

Synopsis: Following a comprehensive, system-wide review of Title IX compliance, South Dakota's public universities are investing additional resources to ensure comparable participation opportunities for women and men in athletics programs. The South Dakota Board of Regents looked to internal reallocations at the universities, private scholarship donors, athletic revenues, and student activity fees. Funding has been identified for the compliance plans, except for a portion of one-time facility improvement costs. Total cost of those improvements is \$3,153,165. The Board of Regents' system will internally reallocate funds totaling \$1,909,958 and is requesting general funds to cover the balance of \$1,243,207.

Enacted as part of the Education Act Amendments of 1972, Title IX requires all educational institutions that receive federal money to assure male and female students have equal opportunities to participate in all institutional programs. Athletics programs have always presented unique challenges for Title IX compliance, given the need for specialized facilities, equipment supplies, and coaching and training staffs. Title IX compliance for the university athletics programs requires consideration of 13 separate aspects of program operation:

- Athletics scholarships
- Accommodation of interests and abilities
- Equipment and supplies
- Scheduling of games and practice times
- Travel and per diem allowance
- Tutors
- Coaches
- Locker rooms, practice and competitive facilities
- Medical and training facilities and services
- Housing and dining facilities and services
- Publicity
- Support services
- Recruitment of student athletes

South Dakota's public universities have undertaken a comprehensive, system-wide review of Title IX compliance. An outside consultant, Alden & Associates Inc. of Amherst, Mass., conducted a compliance review on behalf of the Board of Regents. The regents also asked Alden to help review proposals the institutions developed to resolve concerns, and to follow up on implementation of the institutional plans.

As a result of the compliance review, half of the South Dakota universities are adding new sports to their athletic offerings — soccer and golf at Black Hills State University, soccer at Dakota State University, and equestrian at South Dakota State University.

At institutions where there are no plans to add sports, two strategies will be pursued to increase the percentage of women athletes participating in sports programs:

- Rosters will be managed for men's sports to avoid carrying excess players;
- More women will be encouraged to participate on existing sports teams.

Added costs to ensure compliance will be covered by private donations, athletic revenues, higher student activity fees, roster caps on some men’s sports, internal reallocations, and a request for state general funds to cover the unfunded portion of facility needs.

Institution	Internal Reallocations	Student Fee Increases	Private Fundraising & Athletic Revenues	Total Cost	One-Time Facility Needs
BHSU	\$143,670	\$143,670	\$54,926	\$342,266	\$1,135,740
DSU	\$32,440	\$32,440	\$16,000	\$80,880	\$85,500
NSU	\$44,380	\$44,380	\$6,000	\$94,760	\$34,500
SDSM&T	\$40,500	\$40,500	\$0	\$81,000	\$20,000
SDSU	\$331,750	\$331,750	\$350,000	\$1,013,500	\$1,146,425
USD	\$197,887	\$197,887	\$0	\$395,774	\$731,000

The compliance review identified a number of inferior facilities that must be upgraded to ensure equal treatment. Facility needs also address the additional sports offerings.

Institution	Title IX Facility Needs	Identified Cost	Funding Identified	General Fund Request
Black Hills State University	Locker Room Upgrades	\$839,740		
	Office Space	\$96,000		
	Soccer Fields	<u>\$200,000</u>		
		\$1,135,740	\$594,419	\$541,321
Dakota State University	Softball Dugouts Upgrade	\$2,000		
	Portable Outfield Fence	\$3,500		
	Soccer Field Upgrades	\$25,000		
	Locker Room Space	<u>\$55,000</u>		
		\$85,500	\$41,001	\$44,499
Northern State University	Soccer Field Upgrade	\$9,500		
	Office Space	<u>\$25,000</u>		
		\$34,500	\$25,181	\$9,319
South Dakota School of Mines & Technology	Medical Training Facility	\$20,000	\$20,000	\$0
South Dakota State University	Renovate Locker Space	\$896,425		
	Softball Facilities	<u>\$250,000</u>		
		\$1,146,425	\$915,576	\$230,849
University of South Dakota	Renovate Lockers/Shower	\$350,000		
	Soccer Field Upgrades	\$60,000		
	Softball Field Upgrades	\$11,000		
	Tennis Facility Upgrades	\$10,000		
	DakotaDome Floor	<u>\$300,000</u>		
		\$731,000	\$313,781	\$417,219
TOTALS		\$3,153,165	\$1,909,958	\$1,243,207

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