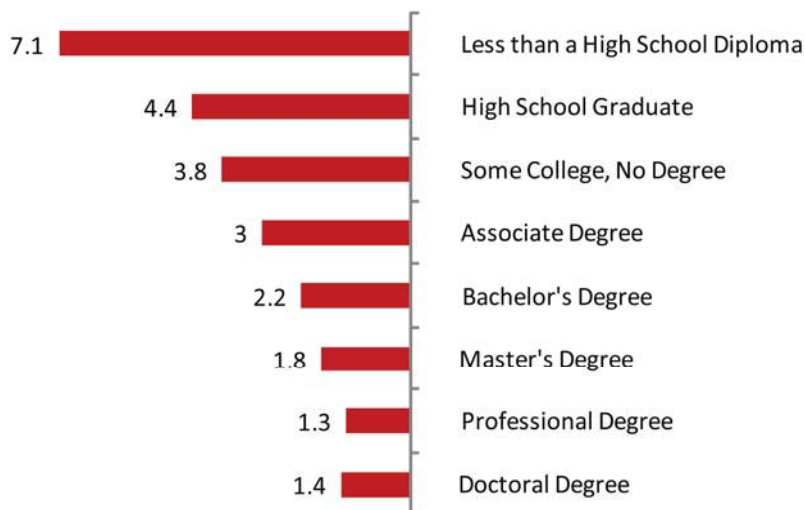


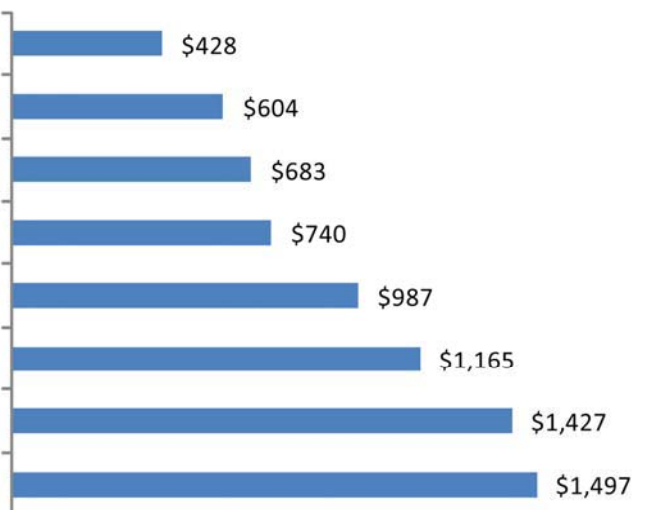
What future do you want for your child?

Education Pays

Unemployment Rate in 2007 (percentage)



Median Weekly Earnings in 2007 (dollars)



Source: Bureau of Labor Statistics Current Population Survey

8th Grade Students

Selecting the right courses is a life-defining decision.

1. You need to go to college

It's economics—the more you learn, the more you earn.

Professional degrees (medical doctors, lawyers, CPAs, engineers, pharmacists)	\$116,514
College graduates (bachelor's degree)	\$56,788
High school graduates	\$31,071

Jobs in the 21st century will require education and training beyond high school. The fastest growing occupations require postsecondary education (U.S. Bureau of Labor Statistics).

2. You must take the right courses

SD CollegePrep Model Program of Study

Grade	Math	English	Social Science	Laboratory Science
8	Algebra I	English		
9	Geometry	English	American History	Physical or Earth Science
10	Algebra II	English	World History	Biology
11	Trigonometry	English	American Government	Chemistry
12	Advanced Senior Math	English	Economics, Geography, Psychology, etc.	Physics

* The sequence of these courses may vary from school to school.

3. You can afford it

The average cost for a full-time student in South Dakota's public universities:

Tuition and fees	\$6,327
Room and board on campus	\$4,766
Total	\$11,093

Many South Dakota students can get financial aid, federal grants and/or loans to meet the costs of their education, in addition to numerous scholarships and awards available at every postsecondary educational institution in the state.

A public university freshman with maximum need for financial assistance can receive as much as:

\$ 4,731	Federal Pell Grant
\$ 1,000	Federal supplemental opportunity grant (highest public university)
\$ 3,000	Federal Perkins Loan (highest public university)
\$ 3,500	Federal Stafford Loan (maximum allowed)
\$ 2,000	Unsubsidized Federal Stafford Loan
\$ 2,100	Work Study (university average)
\$16,331	Total funding available from federal sources

Awards could vary based on the student's financial need, availability of Federal Student Aid funds, and university financial aid awarding policies.

Planning the road to college must start early. The earlier you start, the better prepared you will be to go to college.

- Take the right courses, including four years of math in high school. Start by completing algebra in the 8th grade if you can.
- Set up a good study area.
- Get organized for school.
- Consider goals for college and life.
- Look at possible careers and determine what type of college to attend and what classes to take.
- Get involved in extracurricular activities while in high school.
- Talk with college students and graduates about college.
- Discuss your college goals with your school counselor.
- Start saving for college now.
- Start investigating scholarships and financial aid options.

See www.sdcollegeprep.info for more information.