



# SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

## ACADEMIC AFFAIRS FORMS

### New Specialization

Use this form to propose a new specialization within an existing degree program. Specializations provide students with an alternative to the primary format of the major or it may be one of several tracks within a broad major. Specializations contain courses within the discipline(s) of the existing program. Specializations appear in the institutional catalog and on the transcript. Majors that offer specializations typically have one-third to two-thirds of the credits in common with the remaining course work fulfilling the requirements of the specialization(s) offered. The Board of Regents, Executive Director, and/or their designees may request additional information about the proposal. After the university President approves the proposal, submit a signed copy to the Executive Director through the system Chief Academic Officer. Only post the New Specialization Form to the university website for review by other universities after approval by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

<b>UNIVERSITY:</b>	NSU
<b>TITLE OF PROPOSED SPECIALIZATION:</b>	<b>Secondary Education</b>
<b>NAME OF DEGREE PROGRAM IN WHICH SPECIALIZATION IS OFFERED:</b>	<b>Master of Education in Educational Studies</b>
<b>BANNER PROGRAM CODE:</b>	
<b>INTENDED DATE OF IMPLEMENTATION:</b>	8/1/2026
<b>PROPOSED CIP CODE:</b>	<b>13.1205 Secondary Education and Teaching</b>
<b>UNIVERSITY DEPARTMENT:</b>	<b>Teacher Education</b>
<b>BANNER DEPARTMENT CODE:</b>	NTE
<b>UNIVERSITY DIVISION:</b>	<b>Millicent Atkins School of Education</b>
<b>BANNER DIVISION CODE:</b>	5E

**Please check this box to confirm that:**

- The individual preparing this request has read AAC Guideline 2.3.2.2.B, which pertains to new specialization requests, and that this request meets the requirements outlined in the guidelines.
- This request will not be posted to the university website for review of the Academic Affairs Committee until it is approved by the Executive Director and Chief Academic Officer.

### University Approval

*To the Board of Regents and the Executive Director: I certify that I have read this proposal, that I believe it to be accurate, and that it has been evaluated and approved as provided by university policy.*

*Erin Foubert*

5/22/2026

Institutional Approval Signature

Date

*President or Chief Academic Officer of the University*

Note: In the responses below, references to external sources, including data sources, should be documented with a footnote (including web addresses where applicable).

### 1. Level of the Specialization (place an "X" in the appropriate box):

Baccalaureate     Master's     Doctoral

**2. What is the nature/purpose of the proposed specialization? Please include a brief (1-2 sentence) description of the academic field in this specialization.**

The purpose of the Secondary Education (SEED) Specialization is to provide a pathway for individuals to earn initial certification for teaching grades 5-12. This specialization builds on the expertise of students who have already completed a bachelor's degree in one of several certification areas from the South Dakota Department of Education.

**3. Provide a justification for the specialization, including the potential benefits to students and potential workforce demand for those who graduate with the credential. For workforce related information, please provide data and examples. Data may include, but are not limited to the South Dakota Department of Labor, the US Bureau of Labor Statistics, Regental system dashboards, etc. Please cite any sources in a footnote.**

In the spring of 2026, the South Dakota Teacher Placement Center<sup>1</sup> noted at least 100 openings for secondary teachers in South Dakota for the upcoming school year. This number does not include those individuals who are currently employed under alternative certification and may benefit from additional preparation and support to reach full initial certification. The South Dakota Department of Labor<sup>2</sup> projects that by 2032, the demand for teachers will rise by 6.54%. This increase is 4.1% increase from 2023-2025. It is important to note that this report does not delineate between elementary and secondary positions.

Although this program prepares students for certification through the South Dakota Department of Education, the need for highly trained secondary teachers is also a national issue. The Learning Policy Institute<sup>3</sup> noted that at least 35 states reported shortages in secondary teachers in mathematics, science, language arts, and world languages. The same report also noted at least 30 states needing secondary teachers in social studies and 26 states reporting shortages in art, music, health, and physical education.

**4. List the proposed curriculum for the specialization (including the requirements for completing the major – *highlight courses in the specialization*):**

Prefix	Number	Course Title <i>(add or delete rows as needed)</i>	Credit Hours	New (yes, no)
		<b>Foundational Courses</b>		
EDER	761	Graduate Research and Design	3	No
EPSY	742	Psychology of Learning	3	No
EDFN	540	Classroom Management	3	No
EPSY	528	Child & Adolescent Development	3	No
INED	511	South Dakota Indian Studies	3	No
SPED	704	Inclusive Education	3	No
EDAD	735	School Law	3	No
SEED	794	Internship: Secondary Teaching Experience	5	No
SEED	795	Pre-Student Teaching Preparation	1	No
		<b>Core Courses</b>		
<b>SEED</b>	<b>520</b>	<b>5-12 Teaching Methods</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>No</b>

<sup>1</sup> South Dakota Teacher Placement Center: <https://teachers.cometeachinsd.com/Jobs>

<sup>2</sup> South Dakota Department of Labor: [Labor Market Information Center - Menu for Occupational Projections](#)

<sup>3</sup> Learning Policy Institute: <https://learningpolicyinstitute.org/product/teacher-shortages-subjects-across-states-factsheet>

Prefix	Number	Course Title <i>(add or delete rows as needed)</i>	Credit Hours	New (yes, no)
SEED	560	Elevating Content Literacy in Innovative Classrooms	3	No
		Additional Program Requirements: Praxis Content PLT		

Total number of hours required for completion of specialization	6
Total number of hours required for completion of major	27
Total number of hours required for completion of degree	33

## 5. Delivery Location

*Note: The accreditation requirements of the Higher Learning Commission (HLC) require Board approval for a university to offer programs off-campus and through distance delivery.*

- A. Complete the following charts to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver the entire program on campus, at any off-campus location (e.g., USD - Sioux Falls, Black Hills State University - Rapid City, Capital City Campus, etc.) or deliver the entire program through distance technology (e.g., as an online program)?**

	Yes/No	Intended Start Term
<b>On campus</b>	Yes	Fall 2026

	Yes/No	If Yes, list location(s)	Intended Start Term
<b>Off campus</b>			

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods <i>Delivery methods are defined in AAC Guideline 2.4.3.B.</i>	Intended Start Term
<b>Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)</b>	Yes	HyFlex, Online Synchronous, Online Asynchronous	Fall 2026

- B. Complete the following chart to indicate if the university seeks authorization to deliver more than 50% but less than 100% of the certificate through distance learning (e.g., as an on-line program)? This question responds to HLC definitions for distance delivery.**

	Yes/No	If Yes, identify delivery methods	Intended Start Term
<b>Distance Delivery (online/other distance delivery methods)</b>			