

# SOUTH DAKOTA BOARD OF REGENTS

## Policy Manual

**SUBJECT:** Interstate Tuition Agreements

**NUMBER:** 1:16

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The Board of Regents may enter into agreements or contract with states, individually or on a regional basis, to provide means by which South Dakota residents may be assisted to carry on or to complete fields of study. (SDCL ? 13-49-20)

### **1. Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education**

The Western Interstate Commission on Higher Education (WICHE) is a nonprofit organization established through an interstate compact adopted by 15 states (Washington, Oregon, California, Idaho, Montana, Nevada, Arizona, Utah, Wyoming, South Dakota, North Dakota, Colorado, New Mexico, Alaska, Hawaii). South Dakota joined the WICHE in 1988 as an affiliate state. States work through the WICHE to provide high quality, cost effective higher education programs that meet the needs of the states and their citizens.

#### **A. Western Undergraduate Exchange Programs**

The WICHE Western Undergraduate Exchange (WUE) is a program through which students in participating states may enroll in designated two-year and four-year institutions and programs in other participating states at 150 percent of the resident tuition rate.

1. Each state determines which of its institutions and programs shall be available to students from other WUE states at the special rate.
2. Eligibility for admission and WUE tuition status are determined by each participating institution.

#### **B. Western Regional Graduate Program**

Residents of participating WICHE Western Regional Graduate Program states are eligible to enroll at resident rates of tuition in distinctive programs. There is no requirement that students meet financial aid criteria. Programs are distinctive in the sense that they are uncommon and, through a regional review process, are found to be of high quality. Programs are nominated by their institutions, reviewed by other graduate institutions in the participating states, and selected by the WRGP Advisory Council, a policy body that represents all participating states.

**2. Reciprocal Attendance Agreements Between South Dakota and Minnesota Boards**

SDCL ch 13-53B permits the Board of Regents to execute a tuition reciprocity agreement between the South Dakota Board of Regents and Minnesota Higher Education Coordinating Board. Copies of the current agreement are on file in the Board Office.

**3. South Dakota Dental Students**

SDCL §13-49-20.1 authorizes the Board of Regents to negotiate and enter into contractual agreements with public or private colleges and universities offering the study of dentistry for the purpose of reserving spaces each year for dental students from South Dakota.

**4. South Dakota Optometric Students**

SDCL ? 13-49-20.2 authorizes the Board of Regents to negotiate and enter into contractual agreements with public or private colleges and universities offering the study of optometry for the purpose of reserving spaces each year for optometric students from South Dakota.

- A. Such contractual agreements may include a provision that the Board of Regents pay a specific reservation fee for each student that is accepted for admittance, and sponsored by the Board of Regents, to the study of optometry.
- B. The Board of Regents may pay a minimum reservation fee each year of the contract as a guarantee sum in the event that fewer than the stipulated number of students from South Dakota are accepted into the study of optometry.

**5.**

**SOURCE: SDCL ch. 13-53B; ?? 13-49-20.1, 13-49-20.2; BOR, Oct. 1988; BOR, May 1988; BOR, July 1988; BOR, March 1991; BOR, August, 1992; BOR, October 2004.**

*NOTE: Sections 13-49-20.5 and SB261 refer to veterinary student assistance.*