AND CONSTRUCTION

Shape skylines and communities.

From designing blueprints to constructing buildings, this industry is essential to South Dakota's growth. Whether you're an architect, a skilled tradesperson, or a project manager, your work builds the future.



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INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

OSHA Safety
Commercial Driver's License
(CDL)
Certified SolidWorks Associate
Apprenticeship Drafter



For a complete list of industry
recognized credentials, scan
the QR Code below or visit
doe.sd.gov/cte/



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Architect	Plumber
General Contractor	Heavy Equipment
Landscape Architect	Operator
Construction Project	Concrete Finisher
Manager	
Electrician	



CTE STUDENT ORGANIZATION


SkillsUSA®

Architecture and Construction Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Mercedes Snedeker	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Tracia Rentsch	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
John Morris	Morris, Inc. – Pierre, SD
Austin Holscher	Crafted Interiors-AHBA – Aberdeen, SD
Trent Theye	Theye Construction – Watertown, SD
Brett Kaltvedt	Midwestern mechanical – Sioux Falls, SD
Jordan Hefner	Van Buskirk Companies Inc. – Sioux Falls, SD
Todd Boots	South Dakota Home Builders Association
Jason Kann	CO-OP Architecture – Sioux Falls, SD
Steven Chambers Jr	Carpenters Union - UBC Job Corps Training Fund – Box Elder, SD
Terry Boon	Trane Technologies – Sioux Falls, SD
Ryan Hoffman	Lloyd Construction – Sioux Falls, SD
Nikki Mark	SD FBLA/SkillsUSA – Watertown, SD
Derek Craig Wynia	Harrisburg School District
Christian Swenson	Sioux Falls School District
Greg Schwebach	Southeast Technical College
James Hartwell	Belle Fourche School District
Jody Gittings	Sully Buttes School
Derek Sukstorf	Job Corps / Lead-Deadwood CTE – Box Elder, SD
Bryce Holter	Hanson High School
Kyle R Sander	Lead / Deadwood High School
Austin Bishop	Belle Fourche School District
Travis Santistevan	Hill City School District
Matthew Hatch	Stevens High School – Rapid City Area Schools

Notable Changes to Architecture and Construction

The Architecture and Construction standards have been expanded to better reflect the full breadth of the construction industry. The revised standards extend beyond traditional cabinetry and residential construction to include architecture and engineering, construction planning and development, equipment maintenance and operation, and building systems and services. One of the most consistently identified workforce needs across South Dakota is the shortage of skilled trades professionals, including electricians, plumbers, HVAC technicians, and other specialty trades. In response, the revised standards provide students with broader exposure to the diverse career opportunities within the construction industry while strengthening instruction in design and drafting, site work and excavation, construction processes, blueprint interpretation, estimating, industry codes, emerging building materials, and technical skills.

New Courses in Architecture and Construction

17057 – Building Systems and Infrastructure Management is a new course that introduces students to the skilled trades that install, maintain, and service the mechanical systems found in residential, commercial, and industrial buildings. Students develop an understanding of building systems, including electrical, plumbing, HVAC, and other infrastructure components, while exploring both new construction and maintenance, repair, and modernization of existing facilities. The course also emphasizes preventive maintenance, system performance, and troubleshooting.

17992 - Construction Equipment III has been added in response to requests from school districts seeking expanded opportunities to prepare students for South Dakota's growing demand for heavy equipment operators and related careers. While Construction Equipment I and II establish foundational knowledge and operating skills, Construction Equipment III builds on that foundation through hands-on training in precision equipment operation, site planning, grading, excavation, earthmoving, preventive maintenance, troubleshooting, project management, and the use of advanced construction technologies. The course prepares students for apprenticeships, postsecondary education, industry certifications, and immediate employment in the heavy equipment and construction workforce.

Agriculture Career Cluster



CULTIVATING RESOURCES

AGRICULTURE

Feed the world and fuel the future.

Agriculture is at the heart of South Dakota, driving innovation in food production, sustainability, and technology. Whether you're in the field, the lab, or managing operations, this industry offers exciting career paths with real impact.



INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

OSHA
Pesticide Applicators
Masters of Beef Advocacy
Commercial Driver's License
(CDL)



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte/.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Agronomist
Livestock Nutritionist
Precision Agriculture Technician
Crop Consultant
Custom Harvester
Dairy Herd Manager
Agricultural Equipment Mechanic



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National FFA
Organization (FFA)



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Agriculture Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Mercedes Snedeker	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
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Meagan Ekberg	Wall School District 51-5
Laura Hasselquist	South Dakota State University
Andrew Jensen	Marion School District
Mollie Andrews	Burke School District
Noelle Swanson	Northwestern Area
Austin Bishop	Belle Fourche School District
Josh Christiansen	Harrisburg High School
Kasey Trocke	Lennox High School
Justin Lovrien	Brandon Valley High School
Kelly Dunkelberger	Parker High School
Amanda Bechen	South Dakota Corn Growers Association – Sioux Falls, SD
Erica Summerfield	South Dakota State University
Maristela Rovai	SDSU Dairy & Food Science – Brookings, SD
Shannon Duxbury	Trans Ova Genetics – Sioux Falls, SD
Lance Perrion	SD Beef Industry Council/ SD Farmers Union County President/small business owner – Ipswich, SD

Notable Changes in Agriculture

The Agriculture Cluster standards have been strengthened to reflect the transformation of the agricultural industry into a technology-driven, science-based industry that requires a highly skilled workforce. Across the cluster, coursework has been enhanced to incorporate precision agriculture, emerging technologies, sustainable production practices, agricultural business and entrepreneurship, and technical applications. One of the most significant enhancements is the expanded focus on food science and food processing, an area experiencing tremendous growth at South Dakota State University and industry across South Dakota. The revised standards continue to strengthen connections to FFA, Supervised Agricultural Experiences (SAEs), work-based learning, industry credentials, apprenticeships, and postsecondary education. These revisions expand students' awareness of careers that drive South Dakota's agricultural economy, highlighting the many opportunities available both on and off the family farm.

New Courses in Agriculture

18249 – Advanced Agribusiness Management - Advanced Agribusiness was in response to strong educator demand, increasing student interest, and the growing workforce need for business professionals within South Dakota's agricultural industry. As industry becomes increasingly driven by economics, technology, marketing, and data-informed decision-making, employers require graduates with expertise in both agriculture and business. This demand is reflected in Northern State University's recently established Bachelor of Science in Agricultural Business, designed to prepare graduates for the expanding number of agribusiness careers across the region. Building on foundational agribusiness concepts, this course provides deeper learning in agricultural finance, management, economics, marketing, entrepreneurship, and strategic leadership.

18405 - Advanced Ag Metal Fabrication Technology - Advanced Ag Metal Fabrication Technology has been added in response to requests from schools seeking expanded opportunities to meet strong student interest and the continued workforce demand for skilled agricultural manufacturing and metal fabrication. While the foundational course develops basic welding and fabrication skills, this course applies those skills to the agricultural industry through the design, construction, repair, and maintenance of farm equipment, livestock facilities, trailers, structural systems, and other agricultural infrastructure. Students complete increasingly complex fabrication projects while developing expertise in welding, metal forming, blueprint interpretation, precision measurement, troubleshooting, and project planning.

Art, Entertainment, and Design Career Cluster



CREATING AND EXPERIENCING

ARTS, ENTERTAINMENT & DESIGN

Design your future with creativity and technology.

From graphic design to digital animation, this industry is shaping South Dakota's visual, media, and entertainment landscape. Whether you're behind a camera, designing immersive digital experiences, or curating visual storytelling, the opportunities are endless.



INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Adobe Certified Professional
Autodesk Certified User
Certified HTML Developer
Certified JavaScript Developer
Cisco Certified Support Technician



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte/.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Graphic Designer
Photographer
Digital Animator
Web Developer
Sign & Mural Artist
Local Newspaper Editor
Marketing Specialist



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Arts, Entertainment, and Design Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Jamie Boettcher	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Jane Gubrud	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Peter C Britton	Dakota State University
Tim Murray	Dakota State University
Patrick Frentz	Southeast Technical College
Elissa Engel	Ben Reifel Middle School - Sioux Falls School District
Marica Shannon	Mitchell High School
Britney Lewis	Stevens High School – Rapid City Area Schools
Kaylan Pool	Waubay School District
Erich Schaffhauser	Aberdeen ATEC – Aberdeen School District
Jordan Lanke	Florence High School
Tracy Kern	Harrisburg High School
Naome Poppe	Brandon Valley High School
Alana Kroeplin	Highmore High School
Jennifer Poulos	West Central High School
Abby Page	Brookings High School
Brad Nupen	Brookings High School
Tina Belden	Estelline High School
Jessica McGregor	Webster Area High School
Albert Pavlinac	PINstudios – Sioux Falls, SD

Notable Changes for Arts, Entertainment, and Design

The Arts, Entertainment, and Design Career Cluster standards have been modernized to better reflect the evolving creative industries and the growing demand for professionals with both artistic talent and technical expertise. The revised standards strengthen instruction in visual communication, graphic design, photography, animation, multimedia, audio production, branding, and digital content creation while emphasizing industry-standard technologies, project management, and designing for clients.

Updated Courses for Arts, Entertainment, and Design

11001 - Introduction to Arts, Entertainment and Design– Title changed from Introduction to Arts, A/V Technology, and Communications

11056 – Digital Audio Production – Title change from Digital Music Production

11160 –Production Technology - Eliminated due to lack of offering and more appropriate alignment to fine arts.

11153 - Content Creation, Branding and Media – Title changed from Digital Production for Entertainment

Digital Technology Career Cluster



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

DIGITAL TECHNOLOGY

Power the digital world.

South Dakota is advancing in cybersecurity, software development, and IT infrastructure. Whether you're protecting networks, designing software, or optimizing technology for agriculture, the opportunities are endless in this high-tech field.



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INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Google Cloud - Foundational
MS Office Specialist
CompTIA Certifications
CTech Certifications



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte/.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Cybersecurity Analyst
IT Support Specialist
Software Engineer
GIS Technician (Land & Ag Mapping)
Network Administrator
Database Manager
Health Informatics Specialist



CTE STUDENT ORGANIZATION


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Digital Technology Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Tracia Rentsch	SD DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	SD DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Renae Spohn	Dakota State University
Kristi Odegaard	Lake Preston School District
Heidi Noem	Hamlin School District
Sarah Burkett	Sioux Falls School District
Brad Nupen	Brookings High School
Tamara Schmidt	Camelot Intermediate - Brookings School District
Scott Headrick	Flandreau School District
Britney Lewis	Steven's High School – Rapid City Area Schools
Benjamin Benson	Sanford Research – Sioux Falls, SD
Tara Johanneson	University of Sioux Falls
Fenecia Homan	Dakota State University
David Swank	University of South Dakota

Notable Changes in Digital Technology

The transition from the Information Technology Career Cluster to the Digital Technology Career Cluster reflects the rapidly evolving role of technology across the modern workforce. The revised standards expand beyond traditional information technology to prepare students for careers in artificial intelligence, cybersecurity, computer science, software development, and other emerging digital fields. As a recognized leader in cybersecurity, South Dakota continues to invest in this high-demand industry. According to the South Dakota Governor's Office of Economic Development (GOED), the state currently has nearly 900 cybersecurity job openings and more than 10,500 computer and mathematics occupations, with average annual salaries exceeding \$101,000.

New Courses in Digital Technology

10108 – Introduction to Artificial Intelligence – A clear example of emerging technology shaping the revised standards is the addition of Artificial Intelligence to the Digital Technology Cluster. As AI continues to reshape the workforce, students develop a foundational understanding of how AI systems work and how they can be used responsibly. Rather than simply teaching students to use AI tools, this course explores machine learning, large language models, ethics, bias, data privacy, intellectual property, workforce implications, and the critical evaluation of AI-generated content. As an agricultural industry partner noted during the revision process, "AI won't take your job, but your job will be taken by someone who knows how to use AI appropriately and effectively." This perspective reflects the committee's goal of preparing students not only to understand AI, but to apply it responsibly and effectively across a wide range of careers.

Updated Courses in Digital Technology

10003 – Introduction to Digital Technology – Title Changed from Introduction to Information Technology

10251 – Computer Hardware – Title Changed from Computer Hardware and Software

10153 – Software Solutions – Title Changed from Advanced Computer Programming

One course code for general and PLTW computer science courses

10013 Computer Science Essentials

10015 Computer Science Principles

10014 Computer Science

10016 Cybersecurity

Education Career Cluster

SOUTH DAKOTA
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

TEACH LEAD INSPIRE

CARING FOR COMMUNITIES

EDUCATION

Shape the future of South Dakota.

Educators and trainers play a crucial role in every community. Whether you're in the classroom, coaching, or guiding students through career paths, your work creates lasting impact. Empower learners, unlock potential and leave a lasting mark with a career in education.



INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Certified Paraprofessional
Child Development Associate (CDA)
First Aid/CPR/AED



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Preschool, Elementary, Middle, High School Teacher
Special Education Teacher
School Counselor
Paraprofessional
Extension Educator (4-H & FFA)
Instructional Designer
Librarian
School Administrator



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 **EDUCATORS
RISING**
empowering tomorrow's leaders



Revision Team Members in Education

Name	Organization Represented
Jane Gubrud	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Elizabeth Ketterling	Aberdeen Central High School
Tracy Kern	Harrisburg High School
Tracy Chase	McCook Central School
Lynne Shankle	Harrisburg School District
Travis Lape	Harrisburg School District / SD Educator's Rising
Bev Myer	Leola School
Elissa Engel	Sioux Falls School District
Sara Koepke	Milbank School District
Amy Trautner	Child and Family Resource Network – Brookings, SD
Travis Spier	Sanford Health - Sioux Falls, SD
Dr. Anna Schwan	Northern State University
Nicole D Schutter	Northern State University
Sharon Schmidt	Sanford Health – Sioux Falls, SD
April Sorenson	Faulkton Area Medical Center & Faulkton Area Out of School Program (Childcare center) – Faulkton, SD

Notable Changes in Education

Preparing South Dakota's next generation of educators was a primary focus of the Education Cluster revision. The revised standards align instruction with the knowledge, skills, and workforce expectations of education professionals while placing greater emphasis on child development, instructional practices, learning environments, professional responsibilities, and career exploration. Together, these revisions prepare students for careers that support learners across a variety of educational settings.

New Courses in Education

19153 – Gateway to the Child Development Associate (CDA) - This course is intentionally aligned with the nationally recognized Child Development Associate (CDA) credential, preparing students with the foundational knowledge and competencies needed to pursue industry certification and enter the early childhood workforce. The standards align with CDA competency requirements, providing educators with a clear pathway toward credential attainment.

Energy and Natural Resources Career Cluster



CULTIVATING RESOURCES

ENERGY & NATURAL RESOURCES

Harness energy and protect the environment.

South Dakota is leading in renewable energy and conservation. Whether working with wind turbines, wildlife, or land management, this career path supports a sustainable future. Power progress and protect the planet with the skills you learn in energy and natural resources.



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INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Ducks Unlimited
Pesticide Applicators
First Aid / CPR / AED
OSHA Safety



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte/.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Environmental Scientist
Wind Turbine Technician
Wildlife Biologist
Conservation Officer
Farm & Ranch Energy Consultant
Forestry Technician
Hydrologist



CTE STUDENT ORGANIZATION



National FFA
Organization (FFA)

Energy and Natural Resources Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Mercedes Snedeker	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Eric Nelson	Black Hills Energy – Rapid City, SD
Michelle Black	Northwestern Energy – Sioux Falls SD
James Hartwell	Belle Fourche School District
Kyle R Sander	Lead / Deadwood High School
Austin Bishop	Belle Fourche School District
Justin Jutting	Western Dakota Technical College
Brenda Merkel	Dakota State University
Terry Prouty	Southeast Technical College
Matthew Bilben	Mitchell Technical College
Josh Starnes	Huron High School
Noelle Swanson	Northwestern Area High School
Austin Norton	South Dakota Game, Fish, and Parks
Amanda Soebner	USDA Natural Resource Conservation Service
Mike Thu	Lake Area Technical College

Notable Changes in Energy and Natural Resources

The creation of the Energy and Natural Resources Career Cluster recognizes the growing importance of one of South Dakota's foundational industries. Previously housed within the Agriculture Career Cluster, Energy and Natural Resources now stands on its own, reflecting the increasing of career opportunities in energy production, utilities, conservation, environmental science, and natural resource management. The cluster prepares students for careers that support South Dakota's natural resources, outdoor recreation, public lands, and the essential energy infrastructure that powers our communities and industries.

New Courses in Energy and Natural Resources

21011 – Introduction to Energy and Power - Developed to prepare students for careers in one of the most essential industries by providing a foundation in traditional, renewable, and emerging energy technologies. Students explore energy generation, electrical principles, mechanical systems, workplace safety, and the science behind how energy is produced, converted, and utilized. Also exploring careers in utilities, energy production, engineering, and technical trades.

21060 – Energy Transmission and Distribution - Students examine electrical transmission and distribution systems, energy storage, utility operations, industry regulations, workplace safety, and the specialized tools and equipment used throughout the energy sector. 's communities.

Financial Services Career Cluster



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

FINANCIAL SERVICES

Manage money, shape futures.

From personal banking to corporate finance, this sector keeps South Dakota's economy strong. Help individuals and businesses make smart financial decisions and plan for success. Drive growth and build financial stability with your skills in financial services.



INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Microsoft Office Specialist
Concepts of Finance
Intuit QuickBooks Certified
NAFTrack Certification



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Certified Public Accountant (CPA)
Loan Officer
Insurance Agent (Crop & Livestock)
Bank Branch Manager
Financial Advisor
Rural Real Estate Appraiser
Tax Preparer



CTE STUDENT ORGANIZATION



Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)



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Financial Services Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Amber Rost	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Penny Brunken	Sioux Falls CTE Academy
Chad Richardt	Edmunds Central School District
Jordan Rohrbach	Tea Area High School
Kerry Stager	Lake Area Technical College
Nikki Mark	SD FBLA/SkillsUSA – Watertown, SD
Halley Lee	South Dakota Banking Association – Sioux Falls, SD
Kimberley Bowman	Dacotah Bank – Aberdeen, SD
Lindsey Olsen	G. Todd Garry, Public Accounting Firm – Webster, SD
Ashley Wolf	Dacotah Bank – Aberdeen, SD

Notable Changes in Financial Services

The Financial Services Career Cluster has been reimagined to reflect the transformation of today's financial industry, where technology is redefining how consumers, businesses, and financial institutions manage money. While the previous standards focused primarily on traditional banking, accounting, insurance, and investment practices, the revised standards prepare students to navigate an increasingly digital financial landscape. New learning includes mobile banking, digital wallets, blockchain technology, cryptocurrency, real-time payment systems, cybersecurity, and the protection of financial data, while continuing to emphasize sound accounting principles, lending, insurance, business economics, and ethical financial decision-making. These updates ensure students understand not only the fundamentals of finance, but also the technologies driving careers for the future of banking and financial services.

Updated Courses in Financial Services

12109 - Accounting III – Eliminated. The three courses in accounting were reconfigured to reflect key topics in the accounting industry and allow schools to provide the content in a two-course structure: Accounting I and Accounting II. As the number of students able to take three years of accounting was limited and the committee felt they were missing key concepts that could be worked into the earlier courses.

Health Science Career Cluster



SOUTH DAKOTA
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

HEALTH CARE DISCOVER

CARING FOR COMMUNITIES

HEALTH SCIENCE

Care for others. Change the future.

The healthcare industry is thriving in South Dakota, offering diverse opportunities from patient care to cutting-edge research. Step into a career that saves lives and promotes wellness. The skills you gain can improve health outcomes and change lives.



INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Certified Nursing Assistant (CNA)
Certified Patient Care Tech (CPCT)
Certified Pharmacy Tech (CphT)
Emergency Medical Tech (EMT)



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Registered Nurse	Radiologic Technologist
Family Physician	Surgeon
Pharmacist	Health Informatics Specialist
Physical Therapist	Dental Assistant



CTE STUDENT ORGANIZATION



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hosa future health professionals

Health Science Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Melissa Ettswold	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Tracia Rentsch	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Renae Spohn	Dakota State University
Tracy Ronke	Wilmot School District
Susan Pritchard	Avera McKennan School of Radiologic Technology
Brendon Sato	Rapid City Area School District
Lisa Johnson	Mitchell Technical College
Brittany Hubbart	Groton Area High School
Brock Rops	South Dakota HOSA-Future Health Professionals
Lori Christensen	Madison Central School District
Renae Oines	Sioux Falls School District
Kelly Bass	University of South Dakota
Miranda Drake	University of South Dakota
Benjamin Benson	Sanford Research – Sioux Falls, SD
Kassie Marek	Avera Queen of Peace – Mitchell, SD
Josie Petersen	SD Department of Health - Office of Rural Health
Lori Dumke	Horizon Health – Howard, SD
April Sorenson	Faulkton Area Medical Center & Faulkton Area Out of School Program (Childcare center) – Faulkton, SD
Gretchen Stai	SD Department of Social Services- Division of Behavioral Health
Travis Spier	Sanford Health – Sioux Falls, SD
Lana Loken	Lost and Found – Sioux Falls, SD
Michael Digatono	Southeastern Behavioral Health – Sioux Falls, SD

Notable Changes in Health Science

The Health Science Career Cluster was broadened to ensure South Dakota's healthcare programs remain current, relevant, and responsive to the current healthcare workforce. While the cluster already provided a strong foundation, the revised standards strengthen alignment with healthcare practices by emphasizing professional communication, clinical reasoning, patient-centered care, healthcare technology, and industry expectations. Updates also improve consistency throughout the program while expanding awareness of the many career pathways available within healthcare, ensuring students are well prepared for postsecondary education and employment in one of South Dakota's highest-demand industries. In collaboration with the Human Services workgroup, the Health Science committee also developed the new Introduction to Behavioral and Mental Health course, addressing one of the most significant gaps identified during the statewide standards review.

*See Human Services Cluster for 19301 – Introduction to Behavioral and Mental Health.

Hospitality, Events, and Tourism Career Cluster

SOUTH DAKOTA
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

WELCOME
EXPERIENCE
CELEBRATE

CREATING AND EXPERIENCING

HOSPITALITY, EVENTS & TOURISM

Create unforgettable experiences.

From world-class tourism to event management, South Dakota's hospitality industry offers exciting career paths in service, entertainment, and adventure. Gain the skills to create memorable moments and build a rewarding career in this dynamic industry.



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INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

ServSafe Handler
ServSafe Manager
ProStart National Certificate
of Achievement



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recognized credentials, scan
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POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Hotel Manager
Event Planner
Hunting & Fishing Guide
Chef & Resort Manager
Restaurant Owner
Rodeo Event Coordinator
Casino Operations Manager



CTE STUDENT ACTIVITIES



Hospitality, Events, and Tourism Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Jamie Boettcher	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Jane Gubrud	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Mica Sulzbach-Bataille	Sturgis Brown High School
Nicole A Graves	South Dakota State University
Tim Goldammer	Mitchell Technical College
Deb Rombough	Harrisburg High School
Tracey Lehrke	Sisseton High School
Cindy Gerlach	Mitchell CTE Academy
April May Malik	Rapid City Area Schools
Holly Howie	Douglas School District
Amanda Fodness	Lennox High School
Desiree Luedke	Stanley County School District
Morgan Heuer	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Seanna Regynski	South Dakota Retailers Association/ SD ProStart – Pierre, SD
Katie Paulson	SD CTSO Center – Watertown, SD
Miranda Morris	Dakota State University

Notable Changes in Hospitality, Events, and Tourism

The Hospitality, Events, and Tourism Cluster standards have been updated to better reflect South Dakota's popular travel and tourism industry. A major enhancement is a modification to the new Foundations of Travel and Tourism course. The course broadens students' understanding of the diverse careers that contribute to the visitor experience while highlighting tourism's economic impact on communities across the state. Across the cluster, coursework has also been strengthened to emphasize exceptional customer service, professionalism, project management, entrepreneurship, sustainability, leadership, and work-based learning experiences. Culinary, hospitality, and event management courses continue to reflect current industry practices, preparing students with the technical and professional skills needed to be successful.

Updated Courses in Hospitality and Tourism

16051 – Foundations of Travel and Tourism - Title changed from Hospitality and Tourism Management.

Human Services Career Cluster



CARING FOR COMMUNITIES

HUMAN SERVICES

Make a difference in people's lives.

Whether through counseling, social work, or nonprofit leadership, this career cluster focuses on strengthening communities and supporting those in need. Build connections, provide guidance and create positive change through a career in human services.



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INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Child Development Associate (CDA)
First Aid/ CPR/ AED
Microsoft Office Specialist



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte/



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Social Worker
Family & Marriage Therapist
Case Manager
Behavioral Health Technician
Career Counselor
Youth Program Director (Boys & Girls Club, 4-H)
Nonprofit Coordinator



CTE STUDENT ORGANIZATION



Human Services Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Jane Gubrud	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Nicole A Graves	South Dakota State University
Tracey Lehrke	Sisseton High School
Amanda Fodness	Lennox High School
Tia Smith	Scotland Schools
Leah Hofer	Wolsey-Wessington
April M Malik	Rapid City Area Schools
Elizabeth Ketterling	Aberdeen Central High School
Sara Bade	Jefferson High School – Sioux Falls School District
Laura Meile	Jefferson High School – Sioux Falls School District
Vickie Donohoe	Jefferson High School – Sioux Falls School District
Tracy Kern	Harrisburg High School
Renae Oines	Sioux Falls School District
Elissa Engel	Ben Reifel Middle School - Sioux Falls School District
Jackie Abel	Lake Area Technical College
Morgan Heuer	South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation
Rebecca Christiansen, LPC-MH, LPCC, LPC, NCC, QMHP	The Support Circle – Mobridge, SD
Tara Johanneson	University of Sioux Falls
Jordan Mouna	SD Department of Social Services, Division of Behavioral Health
Amy Trautner	Child and Family Resource Network – Brookings, SD
Erin Grant	Black Hills Special Services Cooperative – Sturgis, SD
Keith Ferguson	Black Hills Special Services Cooperative – Sturgis, SD
Andrea Effling	South Dakota DOE – Office of Student Wellness and Supports
Sharon Schmidt	Sanford Health – Sioux Falls, SD

Notable Changes in Human Services

The Human Services Career Cluster represents one of the most significant expansions within this standards revision project. The revised standards have been transformed to reflect the growing demand for professionals who support the health and well-being of individuals, families, and communities. Learning has expanded to include behavioral and mental health, community nutrition, aging, caregiving, wellness, and community resources while strengthening the professional skills, ethical decision-making, and interpersonal communication essential to service professions. Together, these revisions prepare students for careers in counseling, social work, behavioral health, family support, and community services.

New Courses in Human Services

19301 – Introduction to Behavioral and Mental Health - During the comprehensive review of South Dakota's CTE standards, behavioral and mental health emerged as one of the highest priority gaps in the previous Career Cluster Framework, despite the growing demand for professionals in these fields. The new course introduces students to behavioral and mental health careers, person-centered care, communication strategies, ethics, trauma-informed practices, and the social and environmental factors that influence mental well-being. Recognizing the importance of these competencies across multiple professions, the course was intentionally designed as a shared resource for both the Human Services and Health Science Career Clusters. The development of this course was guided by an exceptional team of healthcare and human services professionals whose expertise helped ensure the standards reflect current practice while addressing these topics with the professionalism and sensitivity they require.

Updated Courses in Human Services

19264- Family and Consumer Resources – Title changed from Consumer Resource Management

16054 – Community Nutrition – Title changed from Nutritional Sciences

19255 – Relationships Across the Lifespan – Title changed from Lifespan Connections

Management and Entrepreneurship Career Cluster

SOUTH DAKOTA
CAREER & TECHNICAL EDUCATION

LEAD INNOVATE GROW

INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

MANAGEMENT & ENTREPRENEURSHIP

Turn ideas into success.

Whether starting your own business, managing a company, or driving innovation, this career path offers endless opportunities for leadership and growth. Gain hands-on experience, develop essential skills, and shape the future of industries that impact our daily lives.



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INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Microsoft Office Specialist
Entrepreneurship & Small
Business (ESB)
Concepts of Entrepreneurship
Concepts of Business
Management



For a complete list of industry
recognized credentials, scan
the QR Code below or visit
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POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Small Business Owner
Economic Development Director
Marketing Director
Nonprofit Executive Director
Human Resources Manager
Independent Sales Consultant
Franchise Owner



CTE STUDENT ORGANIZATION



Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)

Management and Entrepreneurship Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Amber Rost	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Penny Brunken	Sioux Falls CTE Academy
Chad Richardt	Edmunds Central
Jordan Rohrbach	Tea Area High School
Toni J Jacobs	Rapid City Area Schools
Amy Todd	Lead-Deadwood High School
Justine Sponder	Dakota Valley School District
Christine Pulaski	Rapid City Central High School
Dr. Brenda Merkel	Dakota State University
Tom Mulholland	Lake Area Technical College
Hollie Stalder	Belle Fourche Development Corporation
Morgan Heuer	South Dakota Department of Labor and Regulation
Nikki Mark	CTSO Center-SD FBLA/SkillsUSA

Notable Changes to Management and Entrepreneurship

The transition from Business Management & Administration Cluster to the new Management & Entrepreneurship Career Cluster reflects a broader vision of preparing South Dakota's future business leaders. While maintaining the strong foundation in business operations, management, accounting, business law, and administrative skills, the revised cluster places greater emphasis on leadership, innovation, entrepreneurship, and strategic decision-making. Students develop the skills to lead organizations, launch new ventures, manage projects, solve complex business challenges, and adapt to an increasingly technology-driven economy. Across the cluster, standards were refined to incorporate global business concepts, cloud-based collaboration, digital business practices, cybersecurity, data management, ethical leadership, and entrepreneurial thinking. These enhancements prepare students not only to work in successful businesses, but to create, grow, and lead them.

Updated Courses for Management and Entrepreneurship

10049 - Advanced Business Computer Applications – Eliminated – due to a lack of interest, skills incorporated into Business Computer Applications.

12056 – International Business and Marketing – Eliminated – due to a lack of interest. Dual Credit courses are better fit for students seeking this specialization.

Marketing and Sales Career Cluster



INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

MARKETING AND SALES

Drive brands and influence markets.

Whether in digital marketing, sales, or research, this career field is all about connecting businesses with consumers and creating compelling campaigns. Explore dynamic strategies, build relationships, and drive business success through creativity and data-driven insights.



INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

Microsoft Office Specialist
Business Management A*S*K
Fundamental Marketing A*S*K



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte/.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Sales Representative
Digital Marketing Specialist
Market Research Analyst
Content Marketing Specialist
Livestock Auctioneer
Advertising Account Manager
Brand Strategist



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Future Business Leaders of America (FBLA)



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Marketing and Sales Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Amber Rost	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Alexa Dorn	South Dakota Department of Tourism
Lexie Warejcka	SD Governor's Office of Economic Development
Kelly Nyberg	Nyberg's ACE Corporation – Sioux Falls, SD
Nikki Mark	SD FBLA/SkillsUSA – Watertown, SD
Tom Mulholland	Lake Area Technical College
Tommy Gregg	Redfield Public School
Jessie Yttreiness	Bridgewater-Emery School District
Deb Tech	Dakota State University
Stephanie Ornelas	Harrisburg School District

Notable Changes in Marketing and Sales

Whether through a social media post, a recognizable brand, a memorable customer experience, or a trusted salesperson, marketing influences nearly every purchasing decision we make. The revised Marketing and Sales Career Cluster prepares students for careers where creativity meets strategy. The refreshed standards reflect today's marketplace by emphasizing digital marketing, branding, and customer engagement while preserving the strong foundation of traditional marketing principles. Students will be prepared to help organizations build meaningful customer connections, strengthen their competitive advantage, and grow in an ever-changing economy.

Updated Courses in Marketing and Sales

12164 – Modern Marketing – Title Changed from Marketing Principles.

12152 – Advertising, Promotion, Branding, and Design- Title Changed from Marketing Strategies.

12202 – Sales and Customer Relations – Title changed from Principles of Selling

12199 – Marketing Communications - Eliminated – due to a lack of interest. Dual Credit courses are better fit for students seeking this specialization.

12167 – Marketing Research – Eliminated – due to a lack of interest. Dual Credit courses are better fit for students seeking this specialization.

Public Service and Security Career Cluster



CARING FOR COMMUNITIES

PUBLIC SERVICE AND SECURITY

Keep communities safe and strong.

From law enforcement to emergency response, this career path is dedicated to protecting people and serving the public. Build trust, respond with courage, and make a lasting impact through a career in public service and security.



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INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

First Aid / CPR / AED
OSHA Safety
Registered Parliamentarian



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POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Law Enforcement Officer
Firefighter
Paramedic
Game Warden
Paralegal
Military Officer (South Dakota National Guard)
Judge



SUPPORTING STUDENT ORGANIZATION



Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC)

Public Service and Safety Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Melissa Ettswold	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Morgan Heuer	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Sheila Monnier	NESD Area Health Education Center (AHEC) – Aberdeen, SD
Cameron Corey	Lake Area Technical College
Jill Nihart	Huron School District
Jolene Konechne	Huron School District
Chad Stahl	Lake Area Technical College
Michelle Maruani	NSU Center for Statewide E-Learning – Aberdeen, SD
Jennifer Byall	Southeast Technical College

Notable Changes in Public Service and Safety

The new Public Service and Safety Career Cluster brings together the former Law, Public Safety, Security & Corrections and Government & Public Administration clusters into a unified new cluster that better reflects how public service professionals work together to serve communities. By combining these related fields, students gain a broader understanding of careers in government, legal services, law enforcement, emergency response, military service, public administration, and community leadership while exploring how each contributes to the safety, security, and well-being of citizens. The revised standards place greater emphasis on civic responsibility, laws and regulations, ethical leadership, professional communication, and collaboration across public service professions. Students also engage with current topics including mental wellness for first responders, de-escalation strategies, trauma-informed interactions, cybercrime, emerging investigative technologies, technical documentation, and the role of local, tribal, state, and federal governments in serving the public.

The Public Service and Safety Career Cluster also includes Junior Reserve Officers' Training Corps (JROTC) programs. Consistent with national practice, curriculum and standards for JROTC courses are developed, maintained, and approved by each respective branch of the United States Armed Forces. South Dakota recognizes these programs as valuable career pathways that prepare students for leadership, citizenship, and public service.

New Courses in Public Service and Safety

15151- Introduction to Fire Science - The addition of Introduction to Fire Science reflects South Dakota's commitment to addressing workforce needs through strong community partnerships. The course was developed at the recommendation of rural fire departments and school districts across the state, which identified recruiting and preparing the next generation of firefighters as a growing challenge. Recognizing the recruitment needs facing both volunteer and career fire departments, this course creates opportunities for schools to partner with local fire departments to provide students with hands-on learning experiences. Students develop foundational knowledge in fire prevention, emergency response, firefighting operations, incident management, and workplace safety while gaining firsthand exposure to the fire service profession. More than a career exploration course, Introduction to Fire Science establishes a sustainable workforce pipeline that benefits students interested in serving their communities as volunteer firefighters as well as those pursuing full-time careers in the fire service.

Updated Courses in Public Service and Safety

15201 – Government, Leadership, and Public Service – Title Change from Principles of Public Management and Administration

Supply Chain and Transportation Career Cluster



BUILDING AND MOVING

SUPPLY CHAIN & TRANSPORTATION

Keep the world moving.

From logistics to transportation, this industry plays a crucial role in ensuring products and goods reach their destination efficiently. Whether by road, rail, or air, this career path is vital to South Dakota's economy. Keep the state moving with your skills in supply and transportation.



INDUSTRY RECOGNIZED CREDENTIALS

ASE Entry-Level Certification
Commercial Driver's License (CDL)
First Aid / CPR / AED
OSHA Safety



For a complete list of industry recognized credentials, scan the QR Code below or visit doe.sd.gov/cte.



POTENTIAL CAREER OPPORTUNITIES

Logistics Coordinator
Commercial Truck Driver
Railroad Conductor (BNSF, CP)
Autobody Repair Specialist
Warehouse Supervisor
Grain Elevator Operator
Commercial Airline Pilot



CTE STUDENT ORGANIZATION



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SkillsUSA®

Supply Chain Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
Tracia Rentsch	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Mercedes Snedeker	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Amy Miller	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Cody Schulz	RDO Equipment Company – Aberdeen, SD
Evan Brandt	RDO Equipment Company – Aberdeen, SD
Dale Criddle	SIOUX FALLS FORD LINCOLN – Sioux Falls, SD
Danny Dunagan	Billion Auto – Sioux Falls, SD
Bryan Boocock	WEGNER AUTO COMPANY – Pierre, SD
Tim Schuster	Liberty Chrysler Center – Rapid City, SD
Ryan Juneke	Juneke's Chrysler Jeep Dodge Ram – Spearfish, SD
Melissa Andrisen	Butler Machinery Co. – Sioux Falls, SD
Jaynie Spier	South Dakota Department of Transportation
James M Heaphy	Associated General Contractors of South Dakota
John Morris	Morris, Inc. – Pierre, SD
James Hartwell	Belle Fourche School District
Kyle R Sander	Lead / Deadwood School District
Austin Bishop	Belle Fourche School District
Justin Jutting	Western Dakota Technical College
Brenda Merkel	Dakota State University
TERRY PROUTY	Southeast Technical College
Matthew Bilben	Mitchell Technical College
Josh Starnes	Huron High School
Cameron Cory	Lake Area Technical College
Laureen Mehlert	Sioux Falls CTE Academy

Notable Changes in Supply Chain and Transportation

Strong automotive maintenance and repair programs that have been a cornerstone of CTE for decades, the revised standards in the Supply Chain and Transportation Cluster also prepare students for the next generation of transportation careers. Throughout the revision, courses were enhanced to incorporate advanced diagnostics, electronic and computerized vehicle systems, electric and hybrid technologies, automation, and industry-standard equipment while maintaining the technical nature that has long defined these programs. One of the most significant enhancements was the addition of aviation from the former STEM Career Cluster, creating a more complete representation of transportation careers across air, ground, and even some water. Although South Dakota is not defined by commercial water transportation, courses such as Powersports recognize the state's strong outdoor recreation industry by preparing students to maintain and repair vehicles used on snow, water, and off-road terrain.

These enhancements broaden career opportunities while ensuring students graduate with the technical, safety, and professional skills needed to succeed in the transportation workforce.

New Courses in Supply Chain and Transportation

20028 – Aviation Maintenance – Aviation Maintenance was developed in response to a significant gap identified during the standards revision process by a school district with a well-established aviation program. They recognized that while students had opportunities to explore aviation careers, there was no dedicated pathway for those interested in the highly specialized field of aircraft maintenance. This course was created to prepare students for careers that keep aircraft safe, reliable, and flight-ready. Lake Area Technical College served as a valuable partner in developing the course, as one of the region's few FAA-certified Aviation Maintenance Technician programs. Through hands-on learning, students develop foundational skills in aircraft systems, maintenance procedures, inspections, troubleshooting, aviation regulations, and workplace safety while gaining an understanding of the precision and attention to detail required in the aviation industry.

20119 – Emerging Transportation Technology – Perhaps the most forward-looking addition is this course. Designed to evolve alongside the transportation industry, this flexible course introduces students to the innovations that are reshaping how people, products, and equipment move across the world. Students explore autonomous and remotely operated equipment, artificial intelligence, advanced robotics, drones, connected vehicle systems, precision agriculture, predictive maintenance, alternative fuels, and other emerging technologies that continue to transform transportation. The course examines how technology advancements are improving safety by removing workers from hazardous environments such as mining and heavy construction, while increasing efficiency in areas such as precision agriculture. As new technologies emerge, the course is designed to adapt, ensuring students remain at the forefront of industry innovation. Development of this course was made possible through a close partnership with Western Dakota Technical College, home to one of only two Autonomous Equipment Technician programs in the world. Their expertise helped create an engaging, realistic curriculum that gives high school students an early introduction to technologies that are transforming the way people live and work.

Updated Courses in Supply Chain and Transportation

20056 – Aviation and Drone Fundamentals – Title Change from Fundamentals of Aviation.

20151 – Logistics Planning & Management – Retired. Logistics planning remains an important component of the Career Cluster Framework; it is recommended to be retired because of limited district participation and student demand. The course may be reintroduced later if the need emerges in South Dakota.

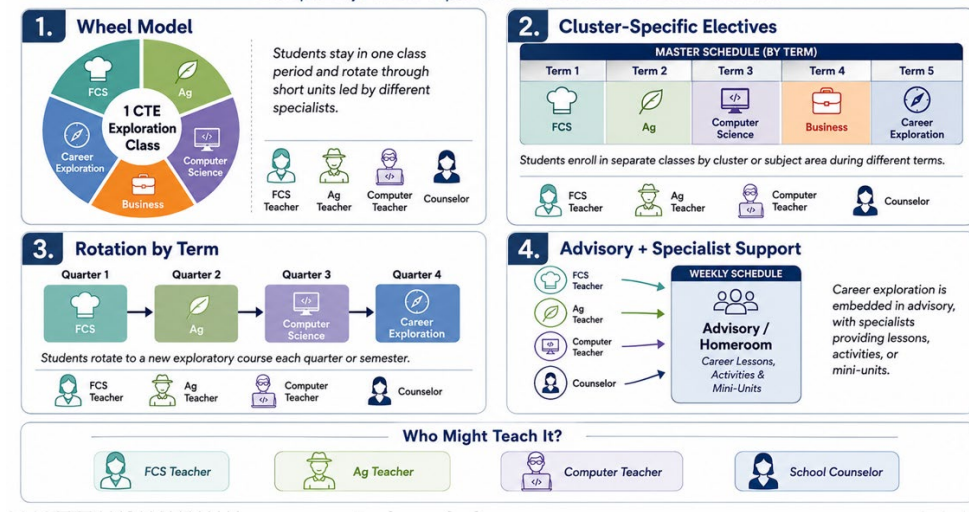
Middle School Career and Technical Education

Middle School Revision Team Members

Name	Organization Represented
All CTE Staff	South Dakota DOE- Office of Career and Technical Education
Laura Hasselquist	South Dakota State University
Elissa Engel	SFSD-BRMS
Joe Dalton	Waverly South Shore School District
Tabitha Perli	South Middle School - Rapid City Area Schools
Justin Jutting	Western Dakota Technical College
Heidi Noem	Hamlin School District
Katie Paulson	SD CTSO Center – Watertown, SD
Stephanie Gelderman	SD FCCLA – Mitchell, SD
Morgan Heuer	SD Department of Labor and Regulation
Nikki Melius	Faulkton School District
Tiffany French	Custer Jr./Sr. High School
Dorothy "Marie" Story	Harrisburg South Middle School
Julie Marshall	Timber Lake School
Kari Brenner	Holgate Middle School
Cari Kennedy	Douglas Middle School
Travis Santistevan	Hill City High School
Jacob Englin	South Dakota State University
Chad Tussing	New Underwood School District
Jolene Konechne	Huron School District
Amanda Fodness	Lennox High School
Bobbie Jo Donovan	Rapid City Area Schools

Middle School CTE Delivery Models

Example ways career exploration can fit within the master schedule



Notable Changes in Middle School CTE

Middle school career exploration plays a critical role in helping students discover their interests, connect learning to future opportunities, and make informed decisions about their educational and career pathways. While previous South Dakota CTE standards included middle school content in only a limited number of Career Clusters, expanding meaningful career exploration opportunities for younger learners is a strategic priority of the South Dakota Office of Career and Technical Education. As a result, the accompanying standards have been developed to provide educators with high-quality, age-appropriate standards spanning all Career Clusters. By introducing students to a broad range of career pathways at an earlier age, the standards are designed to spark curiosity, foster career awareness, and help students make more informed decisions as they move into high school. Each Career Cluster revision team developed introductory standards that reflect the foundational knowledge and skills within their respective industries. Those standards were then brought together by a statewide Middle School CTE work group of educators who reviewed and refined them to ensure consistency, cohesion, developmental appropriateness, and a unified vision for middle level career and technical education.

Unlike high school course standards, the Middle School CTE Standards are designed as a flexible library of learning standards rather than a prescribed course of study. They are not intended to be taught in their entirety. Instead, educators are encouraged to select and combine the standards and performance indicators that best support their local career exploration model, student needs, available instructional time, and district priorities. This flexible approach allows schools to design meaningful career exploration experiences while providing students with broad exposure to career pathways before entering high school CTE programs.