

SNAPSHOT *of* NORTHERN STATE UNIVERSITY

WWW.NORTHERN.EDU

FALL 2026

HISTORY AND GOVERNANCE

Northern State University was established in 1901 by the South Dakota Legislature in response to the need for an institution of higher education to serve northern South Dakota. Northern is a student-centered institution offering associate, bachelor's and master's degrees that reflect a commitment to academic excellence and provide global learning opportunities. The university is governed by the South Dakota Board of Regents, whose members are appointed by the governor. Nine members serve six-year terms, while one student regent serves a shorter term.

LOCATION AND CAMPUS

Northern State University is located in Aberdeen, South Dakota, a welcoming community of more than 28,000 residents in the northeastern part of the state. The 66-acre campus includes six residential buildings, 12 academic buildings, two auditoriums, two fitness centers and six tennis courts. In recent years, Northern has expanded its campus with several state-of-the-art facilities. These additions include the Athletic and Recreation Fields and Pavilion; three residence halls — Wolves Memorial Suites, Great Plains East and Great Plains West — featuring modern amenities and suite-style living; the Jewett Regional Science Education Center, which supports science education and research; the Regional Sports Complex, home to Dacotah Bank Stadium and Koehler Hall of Fame Softball Field; and the new Business and Health Innovation Building, designed to support innovative learning and collaboration in business and health care education. Aberdeen offers a welcoming, safe community with a variety of cultural activities and convenient access to larger metropolitan areas through a regional airport and two U.S. highways.

ACCREDITATIONS

Higher Learning Commission
Accreditation Council for Business Schools and Programs
Council for Accreditation of Counseling & Related Educational Programs
Council for the Accreditation of Educator Preparation
National Association for Schools of Art and Design
National Association of Schools of Music
National Alliance of Concurrent Enrollment Partnerships

ADMINISTRATION

Alan LaFave, President
Erin Fouberg, Provost / VP for Academic Affairs
Lorelle Davies, VP for Finance & Administration
Debbi Bumpous, VP for Technology & Chief Information Officer
Eric Kline, Chief Enrollment Management Officer
Nate Davis, Director of Intercollegiate Athletics
Sean Blackburn, Dean of Students
Chad Hatzenbuehler, Director of Communications and Marketing
Zach Flukus, NSU Foundation President and CEO

DEGREES OFFERED

37 bachelor's degrees
9 associate degrees
14 master's degrees

- 3 in the School of Business
- 9 in the School of Education
- 2 in the School of Fine Arts

45 certificates

COLLEGES/SCHOOLS

College of Arts and Sciences
Millicent Atkins School of Education
School of Business
School of Fine Arts

FACULTY

86 full-time faculty

- 50% female, 50% male
- 85% possess terminal degrees
- 80% tenured/tenure-track
- 7% international, 9% ethnic minorities

52 part-time faculty
19:1 undergraduate student-to-faculty ratio

ENROLLMENT

Undergraduate: 3,393 (1,201 full-time)
Graduate: 497 (73 full-time)
First-time freshmen profile:

- 370 students
- 58% female, 42% male
- 68% SD residents

2% international, 20% ethnic minorities

IMPORTANT DATES

Fall Semester: 8/24/2026 – 12/16/2026
Winter Commencement: 12/12/2026
Spring Semester: 1/11/2027 – 5/7/2027
Spring Commencement: 5/8/2027
Summer Term: 6/1/2027 – 8/6/2027

TUITION AND FEE ESTIMATES

SD Resident Undergraduate: \$10,077
Other Resident Undergraduate: \$12,379
SD Resident Graduate: \$7,092
Other Resident Graduate: \$12,571