# Superintendent Alternative Certification

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