

Applications ONGOING: Competency-based and Learner-centered Professional Learning

From now until June 2023, up to 1,600 South Dakota educators are invited to apply for the opportunity to earn nine graduate credit through SDSU by completing a series of online (asynchronous) courses to increase their capacity in competency based, knowledge-rich, and whole child approaches to instruction to support a continuum of learning. Funding made possible through the South Dakota Department of Education's Rethinking K-12 Education Models (REM) grant.

Time commitment

- Participants must complete all coursework with the intent to implement learned strategies in their school/classroom. ***It is the intent of the grant that participants complete all nine credits of the course work.***
- Seven courses for a total of nine credits (asynchronous: participants work at their own pace within the timeline of the course).
 - One credit = 15 hours of coursework
 - Two credits = 30 hours of coursework
- Teachers will be placed in cohorts using the Canvas learning management system. Cohorts will work through each course asynchronously, however, each course will last approximately 6-8 weeks depending on the credits allocated. Once the course is completed (after 6-8 weeks), cohorts will move to the next course together.

Additional benefits

- Nine graduate credits or continuing education contact hours paid for
- Texts and resources paid for

To apply: Fill out [this application](#). Applications will be reviewed as they are received and rated on this [rubric](#). Incomplete applications will not be reviewed. **Cohorts begin several times per year through the summer of 2023.** Applicants will be notified of cohort placement one month prior to the course beginning. Applications are ongoing and will continue throughout the three-year period of the grant.

Memo of Understanding: If selected, participants will be asked to complete data questionnaires/interviews from Marzano Research.

Please contact Dr. Cari Kennedy (ckennedy@tie.net) for more information.

Course descriptions

A Learner Centered Approach: The Essential Elements (2 credits): Learn many of the important terms and how to explain them to families, educators, and administrators and establish a common language and understanding around customized and competency-based learning.

Learners & Families: Developing Understanding of the Whole Child (1 credit): Understand and design a whole child curriculum in practice and establish a common language with learners, families, and other educators.

Blended Instruction: Development & Implementation (1 credit): Understand and design blended instruction in practice and establish a common language with learners, families, and other educators.

Technology: Leveraging Tools for Instruction & Learning (1 credit): Understand the purpose, use, and benefits of technology applications in the classroom and establish a common language with learners, families, and other educators.

Competency Based Instruction: Curating and Creating Content/Curriculum (1 credit): Understand and build a competency-based curriculum in practice and establish a common language with learners, families, and other educators.

Competency Based Instruction: Authentic Assessment & Grading (1 credit): Understand and build a competency-based curriculum in practice and establish common and authentic assessments for all learners.

Learners & Families: Providing Educational Opportunities for All Students in Competency Based Learning Classrooms (2 Credits): A culminating course that focuses on providing all students with the opportunity to learn based on their background and abilities. The course is designed to be self-reflective and hands-on to assist in developing competency around facilitating learning experiences and opportunities for all through competency based approaches.