

South Dakota

Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship

Application Information

General Information

Applications must be postmarked or received electronically by April 15 for priority consideration.

Scholarship applicants will be notified of the decisions.

Scholarship is awarded for one year, must reapply to be considered for a second year.

The Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Program is aimed at encouraging South Dakota high school graduates to:

- Obtain their postsecondary education in South Dakota.
- Remain in the state upon completion of their education.
- Contribute to the state of South Dakota and its citizens by working in a critical teaching need occupation.

The current critical need occupations within a public, private, or parochial school are:

- Teaching K-12 Special Education
- Teaching High School Math or Science
- Teaching High School Career and Technical Education (CTE)
- Teaching Secondary Language Arts
- Teaching Secondary World Language
- Teaching English as a Second Language (ESL) or English Language Learners
- Teaching K-12 Vocal or Instrumental Music

The scholarship amount will be determined by calculating the student's remaining financial need, and may not exceed the tuition and generally applicable fees for 30 credit hours at a public South Dakota postsecondary institution.

Note: From the total pool of applicants, a limited number will be selected.

To be considered for the scholarship you must meet all of the following:

- Agree in writing to stay in South Dakota and work in a critical teaching need occupation for five years after graduating from a participating postsecondary institution;
- Agree, through a promissory note, that failure to abide by the employment requirement above will result in the scholarship being converted into an interest-bearing loan;
- Attend a participating South Dakota postsecondary institution as an undergraduate enrolled in your final two years of postsecondary education and be fully admitted in an elementary or secondary education program at the institution that is preparing you to work in a critical need teaching area; and
- Be a U.S. citizen or lawful permanent resident.
- Have a minimum cumulative 2.8 GPA on a 4.0 scale, and an average of 2.8 GPA for all major coursework.

A student is eligible to receive the scholarship for two academic years (four consecutive fall and spring terms) or until the attainment of a baccalaureate degree in elementary or secondary education in a critical need teaching area, whichever comes first.

To maintain your scholarship eligibility you must:

- Maintain a minimum cumulative 2.8 GPA on a 4.0 scale.
- Be considered a full-time student as defined by the college.
- Make satisfactory academic progress towards a degree.
- Attend a participating South Dakota college.

***This scholarship becomes a low-interest loan if you fail to fulfill the program requirements.**

Important Steps

- Complete all items in the Applicant Information Section.
- Write your essay and attach to your application. Be certain to include your name on the essay.
- Attach a copy of your current college transcript, high school transcript, and ACT scores.
- Send the completed scholarship application and your essay by April 15 to:

South Dakota Board of Regents
Attention: Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Program
306 East Capitol Ave, Suite 200
Pierre, SD 57501

Instructions and Privacy Notice

Applicant Instructions

Use a dark ink ball point pen or typewriter. Do not complete this form in pencil.

Item 1: Enter your last name, then your first name and middle initial.

Item 2: Enter your nine-digit Social Security Number, Read the Privacy Notice below before completing this item.

Item 3: Enter your permanent home street address, apartment number, city, state, and zip code. If you have a Post Office Box and a street address, list both. A temporary school address is not acceptable.

Item 4: Enter the area code and telephone number for the address listed in Item 3. If you do not have a telephone, enter "N/A".

Item 5: Using only number, enter the month, day, and four-digit year of your birth. (For example, for June 24, 1998, you would enter 06/24/1998). Be careful not to enter the current year.

Item 6: Enter your preferred e-mail address for receiving correspondence. If you do not have an e-mail address, or do not wish to provide it, enter N/A. If you provide your e-mail address, South Dakota Board of Regents may use it to communicate with you.

Item 7: Indicate your U.S. citizenship status by checking "Yes". If you are not a U.S. Citizen/National, check "No".

Item 8: Enter the name of the public, parochial, or private high school you attended. If you were home schooled, enter "Home Schooled".

Item 9: List your cumulative high school grade point average (GPA), class rank, and composite ACT score. You will need to attach a copy of your high school transcript or arrange for the high school that you are from to send an official copy of your high school transcript to the Board of Regents

Item 10: Enter the name of the participating South Dakota college you are currently attending.

Item 11: Enter the month and year you anticipate to graduate from your postsecondary institution. (For example, for May 2023, enter 05/2023.)

Item 12a: Indicate "Yes" if you were on active duty with an active component of the U.S. Armed Forces.

Item 12b: If you indicated "Yes" to **Item 12a**, using only numbers, enter the month, day, and year of your discharge. (For example, for June 20, 2019, enter 06/20/2019.)

Item 13: List your cumulative postsecondary grade point average (GPA). You will need to attach a copy of your current transcript.

Item 14: Select what your university classification will be at the start of the Fall 2022 semester.

Item 15: Please check the appropriate box for each statement which reflects the means as to which you will submit the documents specified.

Item 16a: Indicate "Yes" or "No" if this your first time applying for the scholarship.

Item 16b: If you checked "No" to **Item 16a** above, indicate if you were selected to receive funding for this scholarship for the 2021-2022 academic year (Fall 2021 and Spring 2022 semesters). By checking "Yes" for **Item 16b**, you are signifying that you are requesting consideration to be awarded the second year of funds for this scholarship.

Item 17: Check the critical teaching need occupation for which you are pursuing a program of study in South Dakota.

Item 18: List the high school and college activities in which you have been involved. Include organizations, athletics, music, and other extracurricular activities. Also, include years involved, offices held, and special achievements. Please use an additional sheet if needed.

Item 19: List community service work in which you have participated. (For example: church-related activities, volunteer work, time used to raise money for charitable causes, or work done to help those in need.) Please use an additional sheet if needed.

Item 20: List honors and awards you have received while in high school and college. Include those received through academics, school-related clubs or organizations, athletics, music, other extracurricular activities, and organizations or activities outside of high school. Please use an additional sheet if needed.

Item 21: Write a short (no more than one page) essay on the following subject:

Retention of teachers is a critical issue in South Dakota and other states across the nation. In the United States, 8% of educators leave the profession annually, and more than 50% quit teaching before reaching retirement. If presented with the opportunity to provide administrators and colleagues with ideas to address and increase teacher retention in South Dakota, what suggestion(s) would you give and why?

If for any reason you must submit it separately, be certain to include your name on the essay and the scholarship program title.

By consenting to the public release of your essay, the CTNS Board may use all or part of it in a press release or other public announcement in promotion of the scholarship program and/or its recipient.

Item 22: Read, sign, and date the Applicant Statement of Understanding and Consent to Release Information.

Privacy Notice

The information provided in this application will be shared with and/or released to the Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Board, South Dakota Board of Regents, as designated administrator, and to any parties as it relates to the selection and maintenance of the scholarship program. We will use your Social Security Number only as an identifier for maintaining and retrieving your scholarship records.

South Dakota

Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship

Mail To:

Applications must be postmarked or received electronically by April 15.

South Dakota Board of Regents
 Attention: Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Program
 306 East Capitol Ave, Suite 200
 Pierre, SD 57501

Call: 605-773-3455, if you have any questions about the program or application completion.

Applicant Information

WARNING: Any person who knowingly makes a false statement or misrepresentation on this form shall be subject to prosecution to the fullest extent of the law:

Recipient Information <i>Please print neatly or type. Read the instructions on the second page of this application carefully.</i>											
1. Last Name	First Name	MI	2. Social Security Number								
3. Permanent Street Address (If P.O. Box, see instructions.)			4. Home Area Code/Telephone Number								
City	State	Zip Code	5. Date of Birth (Month/Day/Year)								
6. E-mail Address			7. U.S. Citizen/National <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No								
8. High School Attended											
9. Cumulative high school GPA _____ Class Rank ____ out of _____ Composite ACT Score _____											
10. Name of College Currently Attending											
11. Anticipated Graduation Date (Month/Year)	12a. Military Service <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	12b. If yes, date of discharge (Month/Day/Year)									
13. Cumulative Grade Point Average (GPA) _____											
14. University Classification at the start of the Fall 2022 semester. <input type="checkbox"/> Junior (60-89 credits) <input type="checkbox"/> Senior (90+ credits)											
15. ATTACH A COPY OF YOUR HIGH SCHOOL TRANSCRIP AND A COPY OF YOUR CURRENT COLLEGE TRANSCRIPT <i>(See applicant authorization in the APPLICANT STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION section below.)</i>											
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Do you wish to attach a copy of your high school transcript electronically? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, I will mail it in separately • Do you wish to attach a copy of your college transcript electronically? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No, I will mail it in separately • Do you have any other additional documents you would like to attach? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No 											
16a. Is this your first time applying for this scholarship? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No											
16b. If you indicated "No" above, were you awarded funds for this scholarship in the 2021-2022 academic year? <input type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No											
17. Check the critical teaching need occupation for which you are pursuing a program of study in South Dakota: <table style="width: 100%; margin-top: 10px;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - K-12 Special Education</td> <td style="width: 50%;"><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - High School Math</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - High School Career and Technical Education</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - High School Science</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - Secondary Language Arts</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - Secondary World Language</td> </tr> <tr> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - English as a Second Language (ESL) or English Language Learners (ELL)</td> <td><input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - K-12 Vocal or Instrumental Music</td> </tr> </table>				<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - K-12 Special Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - High School Math	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - High School Career and Technical Education	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - High School Science	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - Secondary Language Arts	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - Secondary World Language	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - English as a Second Language (ESL) or English Language Learners (ELL)	<input type="checkbox"/> Teacher - K-12 Vocal or Instrumental Music
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18. List high school and college activities. Include separate sheet if necessary.

19. List community service work. Include separate sheet if necessary.

20. List high school and college honors and awards. Include separate sheet if necessary.

21. Write a short essay on the following topic and attach it to this application.

Retention of teachers is a critical issue in South Dakota and other states across the nation. In the United States, 8% of educators leave the profession annually, and more than 50% quit teaching before reaching retirement. If presented with the opportunity to provide administrators and colleagues with ideas to address and increase teacher retention in South Dakota, what suggestion(s) would you give and why?

Do you wish to attach your essay electronically to this application? Yes No, I will mail it in separately

Do you consent to the release of all or a portion of your essay to be used in a press release or other public announcement? Yes No

22. APPLICANT STATEMENT OF UNDERSTANDING AND CONSENT TO RELEASE INFORMATION: If I receive the Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship, I understand that: I must attend a participating South Dakota college, university, or technical school; I must fulfill a critical teaching need occupation employment requirement; my failure to fulfill the employment requirements will convert this scholarship to an interest-bearing loan. I will sign a separate Acceptance and Promissory Note without which my award cannot be finalized and funds will not be disbursed. I authorize the Critical Teaching Needs Scholarship Board and the South Dakota Board of Regents, as designated administrator, access to any of my school records for the purpose of verifying the validity of my application information. I authorize a school official at my high school to release the requested information in the School Certification below.

Applicant Signature _____ Date _____