

# SOUTH DAKOTA OPPORTUNITY SCHOLARSHIP (SDOS)

## ELIGIBILITY INFORMATION FOR GRADUATING CLASS OF 2027 AND BEYOND

### INITIAL ELIGIBILITY REQUIREMENTS

- Must apply for the SDOS within five years of high school graduation.
  - The SDOS application can be found on the South Dakota Board of Regents Scholarship Portal. Students will use their SD public university email address or create an account if they don't have a public university email account.
- Must be a South Dakota resident at the time of high school graduation.
- Must attend a participating college or university.
  - Augustana University
  - Black Hills State University
  - Dakota State University
  - Dakota Wesleyan University
  - Lake Area Technical College
  - Mitchell Technical College
  - Mount Marty University
  - Northern State University
  - South Dakota Mines
  - South Dakota State University
  - Southeast Technical College
  - University of Sioux Falls
  - University of South Dakota
  - Western Dakota Technical College
- Must meet minimum ACT Composite or Super Score of 24 or higher

### CURRICULUM OR TESTING REQUIREMENTS

**OPTION ONE:** If ACT Composite or Superscore is 24-27 (or if using an SAT score, the sum of the verbal and math scores are between 1180-1309), must also satisfy curriculum requirements specified for the Advanced Honors Endorsement (with no final grade below "C") and have minimum unweighted GPA of 3.0 on a 4.0 scale.

#### NEW FOR CLASS OF 2027 AND BEYOND:

##### ADDITIONAL SUBCATEGORY CURRICULUM REQUIREMENTS

Students must satisfy curriculum requirements outlined in the Advanced Honors Endorsement. These include curriculum subcategories (example: 4 units of Language Arts: 1.5 of writing, 0.5 of speech or debate, 1.5 literature which must include 0.5 American Literature, 0.5 of elective). Subcategories were not previously evaluated for SDOS eligibility.

- **If Advanced Honors Endorsement is on the Transcript:** Students who are otherwise eligible and have an Advanced Honors Endorsement on their final official high school transcript will be approved for SDOS.
- **If Advanced Honors Endorsement is NOT on the Transcript:** Students who are otherwise eligible but don't have the Advanced Honors Endorsement on their transcript will be evaluated per SD Codified Law on curriculum, including CTE DOE requirements. Students who do not satisfy SDOS rules will be ineligible for SDOS.

**OPTION TWO:** If ACT Composite or Superscore is 28 or higher (and minimum ACT subscores of 18 for English, 21 for Reading, 22 for Math, and 24 for Science), no additional requirements.

#### NEW FOR CLASS OF 2027 AND BEYOND:

- **Additional ACT Subscore Scrutiny for Option Two:** Previously subscores were not considered for SDOS evaluation. If using an SAT score, the sum of the verbal and mathematics scores on the SAT must be at least 1310.
- **ACT Science Optional Recommended:** The Science portion of the ACT is now optional (when taking the test outside of public-school state assessments for Juniors). It is recommended that students take the optional Science portion to satisfy requirements for Option Two.

### RECOMMENDED ACTIONS FOR HIGH SCHOOLS:

1. Advise students to strive for SDOS eligibility (Advanced Honors Endorsement) starting as early as middle school and no later than 9th grade.
2. Map your school's curriculum course codes to ensure you offer a path(s) to SDOS eligibility.
  - **For example,** do all students at your school take an American Lit class with DOE codes 01054 or 01055? If not, your students don't meet curriculum requirements.
  - **For example,** do your students take a World History course with DOE codes 04051 or 04057? If not, your students don't meet curriculum requirements.
3. Include the Advanced Honors Endorsement on your student transcripts when earned. (Per SD Administrative Rules 24:43:11:01, effective July 1, 2020, any advanced endorsement earned must be listed on the high school transcript.)
4. Advise students to take the optional Science portion of the ACT (and aim for subscores of 18 for English, 21 for Reading, 22 for Math, and 24 for Science) if score is 28 or higher on their ACT Composite or Superscore).
5. Confirm that the CTE courses you offer are on the Approved Courses List and that your District is approved to offer the associated Career Cluster Category.
6. If you offer CTE for Core Content, confirm that your school is on the Approved CTE for Core Content List.

Additional CTE Guidance:  
[ourdakotadreams.com/k12-students/coursework-college-readiness](https://ourdakotadreams.com/k12-students/coursework-college-readiness)