



PRESS RELEASE

For Immediate Release: Friday, July 17, 2015

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40 Students Receive Dakota Corps Scholarships

PIERRE, S.D. – Forty new South Dakota high school graduates have been awarded Dakota Corps scholarships to pursue careers in critical-need occupations within the state.

Each year, Dakota Corps recipients receive funding equivalent to the cost of tuition and applicable fees at their postsecondary institution. Once graduated, they are required to enter into a critical-need occupation in South Dakota, with terms of service equivalent to the number of years they received the scholarship, plus one year. The scholarships are supported entirely by private donations.

“By choosing careers in critical-need occupations, these students give back to our state,” said Gov. Dennis Daugaard. “They will be educated in South Dakota and then remain here to provide important services and support for fellow South Dakotans. That is a win for all of us, and I thank the private businesses and non-profit organizations that recognized the importance of providing these students with scholarships.”

Current occupations that qualify for Dakota Corps Scholarship support include teaching K-12 special education; teaching high school math, science, or career and technical education; working as an accountant or auditor; working as an engineer (all fields except mining); working as a registered nurse; or working in the information technology field.

The South Dakota Board of Regents administers the Dakota Corps Scholarship program. For more information about this program, contact the board office at 1-800-874-9033 or send an e-mail to DakotaCorps@sdbor.edu.

This is a list of the 40 students who are new Dakota Corps Scholarship recipients for the 2015-2016 academic year, sorted by the postsecondary institution where they will be enrolled. The list also includes the student’s hometown.

Augustana College

Sarah House, Sioux Falls
Kelsey Renczykowski, Sioux Falls
Austin VanDerWeide, Watertown

Black Hills State University

Avery Freidt, Rapid City

Dakota State University

Jason Schneider, Sioux Falls

Dakota Wesleyan University

Alyssa Roy, Mitchell

Lake Area Technical Institute

Samantha Hansen, Aberdeen

Northern State University

Kaylee Kappes, Aberdeen
Catherine Leber, Parker
Kaison Theis, Huron

South Dakota School of Mines & Technology

Isaac Collins, Belle Fourche
Jacob Fleck, Hartford
Cody Hight, White River
Justin Hoff, Rapid City
Johnny Monroe, Madison
Kyle Johnson, Webster
Sarah Kelly, Rapid City
Jacob Milbrandt, Groton
Garret Odegaard, Watertown
Keagan Peters, Sioux Falls
Bennett Peterson, Holabird
Isaac Rath, Canton
Mariya Sachek, Sioux Falls
Jacob Sperlich, Rapid City
Hannah Wegehaupt, Dimock

South Dakota State University

Paige Bultena, Sioux Falls
Carter Dahl, Canton
Baylee Groos, Colman
Megan Gusso, Rapid City
Jordan Hanisch, Sioux Falls

Sierra Hartman, Brookings
Taylor Knudson, Florence
Kristina Luczak, Letcher
Logan O'Hara, Humboldt
Evan Tarrell, Sioux Falls
Rebecca Urban, Pierre
Benjamin Halbkat, Huron

University of Sioux Falls

Connor DeJong, Watertown
Karina Ramirez, Sioux Falls

University of South Dakota

Lucas Sternhagen, Groton