

## CTE for Core Content Applications Due Dec. 1

South Dakota schools may offer students the opportunity to earn academic credit by completing approved career and technical education courses that address the pertinent standards within the curriculum. Approval to offer credit must be obtained through an application process with the Department of Education.

The application must include:

- Course syllabus;
- Standards based curriculum;
- Teacher certification;
- Assessment of standards by methods including end-of-course exams, authentic assessment, project-based learning or rubrics.

Applications must be submitted by December 1 for the following school year. You can find more information at <https://doe.sd.gov/cte/corecontent-credit.aspx>

## Public comment on CTE content standards

Public Comment is still open on proposed revisions to the following standards:

- Architecture & Construction,
- Education & Training,
- Foundations of CTE,
- Information Technology,
- Law, Public Safety & Security, and
- Science Technology, Engineering & Mathematics (STEM)

Please feel free to review the proposed changes and submit public comment here: <https://doe.sd.gov/contentstandards/review.aspx>

# Build Dakota Scholarship Updates

from Deni Amundson, Program Manager

Welcome back to another school year. Build Dakota is still going strong and we anticipate offering another 300-400 full ride scholarships during our next application cycle! For those of you who are not familiar with the program, we are a state-wide workforce development initiative that pays for full-ride scholarships to the four South Dakota technical colleges in high-need areas. In return for the full ride scholarship, our scholars agree to work in South Dakota for three years following the completion of the program.

Here's a few things to know:

- Application window will be **Jan. 1 - March 31, 2021**. Please encourage your students to apply early as some of our programs fill up fast.
- There were no program changes this year.
- Any students interested in one of our high-need programs should apply.
- Students are not required to have an industry partner to apply.

We've found that high schools, students and parents all understand Build Dakota as a full-ride scholarship, but don't necessarily know what is happening behind the scenes with the workforce development side of the program..... these are our industry partnerships and they continue to grow each year. A business pays for a portion of the full-ride scholarship and Build Dakota picks up the rest. The business gains a skilled employee, the student receives all program expenses paid and we get more individuals into South Dakota's workforce!

I would love to have the opportunity to speak to your staff, students and/or parents about

this opportunity, how your students can benefit from this program and use the workforce shortage in South Dakota to their advantage.....to gain a successful career! South Dakota has so much to offer right in our own backyard and we want to assist you in helping your students and their parents explore their options.

We can connect with your school through in-person visits or a Zoom presentation (20-30 minutes). Our in-person presentations have typically been for larger/assembly style groups. I travel with representatives from the technical colleges and give students information on our program, the technical colleges, importance of college planning/career exploration and have some fun giveaways to make it a little more interactive and engaging for the students. (I know with COVID-19 these may be limited this year, but we are still willing to travel and will respect any requirements your school may have for social distancing, masks, etc.) These are usually 30-40 minutes.

We can also schedule a Zoom presentation during a homeroom, study hall, etc. I'm happy to work around the times that work best for your students. We've also been doing a lot of presentations during financial aid nights or career exploration events. We are flexible and open minded about how to create awareness about our program.

If you'd like to schedule either an in-person visit or Zoom presentation, email [deniamundson@goldenwest.net](mailto:deniamundson@goldenwest.net). You can learn more about Build Dakota and see the list of available scholarship programs at <https://www.builddakotascholarships.com/>.



## Division of Career and Technical Education offers resources in Spanish and Karen

The DCTE would like to remind CTE programs that several of our resources are available to you in both Spanish and Karen. Using these recruitment resources for your students and their families is a great way to introduce the to career and technical education. The Division of Career and Technical Education would also like to hear from you about how we can better support your CTE efforts with any special populations. If have any comments or suggestions, email [kara.schweitzer@state.sd.us](mailto:kara.schweitzer@state.sd.us).



# In The News

Youth Apprenticeship program searching for high school students

SD Technical colleges see steady enrollment numbers

SDSU and DSU to offer states first doctorate in computer science

FFA Foundation receives funds to assist local FFA chapters

Upskill program boosted SD technical colleges

Sanford Promise Lad providing virtual resources for teachers during pandemic

## NCRC Update

The National Career Readiness Certificate (NCRC) can be used for the Advanced Career Endorsement with the 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 2020 – 2021 school year.

To date during the 2020-2021 school year, 80 students have been assessed:

Platinum	Gold	Silver
34	42	93
14.17%	17.50%	38.75%
Bronze	Incomplete	No Certificate
54	1	16
22.50%	0.42%	6.67%
Total		
240 - 100%		

Assessment Tip:

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

# Lake Area Technical College wins national award for outstanding STEM education

The Welding Technology program at Lake Area Technical College has been named a winner of the Excellence and Equity in Community College STEM Award by the Aspen Institute College Excellence Program and the Siemens Foundation.

Eight winning programs across the country are receiving this award for not only providing outstanding preparation for high-demand jobs in advanced manufacturing, energy, healthcare, or information technology, but also for their intentional outreach and support of diverse populations that typically are underrepresented in science, technology, engineering, and math (STEM) careers.

Winning colleges will receive \$50,000. Half will be allocated for program development, and half will be allocated as scholarships for outstanding students, known as Siemens Technical Scholars.

“Our welding program is not just another welding program”, said Mike Cartney, President of Lake Area Technical College. “It has an extensive history of student success with diverse populations in the STEM field. The Welding instructors “own” their program, care deeply about every student no matter their background, are focused on individual success, are highly creative in getting every student to the finish line, and cherish seeing every student graduate and start their careers.”

Overall, U.S. jobs in STEM fields are projected to grow at almost double the rate of non-STEM occupations. More than half of all STEM jobs across the United States require no more than an associate degree and pay wages that average more than \$50,000 annually.

The community colleges honored with the Excellence and Equity in Community College STEM Award are playing a unique role in working to meet this demand. The selection committee identified exemplary programs that deliver exceptional training for jobs that require

strong STEM technical skills, some classroom hands-on training, and a postsecondary credential below the four-year degree. Importantly, these programs are successful in reaching and supporting populations that are underrepresented in STEM fields, such as students of color, low-income students, and females.

“Community college STEM programs are a strong pathway to job security and financial success for many students—whether that means heading right into a great-paying job or getting a more advanced degree,” said David Etwiler, CEO of the Siemens Foundation. “This award recognizes the colleges that provide an excellent STEM education and develop talent from every community.”

The Lake Area Technical Institute (Lake Area Tech) Welding Technology program has provided a regional welding workforce since 1980. Welding students receive training in welding and fabrication applications and may earn a nine-month diploma or a two-year Associate of Applied Science (AAS) degree. Students may opt for advanced training in advanced welding, precision machining, or business. Students may also receive training through non-traditional routes via apprenticeships, Learn Where You Earn, and Corporate Education. Welding graduates are employed as welding technicians and supervisors, fabricators, pipe fitters, inspectors, and entrepreneurs. The retention rate the welding students is 83%. The most recent placement data reports the average wage for welding technicians six months after graduation is \$21.46 per hour.

As part of the award, Lake Area Technical College in partnership with the Aspen Institute, will select students to be recognized as Siemens Technical Scholars and receive a scholarship of \$3,500 to \$10,000 to continue their education or pay student loan debt. These diverse scholars will share their stories with their peers to demonstrate the economic opportunity available in STEM careers.