



2023-2024 Supervisor and Mentor Approval Form

For employee's participation in the Dakota Dreams Teacher Leadership Academy:

Applicant's Name: _____ has my full support to participate in the 2023-2024 Dakota Dreams Teacher Leadership Academy (see information on following page). I am aware that approximately 22.5 hours of class time will occur during the school year. I also understand that the program will provide a stipend to support expenses related to participation in this program (i.e., substitute teacher costs and travel expenses). Further, each participant is required to select a mentor who will provide high-level support during the Academy. Mentors will receive a stipend to recognize their service, and the school district will be provided \$500.00 to pay that stipend.

This form must be signed by the applicant's employer or immediate supervisor.

Supervisor Name: _____

Supervisor School: _____

Supervisor Title: _____

Supervisor Email Address: _____

Supervisor Signature: _____

Date: _____

This form must be signed by the applicant's identified mentor, who may or may not be the applicant's supervisor.

Mentor Name: _____

Mentor School: _____

Mentor Title: _____

Mentor Email Address: _____

Mentor Signature: _____

Date: _____



The Dakota Dreams Teacher Leadership Academy offers teachers who have taught for five+ years an experience-based learning opportunity to further develop their educational leadership skills. Courses will be taught by Professor of Practice faculty (qualified retired superintendents of schools) and guest speakers. Among other things, participants will:

- ✓ Discover the areas of educational leadership that best fit them.
- ✓ Gain insight into what educational leadership entails.
- ✓ Learn about requirements for certification.
- ✓ Better understand themselves and how to lead all personality types.
- ✓ Develop strategies for building and maintaining effective teams.

The Teacher Leadership Academy will accept 90 students in 2023-24. These students will meet in three cohorts of 30, over three instructional days during the school year and over a three-day period in the summer (dates and locations below). Students are required to establish a mentor relationship with an administrator in their district during the academy.

This academy is provided at no cost to teachers, thanks to funding provided from the South Dakota Department of Education. Teachers who successfully complete the course will earn three graduate credits that may be seamlessly applied to an advanced degree in education at a South Dakota public university. School districts will be provided a one-time stipend to support substitute teacher expenses, teacher mileage and per diem as well as mentor stipends.

Dates			Location
Cohort 1	Cohort 2	Cohort 3	
December 5, 2023 (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CT)	December 6, 2023 (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CT)	December 7, 2023 (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CT)	Northern State University, Aberdeen
January 23, 2024 (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CT)	January 24, 2024 (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CT)	January 25, 2024 (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CT)	Dakota State University, Madison
April 9, 2024 (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MT)	April 10, 2024 (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MT)	April 11, 2024 (9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. MT)	Black Hills State University, Rapid City
June 24-26, 2024 (Day one: 9:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. CT) (Day two: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CT) (Day three: 8:00 a.m. – 4:00 p.m. CT)			USD-Sioux Falls