

South Dakota Approved Alternative Certification Coursework

ARSD 24:28:01:01 (2) "Alternative certification," the process established by the department by which an eligible individual completes the requirements for certification as a teacher or administrator while the individual is employed as a teacher or administrator in a public or department-accredited school



[Educator Portal \(application\): <https://www.sd.gov/educator>](https://www.sd.gov/educator)
[Educator 411 \(endorsement requirements\)](#)

[ARSD 24:28:10 Alternative preliminary certification.](#)
[Certification Forms](#)

General Education (Gen Ed) and Teach for America (TFA) Alternative Certification

[ARSD 24:28:11 General education alternative certification.](#)

[ARSD 24:28:13 Teach for America alternative certification.](#)

Coursework can be completed at multiple universities.

[Augustana University](#)
[Black Hills State University](#)
[Dakota State University](#)
[Dakota Wesleyan University](#)
[Mount Marty University](#)
[Northern State University](#)

[Oglala Lakota College](#)
[Sinte Gleska University](#)
[South Dakota State University](#)
[University of Sioux Falls](#)
[University of South Dakota](#)

[More information about this alternative certification route.](#)

Career and Technical Education (CTE) Alternative Certification

[ARSD 24:28:12 Career and technical education alternative certification.](#)

Coursework can be completed at multiple universities.

CTE Methods Course:

[South Dakota State University](#)
[University of South Dakota](#)
[University of Sioux Falls](#)

Certified Mentoring Program:

[Statewide Mentoring Program](#)
[Mentoring Program at Mitchell Technical Institute](#)

Adolescent Psychology Course:

See Gen Ed & TFA coursework options above.

South Dakota Indian Studies

[Approved 3 credit course options.](#)

[More information about this alternative certification route.](#)

Special Education Alternative Certification

[ARSD 24:28:14 Special education alternative certification.](#)

Coursework can be completed at multiple universities.

[Augustana University](#)
[Black Hills State University](#)
[Northern State University](#)

[South Dakota State University](#)
[University of Sioux Falls](#)
[Sinte Gleska University](#)
[University of South Dakota](#)

[More information about this alternative certification route.](#)

Administrator Alternative Certification - Superintendent

[ARSD 24:28:15 Administrator alternative certification.](#)

Coursework can be completed at multiple universities.

[South Dakota State University](#)
[University of Sioux Falls](#)

[University of South Dakota](#)

[More information about this alternative certification route.](#)

Administrator Alternative Certification - K-12 Principal

[ARSD 24:28:15 Administrator alternative certification.](#)

Coursework can be completed at multiple universities.

[Dakota Wesleyan University](#)
[Northern State University](#)
[South Dakota State University](#)

[University of Sioux Falls](#)
[University of South Dakota](#)

[More information about this alternative certification route.](#)

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Updated: January 2026

<https://doe.sd.gov/certification/>



Augustana University - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:11>

ARSD 24:28:12 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:12>

ARSD 24:28:13 TEACH FOR AMERICA ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:13>

Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.

> Content areas such as math, science, social science, English, PE, art, music, etc

NOT allowed for K-4 Elementary or Early Childhood (EC) or EC SPED or K-12 SPED

2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.

3. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.

State-Designated Testing:

* **Pedagogy Test** - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

* **Content Test** may be needed for endorsements have additional requirements beyond the alternative coursework and must be completed to be fully state certified.

Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies	NAST 320	Native American Studies	3
Classroom Management	EDUC 401	Classroom Management	1
Teaching Methods *Choose One	EDUC 310	Secondary and Middle Level Methods	3
	EDUC 335	Content Area Literacy	3
Student Assessment	EDUC 375	Educational Assessment	3
Differentiated Instruction	SPED 120	Introduction to Special Education	3
Adolescent Psychology *Choose One	EDUC 345	Adolescent Development	3
	PSYC 210	Lifespan Human Development	3

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<https://www.augie.edu/academics/academic-catalog>



Black Hills State University - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:11>

ARSD 24:28:12 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:12>

ARSD 24:28:13 TEACH FOR AMERICA ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:13>

Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
 - > Content areas such as math, science, social science, English, PE, art, music, etc
 - **NOT allowed for K-4 Elementary or Early Childhood (EC) or EC SPED or K-12 SPED**
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
3. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.

State-Designated Testing:

* **Pedagogy Test** - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

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Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies	INED 411/511	South Dakota Indian Studies	3
Classroom Management	SEED 440	Classroom Management (secondary)	1
Teaching Methods	MLED 480	Middle Level Methods	2
Student Assessment	SPED 431	Identification and Assessment in Special Education	3
Differentiated Instruction	SPED 100	Intro to Persons with Exceptionalities	3
Adolescent Psychology	EPSY 428	Child & Adolescent Development	3

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<https://bhsu.edu/academics/academic-affairs/index.html#catalogs>



Dakota State University - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:11>

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Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
> Content areas such as math, science, social science, English, PE, art, music, etc
NOT allowed for K-4 Elementary or Early Childhood (EC) or EC SPED or K-12 SPED
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
3. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.

State-Designated Testing:

* **Pedagogy Test** - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

* **Content Test** may be needed for endorsements have additional requirements beyond the alternative coursework and must be completed to be fully state certified.

Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies	INED 211	SD American Indian Culture and Education	3
Classroom Management	EDFN 440	Classroom Management	3
Teaching Methods	SEED 302	Secondary and Middle Level content Methods	2 to 3
Student Assessment	EDER 431	Educational Technology & Assessment	3
Differentiated Instruction	SPED 100	Introduction to Persons with Exceptionalities	3
Adolescent Psychology	EPSY 210	Lifespan Development	3

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Dakota Wesleyan University - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:11>

ARSD 24:28:12 CAREER AND TECHNICAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:12>

ARSD 24:28:13 TEACH FOR AMERICA ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:13>

Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
 - > Content areas such as math, science, social science, English, PE, art, music, etc
 - **NOT allowed for K-4 Elementary or Early Childhood (EC) or EC SPED or K-12 SPED**
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
3. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.

State-Designated Testing:

* **Pedagogy Test** - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

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Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies *Choose One	EDU 335 OR EDU 635	American Indian Education OR American Indian History and Culture	3
Classroom Management *Choose One	EDU 465 OR EDU 620	Classroom Management OR Behavior Management Principles	3
Teaching Methods *Choose One	EDU 456 OR EDU 665	Secondary and Middle Level Teaching Methods OR Curriculum and Teaching Methods	3
Student Assessment *Choose One	EDU 435 OR EDU 683	Curriculum, Standards, and Assessment OR Assessment, Planning, and Evaluation	3
Differentiated Instruction *Choose One	SPD 206 OR EDU 611	Introduction to Exceptional Students OR Differentiation in Practice	3
Adolescent Psychology *Choose One	EDU 412 OR EDU 661	Adolescent Learners' Needs OR Advanced Educational Psychology	3

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Mount Marty University - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:11>

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ARSD 24:28:13 TEACH FOR AMERICA ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:13>

Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.

> Content areas such as math, science, social science, English, PE, art, music, etc

NOT allowed for K-4 Elementary or Early Childhood (EC) or EC SPED or K-12 SPED

2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.

3. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.

State-Designated Testing:

* **Pedagogy Test** - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

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Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies	EDN 360	Indian Education	3
Classroom Management	EDN 234	Testing, Measurement, and Classroom Management	3
Teaching Methods	EDN 375	Middle School/Secondary General Methods	2
Student Assessment	EDN 234	Testing, Measurement, and Classroom Management	3
Differentiated Instruction	EDN 374	Middle School/Secondary General Methods	3
Adolescent Psychology *Choose One	EDN 156	Child and Adolescent Development	3
	EDN 233	Educational Psychology	3
	EDN 266	Middle School/Junior High Education	2

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<https://www.mountmarty.edu/academics/registrar/>



Northern State University - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

<https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:11>

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Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.

> Content areas such as math, science, social science, English, PE, art, music, etc

NOT allowed for K-4 Elementary or Early Childhood (EC) or EC SPED or K-12 SPED

2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.

3. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.

State-Designated Testing:

* **Pedagogy Test** - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

* **Content Test** may be needed for endorsements have additional requirements beyond the alternative coursework and must be completed to be fully state certified.

Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies	INED 211/411/511	South Dakota Indian Studies	3
Classroom Management	EDFN 440/540	Classroom Management	2
Teaching Methods	SEED 420/520	Middle and Secondary Curr & Instruction	3
Student Assessment	EDER 415/515	5-12 Philosophy & Pedagogy	2
Differentiated Instruction	SPED 704	Inclusive Education (Graduate Level)	3
	SPED 441	Inclusive Methods for Diverse Learners	2
Adolescent Psychology	EPSY 428/528	Child and Adolescent Development	3

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Oglala Lakota College - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:11>

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ARSD 24:28:13 TEACH FOR AMERICA ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:13>

Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.

> Content areas such as math, science, social science, English, PE, art, music, etc

NOT allowed for K-4 Elementary or Early Childhood (EC) or EC SPED or K-12 SPED

2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.

3. Completion of 15 transcripted credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.

State-Designated Testing:

* Pedagogy Test - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

* Content Test may be needed for endorsements have additional requirements beyond the alternative coursework and must be completed to be fully state certified.

Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies	ED 303E	Indian Studies for Education	3
Classroom Management *Choose one	ExEd 453	Classroom Management	3
	LKED 473	Seminar for Student Teachers	3
Teaching Methods *Choose at least one course	ED 313	Educational Psychology	3
	ED 433	Methods of Teaching Language Arts	3
	EDECH 402	Methods of Music and Art	2
	EDECH 413	Methods of Teaching EC/Elem Reading	3
	EDECH 423	Methods of Teaching EC/Elem Math	3
	EDECH 433	Methods of Teaching EC/Elem Science	3
	EDECH 453	Methods of Teaching EC/Elem Soc Stud	3
	EDECH 462	Methods of Teaching Health and Phy Ed	2
	LKED 453	Methods of Teaching K-12 Lakota Studies	3
	LKED 433	Methods of Teaching Lakota Language	3
	ScED 433	Reading in the Content Area	3
	ScED 403	Methods of Teaching Secondary Math	3
	ScED 413	Methods of Teaching Secondary Science	3
Student Assessment	ExED 323	Assessment and Practical Applications	3
Differentiated Instruction *Choose one	ExED 313	Introduction to Exceptional Education	3
	ExED 433	Diagnostic Teaching	3
Adolescent Psychology	ED 323	Adolescent Psychology and Curriculum Concepts	3

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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Sinte Gleska University - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

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Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.

> Content areas such as math, science, social science, English, PE, art, music, etc

NOT allowed for K-4 Elementary or Early Childhood (EC) or EC SPED or K-12 SPED

2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.

3. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.

State-Designated Testing:

* **Pedagogy Test** - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

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Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies *Choose One	ED 339	Indian Education (undergraduate)	3
	ED 633	Indigenous Worldview (graduate)	3
Classroom Management	SPED 300	Techniques for Managing Behavior	3
Teaching Methods *Choose One	ED 305	Methods of Teaching	3
	ED 620	Models of Instruction	3
	ED 642	Approaches and Techniques for Teaching Reading - Elementary	3
	ED 643	Approaches and Techniques for Teaching Reading - Secondary	3
Student Assessment *Choose One	SPED 420	Special Education Assessment and Transitional Planning	3
	ED 654	Assessment in Early Childhood Special Education	3
Differentiated Instruction *Choose One	ED 449	Psychology and Teaching the Exceptional Child	3
	SPED 200	Intro to Special Education	3
	ED 637	Culturally Responsive Teaching	3
Adolescent Psychology	ME 200	Adolescent Psychology	3

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South Dakota State University - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

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Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
> Content areas such as math, science, social science, English, PE, art, music, etc
NOT allowed for K-4 Elementary or Early Childhood (EC) or EC SPED or K-12 SPED
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Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies	AIS 211	SD American Indian Culture & Ed	3
Classroom Management	EDFN 745	Motivation in the Classroom	3
Teaching Methods	SEED 420	5-12 Teaching Methods	3
Student Assessment	ELED 230	Assessment & Classroom Management	3
Differentiated Instruction	SPED 100	Introduction to Persons with Exceptionalities	3
	EDFN 700	Exceptional Learners	3
Adolescent Psychology	EDFN 340	Adolescent Development in Ed Contexts	3

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University of Sioux Falls - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

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Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies	EDU 533	Native American Studies	3
Classroom Management	EDU 555	Research & Instructional Management	3
Teaching Methods	EDU 508	Pedagogy for Middle & Secondary Educators	3
Student Assessment	EDU 526	Educational Psychology & Evaluation	3
Differentiated Instruction	EDU 515	Exceptional Students	3
Adolescent Psychology	EDU 526	Educational Psychology & Evaluation <i>*course will meet both strands but credits are only</i>	****

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University of South Dakota - General Education Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:11

ARSD 24:28:11 GENERAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION

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Must obtain an Alternative Preliminary Certificate prior to applying for GEA, TFA, or CTE alternative route.

1. Continued employment as a teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.

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* **Content Test** may be needed for endorsements have additional requirements beyond the alternative coursework and must be completed to be fully state certified.

Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Courses	Total Credits
South Dakota Indian Studies	INED 411/511	South Dakota Indian Studies	3
Classroom Management	SEED 540	Classroom Management	3
Teaching Methods	SEED 773 OR SEED 550	Research-Based Methods in Curriculum and Instruction OR Reading and Content Literacy	3
Student Assessment	SEED 741	7-12 Curriculum and Instruction	3
Differentiated Instruction	SEED 741	7-12 Curriculum and Instruction <i>*course will meet both strands but credits are only counted once.</i>	***
Adolescent Psychology	EPSY 735	Child and Adolescent Learning and Development	3

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Augustana University - Special Education Endorsement - Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:14

ARSD 24:28:14 SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:14>

1. SD valid professional or advanced teaching certificate with a minimum of three years of teaching experience in the past five years is required.
2. Continued employment as a special education teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
3. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
4. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.
5. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.

State-Designated Testing:

* Pedagogy Test - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

* Content Test - Special Education Content Knowledge

* Testing requirements will be determined with your first application and will be determined based on current preparation, prior teaching experience and level of endorsement requested.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands:		Course Number	Approved Course	Total Credits
Year-long Special Education Practicum: 6 credits required		SPED 651 and 652	SPED Practicum #1 and SPED Practicum #2	6
Must complete a total of 9 credits meeting all three strands.	Special Education Law:	SPED 622	SPED Law and Leadership	3
	Special Education Assessment:	SPED 641	Assessment in SPED	3
	Special Education-Related Course: 3 credits required--choose <u>one</u> from the following	SPED 621	Collaboration with Families and Professionals	3
		SPED 640	Classroom and Behavior Management	3
		SPED 642	Methods for Working with Students with Disabilities	3

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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Updated: May 2024

<https://www.augie.edu/academics/academic-catalog>



Black Hills State University - Special Education Endorsement - Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:14

ARSD 24:28:14 SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:14>

1. SD valid professional or advanced teaching certificate with a minimum of three years of teaching experience in the past five years is required.
2. Continued employment as a special education teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
3. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
4. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.
5. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.

State-Designated Testing:

* Pedagogy Test - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

* Content Test - Special Education Content Knowledge

* Testing requirements will be determined with your first application and will be determined based on current preparation, prior teaching experience and level of endorsement requested.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Course	Total Credits
Year-long Special Education Practicum: 6 credits required	SPED 495/695	Practicum in SPED, K-8 (may take twice)	2
	SPED 495/695	Practicum in SPED, 7-12 (may take twice)	2
	SPED 495/696	Practicum in SPED, K-12 (may take twice)	2
Must complete a total of 9 credits meeting all three strands. *choose one or more of the following:	SPED 485/585	Special Education Law	2
	SPED 431/531	Identification and Assessment in SPED	3
	SPED 100	Introduction to Persons with Exceptionalities	3
	SPED 406/506	Introduction to Assistive Technology	2
	SPED 410/510	Behavior Management of Exceptional Children	3
	SPED 413/513	Serving Students with Severe Disabilities	3
	SPED 417/517	Vocational Transitional Programming	3
	SPED 420/520	K-12 Curriculum/Instructional Strategies	3
	SPED 435/535	Characteristics and Exceptionalities of Adolescents	3
	SPED 453/553	Introduction to Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
	SPED 460/560	Family Systems and Professional Collaborations	3

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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Updated: March 2021

<https://bhsu.edu/academics/academic-affairs/index.html#catalogs>



Northern State University - Special Education Endorsement - Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:14

ARSD 24:28:14 SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:14>

1. SD valid professional or advanced teaching certificate with a minimum of three years of teaching experience in the past five years is required.
2. Continued employment as a special education teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
3. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
4. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.
5. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.

State-Designated Testing:

* Pedagogy Test - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

* Content Test - Special Education Content Knowledge

* Testing requirements will be determined with your first application and will be determined based on current preparation, prior teaching experience and level of endorsement requested.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands:		Course Number	Approved Course	Total Credits
Year-long Special Education Practicum: 6 credits required		SPED 795	Practicum	6
Must complete a total of 9 credits meeting all three strands.	Special Education Law	SPED 720	Special Education Law for School Admins	3
	Special Education Assessment	SPED 531	Identification and Assessment in Special Education	3
	Special Education-Related Course	SPED 704	Inclusive Education	3

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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Updated: June 2025

<https://catalog.northern.edu/>



Sinte Gleska University - Special Education Endorsement - Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:14

ARSD 24:28:14 SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:14>

1. SD valid professional or advanced teaching certificate with a minimum of three years of teaching experience in the past five years is required.
2. Continued employment as a special education teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
3. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
4. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.
5. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.

State-Designated Testing:

* Pedagogy Test - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

* Content Test - Special Education Content Knowledge

* Testing requirements will be determined with your first application and will be determined based on current preparation, prior teaching experience and level of endorsement requested.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands:		Course Number	Approved Course	Total Credits
Year-long Special Education Practicum: 6 credits required		SPED 499	Internship in Special Education	12
Must complete a total of 9 credits meeting all three strands.	Special Education Law	EDAD 668	The Educational Leader: Special Education Law	3
	Special Education Assessment	SPED 420	Special Education Assessment and Transitional Planning	3
	Special Education-Related Course	SPED 322	Teaching Youth with Mild/Moderate Disabilities	3

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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Updated: Fall 2025

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South Dakota State University - Special Education Endorsement - Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:14

ARSD 24:28:14 SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:14>

1. SD valid professional or advanced teaching certificate with a minimum of three years of teaching experience in the past five years is required.
2. Continued employment as a special education teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
3. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
4. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.
5. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.

State-Designated Testing:

* Pedagogy Test - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

* Content Test - Special Education Content Knowledge

* Testing requirements will be determined with your first application and will be determined based on current preparation, prior teaching experience and level of endorsement requested.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Course	Total Credits
Year-long Special Education Practicum: 6 credits required	SPED 495 & EDFN 454	Special Education Practicum & Teaching and Learning IV: Student Teaching	1 & 11
Must complete a total of 9 credits meeting all three strands.	SPED 485	Special Education Law	3
	SPED 431	Identification & Assessment in Special Education	3
	SPED 100	Introduction to Persons with Exceptionalities	3
	SPED 330	Language Development & Assistive Technology	3
	SPED 410	Behavior Management of Exceptional Children	3
	SPED 460	Family Systems & Professional Collaborations	3
	SPED 380	Neurodiversity	3
	SPED 420	K-12 Curriculum & Instructional Strategies	3
	SPED 413	Serving Students with Severe Disabilities	3

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Updated: May 2024

<https://catalog.sdstate.edu/>



University of Sioux Falls - Special Education Endorsement Alternative Certification

ARSD 24:28:14 SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:14>

1. SD valid professional or advanced teaching certificate with a minimum of three years of teaching experience in the past five years is required.
2. Continued employment as a special education teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
3. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
4. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.
5. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.

State-Designated Testing:

* Pedagogy Test - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

* Content Test - Special Education Content Knowledge

* Testing requirements will be determined with your first application and will be determined based on current preparation, prior teaching experience and level of endorsement requested.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Course	Total Credits
Year-long Special Education Practicum: 6 credits required	EDU 594	Year-long Practicum in Special Education	6
Must complete a total of 9 credits meeting all three strands.	Special Education Law	EDU 591	Special Education Law and Procedures
	Special Education Assessment	EDU 593	Assessment in Special Education
	Special Education-Related Course	EDU 592	Strategic instruction for Students with Disabilities

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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Updated: June 2024

<https://www.usiouxfalls.edu/academics/academic-catalog>



University of South Dakota - Special Education Endorsement - Alternative Certification - ARSD 24:28:14

ARSD 24:28:14 SPECIAL EDUCATION ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:14>

1. SD valid professional or advanced teaching certificate with a minimum of three years of teaching experience in the past five years is required.
2. Continued employment as a special education teacher in a SD school district or department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
3. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
4. Completion of 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands within three years.
5. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.

State-Designated Testing:

* Pedagogy Test - Principles of Learning and Teaching (PLT)

* Content Test - Special Education Content Knowledge

* Testing requirements will be determined with your first application and will be determined based on current preparation, prior teaching experience and level of endorsement requested.

Coursework Strands:	Course Number	Approved Course	Total Credits	
Year-long Special Education Practicum: 6 credits required	SPED 795	Practicum in Special Education	6	
Must complete a total of 9 credits meeting all three strands.	Special Education Law	EDAD 720	Special Education Law for School Administrators	3
	Special Education Assessment	SPED 780	Assessment of Persons with Disabilities	3
	Special Education-Related Course <i>*choose one or more of the following:</i>	SPED 517	Vocational-Transitional Programming	2 to 3
		SPED 702	Diagnostic Teaching	3
		SPED 703	Education of Persons with Exceptional Needs	3
		SPED 709	Special Education Collaboration or Consultation in the Schools	3
		SPED 711	Educating Students with Cognitive Disabilities	3
		SPED 715	Behavior Management	3
		SPED 731	Educating Students with Learning Disabilities	3
		SPED 737	Educating Students with Autism Spectrum Disorders	3
		SPED 772	Atypical Development (Birth - 5)	3
		SPED 792	Topics	1 to 3

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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South Dakota State University - Administrator Alternative Certification - Superintendent Endorsement obtained through ARSD 24:28:15

ARSD 24:28:15 ADMINISTRATOR ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:15>

1. Continued employment as a superintendent in a South Dakota school district with a department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
3. Completion of 21 transcribed credits from a regionally accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands, within five years.
4. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.
5. South Dakota Indian Studies coursework is exempt from the 10-year restriction.

State-Designated Testing:

Content Test - Praxis "School Superintendent Assessment (SSA) (6991)" is required in addition to this coursework.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

	Approved Courses	
Coursework Strands (all strands must be met)	AIS 211 American Indian Culture & Education (3cr) OR AIS 511 South Dakota Indian Studies (3cr)	EDAD 731 School Finance (3cr)
Strand 1: Leadership and District Culture		
Strand 2: Organizational Management		
Strand 3: Values of Ethics of Leadership		
Strand 4: Educational Policy and Law		
Strand 5: Communication		
Strand 6: Community Relations		
Strand 7: Curriculum Planning and Development		
Strand 8: School Finance		X
Strand 9: Instructional Management		
South Dakota Indian Studies	X	

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SDSU does not offer all course strands.
All strands are required, and coursework may be completed at multiple universities.



University of Sioux Falls - Administrator Alternative Certification - Superintendent Endorsement obtained through ARSD 24:28:15

ARSD 24:28:15 ADMINISTRATOR ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:15>

1. Continued employment as a superintendent in a South Dakota school district with a department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
3. Completion of 21 transcribed credits from a regionally accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands, within five years.
4. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.
5. South Dakota Indian Studies coursework is exempt from the 10-year restriction.

State-Designated Testing:

Content Test - Praxis "School Superintendent Assessment (SSA) (6991)" is required in addition to this coursework.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands (all strands must be met)	Approved Courses						
	EDU 533 Native American Studies (3cr)	EDU 600 Intro to District-Level Leadership (3cr)	EDU 620 School Finance for District-Level Leaders (3cr)	EDU 625 Intergovernmental Relations (3cr)	EDU 695 (3cr), EDU 696 (3cr) - Internship/Field Experiences	EDU 640 Curriculum and Assessment for School Districts (3cr)	EDU 645 Administration of Special Education (3cr)
Strand 1: Leadership and District Culture		X			X		
Strand 2: Organizational Management			X	X	X		
Strand 3: Values of Ethics of Leadership		X			X		
Strand 4: Educational Policy and Law		X	X	X	X		X
Strand 5: Communication		X	X		X	X	
Strand 6: Community Relations		X		X	X		
Strand 7: Curriculum Planning and Development					X	X	
Strand 8: School Finance			X		X		
Strand 9: Instructional Management		X			X	X	
South Dakota Indian Studies	X						

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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University of South Dakota - Administrator Alternative Certification - Superintendent Endorsement obtained through ARSD 24:28:15

ARSD 24:28:15 ADMINISTRATOR ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:15>

1. Continued employment as a superintendent in a South Dakota school district with a department-accredited school is required; with appropriate SD DOE Form.
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required until all requirements have been confirmed as completed.
3. Completion of 21 transcripted credits from a regionally accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands, within five years.
4. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.
5. South Dakota Indian Studies coursework is exempt from the 10-year restriction.

State-Designated Testing:

Content Test - Praxis "School Superintendent Assessment (SSA) (6991)" is required in addition to this coursework.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands (all strands must be met)	Approved Courses						
	EDAD 411/511 South Dakota Indian Studies (3cr)	EDAD 750 School District Leadership (3cr)	EDAD 775 Public School Finance (3cr)	EDAD 786 Policy and Legal Issues for Educational Leaders (3cr)	EDAD 716 Curriculum Leadership (3cr)	EDAD 720 Special Education Law for School Administrators (3cr)	EDAD 765 School Facility Leadership (3cr)
Strand 1: Leadership and District Culture		X					X
Strand 2: Organizational Management							
Strand 3: Values of Ethics of Leadership				X			
Strand 4: Educational Policy and Law		X		X		X	X
Strand 5: Communication		X					
Strand 6: Community Relations		X					
Strand 7: Curriculum Planning and Development					X		
Strand 8: School Finance			X				
Strand 9: Instructional Management		X			X		
South Dakota Indian Studies	X						

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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Dakota Wesleyan University - Administrator Alternative Certification - Principal Endorsement obtained through ARSD 24:28:15

ARSD 24:28:15 ADMINISTRATOR ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:15>

1. Continued employment as a principal in a South Dakota school district with a department-accredited school is required.
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required.
3. Completion of 18 transcribed credits from a regionally accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands, within five years.
4. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.
5. South Dakota Indian Studies coursework is exempt from the 10-year restriction.

State-Designated Testing:

Content Test - Praxis "School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) (6990)" is required in addition to this coursework.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands (all strands must be met)	Approved Courses						
	EDU 615 - School Improvement (3cr)	EDU 659 - Educational Leadership (3cr)	EDU 673 - Educational Administration (3cr)	EDU 675 - Education Law (3cr)	EDU 677 - Instructional Supervision (3cr)	EDU 693 - Internship (3cr)	EDU 635 - American Indian History and Culture (3cr)
Strand 1: Instructional Leadership					X	X	
Strand 2: Ethical and Inclusive Leadership		X	X			X	
Strand 3: Cognitive Coaching/Facilitation Skills					X	X	
Strand 4: Creating a Safe and Inclusive Environment		X				X	
Strand 5: Process Management	X	X	X		X	X	
Strand 6: Systems Management	X		X			X	
Strand 7: Educational Policy and Law				X		X	
South Dakota Indian Studies							X

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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Northern State University - Administrator Alternative Certification - Principal Endorsement obtained through ARSD 24:28:15

ARSD 24:28:15 ADMINISTRATOR ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:15>

1. Continued employment as a principal in a South Dakota school district with a department-accredited school is required.
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required.
3. Completion of 18 transcribed credits from a regionally accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands, within five years.
4. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.
5. South Dakota Indian Studies coursework is exempt from the 10-year restriction.

State-Designated Testing:

Content Test - Praxis "School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) (6990)" is required in addition to this coursework.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands (all strands must be met)	Approved Courses						
	EDAD 700 - Models of Educational Leadership (3cr)	EDAD 715 - Theoretical and Practical Framework for Instructional Leadership (3cr)	EDAD 725 - The Principalship: Theory & Practice (3cr)	EDAD 735 - School Law (3cr)	EDAD 745 - Organizational Behavior for Student Development (3cr)	EDER 765 - Data Driven Decision Making (3cr)	INED 511 - South Dakota Indian Studies (3cr)
Strand 1: Instructional Leadership	X	X	X				
Strand 2: Ethical and Inclusive Leadership	X				X		
Strand 3: Cognitive Coaching/Facilitation Skills		X	X				
Strand 4: Creating a Safe and Inclusive Environment			X		X		
Strand 5: Process Management			X		X	X	
Strand 6: Systems Management		X	X			X	
Strand 7: Educational Policy and Law				X			
South Dakota Indian Studies							X

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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South Dakota State University - Administrator Alternative Certification - Principal Endorsement obtained through ARSD 24:28:15

ARSD 24:28:15 ADMINISTRATOR ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:15>

1. Continued employment as a principal in a South Dakota school district with a department-accredited school is required.
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required.
3. Completion of 18 transcribed credits from a regionally accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands, within five years.
4. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.
5. South Dakota Indian Studies coursework is exempt from the 10-year restriction.

State-Designated Testing:

Content Test - Praxis "School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) (6990)" is required in addition to this coursework.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands (all strands must be met)	Approved Courses						
	EDAD 731 - School Finance and Budgeting (3cr)	EDAD 741 - School Community Relations (3cr)	EDAD 705 - School Principalship (3cr)	EDAD 736 - School Law and Ethics (3cr)	EDAD 706 - Instructional Leadership Development (3cr)	EDAD 794 - Internship (3cr)	AIS 211 American Indian Culture & Education (3cr) OR AIS 511 South Dakota Indian Studies (3cr)
Strand 1: Instructional Leadership			X		X	X	
Strand 2: Ethical and Inclusive Leadership		X	X	X		X	
Strand 3: Cognitive Coaching/Facilitation Skills			X		X	X	
Strand 4: Creating a Safe and Inclusive Environment		X	X			X	
Strand 5: Process Management	X		X			X	
Strand 6: Systems Management	X		X			X	
Strand 7: Educational Policy and Law				X		X	
South Dakota Indian Studies							X

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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University of Sioux Falls - Administrator Alternative Certification - Principal Endorsement obtained through ARSD 24:28:15

ARSD 24:28:15 ADMINISTRATOR ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:15>

1. Continued employment as a principal in a South Dakota school district with a department-accredited school is required.
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required.
3. Completion of 18 transcribed credits from a regionally accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands, within five years.
4. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.
5. South Dakota Indian Studies coursework is exempt from the 10-year restriction.

State-Designated Testing:

Content Test - Praxis "School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) (6990)" is required in addition to this coursework.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

Coursework Strands (all strands must be met)	Approved Courses						
	EDU 501 - Professional and Ethical Leadership (3cr)	EDU 595 - School Leadership Internship A (3cr)	EDU 596 - School Leadership Internship B (3cr)	EDU 531 - Legal Foundations of Education (3cr)	EDU 551 - Professional, Student and Staff Development (3cr)	EDU 589 - Critical Issues Research Seminar/Internship (2,2cr)	EDU 533 - Native American Studies (3cr)
Strand 1: Instructional Leadership		X			X	X	
Strand 2: Ethical and Inclusive Leadership	X	X	X				
Strand 3: Cognitive Coaching/Facilitation Skills			X		X		
Strand 4: Creating a Safe and Inclusive Environment			X			X	
Strand 5: Process Management		X				X	
Strand 6: Systems Management		X	X			X	
Strand 7: Educational Policy and Law			X	X			
South Dakota Indian Studies							X

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Division of Accreditation and Certification, Office of Educator Certification

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University of South Dakota - Administrator Alternative Certification - Principal Endorsement obtained through ARSD 24:28:15

ARSD 24:28:15 ADMINISTRATOR ALTERNATIVE CERTIFICATION <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/24:28:15>

1. Continued employment as a principal in a South Dakota school district with a department-accredited school is required.
2. Annual submission of the Alternative Renewal Application and proof of progress is required.
3. Completion of 18 transcribed credits from a regionally accredited institution with grades of "C" or higher, covering the required strands, within five years.
4. Coursework completed within the past 10 years may be considered with an official transcript.
5. South Dakota Indian Studies coursework is exempt from the 10-year restriction.

State-Designated Testing:

Content Test - Praxis "School Leaders Licensure Assessment (SLLA) (6990)" is required in addition to this coursework.

<https://praxis.ets.org/state-requirements/southdakota-tests.html>

	Approved Courses					
Coursework Strands (all strands must be met)	EDAD 742 - Leading School Improvement (3cr)	EDAD 701 - Educational Leadership (3cr)	EDAD 710 - Principal and Equity Leadership (3cr)	EDAD 735 - School Law (3cr)	EDAD 714 - Instructional Leadership (3cr)	INED 411/511 - American Indian History and Culture (3cr)
Strand 1: Instructional Leadership			X		X	
Strand 2: Ethical and Inclusive Leadership		X	X			
Strand 3: Cognitive Coaching/Facilitation Skills					X	
Strand 4: Creating a Safe and Inclusive Environment			X			
Strand 5: Process Management			X			
Strand 6: Systems Management	X					
Strand 7: Educational Policy and Law				X		
South Dakota Indian Studies						X

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