



CONTINUING EDUCATION

The time is always right to launch your Dakota Dreams, and Our Dakota Dreams is here to help. The benefits that come from obtaining an associate's or bachelor's degree are worth it, and when it comes to continuing education, there are a number of opportunities available through the South Dakota public universities and technical colleges. However, many find that previous credit hours do not count toward a degree or that they will still need to complete more than 75% of coursework to obtain that diploma — that is why the [South Dakota Regental system established the Bachelor of General Studies program](#).

The program provides a lifeline for individuals who fall short of completing their degree requirements in various fields, and allows you to use existing coursework across three emphasis areas (15 credit hours each) to work towards nine different field areas: Allied Health, Business, Education, Fine Arts, Humanities, Social Science, Science, Engineering and Mathematics, Technology, and Wellness.

Do you think your dream could benefit from this degree program? Click on any of the institutions below to contact a representative that will help you launch your Dakota Dreams and get to work!

This program is also available for those who may be interested in completing their coursework online or at one of the three universities centers in Pierre, Rapid City and Sioux Falls.

- [**BLACK HILLS STATE UNIVERSITY**](#)
- [**DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY**](#)
- [**NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY**](#)
- [**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY**](#)
- [**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA**](#)

Is your dream leading you in a different direction? Consider looking into the Continuing and Extended Education unit that is offered at a number of different South Dakota public institutions. Below are links to each university's website — Ready to serve your needs!

- [**SOUTH DAKOTA STATE UNIVERSITY**](#)
- [**UNIVERSITY OF SOUTH DAKOTA**](#)



GOING BACK TO COLLEGE

Going back to college is a big decision, but it is a decision worth it! Our Dakota Dreams is here to help, and we know the benefits that come from obtaining an associate's or bachelor's degree are worth it!

One of the first steps to returning to college is choosing your dream school — and we know that can take many forms. In addition to the six public universities and four technical institutes, South Dakota has [three off-campus centers](#) located in Rapid City, Pierre, and Sioux Falls. Not sure if you want or can do the full on-campus experience? Consider taking online classes then that could make it more convenient and flexible with your schedule — still ensuring your dreams become reality.

After choosing your dream school, gather any information on previous college classes, so you can review that information with campus personnel. Remember to also request your official transcripts from the registrar's office of all the previous schools you have attended. The transcript must be directly mailed from the college you attended to the institution you are applying to. Often, your previous classes will be applied in some way to your new degree. Ask about taking CLEP testing or earning credits for previous life experience — getting you credits without having to pay for unnecessary coursework.

After you have decided on a dream program/institution, it is time to submit your application! Apply as early as possible to ensure all deadlines are met. Look into every financial aid option available — scholarships, grants, student loans, other financial aid assistance programs. There is money out there that can help get you on the right path of achieving your Dakota Dream!