

Upcoming Events

March

Canceled

April

20-24 – South Dakota Week of Work

June

2-4 – CTE Standards Revisions

August

2-4 – CTE Summer Conference in Watertown

Students visit Pierre for CTSO Legislative Shadow Day



Thank you to everyone who talked to legislators about the value of dual credit!

Here are some fun dual credit facts:

- 92%: Pass rate
- 7.6: Avg credits earned
- 14,000: Approx # of students who have taken dual credit
- 10,000: Approx # of credits earned
- 25% of students took a CTE dual credit from a TI (75% took a General Education course)
- 16%: of students who participate are economically disadvantaged (compared with 29% of all 11th and 12th graders)
- Approx. 20% of 11th and 12th graders participate in dual credit

Stay tuned for more dual credit information.

37 student leaders came to Pierre Feb. 4-5, for the South Dakota Career and Technical Student Organizations' Legislative Shadow Day.

Activities included a social for students, legislators, cabinet members, and state agency staff. Students also shadowed legislators at committee meetings and observed House and Senate floor sessions.

"When students engage in career and technical education, they experience hands-on learning that helps prepare them for high-demand careers," said Governor Kristi Noem. "These groups are great ways for students to expand on their classroom learning, meet peers from across the state, and develop valuable leadership skills."

Students representing the following CTSOs attended this year's event: Educators Rising; Future Business

Leaders of America; Family, Career and Community Leaders of America; FFA; SD HOSA, a group for students interested in health sciences; and SkillsUSA, an association of trade, technology, and health occupation students.

By participating in CTSOs, students can apply knowledge and skills learned in the classroom through competitive events; develop leadership and employability skills; and serve their communities.

Career and technical education seeks to equip students with core academic skills and the ability to apply those skills for careers and life. CTE emphasizes employability skills like critical thinking, responsibility, and technical skills related to specific career pathways.



In The News

Janelle Revier named Sioux Falls' 2020 Teacher of the Year

Legislation to change technical schools to college status signed by Noem

FFA Week highlights what local chapters are doing in South Dakota

National FFA Week: Students around the country celebrate agriculture and leadership

February is an important month for Career and Technical Education

EMT course for high school students

Now Accepting Applications for 2020 Workforce Education Grants

The Department of Education is now accepting applications for the 2020 Workforce Education Grants. This is your chance to Dream BIG and make transformative changes to your CTE programs!

- What have you always wanted to make happen in your Career & Technical Education programs?
- What kind of career guidance programs have you hoped to create?
- In what ways could your current programs be revised to align with today's high-tech, knowledge-based industries?
- What partnerships have you wanted to establish or grow, but haven't had the resources to dedicate to the effort?

• What kinds of work-based learning experiences have you hoped to incorporate in your students' educations?

- In what ways have you wanted to customize students' educational experiences?
- What would it take to blur the lines between academic learning and career preparation?

Resources for the 2020 Workforce Education Grant are available at <https://doe.sd.gov/cte/WEG.aspx>.

Applications are due March 27, 2020. Awards will be announced by April 20, 2020.

Questions regarding grant projects and/or the application process can be directed to kara.schweitzer@state.sd.us or 605.220.3381.

NCRC News

The National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) can be used for the Advanced Career Endorsement with the 2018 high school graduation requirements and the Build Dakota scholarship. Additionally, the NCRC assists students in demonstrating career readiness by matching their skill level to thousands of occupations using the [Job Profiles Database](#). [Learn more about the NCRC](#).

If you have not yet already, please complete and submit an [application](#) for the 2019-20 school year. During the 2019-20 school year, 4,496 students have been assessed:

Platinum	Gold	Silver	Bronze	Incomplete	No Certificate	Total
704	1,113	1,355	958	31	335	4,496
15.66%	24.76%	30.14%	21.31%	0.61%	7.45%	100%

Assessment Tip:

View [sample questions](#) before the assessment day.

South Dakota Week of Work Coming April 20-24

Schools will be able to participate in the South Dakota Week of Work in a variety of ways:

1. **Job shadows** – Consider helping an animal lover schedule a shadow with the local veterinarian.
2. **Business tours** – Perhaps your school's Introduction to Business class could tour the local bank or credit union.
3. **Host guest speakers** – A local farmer or rancher might welcome the opportunity to speak to animal science or horticulture classes.
4. **Celebrate success** – Does your school

already have robust work-based learning programs in place? Use this special week to celebrate! Plan a pep rally to recognize Build Dakota scholars or students who've completed internships. Host a "signing day" for seniors to announce their chosen career path and how they chose it. Have students present to classmates about their work-based learning experiences.

If you have questions about any of these ideas or how to promote the week of work in your school, it's not too late! Contact sdweekofwork@state.sd.us for more information.

Introducing New Soft Skills Resources

Whether you call them soft skills, essential skills, interpersonal skills, or noncognitive skills, I think we can all agree these are key skills to success, as they are transferrable across education and career.

A [new web page](#) is geared to show the need for soft skills in South Dakota as well as resources to development them.

Some highlights on the Soft Skills web page are:

- South Dakota Employer Surveys' Results on Soft Skills
- Soft Skills Key to Success in Postsecondary Education
- Soft Skill Development Resources
 - Includes Bring Your "A" Game to Work soft skills training as well as additional resources

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