

K-12 Principal Alternative Certification

Description	Leads to a K-12 Principal endorsement. Individuals going through this pathway must have completed a teacher education program or alternative certification program and have 3 or more years of teaching experience.
Duration of certificate	1-year; may be renewed 4 times
Cost	\$25
Applicant eligibility requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Complete state-approved teacher education program or alternative certification program ● 3 or more years of teaching experience ● Pass state-designated content test ● Completion of an approved suicide awareness and prevention training
District requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Verify applicant has a valid teaching certificate ● Document the district attempted but was unable to hire a certified administrator prior to hiring applicant with an alternative certificate ● Provide mentorship by an individual with experience as a school administrator ● Provide applicant with information about South Dakota Code of Professional Ethics for Teachers and South Dakota Code of Professional Ethics for Administrators ● Train applicant on administrator and teacher evaluation systems ● Annually recommend applicant for renewal, based on documented performance and progress
Endorsements	May act as Principal while completing program
Renewal requirements	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Pass state-designated test prior to first renewal ● Suicide awareness and prevention training ● Submit recommendation for renewal from employing district ● Submit professional development plan identifying how alternative certification requirements will be met ● \$25 for 1-year renewal certificate
Requirements to complete program	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● 3-credit approved South Dakota Indian Studies course ● 15 transcribed credits from a regionally-accredited institution of higher education with a grade of C or higher in the following: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Instructional leadership ○ Ethical and inclusive leadership ○ Cognitive coaching/facilitation skills ○ Creating a safe and inclusive school environment ○ Process management ○ Systems management ○ Educational policy and law ● Receive sign-off from employing school district