

# Intent to Plan for a New Program

South Dakota Board of Regents

Academic Affairs Forms

Internal Ticket ID: 4351

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SDSU currently offers education programs including Early Childhood Education (B.S.) - Birth to 8 Specialization, Early Childhood Education (B.S.) - Cooperative Elementary Education Program with DSU, and various secondary education majors and specializations. The proposed Elementary Education major supports the mission of SDSU as provided in SDCL 13-58-1: Designated as South Dakota's Land-grant University, South Dakota State University, formerly the State College of Agriculture and Mechanical Arts, located at Brookings SD, in Brookings County, shall be under the control of the Board of Regents and shall provide undergraduate and graduate programs of instruction in the liberal arts and sciences and professional education in agriculture, education, engineering, home economics, nursing and pharmacy, and other courses or programs as the Board of Regents may determine. In addition, the B.S. in Elementary Education will align with the South Dakota State University's mission and strategic plan Imagine 2023: Aspire. Discover. Achieve. As the state's land grant institution, SDSU's mission is to offer a rich academic experience in an environment of inclusion and access through inspired, student-centered education, creative activities and research, innovation and engagement that improve the quality of life in South Dakota, the region, the nation and the world. Specifically, the new program aims to achieve excellence through transformative education. The new program will support strategic goal 1 by increasing the number of accredited programs and developing and growing high-quality and distinct academic programs designed to meet the needs of diverse students and market demands.

**If the program does not align to the strategic plan, provide a compelling rationale for the institution to offer the program.**

N/A

**3. How does the program connect to the Board of Regent's Strategic Plan?**

The proposed program also aligns with the Board of Regents Strategic Plan 2022-2027, Goal 3: Academic Excellence, Student Outcomes, Educational Attainment, and Goal 4: Workforce and Economic Development. In keeping with the SDBOR and SDSU's mission, the university aspires to offer a more student-centered option to SDSU students who wish to become elementary teachers with the addition of a B.S. in Elementary Education. This new program leverages the expertise of SDSU's faculty to respond to the workforce needs of South Dakota.

## **Program Summary**

**4. If a new degree is proposed, what is the rationale?**

This is not a new degree.

**5. What modality/modalities will be used to offer the new program?**



**6. If the program will be offered through distance delivery, identify the planned instructional modality:**

**Not Applicable : Program will not be offered through distance delivery.**

## Academic Quality

**7. What peer institutions and current national standards will be referenced to develop the curriculum for this program? Include links to at least 3 comparable programs at peer institutions and links to national or accreditation standards, if any.**

SDSU faculty will design the Elementary Education curriculum to satisfy South Dakota Administrative Rules (24:53:02:01 through 24:53:07:04) and CAEP Standards thus qualifying successful graduates to be certified teachers and enter the South Dakota workforce. The Department of Education, Counseling and Human Development will also review the requirements for the Elementary Education programs at BHSU, DSU, NSU, and USD.

- South Dakota Legislature, Administrative Rules (SD DOE Handbook: 2017), <https://sdlegislature.gov/Rules/Administrative/29644>
- Council of Accredited Educational Programs, Initial Level Standards (CAEP, 2022) <http://caepnet.org/~media/Files/caep/standards/2022-initial-standards-1-pager-final.pdf?la=en>, Retrieved Sept. 7, 2022.
- Black Hills State University Elementary Education (B.S.Ed.), [https://catalog.bhsu.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=33&poid=4070&returnto=892](https://catalog.bhsu.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=33&poid=4070&returnto=892)
- Dakota State University Elementary Education (B.S.Ed.), [https://catalog.dsu.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=35&poid=2749&returnto=1625](https://catalog.dsu.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=35&poid=2749&returnto=1625)
- Northern State University Elementary Education (B.S.Ed.), [http://catalog.northern.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=14&poid=3547&returnto=1151](http://catalog.northern.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=14&poid=3547&returnto=1151)
- University of South Dakota Elementary Education (B.S.Ed.), [https://catalog.usd.edu/preview\\_program.php?catoid=33&poid=6578](https://catalog.usd.edu/preview_program.php?catoid=33&poid=6578)

**8. What program accreditation is available, if any?**

The Elementary Education (B.S.) will be designed to satisfy South Dakota Administrative Rules (24:53:02:01 through 24:53:07:04)<sup>[3]</sup> and CAEP Standards<sup>[4]</sup>, thus qualifying successful graduates to be certified teachers and enter the South Dakota workforce.

[3] South Dakota Legislature, Administrative Rules [SD the

There are eleven educator preparation programs (EPP) in South Dakota that train teachers and contribute to building the critically needed workforce of educators. South Dakota State University is the only institution of 11 teacher training programs that does not offer a B.S. degree in Elementary Education, which would allow SDSU to recommend these students to the SD Department of Education for certification as an elementary teacher. Due to current limitations on program offerings (i.e., elementary education), SDSU students who wish to become certified elementary education teachers must enroll in an extended and prescriptive cooperative program between SDSU and DSU. Interested students must first pursue a degree in Early Childhood Education (ECE) offered by SDSU and subsequently enroll in the DSU cooperative arrangement to become a credentialed elementary teacher. In doing so, SDSU students are required to complete an additional 24 credit hours of elementary education and field placements managed by Dakota State University (DSU). Traditional Elementary Education Programs in South Dakota (2021) \*Public Augustana University Black Hills State University\* Dakota State University\* Dakota Wesleyan University Mount Marty College Northern State University\* Oglala Lakota College Sinte Gleska University University of Sioux Falls University of South Dakota\*

**A. If yes, defend the need for an additional program within the state. Use data.**

SDSU students wishing to become certified elementary education teachers must enroll in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) program and complete an additional 24 credit hours of elementary education and field placements managed by Dakota State University (DSU). The total credit hour requirement is currently 141 credit hours because students are required to complete course work for two endorsement areas (i.e., early childhood education and elementary education). With the proposed major, prospective elementary education teachers would be able to complete the 120 credit hour requirement for the ECE program and the 24 credit hours of elementary education and field placements managed by DSU. This would allow SDSU to recommend these students to the SD Department of Education for certification as an elementary teacher. The proposed major would also allow SDSU to recommend these students to the SD Department of Education for certification as an elementary teacher. The proposed major would also allow SDSU to recommend these students to the SD Department of Education for certification as an elementary teacher.

**B. What evidence suggests there is unmet student demand for the proposed program, or that the proposed program would attract students away from the existing program?**

SDSU students who wish to become elementary teachers are disadvantaged having only one pathway that requires 141 hours (approximately 20-25 students annually). The additional credit hours mean a higher cost to SDSU students, a fifth year of college with DSU, delayed graduation, likely more debt, and an inability to join the South Dakota workforce in a timely manner.

## **Market Demand**

This section establishes the market demand for the proposed program (eg Regental system need, institutional need, workforce need). Use the following sources for your data:

[South Dakota Department of Labor & Regulation](#)

[O-Net](#)

[US Department of Labor Projections Central](#)

SDBOR Workforce and Degree Gap Analysis Report

**12. What is the expected growth of the industry or occupation in South Dakota and nationally?**

The immediate need for additional teachers, including elementary teachers, is evident nationally<sup>[6]</sup>, regionally<sup>[7]</sup>, and locally<sup>[8]</sup>. Although teacher vacancies in South Dakota were high in 2021, projections in 2022 have posed an even greater challenge. On July 29, 2022, the Associated School Boards of South Dakota reported 309 teacher openings remained just weeks before the beginning of 2022-23 school year. Elementary Education positions represented 64 of the classroom vacancies in South Dakota.<sup>[9]</sup> Exacerbating the challenges created by current teacher vacancies are the projections that the demand for elementary teachers is growing. The Bureau of Labor Statistics projects 4% job growth for Elementary Education teachers from 2021-2031. About 120,300 openings for kindergarten and elementary school teachers are projected each year, on average, over the decade.<sup>[10]</sup> At the state level, the SDBOR Program Demand Gap Analysis (PDGA) projects 9.5% growth in Elementary Education from 2020-2030.<sup>[11]</sup> The PDGA also cites 373 annual openings in elementary education.<sup>[12]</sup> The South Dakota Educator Preparation Programs (n=11) collectively produced 307 elementary education teachers in 2021.<sup>[13]</sup> Both the USDOE and SDDOE currently include Elementary Education (core subjects) and Elementary (self-contained) as areas of shortage. <sup>[14, 15]</sup> Although the need for an increased number of elementary teachers has become self-evident, current practices place significant barriers upon SDSU students who wish to pursue a career and degree in elementary education. Current restrictions on fundamental teacher training tracks unduly limit SDSU student choice, often require the completion of additional credit hours, and serves to delay entry into the teaching workforce.

[6] U.S. Department of Education, Teacher Shortage Areas Nationwide Listing 1990 1991 through 2017 2018 <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/bteachershortageareasreport201718.pdf> Retrieved Sept. 7, 2022.

[7] U.S. Department of Education, Fact Sheet: The U.S. Department of Education Announces Partnerships Across States, School Districts, and Colleges of Education to Meet Secretary Cardona's

The immediate need for additional teachers, including elementary teachers, is evident nationally<sup>[16]</sup>, regionally<sup>[17]</sup>, and locally<sup>[18]</sup>. Although teacher vacancies in South Dakota were high in 2021, projections in 2022 have posed an even greater challenge. On July 29, 2022, the Associated School Boards of South Dakota reported 309 teacher openings remained just weeks before the beginning of 2022-23 school year. Elementary Education positions represented 64 of the classroom vacancies in South Dakota.<sup>[19]</sup> Exacerbating the challenges created by current teacher vacancies are the projections that the demand for elementary teachers is growing. About 120,300 openings for kindergarten and elementary school teachers are projected by the Bureau of Labor Statistics each year, on average, over the decade.<sup>[20]</sup> At the state level, the SDBOR Program Demand Gap Analysis (PDGA) cites 373 annual openings in elementary education.<sup>[21]</sup> The South Dakota Educator Preparation Programs (n=11) collectively produced 307 elementary education teachers in 2021.<sup>[22]</sup> Both the USDOE and SDDOE currently include Elementary Education (core subjects) and Elementary (self-contained) as areas of shortage. <sup>[23, 24]</sup>

[16] U.S. Department of Education, Teacher Shortage Areas Nationwide Listing 1990 1991 through 2017 2018 <https://www2.ed.gov/about/offices/list/ope/pol/bteachershortageareasreport201718.pdf> Retrieved Sept. 7, 2022.

[17] U.S. Department of Education, Fact Sheet: The U.S. Department of Education

University Name	State	Program Name	Number of Degrees Conferred in Program	Total Number of Conferrals at Level (Undergrad or Grad)
Minnesota State University Mankato		Elementary Education	85	2451
Saint Cloud State University	MN : Minnesota	Elementary Education	73	1787
University of Minnesota Twin Cities	MN : Minnesota	Elementary Education	87	8470

**17. What evidence suggests there is interest from prospective students for this program at the university?**

SDSU students wishing to become certified elementary education teachers must enroll in the Early Childhood Education (ECE) program and complete an additional 24 credit hours of elementary education and field placements managed by Dakota State University (DSU). The total credit hour requirement is currently 141 credit hours because students are required to complete course work for two endorsement areas (i.e., early childhood education and elementary education). With the proposed major, prospective elementary teachers, who already attend SDSU, would have the option to pursue their goal without being required to enroll in a cooperative program that leads to both early childhood education and elementary endorsements. Although some students may seek both endorsements, the many who do not are burdened with additional barriers as prescribed by the traditional cooperative arrangement between SDSU and Dakota State University. SDSU students who wish to serve as teachers in South Dakota s Elementary classrooms (approx. 25-35 annually) are disadvantaged by the current institutional arrangement. For SDSU students who are not discouraged away from their goals by the additional barriers, they must complete and pay for 141 credit hours rather than 120 and complete an additional fifth year of college with DSU to become endorsed as an elementary teacher. Currently these students must delay graduation, accumulate more debt, and their timeline to join the South Dakota workforce is extended. For reference, there are 15 SDSU students completing the cooperative program with DSU in the fall of 2022 and 19 anticipated for spring. Using a conservative calculation (resident, on-campus, DSU tuition rate), the SDSU student cohort will pay an additional \$210,273 annually for credit hours to earn an elementary teacher credential (e.g., 21 credits, 34 students, \$294.50 per credit hour).<sup>[27]</sup>

[27] Dakota State University, Tuition and Fees (2022), <https://dsu.edu/admissions/undergraduate/cost-aid/tuition-fees.html>

## Enrollment

**18. Are students enrolling in this program expected to be new to the university or redirected from existing programs at the university?**

The university anticipates students entering this program will be redirected from current SDSU majors including Early Childhood Education (B.S.) - Cooperative Elementary Education Program with DSU, Human Development and Family Studies (B.S.), and other areas including exploratory studies.(d Tf Tw 17.



The College of Education and Human Sciences anticipates that approximately 20 students who currently are pursuing the Early Childhood Education (B.S.) Cooperative Elementary Education Program with DSU would opt to pursue an elementary education only baccalaureate degree. The Human Development and Family Studies (B.S.) currently has an enrollment of 191. It is anticipated that approximately 20 students would opt to pursue an elementary education only baccalaureate degree. The Exploratory Studies program currently has an enrollment of 133 with 63 students enrolled in the education, social sciences, and management track. It is anticipated that approximately 20 students would opt to pursue an elementary education only baccalaureate degree. Incoming SDSU students who previously did not have the option to elect elementary education are expected to enroll. As the option becomes known, the university would expect an additional 40 new SDSU students annually at year 6.